Exploring Nonprofit Innovation in Rural Colorado

Wednesday, June 24, 2015
4:00 PM – 5:15 PM
Coal Ridge High School

Facilitated by: Maria Fabula, Chief Executive Officer of Community Resource Center

Over 4,500 nonprofit organizations and public charities exist in rural Colorado today. These organizations make our communities vibrant by providing resources and programs in education, arts and culture, environmental stewardship, and by serving at-risk populations.

Nonprofit leaders in rural communities must wear many hats and are required to be innovative, effective, resourceful, and collaborative. In this panel, you will hear from a variety of experts engaged in rural philanthropy as we discuss the current issues that impact the success of nonprofit organizations.

In this session, we will hear from leaders in the sector who have their “finger on the pulse” of what is innovative, effective, resourceful, and collaborative in nonprofits and philanthropy. Topics for discussion will include foundation giving in the Mountain Region, evaluation and outcome measurements, innovative rural collaborations, funder-led initiatives, and online giving.

Panel Members:

Dana Rinderknecht, Director of Online Giving of Community First Foundation

Renny Fagan, Chief Executive Officer and President of Colorado Nonprofit Association

Lindsay Dolce, Executive Director of Serve Colorado

Joanne Kelley, Executive Director of Colorado Association of Funders

Phillip Chung, Independent Evaluation Consultant
Statewide Rural Funding Impact Map

In 2013, with generous support from the Boettcher Foundation and the El Pomar Foundation, CRC piloted the Statewide Funding Impact Map, which tracks and visually demonstrates rural giving trends among top Colorado foundations. Now fully launched, this interactive, online tool tracks foundation giving trends across rural Colorado from the statewide Rural Philanthropy Days program supporters, including: AV Hunter Trust; Adolph Coors Foundation; Anschutz Family Foundation; Boettcher Foundation; Buell Foundation; Caring for Colorado Foundation; The Colorado Health Foundation; The Colorado Trust; Daniels Fund; El Pomar Foundation; Gates Family Foundation; and Helen K. and Arthur E. Johnson Foundation.

Grantseekers can use the Statewide Funding Impact Map to discover the number and dollar amount of grants awarded by region, by county, or by foundation. This project allows you to explore funding patterns in your region. Grantmakers can research giving levels across the state. We hope this new addition to the RPD program will provide valuable information to grantseekers and grantmakers across the state of Colorado.

To explore grant funding in all 52 rural counties, please visit: http://crcamerica.org/rural-philanthropy-days/general-information/statewide-funding-impact/

Mountain Region Funding Statistics 2009 – 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awarded Year</th>
<th>Awarded Amount</th>
<th>Awarded Grants</th>
<th>Average Grant Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$4,912,405</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>$37,787.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$4,068,344</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>$30,820.79</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$5,899,676</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>$41,256.48</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$3,698,745</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>$26,419.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$4,580,770</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>$30,951.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>$4,977,987</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>$30,919.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$28,137,927</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>$33,025.83</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Eagle</th>
<th>Garfield</th>
<th>Lake</th>
<th>Pitkin</th>
<th>Summit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$1,244,503</td>
<td>$1,709,496</td>
<td>$893,056</td>
<td>$68,000</td>
<td>$997,350</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>$495,166</td>
<td>$2,633,178</td>
<td>$517,000</td>
<td>$43,000</td>
<td>$380,000</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>$1,424,558</td>
<td>$2,219,640</td>
<td>$290,000</td>
<td>$249,051</td>
<td>$1,716,427</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>$462,275</td>
<td>$1,623,580</td>
<td>$149,500</td>
<td>$800,579</td>
<td>$662,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$825,500</td>
<td>$1,710,425</td>
<td>$239,900</td>
<td>$735,000</td>
<td>$1,069,945</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>$649,298</td>
<td>$1,400,270</td>
<td>$425,150</td>
<td>$491,000</td>
<td>$970,769</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$5,101,300</td>
<td>$11,296,589</td>
<td>$2,514,606</td>
<td>$2,386,630</td>
<td>$5,797,311</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Innovation Through Collaboration

2014 Colorado Collaboration Award- Dolores River Restoration Partnership
The Dolores River Restoration Partnership (DRRP) is a coalition of federal land management agencies, county and state governments, landowners, nonprofits, students, conservation corps, volunteers, and other stakeholders. Their goal: a Dolores River system that is ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable.

