



## **Denver's Tennyson Center Celebrates Milestone with Urban Land Conservancy**

### **For Immediate Release**

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With part of its campus resembling outdoor Parisian café, Tennyson Center for Children commemorated its recent purchase of the campus on which it has resided for over a century with a dedication ceremony and dinner on Thursday, May 17. The event, marked by an outdoor dinner catered by Denver's Capital Grille, celebrated the 2005 collaborative effort with the Urban Land Conservancy (ULC) which saved the Denver children's treatment center from closing its doors.

Tennyson Center, which celebrated its centennial anniversary in 2004, was on the verge of a crisis when its former parent company put the property on the auction block after filing for bankruptcy. The newly formed and Denver-based Urban Land Conservancy, supported by the Gary-Williams Foundation, stepped forward to purchase the Tennyson Center property on April 1, 2005. In January of 2011, with an aggressive and successful capital campaign underway, Tennyson Center purchased its campus back from the ULC at the original purchase price.

Approximately 90 guests attended the dedication and mortgage-burning ceremony, which took place in Tennyson's newly renovated and expanded outdoor amphitheater, a project made possible through a grant from Colorado's Garden Show, Inc. The space was transformed for the evening into an old-style outdoor café, complete with retro-style street lamps. Capital Grille provided the cuisine for the evening which included Filet Mignon and Lobster tails.

Notable guests included Ted Harms of the Anschutz Foundation and wife Jan; Sam Gary, Board Chair of Gary-Williams Energy Corporation and co-founder of the Urban Land Conservancy; Gary Shapiro, morning anchor on KUSA/9News, and wife Katie; David Younggren, Board Chair for Urban Land Conservancy; Stan Sprinkle, Tennyson Board member and CEO of Sprinkle Financial Services, and wife Sandi; and many more.

"This is a very special evening for us," said Tennyson Center President and CEO, Bob Cooper. "Not only are we celebrating the fact that we own our campus, but we also want to show our immense gratitude to the Urban Land Conservancy. Without them, our entire legacy of service to children and families would have been in serious jeopardy."

Established in 2003, Urban Land Conservancy is a nonprofit organization that uses real estate as a tool to benefit urban communities. ULC acquires preserves and develops real estate for urban

assets such as workforce housing, community centers, affordable nonprofit office space and schools. For more information, go to [www.urbanlandc.org](http://www.urbanlandc.org).

Tennyson Center has long been a respected leader throughout the Rocky Mountain region in the treatment and education of abused and neglected children. But they have recently expanded their base of programs to also serve children suffering from other kinds of life-altering emotional crises as well as those dealing with a variety of other mental health issues. Now in its second century of service, Tennyson Center helps hundreds of children and more than 1,500 family members each year. A full spectrum of program options are offered at Tennyson Center, including residential treatment, day treatment, a K-12 educational curriculum, family therapy as well as community-based, home-based and school-based programs. More information about Tennyson Center can be found at [www.childabuse.org](http://www.childabuse.org).