

Building Bright Futures

news release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

"Field of Dreams" GOCO Grant Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Foothills Elementary

A community celebration for the completion of the athletic field rebuild

When: Friday, April 3, 2:00 p.m.

Where: Foothills Elementary

13165 W. Ohio Ave. Lakewood, CO 80228

What: A celebration of the completion of the "Field of Dreams" project, the rebuilding

of the Foothills Elementary athletic field made possible by a grant from Great

Outdoors Colorado.

Background:

In December 2013 Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) awarded Foothills Elementary a grant of \$338,040 to rebuild their athletic field as part of GOCO's School Play Yard Initiative. The athletic field at Foothills Elementary was outdated and had inadequate irrigation and drainage, making it impossible to use the area to its full capacity.

The school and a community coalition, which included Jeffco Public Schools, the City of Lakewood, Green Mountain Civic Association, and local church pastors, also raised nearly \$145,000 in community donations. Among the community donations were: Jeffco Public Schools donation of \$50,000 to the project, as well as involvement by both city councilmen, Dave Wiechman and Adam Paul.

The grant was the culmination of over three years of hard work by the community coalition to make the "Field of Dreams" project a reality.

Foothills Elementary broke ground on the project in the fall of 2014, and the renovation is finally complete. The area on the corner of South Youngfield Court and South Zinnia Court, south of the school building, now features an irrigated, resurfaced playground, new fencing, benches, and landscaping. The site also includes an irrigated soccer field and a baseball diamond with bleachers.

The total cost of the project was around \$480,000. The field and baseball diamond will also be available for use by youth sports leagues in the area.

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