



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
FIRST
Powering Community Together

COMMUNITY BENEFIT REPORT 2014

WE BELIEVE IN THE INFINITE POWER OF PEOPLE.

At Community First Foundation, we have so much enthusiasm for what can happen when we harness the power of many for the greater good. And we wanted to make sure our website and branding materials were capturing the momentum and excitement that we feel. That's why this past year Community First Foundation unveiled a new brand look and voice. You'll see it reflected in our new website and printed and electronic materials. It is a tribute to the many types of people whose energy, generosity and hard work power our communities.

In our brand you'll notice we highlight images of individuals. These individuals come together in a multitude of ways to power community: by running nonprofits, giving via ColoradoGives.org, creating donor-advised funds or supporting causes they care about deeply. Our new brand recognizes that it takes the power of each of these people to create lasting change.

We're creating a community wall of "First Faces" on our website and would love for you to add your photo. Check it out at CommunityFirstFoundation.org and click on "First Faces" under our Community Impact tab.

Connecting the givers and do-ers in extraordinary ways.

Dear Friends of Community First Foundation,

This year marks an important milestone in the history of Community First Foundation. We are celebrating 40 years of improving quality of life and creating positive change in Jefferson County, the Denver metropolitan area and beyond. We are immensely proud of all we have accomplished in the last four decades and look forward with great anticipation to the future.

In 2014, we bolstered our staff to expand our role as a community connector, partner, collaborator and resource. We welcomed two vice presidents to strengthen our grantmaking and development programs. We also evaluated how to make our efforts even more impactful in the areas most needed by our community. Throughout this report, we share more about these areas of focus.

Also in 2014, we adopted three strategic priorities: promoting mental wellness, honoring our heritage in Jefferson County and strengthening nonprofits. The article on page 11 explains why we believe opportunities for innovative work in mental wellness exist and describes the outstanding work we are already supporting.

We have also made exciting changes that reflect the growth and success of our Foundation. We purchased a building that will be our new home and will allow us to serve the nonprofit community by offering community meeting space. We also adopted a new corporate brand and launched a website with a fresh, new look that reflects our values and priorities.

We take our position as a leading Colorado community foundation seriously and we are more determined than ever to bring community partners together and find real solutions for some of our most challenging social problems.

Thank you for your support of Community First Foundation and for partnering with us as we power community together.

Sincerely,



Marla J. Williams
President and CEO



William P. Ernstrom
2014 Board Chair



Peggy E. Jennings
2015 Board Chair



Since 1975, Community First Foundation has been helping generous donors and innovative nonprofits come together to improve quality of life and create positive change in Jefferson County, the Denver metropolitan area and beyond. We serve as a connector, partner, collaborator and resource to fuel the power of community for the greater good.

CommunityFirstFoundation.org

COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Welcome Spring 2015 Staff

Christine M. Moreland
Controller

The mission
of Community
First Foundation
is to inspire
philanthropy
and build strong
community.

CommunityFirstFoundation.org



We are a resource.

We invest
in community
programs
that make a
ripple effect
of change.

Breaking the Cycle of Poverty

To honor our heritage in Jefferson County, we contributed to the Jeffco Prosperity Project, a collaborative effort to help families break the cycle of generational poverty.



The Jeffco Prosperity Project realigns existing services and empowers families to develop economic self-sufficiency. It also offers families the services they need to support their children through school. Families are helped until the youngest child graduates from high school, ensuring that today's low-income students become tomorrow's successful adults.

The Jeffco Prosperity Project is a collaboration among The Action Center, the Jefferson County Department of Human Services and its Head Start programs and Jeffco Schools Foundation in partnership with Jefferson County Public Schools.

Community First Foundation is proud to support the Jeffco Prosperity Project through a \$388,351 grant given over three years. A large portion of the grant is covering the costs of a program director to ensure the success of this new, collaborative project.

Expanding Services for Basic Needs

The Action Center provides an immediate response to basic human needs and promotes pathways to self-sufficiency for families living in Jefferson County. Because needs are greater than capacity, The Action Center raised funds for a facilities expansion. Community First Foundation provided a \$500,000 challenge grant to stimulate giving and support their efforts to purchase and renovate a new Program Services building. At the center of the expansion is the innovative Self-Sufficiency Pathways Program. In the program, individuals and families participate in case-management sessions designed to improve educational and financial management skills as they work towards self-sufficiency. The program has great potential to help people make meaningful and sustainable changes in their lives.



