Making the Greater Denver Community a Better Place

Rose Community Foundation was founded in 1995 following the sale of Rose Medical Center. For nearly 20 years, we have been working to make the Greater Denver community a better place for all people.

MISSION: Rose Community Foundation works to enhance the quality of life of the Greater Denver community through its leadership, resources, traditions and values.

VISION: The Foundation uses leadership, grantmaking and donor engagement to invest in strategic and innovative solutions to enduring problems and emerging issues.

Welcome

At Rose Community Foundation we’ve always been firm believers in the art of working together. By collaborating with others, whether funders, nonprofit organizations or individual donors, we feel we can have far greater impact in our community. 2013 proved to be an exemplary year for delivering on the promise of that belief.

From uniting funders around common causes, to helping donors find creative ways to make a difference, throughout this report we touch on some of the many ways that people and organizations are joining hands to make positive change in our community.

We’re proud to share stories of compassion like those that followed the September 2013 floods when Rose Community Foundation friends and family banded together to lend a hand. We’re also excited to share the work we’re doing to help nonprofits build sustainable futures. We introduce you to several collaborative funding groups that are bringing critical topics to the forefront such as early childhood mental health, education reform, Latino aging and disaster recovery. Throughout, you’ll also notice extensive collaboration going on right inside our walls as our staff seeks opportunities to work together and with our donors for maximum results.

From all of us here at the Foundation, we’d like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who was involved in our work in 2013. Whether you are a supporter who gave a donation, a nonprofit in the community or a foundation colleague – this is our work together. Together we are making things happen in the community. Schools are finding successful teaching strategies. Health practitioners are elevating the importance of children’s mental wellness. Nonprofits are looking at more secure futures. We couldn’t be more proud to be part of such a vibrant, dynamic and compassionate community.

If you’re not already involved with our work, we invite you to join us. We hope that some of the highlights of what we’re doing will speak to you from the pages in this report. We also encourage you to take steps to learn more, reach out to our staff on topics that interest you and join us in the conversation.

Jennifer Atler Fischer
Chair, Board of Trustees
Sheila Bugdanowitz
President and CEO

Learn more about our work and how you can get involved at rcfdenver.org.
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Grantmaking
Through strategic grantmaking we invest in nonprofit organizations that work to make the seven-county Greater Denver community a better place for all people in all areas of Aging, Child and Family Development, Education and Jewish Life. Much of our work is focused on systemic change and often combines the expertise of multiple program areas to maximize impact. For a list of recent program grants, visit rcfdenver.org/programgrants.

$1,467,200 in grants
Helped 20,702 older adults receive direct services such as home repair, home-delivered meals and care management.
Supported a spectrum of direct services and transportation for older adults.

$1,445,740 in grants
Promoted integrated medical services in community mental health centers through support for staff training, workforce development and care coordination.
Helped pass new health bills through support for health advocacy organizations (expanded Medicaid and created Colorado Medicaid’s first dental benefit for adults).
Increased focus on the issue of sexual assault (good health mental health by launching a funders collaborative and by working to make mental health services available in primary care settings (e.g., pediatric offices) for low-income children and their families.

$1,743,813 in grants
Expanded the use of “more and better learning” strategies (e.g., extended school day and year) in Denver and Englewood Public Schools through support for Generation Schools.
Enabled 150 teachers to become active in policy-making through support for the Center for Teaching Quality Colorado.
Teachers helped implement the Colorado Academic Standards, new teacher evaluation law and teacher licensure.
Helped create a new student teacher residency model through support for Denver Public Schools.

$2,047,987 in grants
Launched the Denver Opportunity Youth Investment Initiative to support opportunity youth (young people aged 16-24) who are neither working, nor pursuing training toward living-wage employment.
Recognized nationally in the Smealough Guide for Mainstreaming Connecting Young Families to Local Jewish Life.
Approved in 2013, initiative begins in 2014.

