

## Ryan Howser

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**From:** Holloway Family <holloway122411@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 5:32 PM  
**To:** Carrie Geitner; Stan VanderWerf; Longinos Gonzalez, Jr; Cami Bremer; Holly Williams  
**Subject:** Colorado Kids Pumpkin Patch

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To Whom It May Concern:

I currently live in the Tri-Lakes community, am a homeschooling parent, and also the parent of a child who has worked for The Colorado Kids Pumpkin Patch.

When we first moved to the area many years ago, we searched for events within our area that would support local businesses and give back to the community. As we know that small business is truly everything and must be supported! We reached out to others within the community and it was a resounding vote for The Colorado Kids Pumpkin Patch. Once visiting, our children quickly fell in love with the many events and activities, and it has become a family tradition. We look forward to this every year and honestly would be heartbroken to find out that it has stopped.

Our homeschooling co-op group frequently visits the events and activities that The Colorado Kids Pumpkin Patch offers. This is something that our entire co-op looks forward to every year. A way for families to further connect with one another, friendships to be better established outside the co-op building and a way to also help one another during activities. It's been a great way for kids to learn important social and problem solving skills. It's something on the calendar yearly for our homeschool co-op to stay within the community.

My daughter was able to begin working with The Colorado Kids Pumpkin Patch during a tough transition in her life with separated parents. The opportunity this organization gives to youth within the community is something that simply cannot be replaced. Frankly, one that many other organizations and businesses do not offer to youth. Had my daughter not had this opportunity, her depression would have grown tremendously. Having responsibility enabled her to learn new ways to love herself and

ultimately grow her self confidence in ways she simply could not do from home or in school.

She literally THRIVED and we saw leaps and bounds in behavior changes and the new love she had for herself. For the first time in her early teens, she believed in herself. She was proud of the work she was doing, she was enjoying the new relationships she was making, and she loved the social skills she obtained working with people of all ages. She learned how to problem solve, the joys and pains of physical labor, and even more importantly, true integrity. Learning all of this early in her teens will be something she can carry throughout her life and aid to her success wherever she goes. In some ways, having this opportunity saved her life. It kept her off devices and social media that were slowly consuming her every day life. I know there are many other parents within the community who feel the same way.

I know there are concerns regarding traffic within the community. As a resident, myself, my drive to participate in the activities or drop my child off to work never came with the experience of traffic or heavy crowds. Actually, this is one of the many reasons our family has made this a tradition over other locations. Easy travel days, quick and easy flow into the parking lot and out. There has never been medium or heavy traffic waiting to get onto 105 from Canterbury Drive. I was never late to drop off or pick up my kiddo for her work shifts either - LOL!

Thank you for your time,  
Lindsey Holloway

Sent from my iPad