## Defending your family's freedom & helping you homeschool with confidence

## Dear Friends,

The most world-shattering, culture-changing movements throughout history have been grassroots.

Because inside-out, bottom-up, heart-to-action transformation is not only how true change takes shape in the lives of people — it's how God works (Matthew 28:19-20).

The homeschool movement we are witnessing in Colorado and across the nation — indeed, the world — is no different. I'm excited to share what God is doing in the homeschool movement as families experience the life-transforming power of home discipleship. **Homeschooling has truly become an "island of hope,"** enabling parents to raise godly children in our increasingly broken world.

And it is a crazy world.

Recently, in one of Colorado's largest school districts, parents discovered that teachers are being instructed to hide students' gender confusion from parents.¹ Another Colorado parent discovered that the "art club" she thought her daughter was attending after school was in fact a Gender and Sexuality Alliance club, encouraging her daughter to identify as transgender.² Children as young as kindergarten are being exposed to "Gender Unicorn" posters suggesting there is a difference between "sex assigned at birth" and "gender identity." We're also seeing more books introduced in elementary classrooms with explicit gender and sexuality concepts, which are being used to groom children under the guise of "education."

What's more, although schools claim they don't teach Critical Race Theory (CRT, a form of Marxism), its deceptive agenda is beginning to permeate even elementary schools under less offensive names like "social-emotional learning." One recent book read in elementary schools, *Not My Idea: A Book About Whiteness*, is designed to make children feel guilty if they happen to be white and pictures a contract written by the devil relegating them to a life of harming other people groups and enjoying stolen riches for the price of their soul!

Miriam Fishell first heard about the battle for the Colorado homeschool law on the Christian radio in the 80s. "My goodness, if I was to ever have a child, I would love to homeschool!" she thought. After a long battle with infertility and miscarriage, her son Daniel was born, her miracle baby. Then, two years after Daniel's birth, Miriam's husband tragically passed away. Since she had to work to support herself, she put her son in private Christian school. But as Daniel grew older, he started begging his mom to homeschool.

"I don't have enough time," she kept telling him. He kept asking. Filled with doubt, she told the Lord, "I am not homeschooling. I am not doing this!" She clearly heard Him answer, "You will, and you can."

Miriam attended the CHEC conference the next week and was blown away. "You walk in and see all these people who have just the same busy schedule as I do, if not more, and their families just want to be obedient to what the Lord is telling them. CHEC has made it really super easy for someone like myself to be able to homeschool." Today, Miriam and her son are loving their homeschool adventure together. "My son is just thriving in this! I know he's growing up fast, and I am savoring these moments with him!" Through this transition, she says CHEC has been there for her. "It amazes me how you're able to treat every single one of us like we're the only one in the program! It's very one-on-one, you are

very patient with us, you answer our questions. I'm just in awe of CHEC, and its support staff and leadership. Thank you!"



 $<sup>^1\</sup> https://www.dailywire.com/news/colorado-school-district-instructs-teachers-to-avoid-informing-parents-if-their-child-shows-persistent-gender-confusion$ 

Jaydee and Kelsey Rosenoff were ardent public school teachers. They were sure they would never homeschool and couldn't believe any parent would be crazy enough to do it.

But after an up-and-down journey through loss, infertility, foster and adoption, and then amazing miracle of their own biological children, God began to change their perspective. They'd begun to notice that it was the Christian kids who were struggling the most in school because they were so torn, tormented between who they were at home, and what they could be at school. And they were witnessing their own son struggling from a bad experience in his public preschool.

Stepping out in obedience to what seemed like an impossible call, the Rosenoffs attended the CHEC Intro Seminar, and then their first CHEC conference. Kelsey remembers walking into the conference's general session, tears streaming down her cheeks as she heard thousands of homeschool parents singing "Come Thou Fount." "All of these people are homeschooling because they love the Lord!"

"I love the conferences so much," Kelsey says. "It's so refreshing to go where people are willing to talk about what's going on in the world, and in our parenting and our marriages and our families... It's the stuff that really matters and that resets our hearts and helps us keep going and reminds us why we're doing what we're doing. It's my favorite time of the whole year! I'd rather go to a CHEC conference than go on vacation!"

"The conference has also really helped shape our biblical worldview," Jaydee added. "It's brought us closer to the Lord and closer to living in a biblically accurate way."



These are just a few examples. Thankfully, people are waking up to the dangers of the public education system, but concerned parents need to recognize homeschooling as a viable option. That's where you come in. Your support of Christian Home Educators of Colorado's ministry allows us to reach even more families across Colorado with the resources they need to begin successfully homeschooling.

As parents grow increasingly concerned with the radical liberal agenda being taught in the schools, there's no better time to explore homeschooling. **This last year, CHEC put more effort than ever into reaching these concerned parents.** Through radio interviews, networking with homeschoolers in remote communities, reaching out to the Hispanic community, representing CHEC at community events across the state, and more. Yet our team realizes this is only the tip of the iceberg. There are so many parents who are concerned about their children's education and need to gain the confidence necessary to begin their homeschooling journey. **We're excited to expand our outreach even more in the coming year,** and fulfill our mission of providing information and resources to equip parents with the tools they need to homeschool successfully.

But there's much more to homeschooling than knowing the law and buying textbooks. We're passionate about giving parents a vision to pass on their faith to their children by discipling their children at home. This year, at the Rocky Mountain Homeschool Conference, we maxed out at our venue with over 5,600 registered attendees! Family after family described how their thinking about education was transformed as they realized that the heart of homeschooling is to disciple their children to follow Jesus. As one attendee, Emma Blackwell, put it, "It completely changed my trajectory for this next year, and it was transformational for me both spiritually and in my homeschooling journey."