$1,412,633 in grants
Formed and funded a new partnership, BUILDING Jewish ICE, to provide resources for Jewish organizations to strengthen their early childhood education programs.

For a current list of committee members, visit rcfdenver.org/committees.
**2013 HIGHLIGHTS**

**Philanthropic Services**

**Donor-advised fund supports Alzheimer’s Association with Broncos tailgate party**

The Brett, Scott, Devon and Kyle Goldberg Charitable Fund, a donor-advised fund at Rose Community Foundation, was looking for creative ways to increase the impact of their giving. With help from our Philanthropic Services staff, the family began exploring ideas to motivate others to join them in supporting organizations that meet pressing community needs. They partnered with BroncosBus, a group that offers tailgate parties at Broncos home games and donates a portion of their proceeds to charity.

The Goldberg family matched all proceeds from the BroncosBus one Sunday to support Alzheimer’s Association. The Goldberg family matched all proceeds from the BroncosBus one Sunday to support Alzheimer’s Association.

**Initiatives and Special Programs**

**Extending the impact of our work**

Initiatives and special programs are an important part of the work we do. Most are highly collaborative – bringing together various funders, individuals and other organizations to make a greater impact. Many are also closely tied to our grantmaking program areas, greatly extending our reach in the community.

**Boomers Leading Change**

**Health gains new funders**

An initiative launched by our Aging and Health programs to provide adults 50+ with meaningful volunteer opportunities that enable and empower them to affect significant social change, specifically in health and health care.

**Roots & Branches Foundation launches giving circle**

A collaborative philanthropy program at Rose Community Foundation for Jewish people ages 25 to 40 who are interested in giving together to help shape their Jewish and broader communities.

**Boomers Community Foundation of Colorado reaches milestone**

An initiative launched in partnership with the Denver Jewish Community Foundation and RCF.

**Latino Community Foundation**

Latino Community Foundation of Colorado is a collaborative philanthropy program at Rose Community Foundation that empowers Latino individuals and organizations to invest in the well-being of the Latino community.

**Connecting Young Families to Local Jewish Life**

Jewish Women’s Fund of Colorado partners with the Latino Community Foundation, the Colorado Health Foundation and Connect for Health Colorado to engage health care navigators and community health workers.

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Philanthropic Services

Working together to make a difference

Rose Community Foundation is passionate about helping donors maximize their philanthropic efforts. From managing a fund for an individual to helping a family establish giving goals, our wide array of donor services, philanthropic tools and personal consultations are all designed to help people give strategically and make a difference.

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The Goldberg family matched all proceeds from the BroncosClub one Sunday to support the Alzheimer’s Association of Colorado. The BroncosClub proceeds plus support from friends and family combined with the Goldberg’s match resulted in a donation of $3,850 to the Alzheimer’s Association.

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An initiative launched by our Aging and Health programs to provide adults 50+ with meaningful volunteer opportunities that enable and empower them to affect significant social change, specifically in Health and health care. Learn more at rcfwenver.org/boomers.

- Connect for Health Colorado and The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Colorado joined Rose Community Foundation, the Colorado Health Foundation and Serve Colorado in supporting the initiative with significant additional funding to enhance health care navigators and community health workers.

Roots & Branches Foundation Launches giving circle

A collaborative philanthropy program at Rose Community Foundation for Jewish people ages 25 to 45 who are interested in giving together to help shape their Jewish and broader communities. Learn more at rcfwenver.org/rootbranches.

- Launched a new giving circle for alumni of Roots & Branches Foundation.

- Surpassed $1 million in grantmaking support to improve the capacity, stability and leadership of Latino-serving nonprofits in Colorado.

Latinos Community Foundation of Colorado reaches milestone

An initiative launched in partnership with the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado reaches milestone.

- Impacts in Philanthropy: The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Colorado, Western Union Foundation and individual donors with the purpose of using the tools of philanthropy to improve the status of the Latino community. Learn more at rcfwenver.org/latinocfc.

