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FALL
2023

NEWS FOR DONORS

Noteworthy



The Denver Foundation



The Denver Foundation

NOTEWORTHY
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MISSION

The mission of The Denver Foundation is to inspire people and mobilize resources to strengthen our community. We envision a Metro Denver that is racially equitable in its leadership, prosperity, and culture.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS



In this issue of Noteworthy, I want to express my gratitude to our staff for all they do to support our community.

We couldn't do all we do without our dedicated and skilled team of professionals — our finance and accounting team that works tirelessly all year long, but particularly during this busy end-of-year season; our operational excellence, executive, communications, and IT/HR/operations teams who ensure everything runs smoothly to support the foundation's important work; and our impact team, who supports your giving and increases your impact. I appreciate their commitment and overall excellence.

In this issue, you will hear more from our staff and gain a greater understanding of the incredible people who work for you every day. You will hear about what they are proud to have accomplished in 2023. You will gain insight into the unique ways we work with families to help them with their philanthropy. And you will get to know our Planned Giving Officer, Rachel Spory-Leek, who has unique expertise — and certification — to help our fundholders through the whole process of giving.

We are so fortunate to have this team supporting your work, and we hope you enjoy getting to know them a bit better. We encourage you to reach out to us to examine the multifaceted ways we can help deepen your philanthropy. Thank you for all you already do to make our communities better.

Javier Alberto Soto, *President and CEO*

ON THE COVER The Denver Foundation staff, joined by representatives from the RTD, Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), and Denver Streets Partnership on a bike tour. CEO Javier Alberto Soto reached his goal, biking to all 78 Denver neighborhoods.



WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

Expertise Very Few Foundations Can Offer

Whether you have a complex financial situation or simply have retirement accounts, everyone can prepare for a significant and lasting impact after their lifetime. Our fundholders have a unique advantage as they go through the giving process: the expertise — and certification — of Rachel Spory-Leek, planned giving officer at The Denver Foundation.

Spory-Leek is a Certified Specialist in Planned Giving, a designation only offered through The American Institute for Philanthropic Studies. This is a one-of-a-kind program that has been overwhelmingly successful since its debut in 1994. The certification complements Spory-Leek's nearly 10 years of expertise and her passion for helping donors ensure their philanthropic legacies beyond their lifetimes.

"These are complex gifts, but they don't have to be complicated," said Spory-Leek. "By partnering with us, we absorb some of the complexities to make it as smooth as we can for the donor."

Spory-Leek explains, "If you were to set up a trust, someone needs to make sure the funds go where they need to go every year. If you set it up with The Denver Foundation, we will do that without you or your children having to worry."

Spory-Leek can also advise on the wide array of philanthropic tools available to help donors manage all types of assets. "There's a whole world of complex noncash assets, which is one of my specialties," she said. "I can help you make the most of your real estate, great-grandma's jewelry, family art collections, or a presale gift of the family business."

Whether you're interested in donor-advised funds, field of interest funds, scholarship funds or a combination, Spory-Leek can help you find creative ways to give back.

If you would like to access this unique offering for your planned giving, please contact Rachel Spory-Leek at rsleek@denverfoundation.org.

"These are complex gifts, but they don't have to be complicated. By partnering with us, we absorb some of the complexities to make it as smooth as we can for the donor."

RACHEL SPORY-LEEK



REFLECTIONS AND RECOGNITION

The scope and scale of the work we do together is difficult to quantify and even more challenging to summarize in a way that does it justice. Our fundholders, partners, and staff collaborate to strengthen the fabric of our communities in ways that go well beyond the obvious. One of the primary benefits of working with The Denver Foundation is the flexibility, creativity, and connectivity we provide for each of our partners to meet their unique goals. We asked our team to share some of their highlights from the past year to shine a light on the impact of our work and how we support our donors, fundholders, and the Denver community. Here are some ways our team felt inspired, energized, and grateful for our work together.