Supporting Health Professions Expansion at Red Rocks Community College

Community First Foundation contributed one of the largest gifts in our history to help build the new Arvada Health Professions and Science Building at Red Rocks Community College. Our \$1 million grant will help the college cluster its health professionals programs in one place and expand access to high demand programs. "We are grateful to Community First

Foundation for helping us move closer to our goal of producing highly qualified primary care health professionals to meet the growing needs of Jefferson County's largest industry - health and wellness," says Dr. Michele Haney, president of Red Rocks Community College.

The expanded campus will also serve as a regional triage center for crisis response and a community resource for continuing education. Once completed, the Arvada campus will provide Jefferson County with an educational training center that supports a rich, collaborative learning environment dedicated to the health and wellness of Jefferson County and the surrounding areas.



Community First Foundation
awarded more than \$42 million
in grants in 2014.

DO-ERS PLUS GIVERS

We are a connector.

An ever-growing community of do-gooders.

ColoradoGives.org Changing the Landscape of Online Giving

ColoradoGives.org, the online giving website, ended the year stronger than ever as \$35.8 million was raised through the site in 2014. That's a 25 percent increase in giving over 2013. And spanning the eight years since the site's inception, donors used ColoradoGives.org to support Colorado nonprofits with more than \$117 million in donations.



Regional Champions Help Accelerate Growth

Community First Foundation engaged Douglas County Gives and Yampa Valley Gives in 2014 to join three other groups to help expand online giving beyond the Denver area. These Regional Champions used the ColoradoGives program to customize giving in their communities and truly make the program their own. By collaborating with nonprofits in their region, local businesses and the local population, these communities are making a big impact across the state.

1. The Community Foundation of Northern Colorado
2. The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County
3. Douglas County Gives
4. Eagle County Gives
5. Yampa Valley Gives



"This year, eight members of our Board of Directors helped raise support for Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado through a personal fundraising page on ColoradoGives.org. Their collective efforts garnered 59 new donors."

Ann Baker Easley,
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado,
Executive Director



COLORADOGIVES 2014 AT A GLANCE

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT DONATED

\$35.8 MILLION

TOTAL NUMBER OF NONPROFIT PROFILES

1,784

AVERAGE DONATION SIZE

\$207

AVERAGE AMOUNT RAISED PER NONPROFIT

\$20,044

"In the first year of Yampa Valley Gives we were able to achieve an unprecedented \$400,000+ in donations in addition to incentives and bonuses for 40 regional nonprofits. Thank you for helping us to achieve the unimaginable in our first year."

Mark D. Anderson, Executive Director,
Yampa Valley Community Foundation



Fundraising Pages Attract New Donors

Nonprofits are increasingly promoting special features of ColoradoGives.org to attract new donations. Fundraising pages are a fun way for donors to support nonprofits featured on ColoradoGives.org with their own, personalized web campaigns. Links to fundraising page campaigns are shared with friends and family and attract potential new donors. Nonprofits and donors alike appreciate the affordability of ColoradoGives fundraising pages compared to for-profit crowdfunding sites. Recurring donations and Giving eCards are other features on ColoradoGives.org that boost online giving.

The ColoradoGives Online Giving Report provides comprehensive data about the impact of online giving in Colorado. Visit CommunityFirstFoundation.org/News/Publications



ColoradoGives.org is a year-round, online giving website featuring the missions, programs and finances of more than 1,700 Colorado nonprofits.

ColoradoGives.org is the donation platform for Colorado Gives Day, a statewide movement to increase philanthropy in Colorado online.



COLORADO GIVES DAY 2014: \$26.3 MILLION IN 24 HOURS

The fifth Colorado Gives Day launched with one of the largest incentives in the nation: Community First Foundation and Corporate Partner FirstBank each contributed \$500,000 to create the \$1 Million Incentive Fund to increase the value of every dollar donated. A surprise gift of \$150,000 from the Colorado Health Foundation meant every donation went even further. Online giving results surpassed the previous year yet again, with \$26.3 million donated to 1,677 nonprofits from nearly 44,000 donors.



