



## From the Desk of Carrie Geitner

BOARD OF EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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To Whom It May Concern,

Last year I was introduced to the organization Step Denver, an organization with an impressive reputation for helping those experiencing addiction not just recover, but learn to thrive.

The demonstrated high success rate in helping individuals achieve not just sobriety, but also healthy independence and full and fulfilling lives immediately convinced me that a similar program is needed in Colorado Springs. I was, therefore, thrilled to learn recently that Step Springs is a reality for our community.

Earlier this year I toured the Denver facility. I was impressed with the thoughtfulness of the program, which truly focuses on the totality of an individual facing addiction. It is evident in each detail that this organization grasps the difficulty of not just removing the substances, but also the need to completely learn to live a fulfilling life again. From the family-style kitchen where these men can care for themselves and each other, to the gradual program of incentives, to the coaching available to assist in finding work, and ultimately hope for a better life, this program restores dignity not by providing everything for these men, but by empowering them to reach their potential and build confidence through their efforts.

As an elected leader in this community, I believe this program is essential to complement what is already available. Not only will this program enhance our leadership in dealing with addiction and homelessness, it will truly transform individual lives. As a community member who lost a brother to addiction, I believe we must do everything possible to provide this option to those in our community seeking help and recovery from their addiction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Carrie Geitner  
El Paso County Commissioner, District 2