

Coffman Honors Rebecca Vahle as an Angel in Adoption

(WASHINGTON) – Congressman Mike Coffman, R-CO, today honored Rebecca Vahle as a 2011 Angels in Adoption award recipient for her outstanding work as an adoption liaison for Parker Adventist Hospital in Parker, Colorado. The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI), which oversees the Angels in Adoption program, will pay tribute to Vahle along with more than 140 Angels, at an awards ceremony and gala event in Washington, D.C. on October 5, 2011.

A resident of Centennial, Colorado, Vahle was recognized for her work to spearhead an initiative known as the Family-to-Family Program that bridges the gap for adoptive parents, birthparents and the adoptive child. It is the only established hospital-based adoption support program in the country.

“Rebecca Vahle has done amazing advocacy work for adoption in both a professional and a volunteer capacity,” Coffman said. “Her passion for adoption and her desire to assist families navigate this often-difficult process make her truly deserving of this honor.”

Vahle works to help all participants in the adoption process by giving structure and meaning to a challenging process. She is instrumental in educating hospital staff on the special and sensitive needs of all parties involved as well as donating her time to adoption organizations to help other families through the adoption journey.

“It’s an honor to be recognized for my work supporting the adoption journey,” Vahle said.

The Angels in Adoption program is CCAI’s signature public awareness campaign and provides an opportunity for all members of the U.S. Congress to honor the good work of their constituents who enrich the lives of foster children and orphans in the United States and abroad.

“The Angels in Adoption program is unlike any other program in the Nation’s Capital. Because of it, over 1800 “Angels” have come to share with Washington their adoption experience and left with a renewed excitement of all that adoption makes possible,” said Kathleen Strottman, the executive director of the CCAI. “I learned one simple lesson from my time on the hill: knowledge is power. Angels in Adoption is meant to give Members of Congress the knowledge they need to use the power they have toward making the dream of a family a reality for every child.”

In addition to the more than 140 local angels from around the country, several “National Angels” will also be recognized at the ceremony and gala for their dedication and commitment nationally and internationally to child welfare on a grand scale. This year’s National Angels are Academy Award nominated actor and screenwriter Nia Vardalos, NFL Linebacker Scott Fujita, and the Emmy nominated television program Freddie Mac Foundation’s “Wednesday’s Child”. Former National Angels include First Lady Laura Bush, Patti LaBelle, Jane Seymour, Muhammad Ali, the late Dave Thomas, Steven Curtis Chapman, Bruce Willis, Alonzo Mourning, Rhea Perlman and Kristin Chenoweth.

The CCAI is a 501(c) 3 nonpartisan organization dedicated to raising awareness about the tens of thousands of orphans and foster children in the United States and the millions of orphans around the world in need of permanent, safe, and loving homes through adoption. CCAI’s goal is the elimination of barriers that hinder these children from realizing their basic right of a family.

For more information about the institute, please visit <http://www.ccaainstitute.org/>.



Congressman Dan Claitor, D-CO, honors Colorado resident Rebecca Vahle as an Angel in Adoption at his New Castle, P.O. Office on October 4, 2011.