"What started as a small way for Community First Foundation to help promote giving across our diverse state is now a vital resource for almost 2,000 nonprofits that reside within our borders."

Crissey McNally,
Development Coordinator,
Friends of the Haven



NEW APP A BIG HIT
A fun new app launched in 2014 to count down the days/hours/seconds to Colorado Gives Day and to track money and donations raised by nonprofits throughout the day. This handy app kept people informed when they were on the go.

Corporate Challenge Inspires Corporate Philanthropy

A Corporate Challenge pilot program launched in 2014 to encourage business participation in Colorado Gives Day. The challenge was designed for Colorado businesses and their employees to take an active, public role in supporting local nonprofits and encourage a philanthropic spirit. It resulted in 600 generous employees donating more than \$356,000 to 580 nonprofits. Thank you to the employees of Community First Foundation, CiviCore, Eide Bailly LLP, FirstBank, Innovest Portfolio Solutions, Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP, Rally and ReadyTalk.

Thank you to the following Colorado Gives Day Sponsors
The Networks of 9NEWS, Comcast, Entravision Communications, iHeartMedia, Rocky Mountain PBS, Colorado Public Television (CPT12, PBS), 5280 Magazine and Mile High Outdoor Advertising.

SIDE BY SIDE

We are a partner.

We help donors make a difference in ways that matter.

NONPROFIT ENDOWMENT PARTNERS

Community First Foundation is dedicated to helping nonprofits thrive. By establishing an endowment fund at the Foundation and becoming a Nonprofit Endowment Partner, nonprofits receive endowment-building guidance, exclusive grants, educational opportunities, marketing support and an investment structure designed for steady asset growth.

2014 was a record year for new Endowment Partners at the Foundation. We welcome the following organizations:

- American Gelbvieh Foundation
- Cat Care Society
- Center for the Church and Global AIDS
- Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation
- Community Cycles
- Friends of the Haven
- Glory Community
- Griffith Centers for Children
- ICAST
- Littleton Symphony Orchestra
- Peak to Peak Charter School
- Sister Carmen Community Center

See page 14 for a list of all Nonprofit Endowment Partners.



The following nonprofits are just a few organizations that received \$10,000 Endowment Challenge Grants from Community First Foundation to support their endowment-building campaigns.

Glory Community

Glory Community, a residential community for adults with developmental disabilities, established an endowment to provide tuition scholarships for families in need.

Phamaly Theatre Company

New financial resources generated from their first endowment will help Phamaly Theatre Company support their performers and pursue their long-term vision to offer theater programming to youth with disabilities.

Peak to Peak Charter School

Peak to Peak Charter School offers a K-12 liberal arts and college preparatory curriculum. To ensure that financial need is not a barrier for the graduates to attend college, the school created an endowment to fund four-year scholarships.

DONOR PARTNERS

With a deep understanding of nonprofits and a highly personalized level of service, Community First Foundation provides support and resources to help individuals and families implement a charitable plan.

The Franklin Fund: Making a Difference for Women and Girls of Color

At the end of every year, and again at tax time, MaryAnn Franklin would find herself buried in paper trying to keep track of her many charitable donations. That changed when she set up a donor-advised fund through Community First Foundation to help make her widespread philanthropy more efficient.



MaryAnn wants to help make sure Historically Black Colleges and Universities are around to nurture future generations of students, as she was nurtured by one years ago. Her donor-advised fund at Community First Foundation is helping that happen. MaryAnn attended Fisk University, one of the nation's top Historically Black Colleges and Universities, which will receive her support. Her fund will also support groups helping women and girls of color become self-sufficient. For example, MaryAnn supports the Women's Foundation of Colorado because it builds resources and promotes change to help women and girls in Colorado achieve their full potential.

The Raymond and Viola Wagner Family Fund: Family's Good Fortune Benefits Home Town

Raymond and Viola Wagner, of Otis, Kansas, operated a wheat and cattle farm when an oil strike on their land dramatically changed their fortunes. Raymond wanted the income generated from the wells to provide not only for his family, but also for the local charities that enrich his small community.



The search for an experienced community foundation to guide them led the Wagners to Community First Foundation in the Denver area, where eldest son Dale had started a family. They created a donor-advised fund to receive tax deductions during the wells' oil-producing years and allow the family to support charities for years to come.