The DRRP works across five counties and over 200 miles of the Dolores River and its tributaries to control a suite of invasive plants while also adding native grasses, shrubs, and trees back into the system. To date, the partnership has trained more than 190 youth and young adults to implement much of this work along with hiring local contractors and working with volunteering private landowners.

http://www.tamariskcoalition.org/programs/dolores-river-restoration-partnership

2013 Colorado Collaboration Award- Western Colorado Landscape Collaborative
Managed by Delta-based nonprofit Uncompahgre/Com, the Western Colorado Landscape Collaborative is a partnership of federal and state agencies, including environmental agencies and local utilities, that works to strengthen ecosystems, improve wildlife habitats, and reduce fire danger in Western Colorado’s natural spaces.

The Western Colorado Landscape Collaborative’s core partners include the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Western Area Power Administration, and Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association.

http://westcolc.org/

2011 Colorado Collaboration Award- Northwest Colorado Community Health Partnership
The Northwest Colorado Community Health Partnership consists of community and safety net organizations, health care providers and government agencies covering Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Rio Blanco and Routt counties. The mission of the Partnership is to develop a regional network of care for Northwest Colorado to include oral health, behavioral health, health promotion, disease prevention, chronic disease management, and acute care for all age groups.

Partnership members include Grand County Rural Health Network, Middle Park Medical Center, Mind Springs Heath, Northwest Colorado Dental Coalition, Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association, Pioneers Medical Center, Routt County Department of Human Services, Steamboat Medical Group, Steamboat Springs Family Medicine, The Memorial Hospital, Yampa Valley Medical Associates and Yampa Valley Medical Center.

https://www.nwcovna.org/community_partnerships.php
Meeting Milestones Initiative, Grand County

This collaboration works with all Grand County healthcare and childcare providers to ensure that all children are screened three times by the age of three. The collaboration consists of Grand County Rural Health Network, Grand Beginnings / Rural Resort Region NE Early Childhood Council, Colorado’s ABCD Project, and Patient Tools, Inc. as well as Grand County’s primary care providers and early childhood programs.

Grand County’s problem was that both healthcare and early childhood providers were screening children using different tools. The result was multiple screenings for each child, often confusing the parents. No provider was communicating with other providers on the child’s screening results—especially if a potential delay was found—resulting in providers’ untimely access to results and the child’s untimely access to follow-up services. Referrals were not getting to the right places, and information given to the parents often varied based on who gave which screening. Together, the Grand County collaborative worked to solve the problem.

http://www.gcruralhealth.com/Programs/HealthyGC2020/MeetingMilestones.aspx

Regional Substance Abuse Prevention Partners

The mission of RSAPP is to bring together, in a collaborative effort, community coalitions and community organizations in Southwest Colorado to facilitate regional substance abuse prevention through Strategic Prevention Framework, including needs assessment, capacity building, planning, implementation and evaluation.

Partners include AmeriCorps, four school districts, county health agencies, early childhood council, Fort Lewis College, La Plata Family Centers Coalition, OMNI Institute, San Juan Board of Cooperative Education Services, Southwest Youth Conservation Corps, and other organizations.

http://www.rsapp.org/index.html

Aspen Mine Center

In 2002, the Community of Caring Foundation, a Colorado tax-exempt nonprofit incorporated in 1998, opened the doors of the Aspen Mine Center in a former casino building graciously donated by its owners, to provide a “one-stop resource shop” for residents of Southern Teller County and the surrounding area. The Aspen Mine Center now houses some two dozen nonprofit service organizations, full or part time, along with another dozen agencies who provide services on site from time to time.

Help for children, young people, seniors and the needy; those with challenges physically, mentally or emotionally; pregnant moms and their infants; the unemployed; those living below the poverty level, which is a high percentage in southern Teller County; those in transition of any kind, all these find help in this place of caring. Most find the help they need through the collaborative efforts of a number of people and agencies located at the Aspen Mine Center.

http://www.aspenminecenter.org/
ColoradoGives.org connects people, ideas, resources and action.

ColoradoGives.org is a year-round online giving website featuring more than 1,700 Colorado nonprofits. Made possible by Community First Foundation since 2007, ColoradoGives encourages charitable giving by providing comprehensive, objective and up-to-date information about Colorado nonprofits and an easy, fun, way to support them online.

We encourage online giving and make it simple. We make fundraising easy for nonprofits. We inspire philanthropy for a huge community of givers.

