



MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Connecting Erie Families to Serve One Another



OUR INSPIRATION

Erie Uplink was founded in 2011 by three Erie women: Lexi Cire, Lisa Knudsen and Stephanie Short.

“All three of us mothers, at various times, witnessed needs that were going unmet in our community. We knew we could make a difference, so Erie Uplink was born.”

OUR TEAM

Today, Erie UpLink is led by a Board of four Erie moms, each specializing in a different area of expertise.

We also have a team of community liaisons that help us to stay connected within the schools and other local outreach groups.





OUR VISION

A community of caring in Erie where folks work together to empower and assist one another in times of need.

OUR MISSION

To help link those who “have” with those who may be in need. We are Erie people, helping Erie people.



ASSISTANCE

Provide support and resources to fulfil the basic life needs of Erie students, families and senior citizens.



CONNECTION

Link residents to one another by providing volunteer opportunities through our programs.



COMMUNITY

Build a sense of community through shared experience and care for one another.



OUR FOCUS

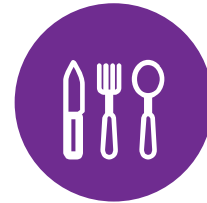
Erie Uplink relies solely on financial contributions and donated items from the Erie community.

- Food and clothing drives held annually by churches and local schools
- Various fundraisers done in conjunction with local businesses
- Non-paid board members and volunteers mean low overhead

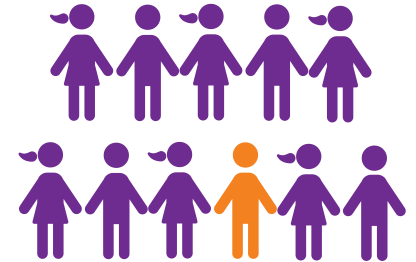


THE NEED

Families residing in Erie face unique challenges in meeting daily life needs such as high cost of living, lack of affordable housing, geographic isolation, limited local employment, and lack of public transportation.



506



1 in 11

Students attending Erie schools who qualified for free or reduced lunch in 2021

Linking Erie residents together



OUR PROGRAMS



TIGER PACKS

Backpacks filled with food, winter items, toiletries and school supplies sent home with students during long weekends/holiday breaks.



COLLEGIATE CROSSINGS

We sponsor first generation college students to receive counseling for post-secondary education.



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

We connect families in crisis with resources for temporary support through difficult situations.

TIGER PACK PROGRAM

Feed 'em like tigers!

Tiger Packs are backpacks filled with food for students who do not have enough to eat on holidays/long breaks. They also contain other items of need such as hygiene products, school supplies, hats and gloves during winter months and Christmas stockings over the Holiday Break. Plus, where permitted, we include grocery gift cards 2-3x per year per student. Additionally, we provide a Tiger Pantry at the high school where those students can “shop” discreetly for snacks, toiletries and personal care items (\$1400 per year).



128

Students currently enrolled 2022-23 school year



\$335

Benefit provided per student/year



ERIE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Many students have the desire to go to college but have no idea where to begin to make this dream a reality. In partnership with Collegiate Crossings, students receive guidance on college selection, essays, resumes, financial planning, timely application deadlines and more to successfully enroll in higher education that is suited to their needs. We focus on at-risk children below the poverty line, and first generation college students.



12

Students served to date



\$5,000

Value per student*



*Value per student reflects the full price of the CC program, a portion of which is provided to our scholars through a grant.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

We are all vulnerable to life altering events like the loss of a job, family emergencies and medical crises. It is comforting to know that in our darkest times, we are not alone. In these instances, Erie UpLink connects families in crisis with resources for temporary support through difficult situations. Needs and solutions are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Grocery gift cards, rental and utility assistance as well as grant requests are among the ways we help.



36

Families served since 2011



\$400

Average assistance per family





HOW CAN YOU HELP US ?



DONATION

You can rest assured knowing that when you donate money to Erie UpLink, every penny goes toward serving Erie families.



FUNDRAISING

Coordinate a food drive, hat and glove drive or other fundraising event.



VOLUNTEER

Organize a packing event to assemble Tiger Packs, personal care kits or school supply refreshers.

LINK UP



Location

77 Erie Village Square, #280
Erie, Colorado 80516



EMAIL

erieuplink@gmail.com



WEBSITE

www.erieuplink.org