As a supporter of Christian Home Educators of Colorado, you are a vital part of the team making an eternal impact on families. Rather than merely informing parents about a better educational option, we're introducing parents to a lifestyle of family discipleship through home education and equipping them along the way so they can overcome obstacles and experience the freedom and fruit that can come from homeschooling!

The growth of the homeschool movement in Colorado this year has come with its share of opposition. The Marxist ideas permeating the schools are also the dominant agenda in our state Capitol, where Carolyn Martin, CHEC Director of Government Relations, is fighting for our freedoms. This year, we saw the pressure ramping up, as parental rights are being increasingly stripped away.<sup>3</sup> Homeschool freedom was endangered through several bills that attempted to give

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.foxnews.com/media/daughter-meeting-queer-transgender-identity-art-club

<sup>3</sup> https://chec.org/chec-blog/legislative-update-august-3-2022/

"The lock downs and disaster of remote learning showed us that the public school system is failing our kids. They are not teaching the fundamentals that worked in the past, and are bringing in curriculum that goes against our beliefs as Christians and Americans. We found a classical charter school but were put on a waitlist. We decided to homeschool until we could get the kids into the charter. Surprise! After 1 year of homeschooling, we fell in love with it and decided to continue homeschooling. ... Having the support of CHEC is wonderful. I am thankful we have CHEC in Colorado to support the increasing [number of] families who are now homeschooling." — Nadia Kerns



government funding to homeschoolers, which has the potential to increase government control over all homeschoolers and create families who are dependent on government funding.<sup>4</sup> It's an ongoing crusade to stay in front of legislators, educate them on the importance of our freedom to homeschool without government regulation and encourage them to rework language in bills that would infringe on our rights.

While we're thankful we still have our homeschool freedom intact today, these battles are vital to ensure our children and grandchildren retain those rights. If we fail to stand strong, the next generation will be swept away by the Leftist indoctrination, and our children's families will lose their freedom to homeschool, or even make basic parental decisions for their own children.

Carolyn Martin is looking to bring on an additional team member to assist her with the growing work at the Capitol. Your year-end support will enable CHEC to remain on the battlefield, and Lord willing, expand our forces!

As our society continues to slide downhill, it's easy to feel like throwing in the towel and resort to complaining about the world our kids are growing up in. This is a challenging world; yet, for over 30 years, **CHEC has seen God work through the thriving**homeschool movement to transform the hearts of parents and children. Our vision is that this generation and the next generation might know [God's glorious deeds] ... and arise and tell their children, so that they should set their hope in God (Ps. 78:6–7, ESV). Homeschool graduates are growing up to influence others in their communities and raise godly children of their own.

There is hope! And there's still time for you to make a difference!

So, if you're passionate about seeing change — not only in education but also in the whole of society as parents begin to raise strong, biblically-minded children — then I want to offer you the opportunity to join this movement! **Your gift today will help us raise \$190,000 during this year-end season so that we can continue and expand our work in 2023 and beyond.**Here is a breakdown of our December 2022 fundraising goals!



I urge you to invest in the transformational work God is doing through CHEC as we labor to protect and promote Christian home education and family discipleship in Colorado. There's still time to make an impact — to join forces as we defend your freedom and equip families to homeschool with confidence!

May God richly bless your family as you seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness!

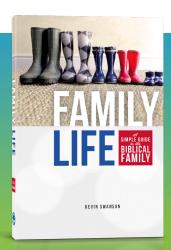
Sincerely,



**Steve Craig** 

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHRISTIAN HOME EDUCATORS OF COLORADO** 

P.S. God is at work in so many families, we are thankful to be a part of it. CHEC does not receive government funding. This means your support plays an important role in making a difference in the lives of Christian homeschoolers!



P.S. For your donation of \$275 or more, we'd like to send a complimentary thank-you copy of *Family Life: A Simple Guide to the Biblical Family.* It's a practical book to transform your family relationships. Enjoy in your own family or pass it along to a friend!

Your tax-exempt donation is essential to retaining our homeschool freedom and providing resources for families to disciple their children. Please give today at **CHEC.org/donate**.



Cur Goal: Raise \$190,000 by December 31st, 2022



NAME

## Your Donation...

- Defends homeschool freedom in Colorado
- Supports the growing homeschooling community with training programs and free resources
- Reaches new families to equip them to start homeschooling
- Passes on a vision for biblical discipleship and building the kingdom of God

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Donate via credit card, a check in the enclosed envelope, or call 720-842-4852 to set up a recurring ACH.

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Please send my book *Family Life* (for my donation of \$275 or more)

Please apply my donation to (circle one):

General

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CHEC is a 501(c)3 ministry. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you!
The ministry of CHEC

The ministry of CHEC wouldn't happen without your gift. Here are some of our ways of saying "thank you!"\*

- \$120 (Stakeholder): \$15 off HSLDA membership and 10% off CHEC's annual conference.
- \$250 (Founding Family): Above benefits, but increased to 25% off CHEC's annual conference.
- \*S500 (Pillar): Above benefits, but free full pass to CHEC's annual conference and free membership in the CHEC Independent School.
- \* \$750 (Wall Builder): Above benefits, plus free pass for a friend to CHEC's annual conference.
- \$1000 (Cornerstone): Above benefits, plus an invitation to an exclusive conference kick-off dinner with the CHEC team and keynote conference speakers.
- \*\$ amounts are based on total annual contributions.