It’s easy to see why ColoradoGives.org has inspired unprecedented giving across the state. Donors can:

- Discover new charities and learn more about their favorites
- Save time by making donations online to one or more charities
- Have the peace of mind that all charities are screened by Community First Foundation to ensure specific standards are met
- Support local communities in Colorado

What’s in it for nonprofits? They can:

- Raise awareness of their organizations and reach new donors online
- Promote their causes through an attractive profile that includes graphs, videos and pictures
- Build trust with donors by participating in a foundation-backed resource that is objective and reliable
- Minimize gift processing paperwork

ColoradoGives.org is different from other giving sites in so many good ways.

- ColoradoGives.org is the only online giving site dedicated exclusively to charitable giving in Colorado
- Community First Foundation ensures that each organization featured on the site is in good standing with the Secretary of State and makes its practices transparent
- ColoradoGives has low third-party processing fees and no setup or maintenance fees (details on reverse)
- The website includes special features such as Giving eCards, recurring gifts, fundraising pages and more

ColoradoGives.org is not just a website, it’s an online giving powerhouse with an incredible yearly event. ColoradoGives.org is the donation platform for Colorado Gives Day, an annual statewide movement to celebrate and increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving. This 24-hour online event promotes local giving and raises millions of dollars for nonprofits profiled on ColoradoGives.org

ColoradoGivesDay.org
COLORADOGIVES.ORG IS DEDICATED TO HELPING NONPROFITS TELL THEIR STORY, REACH MORE DONORS AND ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.

Nonprofits save on processing fees.
Third-party vendors charge credit card and electronic check processing fees when donors make online gifts to nonprofit organizations. Two percent of each donation helps to cover these fees and ensures the program’s long-term sustainability. The two percent third-party processing fee is one of the lowest in the country and the most cost effective way to fundraise online. Community First Foundation is pleased to continue to make these programs available to Colorado nonprofits without any set-up charges or monthly maintenance fees.

Who can join ColoradoGives.org?
Every nonprofit wishing to join ColoradoGives.org is screened and must meet this criteria:

- A 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization
- Headquartered or providing services with a physical office in Colorado
- Reporting at least $50,000 in annual revenue or $25,000 in net assets as shown on a 990, 990EZ, audit, review or compilation
- Registered with the Secretary of State with:
  - A valid Certificate of Registration
  - A valid Certificate of Good Standing

The following are not eligible to participate:

- Private foundations (filing a 990PF)
- Supporting organizations (charity status of 509(a)(3)
- Places of worship
- Public safety organizations (charity status of 509(a)(4)

Ready to harness the power of many? Here’s how to join.
Nonprofits interested in joining must attend an introductory webinar. Visit ColoradoGives.org to sign up. Questions? Contact COGives@CommunityFirstFoundation.org or call 720.898.5900.