Current Initiatives and Special Programs

- Boomers Leading Change Colorado Latino Age Wave
- Jewish Women’s Fund of Colorado
- Latino Community Foundation of Colorado
- Live On! Build Your Jewish Legacy
- MasAdFun.org: Connecting Young Families to Local Jewish Life
- Roots & Branches Foundation
- Rose Women’s Organization
- Rose Youth Foundation

Members of the 2013-2014 Rose Youth Foundation, a youth-led collaborative giving program for Jewish students in grades 10 through 12.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS

Philanthropic Services

2013 Philanthropic Services Committee

Ira Wallbaum, Chair
Mary Gittinger-Crown
Lester Goldberg
Lynne Goldstein
Arlene Hirschfeld
Douglas L. Jones
Helayne B. Jones, Ed.D.
Donald L. Kortz
Stephen Kurtz
Noel Oberfeld
Dean Prim, M.D.
Lisa Robinson
Richard L. Robinson

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Responding to the unique needs of Latino family caregivers

"In our culture, we take care of our parents at home," says Pilar Cook, a Latino who cares for her 90-year-old mother at her Westminster home. Cook, together with her sister, has been caring for her mom for the last year after she began needing greater support and assistance. Cook is the sole breadwinner for the family and works full time while juggling the needs of her mom, using her vacation time for caregiving and medical appointments. Cook is among many Latinos in Greater Denver who encounter a variety of challenges upon taking on the role of caregiver. It’s very stressful," shares Cook. "There’s no central place to call and get connected to services, language is a big barrier, and a medi- care card is scattered all over the city."

A new Caregiver Project launched in 2013 is working to understand the unique challenges faced by Latino caregivers. One of the focus groups underway by the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado’s Latino Age Wave, a Rose Community Foundation initiative focused on the well-being of Metro Denver’s Latino older adult population. Focus groups with caregivers are helping identify promising practices and promote public policy changes that help reduce the stress on Latino family caregivers and their elders. "Talking on the role of caregiver is a life-changing decision and many of us find ourselves overwhelmed," explains Cec Ortiz, Colorado Latino Age Wave project manager. "Through the focus groups, we’ve encountered three dominant challenges faced by Latino caregivers—transporting elders to receive services, finding information about existing services, and sheer exhaustion. We’ll be working to address each one of those coming months and years."

Stay tuned for a Caregiving Project summary report, including findings and recommendations, to be released in 2014. Colorado Latino Age Wave is a multiyear project of the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado, an initiative of Rose Community Foundation in partnership with Hispanics United of Colorado, an initiative of Rose Community Foundation of Colorado, member of our Health Committee and mental health ambassador for the Mental Health Committee of Colorado. The project is one that by its very nature is collaborative and shared with many partners. Over the past year, our Child and Family Development and Health programs have been working together with Caring for Colorado Foundation to increase attention on early childhood mental health in Colorado. After completing an environmental scan that identified challenges and opportunities, we launched a collaborative initiative that brings together leaders from the health and early childhood fields to join in the discussion and action. "Focusing on early childhood mental health is a critical step for Colorado," says Jeannie Bitter, former first lady of Colorado, member of our Health Committee and mental health ambassador for the Mental Health Committee of Colorado. "The work we’re doing is leading to these early efforts are foundational for dramatically improving the health and wellness of children and adults throughout Colorado."

Increasing our understanding of toxic stress and early childhood mental health in Colorado

The term “toxic stress” may conjure up images of a dangerous chemical, but for health scientists and early childhood experts, it’s a serious public health issue that’s getting national attention. Toxic stress refers to what happens to a young child’s brain when he or she is repeatedly exposed to very difficult situations—from experiencing abuse or trauma to having a family member in jail or with a substance abuse problem. Studies show that the long-term consequences are substantial. Among the challenges faced by Latino caregivers are children of the elder. "There’s no central place to call and get connected to services, language is a big barrier, and a Medicare card is scattered all over the city."

