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## **Pigs are stuffed**

### *Arapahoe and Jefferson County raise almost \$3,000 in the piggy bank challenge*

**Littleton, Colo.** --- The results are in. Arapahoe and Jefferson County staff and residents donated just short of \$3,000 in effort to raise awareness and monetary support for Child Abuse Prevention Month in April.

Colorful piggy banks were placed at various Arapahoe County and Jefferson County buildings, and all proceeds were donated to Families First's child abuse prevention programs. The non-profit organization strives to protect children by strengthening families through parent education classes and support groups. Arapahoe County also offered bookmarks filled with tips on what adults can do to help prevent child abuse.

"This is the best challenge we've seen," said Mary Hencmann, Families First Associate Director. "It's incredible, and it shows how important this cause is to the counties and their residents."

Arapahoe County raised more than \$1,000 dollars in change and Jefferson County with some big help from their Motor Vehicle office raised almost \$2,000.

"It was incredibly heartwarming to see employee after employee donate money to this worthy cause," said Jenniffer Tancrede, an Arapahoe County employee who faithfully oversaw one of the piggy banks. "It wasn't just staff though. One day I watched a young girl with her family drop off some paper work for their grandmother; she read the sign and fed the pig with her own pocket change."

As a community, we can reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect by creating supportive environments that empower parents and give them the tools they need to raise their children in safe, loving and nurturing homes. You can reach out to parents and children to reduce the stress that often leads to child abuse and neglect.

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Photo Caption:

Pigina, named by Arapahoe County Human Services Staff, raised more than \$250. "This is the heaviest pig I've ever carried, and I've carried a lot of pigs," said Emily Kasper of Families First.

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