

Dear Dry Bones Support Team,

As 2016 comes to a close, may I boldly make three requests of you? First, a quick update:



2016 concludes an adventurous year of transition and growth for Dry Bones. As we turned 15 years old, the growing pains have been exciting, stretching, fun, uncomfortable, encouraging, painful, rejuvenating, empowering, and more. *Do you remember turning 15? What a ride!*

This year, we moved to much larger and better offices, endured an 7-month construction project on the new headquarters, hired a couple of new team members, watched our population explode in numbers, continued to build our job training program at Purple Door (opening a roaster and graduating many!), and continued progress on the new transition home on Broadway. “Deanna” got sober for the first time in 15 years, “Chris” began therapy, “Don” entered rehab, “Tony” was released from prison and remains employed and sober, we celebrated Reb’s 10-year anniversary on staff, facilitated 10 internships (including our first formerly homeless youth intern), and this list could go on and on... It’s been a very full year!

As you know, Dry Bones greatly depends on your love, prayers, support, and encouragement. We do not take it for granted. Those of you near and far to Denver that carry within you a deep sense of compassion for America’s homeless youth population encourage us more than you’ll ever imagine or know. Thank you for all that you have already done! Each and every prayer, dollar, encouraging letter, and volunteer hour is significant to this ministry.

**So, here are my three big bold intentional requests:**

- 1. Please keep Dry Bones in your thoughts and prayers this next year.** Pray for our growing houseless youth and young adult population as they come from all across the nation to seek survival in Denver. Pray for those who are leaving the street-life as change is hard. Remember our staff and volunteers. Please pray for safety, provision, necessary new innovations, and positive life-change for all involved. (Some have found it meaningful to set a daily alarm for 4:20 pm to pray specifically for the Dry Bones community.)
- 2. Please step further in.** If you’re already involved, take another step. If you’re volunteering one hour a week, could we ask for two? Consider volunteering for the first time! Visit [drybonesdenver.org/volunteer](http://drybonesdenver.org/volunteer) Would you consider becoming a financial monthly Sustaining Partner? Or, if you already donate monthly, could we ask you to increase your gift by a percentage as our budget strategically and naturally grows?
- 3. Please remember us in your end-of-year giving plans.** The month of December is one of the most crucial and significant months for the Dry Bones operational budget. 66% of our budget currently comes from families and individuals like you – much of that at this time of the year. As 2016 comes to a close, we now need to raise an additional \$90,000. Dry Bones’ vision is growing. Not only this, but the increasing numbers of youth on the streets and consequently increased needs and services will require even more of us in 2017. The Dry Bones board of directors and I commit to use your gifts wisely and responsibly in service among Denver’s homeless youth and young adult population. [www.drybonesdenver.org/donate](http://www.drybonesdenver.org/donate)

As we enter our 16<sup>th</sup> year of ministry in Denver, we’re more determined and committed than ever. We’re thankful to have a great team, strong partnerships with other organizations, and the world’s best volunteers. We continue to face one of our nation’s greatest needs with genuine support, solutions, spiritual focus, and hard work. Thank you for standing alongside Dry Bones! We feel your love and support.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*  
Matt Wallace and the Dry Bones Team

**2016 WAS A GREAT YEAR OF GROWTH! WE'RE EXCITED TO STEP IN TO 2017.  
CHECK OUT A FEW OF THESE HIGHLIGHTS AND PLANS.**



New Purple Door Coffee Roaster Warehouse! Get ready to order PDC coffee for your house, office, and church. Help employ more youth and young adults leaving the streets.



Dry Bones 15th Birthday Party at Red Rocks!



Greyson Brumfield "80-something" and 11-year volunteer with Dry Bones. Grey was inducted into the Colorado Motor Sports Hall of Fame!



In partnership with Providence Network - Our Transformation Home will open in 2017!

**Dry Bones Denver's Urban Camp-a-thon**

When: April 22, 2017  
Where: Riverside Church, Denver, CO

Keep an eye out for more information coming soon!  
[www.drybonesdenver.org/campout](http://www.drybonesdenver.org/campout)



Dry Bones summer interns. In 2016, we hosted 10 interns throughout the year. We also welcomed 15 visiting vision trip groups.



A few early photos. We're still moving in.  
Open House - Jan 15th, 1-4pm

**The new Dry Bones Headquarters at 1600 Downing St is going to enable us to provide new services and opportunities such as:**

- A large "Living Room" for group sessions (addiction recovery groups, bible study, contemplative gatherings, group therapy, art classes, meditation, volunteer trainings, board meetings, homeless youth advisory groups, life-skills classes, meals, birthdays, and much more)
- A quiet and private therapy room as well as private office space for staff (3 oversized communal workspace/offices).
- Potentially begin an innovative weekly small church gathering
- Greater storage options for interview-ready clothing closet, hygiene, food pantry, survival/camping supplies, etc. We now have 3 large storage closets and a wall of storage cabinets!
- Job readiness computers
- Tutoring, mentoring, Resource Navigation, and one-on-one stations
- Art studio and supplies
- A game room with a pool table, Ping-Pong, etc