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80% of the caregivers believe in Baby Bonds as a solution to child poverty
87% of the caregivers are female
58% of the caregivers are children of the elder
54% of the caregivers work outside the home.

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GET INVOLVED!

Learn more about toxic stress and early childhood mental health at rcfdenver.org/ecmh. Become a sponsor or donor by contacting Whitney Grinnell at wgrinnell@rcfdenver.org or 303.398.7410.
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80 people participate in Caregiver Project focus groups. 34% of the caregivers are female. 58% of the caregivers are children of the elder. 54% of the caregivers work outside the home.

Bringing attention to toxic stress and early childhood health in Colorado

The term “toxic stress” may conjure up images of a dangerous chemical for some, but for health scientists and early childhood experts, it’s a serious public health issue that’s getting national attention. Toxic stress refers to what happens to a young child’s brain when he or she is repeatedly exposed to very difficult situations—from experiencing abuse or trauma to having a family member ill or in a substance abuse problem. “Studies show that the long-term consequences are substantial,” shares Cook. “There’s no central place to call and get connected to services, language is a big barrier, and medical care is scattered all over the city.”

The Latino Community Foundation supports pioneering programs in early childhood mental health like Project Clinic at the Children’s Hospital Colorado Child Health Clinic, which is focused on a child’s integrated care.

GET INVOLVED!
Learn more about toxic stress and early childhood mental health at rcfdenver.org/achem. Become a funder or donor by contacting Whitney Gustin Connor at wconnor@rcfdenver.org or 303.398.7410.
Teachers take innovative ideas back to school after “Seeing is Believing” tour

As most students are heading home from school, students at Grant Beacon Middle School stay longer each day. That extra time is filled with enrichment, athletics, academic interventions and advanced classes. The school’s extended day, combined with the innovative methods, is successfully closing the achievement gap for its student population which comes mostly from low-income families.

Grant Beacon is one example of several Denver schools that are seeing strong results from Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO), an approach Rose Community Foundation has long supported. “Extending the hours in a school day or year, blended learning (technology in the classroom), and competency-based progression (when students progress based on mastery of core skills) are all examples of ELO supported,” says Janet Lopez, Rose Community Foundation senior program officer in education.

In September 2013, practitioners from more than 80 schools/districts participated in the Seeing is Believing tour organized by Rose Community Foundation in partnership with The Colorado Education Initiative to host a “Seeing is Believing” tour of Grant Beacon and other innovative schools. Eighty teachers, principals, superintendents and policymakers were able to observe successful teaching models and consider how to implement such practices in their own schools.

The tour clearly made an impression. One teacher was brought to tears by the tour because of the way it empowered her students to take control of their learning. The tour provided a way to make their learning experience at my school better,” says one teacher.

Eighty teachers, principals and superintendents from 11 school/district teams participated in the Seeing is Believing tour.

More than 80% of survey respondents agreed they will be able to use the information shared on their own schools.

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Evergreen synagogue grows strong with Foundation support

Since 2009, MazelTot.org has helped nearly 3,000 young families connect to Jewish life. The initiative has helped over 79% of families attended a Jewish organization for the first time because of MazelTot.org.

The MazelTot.org website is mazeltot.org. Their programs and grants are designed to help them build strength and stability as well as increase Jewish engagement.

Rose Community Foundation has been instrumental in helping our congregation with young families,” says Neshama Mousseau, executive director of Congregation Beth Evergreen. “These families are the future of the congregation.”

This Evergreen synagogue is among dozens of Jewish institutions in Greater Denver and Boulder benefiting from our grants and programs that are designed to help them build strength and stability as well as increase Jewish engagement.

