



COLORADO
Department of Education

Partnerships for Community Room Resources

Summit Elementary School, Cherry Creek School District

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Staff at Summit Elementary School in Cherry Creek School District recognize that the ongoing need for student and family support extends beyond academic performance. The goal of establishing partnerships between the surrounding community and Summit Elementary has allowed Summit's Community Room resources to meet those additional needs.



**SUMMIT
ELEMENTARY**

The planning and implementation of this work involved shared knowledge between the Community Liaisons within the district, a key staff member of Summit, and the Cherry Creek School District Homeless Liaison, along with her amazing team.

Summit Elementary successfully partnered with Eastern Hills Community Church to provide snacks for students and food boxes during the Thanksgiving holiday. They were also a constant support for supplying the pantry. The ARC Thrift Store consistently provided vouchers for the community closet and made it possible for families to shop as needed. Blessings in a Bag provided non-perishable food every week for students to take home for the weekend and the Homeless Liaison's team worked closely with another church who donated weekly grocery bags for families.

The community partnerships at Summit have been a blessing in supporting students' and families' needs. Funding was the greatest challenge to sustaining this practice.

Advice for someone to replicate this practice is to take time building relationships and connecting with the local community. Having partnerships in schools allows the community to come together in a shared vision for student success, creating a more supportive environment for students and families.