Assigning six family advisors to the fund makes giving a family affair. "We want to make sure that once we're gone, the grandchildren will continue giving," said Dale. Many of the grants from the fund benefit graduates of their home town high school by providing scholarships to local colleges and trade schools. Other charities include the County Fair Board, the City Teen Center, the county food bank, Kansas Honor Flight and the local 4H Club.

"I like the comfort of knowing that I'm working with individuals who are very knowledgeable about charitable funds and financial markets," Dale said about Community First Foundation. "And we wanted to be comfortable with them, because we're just normal, down-home folk."

ENDOWMENT CHALLENGE GRANTS

14 Nonprofit Endowment Partners received \$140,000 in matching grants to support their endowment campaigns.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERS GRANTS

15 Nonprofit Endowment Partners received nearly \$118,000 in Strengthening Partners Grants to support planned giving programs.

MORE GOOD IDEAS

We are a collaborator.

We tackle issues that matter to our community.

MENTAL WELLNESS IS A NEW STRATEGIC PRIORITY

In mid-2014, we conducted a community listening tour to learn more about the mental health environment in the Denver metropolitan area. Consistently, we heard there is a great need for more programs that promote mental wellness and prevent mental illness. As a result, our Board of Directors committed to fostering partnerships and working collaboratively with others to address this challenging social issue.

We began our work by funding organizations focused on reducing toxic stress in the very young. Toxic stress is a condition that occurs when a child experiences strong, frequent and/or prolonged adversity without adequate adult support. The impact on a child's stress response system can have negative long-term effects on physical and behavioral functions into adult years.

Organizations receiving a buffering toxic stress grant include:

1. Boulder County Public Health/Metro Public Health Early Childhood Partners
2. Growing Home
3. Jefferson Center for Mental Health
4. Mapleton Public Schools/Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County
5. University of Denver – Stress, Early Experiences and Development (SEED) Research Center

OUR WORK TODAY WILL IMPACT THE FUTURE

The Liberty Community Fund of Colorado Supports The Center

The Liberty Community Fund of Colorado, a permanent, community-advised Field of Interest Fund at Community First Foundation, distributed its inaugural grant for \$30,000 to The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of Colorado (The Center).

The Fund works to create an environment where LGBT individuals and their families enjoy the same full freedoms, the equal opportunities and the same quality of life as their straight friends and neighbors. The grant is supporting The Center's efforts to help LGBT youth and elders overcome mental, emotional and skill-set barriers that often prevent economic security.

The Liberty Community Fund of Colorado is made possible through the generosity of The Liberty Community Fund's Founding Donors and other supporters. To support the Fund, please visit ColoradoGives.org and search for Liberty.



Financial Overview

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2014

ASSETS

Cash and Investments	\$ 346,053,519
Other Assets	2,399,637
Total Assets	348,453,156

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	4,592,340
Other Liabilities	103,852
Agency Funds	23,408,261
Total Liabilities	28,104,453

Net Assets	320,348,703
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 348,453,156

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

REVENUE

Contributions	\$ 1,428,029
Investment Income	5,278,279
Other Income	1,259,642
Total Revenue	7,965,950

GRANTS AND EXPENSES

Grants	4,806,808
Other Program Expenses	2,005,304
Supporting Services	1,342,357
Total Grants and Expenses	8,154,469

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Net Assets, Beginning of Year	-188,519
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 320,348,703

For detailed financial reports, go to Publications at CommunityFirstFoundation.org

All funds are invested in diverse portfolios and the management of these funds is a cornerstone of the work we do for our community.



We're
dedicated
to helping
nonprofits
succeed and
thrive.



DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Thank you to the generous and thoughtful people who have established donor-advised funds at Community First Foundation to improve their communities.