NAOMI AMAHA Director of Policy and Government Affairs



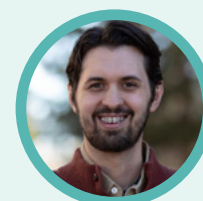
I was proud to be part of the mayoral forum we hosted in partnership with CBS Colorado and the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs. This election was so important, and it was great to see The Denver Foundation co-leading the conversation and helping inform voters in advance of the runoff election. I'm happy we elevated nonprofit voices and heard answers from the candidates about issues important to them, like climate, economic opportunity, education, and housing, and it was inspiring to hear college students ask their own questions.

Our staff, partners, and fundholders share their time, talent, and treasures in many ways. If you would like their assistance as you explore ways to give back during this holiday season, contact your relationship manager today. Get the most from your giving, call 303.300.1790.

ANNE KERWIN Grants Administrative Associate



I volunteered with several colleagues at Re:Vision, a Community Grants Program grantee, and saw the organization's amazing work firsthand as we weeded tomatoes, squash, onions, tomatillos, and flowers. Re:Vision has an on-site farm and helps many in the Westwood and Southeast Denver areas grow their own gardens. Re:Vision's other projects include its on-site Cultura food shop (delicious chocolate and more!), resident promotoras, Zumba and yoga classes, and food dispensed through its No Cost Grocery Program. Re:Vision is truly a neighborhood-based organization, meaningfully addressing community food issues, and it was wonderful to support their work in a different way.



ZACH CLAPPER Senior Engaged Philanthropy Officer

One of the most fulfilling parts of this work is how I get to support an organization as it grows, evolves, and expands its mission and impact through the agency fund program. The White Rose Foundation is an organization of professional women that addresses disparities in the Black community. It has been a recipient of our Black Resilience in Colorado (BRIC) grants in the past and an agency fundholder with us for more than a decade. Today, we facilitate both its community grantmaking efforts and the long-term sustainability of its mission. Working with the White Rose Foundation in numerous ways is one of the many examples of how our collaborative approach can best meet the needs of agency fundholders, and I feel grateful to support that.



CLAIRE TOBIN Major Gifts Officer

I am honored to support multigenerational giving and was thrilled to meet fundholders Jim and Janice Campbell at their downtown condo earlier this year. Jim and Janice recently celebrated their 25th anniversary of being dedicated philanthropists, and to celebrate this tremendous milestone, their children named a bench in their honor at Confluence Park, near their condo. The bench reads, "In gratitude to Janice and Jim Campbell: For all the good they have done in our community." All four Campbell children, Linda, Tracey, Cathy, and Mitch, are active philanthropists with individualized philanthropic priority areas. Having the opportunity to be a resource for the Campbell family at The Denver Foundation and witness firsthand their dedication to community and service is something I treasure. They truly embody what it means to experience the joy of giving.

JACK CZARNECKI Senior Scholarships Officer



Our scholarship team was able to launch the Community Scholarship Fund this year. This means we now have our very own discretionary scholarship fund that can grow and meet the evolving needs of Colorado students of color for generations to come. In June, we were able to host many of the first recipients at a reception. Being able to shake hands with some of the brightest students in our state was a humbling experience and a moving culmination after years of planning.

PICTURED Upper Left Javier Alberto Soto, Kelly Brough, Mike Johnston, Michelle Griego, Shaun Boyd, Paul Teske; Middle Denver Foundation staff volunteering at Re:Vision; Upper Right The bench near the Campbell's home





Generations of Giving

TRANSFORMING LIVES AS A FAMILY

Family philanthropy is a special way to make a collective impact. There are many ways we work with families to support their grantmaking. Our staff facilitates discussions, during which we learn what motivates you as a family, and as individuals, when making philanthropic decisions. We will help you identify what values represent the entire family and which individual values should be considered when you think about giving back. We explore ways that your family can give through time, talent, treasure, testimony, and social ties. From there, we can work with you to build an annual family giving plan, or one that lasts for years to come.

