



opportunity service transformation empowerment sustainability



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SAVE-THE-DATE WBP Annual Holiday Fair



December 5-7, 2014
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
3201 Curtis Street
Denver, CO

WBP's 2014-15 Product Catalog COMING SOON!

Check your mailbox in October for our latest catalog featuring new products and highlighting our great gourmet food, limited-edition hand-crafted jewelry and gift items.

Just in time for holiday shopping!

bean profile

Prior to being hired at the Bean Project, Elizabeth's world looked pretty dark. Whenever she ran into almost any obstacle, she would fall back on substance abuse or other unproductive behaviors. Numerous family issues left her without any healthy guidance along the way. Over time she lost her daughter and built up a lengthy list of felony convictions. One day her caseworker looked her straight in the eye and gave it to her straight, "Elizabeth, you know you want a better life; you have it in you to change. Do it." Elizabeth said she felt frustrated and didn't feel she had the skills and tools she needed. In the halfway house where Elizabeth resides, her roommates told her about Women's Bean Project and that she should apply. Since being hired at the Bean Project in July, Elizabeth has already felt a change. *"They care. They really care and they expect us to care as well."*

Elizabeth works two jobs (including Women's Bean Project), is working on her GED and has already begun to practice some newly gained life skills and job skills since being at the Bean Project. *"Now that I'm here, it's made all the difference in how I see the world and how I see my future — and that all looks pretty bright."*

inside next issue:

Ready, Set, Grow Graduation Luncheon
Year end campaign recap
A word from our CEO
Program outlook
From the kitchen
Bean Profile

increasing your impact: PROVIDES HOPE

Women's Bean Project is very appreciative of your commitment to what we do. Your employer might be too! Many companies sponsor matching gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees. Typically, your company will provide a form to be filled out by you and then sent to Women's Bean Project for verification.

Once verified, the company will match your gift and we all win! Over 72% of donations are contributed by individuals. The rest is by bequest, foundations, and corporations (being just 5%). Companies have the funds available, but they are difficult to attain from the outside. As an employee of the company, those funds are more accessible. Companies are far more willing to support you, the company's asset. Let's make this a win-win opportunity for all!

You support Women's Bean Project → Your company supports you → Women's Bean Project advances our mission with your support!

*All data is the property of *Giving USA 2014*, the Annual Report on Philanthropy.



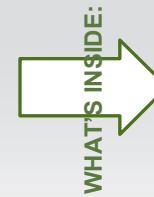
We are Women's Bean Project: our road map to success



Meet our new 2014-15 Program Participants! Thanks to your support, we were able to hire 36 women on July 21, 2014 (not all women are pictured).

For 25 years, Women's Bean Project has been helping women break the cycle of poverty and unemployment. Through the Bean Project's carefully honed transitional employment program, participants receive immediate income and learn job readiness and life skills, while being mentored and encouraged in ways that increase their self-confidence, personal development and self-reliance.

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Colorado Gives Day
December 9, 2014.
The Power of
Philanthropy.
PAGE 2



The solution to
moving out of chronic
unemployment and
poverty.
PAGE 3



Prior to being hired at
the Bean Project,
Elizabeth's world was
pretty dark.
PAGE 4

where a woman earns her future

Beanstalk

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WOMEN'S BEAN PROJECT

FALL 2014 ISSUE

BREAKING BARRIERS Building stepping stones

The women who come to the Bean Project often have multiple barriers to finding employment, lack of hope and self-confidence, and need a chance to create a new future. They come from backgrounds of chronic unemployment and poverty, meaning that most have never held a job longer than a year in their life.

During the 9-month program, each woman earns a steady paycheck and receives support services to overcome barriers to employment through job readiness, interpersonal and life skills needed to become self-sufficient in the workplace and community.

Your continued support allows us to:

- Provide weekly one-on-one mentoring to guide and encourage her.
- Participate in weekly life skills classes enabling her to positively address issues that have a negative impact on her life.
- Teach basic computer training, providing skills employers seek.
- Attend classes on planning, organizing, financial literacy, nutrition and budgeting.
- Conduct workshops with HR professionals for mock interviews, teaching techniques and skill development.

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Graduates of the program have the skills to obtain a career entry-level position, as well as the strength and resilience to overcome personal barriers and change. This enables them to stay employed and create a new future for themselves, their families, our community and our economy.

In addition to the hands-on learning that occurs on the production floor, the women

“Many of the women at the Bean Project have been dealt with unimaginable challenges.”

~Joyce Buteyn-Garrett, Life Coach

have their weekly “Women of the Bean” class with life coach Joyce Buteyn-Garrett, which kicked-off in their second week of employment.

Many of the women at the Bean have dealt with unimaginable challenges, and the key to lasting success is giving the women myriad methods to break through their negative long-standing habits and thought patterns. Through their weekly life skills classes, they become aware of their courage, embrace the best of who they are, envision their potential, step out of the familiar and wake up to their possibility.

Meeting with the women for two hours weekly over the course of their 9-month employment at the Bean Project, Joyce’s classes provide the framework for the women to overcome personal barriers and move forward in their lives.

a word from our CEO

increasing our impact through growth

Happy September! This is my favorite time of year. In Colorado we have beautiful sunny days and just a hint of coolness each morning. More than the new year, I’ve always thought of September as a beginning of great things.

For us at the Bean Project it is the launch of our Bean@25 Seed to Sprout campaign to celebrate our 25th anniversary. Our goal represents \$100,000 for every year since our founding. This \$2.5 million campaign will support operations and allow us to invest in our organization in significant ways.