About Community First Foundation
Since 1975, Community First Foundation has been helping generous donors and innovative nonprofits come together to improve the 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. We are proud to use our energy, leadership and trusted stewardship of financial resources to energize giving across our state, strengthen nonprofits, support donors and find new ways to address community needs. For more information, visit CommunityFirstFoundation.org.
## AMERICORPS SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Focus</th>
<th>AmeriCorps State &amp; National</th>
<th>AmeriCorps VISTA</th>
<th>AmeriCorps NCCC</th>
<th>AmeriCorps NCCC FEMA Corps</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eligibility</strong></td>
<td>Members serve either in groups or individually at local community-based private and public organizations, such as nonprofits, faith-based institutions, schools and universities, public agencies, and Native American tribes.</td>
<td>Members serve through private organizations and public nonprofit agencies, addressing issues related to poverty – such as fighting illiteracy, improving health services, and fostering economic development – by developing and mobilizing resources that create long-term sustainable benefits at a community level.</td>
<td>Members live communally and travel throughout one of five regions of the country, serving in teams to meet community needs in the areas of natural and other disasters, infrastructure improvement, environmental stewardship, energy conservation, and urban and rural development.</td>
<td>FEMA Corps is a track under AmeriCorps NCCC developed in partnership with FEMA and CNCS. FEMA Corps members receive focus solely on administrative and logistical support on emergency management and long-term recovery activities within FEMA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examples of Service Activities</strong></td>
<td>Applicants must be at least 17 years old and a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the U.S.</td>
<td>Applicants must be at least 18 years old and a U.S. citizen or U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the U.S.</td>
<td>Applicants must be 18 to 24 years old and a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the U.S.</td>
<td>Applicants must be 18 to 24 years old and a U.S. citizen. The team leader position has no maximum age requirement. Credit checks are conducted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Term of Service** | Members serve through private organizations and public nonprofit agencies, addressing issues related to poverty – such as fighting illiteracy, improving health services, and fostering economic development – by developing and mobilizing resources that create long-term sustainable benefits at a community level. | VISTA members focus on capacity-building opportunities such as fundraising, recruiting volunteers, | Projects consist of hands-on service with nonprofit organizations, state and local agencies, and other | Service work may include: canvassing communities, developing disaster preparation materials, compiling data and re-
| **Living Allowance/Stipend** | Full-time for 3 months to 1 year. Part-time opportunities are available throughout the year. | Full-time one year. Occasional part-time opportunities available during the summer. | Full-time for 10 months (corps member) or 11 months (team leader). No part-time service opportunities available. | Full-time for 10 months (corps member) or 11 months (team leader). No part-time service opportunities available. |
| **Program Locations** | Most programs provide a modest living allowance. | A modest living allowance is paid biweekly. The total amount is $4,000 for corps members and $12,500 for team leaders. | A modest living allowance is paid biweekly. The total amount is $4,000 for corps members and $12,500 for team leaders. | Members are based out of one of five campuses, located in Denver, CO; Baltimore, MD; Sacramento, CA; Vicksburg, MS; and Vinton, IA. Projects are conducted throughout a multi-state region. Members are based out of one of five campuses, located in Denver, CO; Baltimore, MD; Sacramento, CA; Vicksburg, MS; and Vinton, IA. Project locations are disaster-dependent. |

For more information or to apply, go to [www.nationalservice.gov/nccc](http://www.nationalservice.gov/nccc) or call 800-942-2677.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Room &amp; Board</strong></th>
<th><strong>Education Award/ Stipend</strong></th>
<th><strong>Student Loans</strong></th>
<th><strong>Insurance and Childcare</strong></th>
<th><strong>Relocation Expenses</strong></th>
<th><strong>Training</strong></th>
<th><strong>When To Apply</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In most cases, members are responsible for covering their own housing and meal expenses.</td>
<td>Upon successful completion of service, full-time members receive a $5,730 education award (or amount equal to the Pell grant) to help pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans. Part-time members receive a prorated education award.</td>
<td>Members may qualify for a forbearance (or postponement of the repayment) of their student loans during their term of service.</td>
<td>Full-time members receive health coverage and may qualify for childcare assistance. (Members have the option of purchasing life insurance.)</td>
<td>Most programs do not pay for relocation.</td>
<td>Members receive pre-service orientation, in-service training, and end-of-service training as determined by each program.</td>
<td>Applications are accepted year-round and deadlines depend on program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AmeriCorps State &amp; National</strong></td>
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<td>In most cases, members are responsible for covering their own housing and meal expenses.</td>
<td>Members are provided with housing/meals and live in residence hall-style housing while on one of five campuses. Housing on projects is provided; accommodations vary.</td>
<td>Upon successful completion of service, members receive a $5,730 education award (or amount equal to the Pell grant) to help pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans.</td>
<td>Members who relocate over 50 miles to serve may be eligible for relocation assistance.</td>
<td>Members receive training on campus and during service for specific projects. All members receive training in CPR, first aid, disaster relief, leadership, and team building.</td>
<td>Applications are accepted year-round and deadlines depend on position.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upon successful completion of service, members have a choice of a $5,730 education award (or amount equal to the Pell grant) to help pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans or can opt for a $1,500 cash stipend.</td>
<td>Members may qualify for a forbearance (or postponement of the repayment) of their student loans during their term of service.</td>
<td>Members receive health coverage and may qualify for childcare assistance. (Children are not allowed to reside on campus or on projects with members.)</td>
<td>Members are provided with transportation to and from their campus at the beginning and end of service. Team leaders receive $250 relocation assistance at the beginning and end of a successful term of service.</td>
<td>Members receive NCCC training when they arrive on campus followed by FEMA-specific training in one or more emergency management-related areas.</td>
<td>Corps Member application deadlines: April 1 (summer/fall start) and Oct. 1 (winter start). Team leader application deadlines: March 1 (summer/fall start) and Sept. 1 (winter start).</td>
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