Claire Tobin is the major gifts officer at The Denver Foundation. She works to offer personalized support to make each donor's philanthropic goals a reality. With more than a decade of experience in nonprofit fundraising in the Denver Metro area, Claire's goal is to enhance the community's philanthropic landscape by inviting everyone to celebrate in the joy of giving by leaving a lasting legacy to the organizations they love most.

We interviewed Claire and she shared some insights into the world of multi-generational giving.

Q. Why should someone consider giving as a family?

Family philanthropy is important for several reasons. It allows families to make a positive difference in their communities or globally by addressing pressing social issues and supporting charitable causes. It also provides a platform for passing down family values, ethics, and a sense of responsibility to future generations. Family philanthropy can leave a lasting legacy extending beyond material wealth, leaving a positive mark on society for decades to come.

In addition, engaging in philanthropic activities together can strengthen family bonds, foster a sense of togetherness, and create shared meaningful experiences. Combining the wisdom of older generations with the fresh perspectives of younger ones within your own family can lead to more informed and balanced grantmaking.

Q. What are the advantages of engaging the whole family?

Each generation brings unique perspectives, values, and life experiences to the table. This diversity can lead to more innovative and well-rounded philanthropic strategies. This promotes a culture of continuous learning and growth within the family and encourages families to explore new philanthropic areas for grant making. Younger generations can carry on the family's legacy and adapt it to contemporary issues, while older generations can serve as mentors, passing down their philanthropic wisdom and values to younger family members, fostering a sense of purpose and responsibility.

Q. What is the process you use when working with families?

There isn't one model or process because each family is unique; however, I have found success in working with families who have clear charitable goals or want to work together to set them. I'll work with families to craft philanthropic mission statements or create a set of values or guidelines to follow when selecting organizations to support through their grantmaking.

Having a guide can foster an open and supportive environment where family members feel comfortable sharing their aspirations or goals in their grantmaking. Over time, priority areas and goals may change, but having a road map, including, but not limited to, annual grantmaking amounts, cycles, and clear communication plans, can lead to a successful family philanthropy dynamic.

I host families annually or several times a year at The Denver Foundation to facilitate these robust conversations or meet with family members over coffee or lunch to create a road map to make their giving successful.

Q. Why would someone work with The Denver Foundation instead of starting a family foundation?

There are many advantages to utilizing the services of The Denver Foundation over establishing a private family foundation. The Denver Foundation handles the administrative tasks of donor funds, legal requirements, and compliance issues, allowing fundholders to fully engage in the joy of giving free from administrative burden. In addition to the ease of establishing funds, our experienced and connected team is knowledgeable about local community needs and nonprofit organizations and can provide valuable guidance to help make sure your grants are having the biggest impact.

Q. Why are you passionate about family philanthropy?

The passion for helping with family philanthropy comes from recognizing its potential to create a better world, one act of giving at a time. Many donors often have specific visions and dreams for their philanthropy. Assisting families and seeing the tangible impact of donors' contributions to the causes and communities they care about most is one of the most rewarding aspects of my role as Major Gifts Officer at The Denver Foundation.



This holiday season is a great time to plan your giving with your family.

CONTACT YOUR RELATIONSHIP MANAGER TO START THESE CONVERSATIONS.

CALL 303.300.1790

Your Support Is **Critical.**

The Critical Needs Fund is our fastest and most flexible way to respond to crises in our community and around the globe. We activate this emergency fund for rapid response grantmaking when people need help urgently.

This fund consists of donations, large and small, and every little bit counts. From \$250 to \$1 million, your donation will immediately impact the most critical situations.

In the past few years, the fund supported the families impacted by the Marshall fire and communities reeling from mass shootings in Boulder, Aurora, and Denver. The Critical Needs Fund assisted those affected by global conflict, including refugees displaced by war in Afghanistan and Ukraine. And during the COVID-19 pandemic, the fund was actively implemented in a variety of ways.

While we hope for a bright future, we must prepare for the challenges ahead. Lend your hand to communities in crisis and donate today.



The Denver
Foundation

GIVE TODAY

**DENVERFOUNDATION.ORG/
CRITICAL-NEEDS-FUND**

OR CALL 303.300.1790