For instance:

- We will invest in our jewelry-making business. This business needs a product line manager to help it grow and thrive. To date, we have employed 30 additional women in this business with relatively modest sales. Growing this business by hiring a hands-on, full-time point person and investing in sales and marketing of the products will allow us to hire even more women.

- Develop a piecework and fulfillment business for other companies, again, giving us the ability to hire more women.
- Build a framework for expansion.
- Heighten our technical capabilities and efficiencies through technology and capital investments.

After 25 years of operating a business with a social mission we find ourselves in the fortunate position of receiving national recognition for providing a viable model for transitional employment. We feel the time is now to increase our impact through growth.

We hope you will join us on this journey and celebration of 25 years. Even small increases in your support can have a big impact.

Warmly,
Jamra Ryan

maximize giving: the power of philanthropy

In its fifth year, the 2014 Colorado Gives Day is Tuesday, December 9, 2014. Colorado Gives Day is an annual statewide movement to celebrate and increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving. Your gracious gift during Colorado Gives Day to Women’s Bean

Project will give hope to a woman who is on her way to becoming self-sufficient and empowered to create a brighter tomorrow. You will help a woman move up the path toward personal and economic self-sufficiency through comprehensive and effective programs to teach the job readiness, interpersonal and life skills needed to be a better employee, parent, sibling, and member of our community.

Please consider pre-scheduling your donation starting November 2014 at www.cogives.org/WBP and help us ensure the women of the Bean receive the support they need to successfully secure a job in the community before they graduate in April 2015. To motivate donors to give on Colorado Gives Day, Community First Foundation and FirstBank have partnered to create a \$1 Million Incentive Fund, which

proportionally increases the value of every dollar donated. For example, if a nonprofit organization receives 10 percent of the total donations made on Colorado Gives Day, that same nonprofit receives 10 percent of the \$1 Million Incentive Fund. Last year Women’s Bean Project was .0025% of the pie. That would equate to \$2,500 of the \$1 Million Incentive Fund. **So let’s go for .005% of the pie in 2014!**



from the kitchen

Whether you're looking for a delicious dinner, comfort food, gluten-free options, or a warm-you-up dessert, our products will please any palate.

Chicken Tortilla Soup



- 1 package WBP Six Bean or Toni’s 10 Bean Soup
- 2 cans white beans (such as garbanzo, white kidney, etc)
- 2 cans chicken broth
- 2 small cans chopped green chilies
- 1 can of water
- 1 medium diced onion
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- Dash ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 3 to 4 cups cooked chicken, diced (or use prepared chicken from grocer)

Soak beans overnight (as instructed on the package), drain and combine everything in a large soup pot, bring to a boil, reduce and simmer for 2 to 3 hours. Garnish with Monterey Jack cheese and crisp tortillas or tortilla strips. Serve and enjoy!

solution to domestic poverty and chronic unemployment

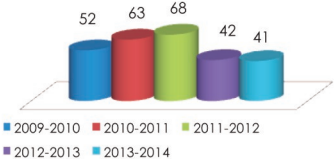
According to the Social Enterprise Alliance, based on research conducted by economists, the economic stimulus of a job created by social businesses such as Women’s Bean Project is at least \$80,000 per year. This figure takes into account a number of primary effects, including direct income, added consumption, social benefits and avoided social costs, as well as a number of secondary benefits.

Over the course of 25 years, because of supporters like you, Women’s Bean Project has helped more than **800 WOMEN** move out of dependency and into personal responsibility and self-reliance through on-the-job training, as well as stabilization and personal development services.

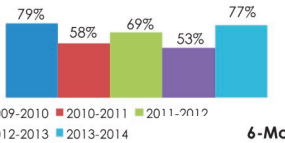


60 WOMEN each year who would otherwise not be employed, equating to **\$4.8 million** in stimulus to the economy each year.

Hired at Women’s Bean Project

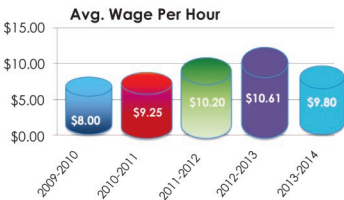


Graduated Women’s Bean Project

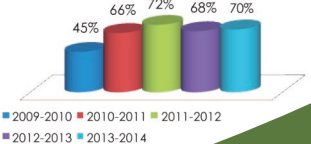


The variation in women hired is due to the following factors:

- Minimum wage increases have restricted our ability to hire the same number of women as years past.
- In 2012-2013, WBP made a strategic decision to delay hiring program participants in order to change the timing for graduation to better match the time of year when jobs are more abundant.



6-Month Job Retention



engage with us socially



5

our guiding

principles

OPPORTUNITY.

We help women help themselves. We provide opportunities for our participants to discover their talents and develop skills to join the workforce and build a better life.

SERVICE.

We strive to “do well by doing good.” We are a social enterprise that believes it is a basic human right to live a stable, healthy life. We serve our supporters, partners, participants and communities by delivering quality products with innovation and efficiency.

TRANSFORMATION.

Our efforts transform more than the individual woman. The seeds of hope in one woman weave threads of success that expand to families and communities with a reach that touches individuals worldwide. From program participants and vendors to customers, donors and volunteers, their transformations make a difference.

EMPOWERMENT.

Using the tools we provide, women are empowered to change their lives. Our supporters are empowered with the knowledge that they have contributed, not only to the self-worth and self-sufficiency of disadvantaged women, but also to the broad-reaching benefits our communities reap.

SUSTAINABILITY.

Instead of a one-time handout, women acquire the tools needed to sustain themselves and their families for a lifetime. We believe in nurturing economic sustainability for our program participants and partners, being ever-mindful of our impact on the environment.