Banko Family Fund
Best Should Teach Fund
Brennan Family Fund
Butterfield Family Donor-Advised Fund
Sam Cheris Charitable Fund
Valerie and Gilmour Clausen Fund
Coburn Family Fund
Collier Family Fund
Felix and Margie Cook Fund
Dahl Family Donor-Advised Fund
Eicher Family Donor-Advised Fund
Janet Fania Memorial Scholarship Fund
Franklin Fund
Haggstrom Family Donor-Advised Fund
Hanson Ernstrom Family Donor-Advised Fund
Jackson Family Donor-Advised Fund
Jennings Human Capital Improvement Fund

Leach Family Donor-Advised Fund
Molenaar Family Donor-Advised Fund
Morrissey Family Fund
Nu Sigma Nu Donor-Advised Fund
Phelan Smith Family Fund
Koger and Marcie Propst Family Donor-Advised Fund
PBJ Reece Charitable Fund
Vernon and Sharon Ritzman Donor-Advised Fund
Alan and Emily Robinson Donor-Advised Fund
Shean Family Fund
Spalding Community Foundation Family of Funds
Storatz Family Donor-Advised Fund
Tarkanian Family Fund
TBL Donor-Advised Fund
Thunder & Lightning Fund
Tough Enough to Wear Pink Donor-Advised Fund
Sharon L. & John U. Trefny Donor-Advised Fund
Tuthill Family Fund
Lynne Valencia Family Fund
Raymond & Viola Wagner Family Fund
Waring Family Fund
Marla J. Williams Donor-Advised Fund

For additional fund and gift listings, visit our website
at CommunityFirstFoundation.org

NONPROFIT ENDOWMENT PARTNERS

We value our relationships with the following nonprofits that are dedicated to enriching our communities. In 2014, the following organizations entrusted us with stewarding endowment funds.

The Action Center
Adam's Camp
The Adoption Exchange
American Gelbvieh Foundation
Arapahoe/Douglas Mental Health Network
Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities
Audubon Society of Greater Denver
Aurora Mental Health Center
Blue Sky Bridge
Boulder History Museum
Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra
Boys Hope Girls Hope of Colorado
Butterfly Pavilion & Insect Center
CASA of Jefferson and Gilpin Counties
Cat Care Society
Center for the Church and Global AIDS
Children's Outreach Project
Clinica Tepeyac
Colorado Agency for Jewish Education
Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation
Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education
Colorado Cancer Research Program
Colorado Children's Chorale
Colorado Council on Economic Education
Colorado Homeless Families
Colorado Humanities
Colorado Neurological Institute
Colorado Nonprofit Association
Colorado Peace Officers Foundation
Colorado Preservation, Inc.

Colorado Public Television (CPT12, PBS)
Community Cycles
The Conflict Center
CWEE: The Center for Work Education and Employment
Dental Aid
The Denver Center for Crime Victims
Denver Indian Family Resource Center
Denver Street School and StreetSchool Network
DenverWorks
District 50 Education Foundation
Doctors Care
Dominican Home Health Agency Inc.
Eaton Senior Communities and Eaton Senior Communities Foundation
El Centro Su Teatro
Escuela de Guadalupe
Family Tree, Inc.
Friends of the Haven
Girl Scouts of Colorado
The GLBT Community Center of Colorado
Glory Community
Goodwill Industries of Denver
The Greatest Generations Foundation
The Greenway Foundation
Griffith Centers for Children
ICAST
Jeffco Schools Foundation
Jefferson Center for Mental Health
Jefferson County Library Foundation
Jewish Family Service of Colorado
Junior Achievement - Rocky Mountain, Inc.
Lakewood Legacy Foundation
Life Quality Institute
Littleton Symphony Orchestra
Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains

*Community First Foundation managed
endowment funds for 91 nonprofits and offered
online giving services for 1,784 in 2014.*

Metro Community Provider Network
Metro Denver Partners
Mountain Area Land Trust (MALT)
NAMI Colorado
The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the State of Colorado
Open Media Foundation
OpenWorld Learning
Outdoor Lab Foundation
Peak to Peak Charter School
Phamaly Theatre Company
Platte Valley Medical Center Foundation
Project Angel Heart
REDI Corporation
Robert E. Loup Jewish Community Center
Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Center
Rocky Mountain Parents as Teachers
SafeHouse Denver
Seniors' Resource Center
Sister Carmen Community Center
Swallow Hill Music Association
Teen Challenge of the Rocky Mountains
Tennyson Center for Children at Colorado Christian Home
Visiting Nurse Association
Wheat Ridge Rotary Club
White Rose Scholarship Foundation
The Wildlife Experience
YMCA of Metropolitan Denver,
Susan M. Duncan Family Branch