MazelTot.org, which connects young families to Jewish life, is one of its greatest successes. That growth has been possible thanks to a Rose Community Foundation grant to engage new families, plus the synagogue’s participation in MazelTot.org. Connecting young families to Jewish life through MazelTot.org helps build your Jewish legacy with an estimated cumulative value of more than $37 million over the last 11 years.

These legacy gifts will eventually increase the endowment fund and hopefully lead to sustainability in the future.

“Rose Community Foundation has definitely helped strengthen our synagogue by providing financial resources as well as educational opportunities and mentorship,” says Mousseau. “What we’ve gained has really put us on a strong path for going forward.”

Rose Community Foundation supports the growth of successful full-time education models such as Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO).

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Stories of impact

STORY OF IMPACT

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Watch a video from the Seeing is Believing Tour at http://youtu.be/IvNGFIl3NhU

GET INVOLVED!

Learn more about The Colorado Education Initiative at coloradoinitiative.org

Learn more about Grant Beacon Middle School at grant.dpsk12.org

Learn more about the Seeing is Believing Tour at seeingisbelieving.org

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Learn more about endowments at rcfdenver.org/endowments

Learn more about the Live On Initiative at liveonlegacy.org

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As most students are heading home from school, students at Grant Beacon Middle School stay longer each day. That extra time is filled with enrichment, athletics, academic interventions and advanced classes. The school’s extended day, combined with other innovative methods, is successfully closing the achievement gap for its student population which comes mostly from low-income families.

Grant Beacon is one example of several Denver schools that are seeing strong support with Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO), an approach Rose Community Foundation has long supported. “Extending the hours in a school day or year, blended learning (technology in the classroom), and school day or year, blended learning supports the growth of innovative K-12 education opportunities,” explains Janet Lopez, Rose Community Foundation executive director of information. “ELO models,” explains Janet Lopez, Rose Community Foundation executive director of information, “are all examples of ELO and other innovative schools. Eighty teachers, principals, superintendents and policymakers were able to observe successful teaching models and consider how to implement such practices in their own schools.

The tour clearly made an impression. One teacher was brought to tears by the successful results she witnessed. Several reported implementing immediate changes; while others are now completing supplemental learning programs. “I was able to see real schools tackling real problems in different ways, which helps me think how I can make the teaching experience at my school better,” says one teacher.

In September 2013, practitioners from schools and districts around the state had the opportunity to see Grant Beacon’s innovative approaches in action. We partnered with the Colorado Department of Education and The Colorado Education Initiative to host a “Seeing is Believing” tour of Grant Beacon and other innovative schools. Eighty teachers, principals, superintendents and policymakers were able to observe successful teaching models and consider how to implement such practices in their own schools.

As most students are heading home from school after “Seeing is Believing” tour at http://youtu.be/2zgO1FISXHw. Learn more about Grant Beacon Middle School at grant.dpsk12.org. Learn more about The Colorado Education Initiative at coloradoedinitiative.org.

STORY OF IMPACT

Evergreen synagogue grows strong with Foundation support

Since 2005, MazelTot.org has helped nearly 3,000 families to Jewish life. MazelTot.org helps Jewish Institutions such as Congregation Beth Evergreen grow stronger through initiatives like Live On: Build Your Jewish Legacy. MazelTot.org aims to bring parents to connect with Jewish experiences.

80% of survey respondents agreed they will be able to use the information shared during the “Seeing is Believing” tour to implement such practices in their own schools.

STORY OF IMPACT

Evergreen synagogue grows strong with Foundation support

“Rose Community Foundation has been instrumental in helping our congregation with young families,” says Neshama Mousseau, executive director of Congregation Beth Evergreen. “These families are the future of the congregation.”

This Evergreen synagogue is among dozens of Jewish institutions in Greater Denver and Boulder benefiting from our grants and programs that are designed to help them build strength and stability as well as increase Jewish engagement.

MazelTot.org works to see young families maintain or increase their Jewish commitment. Since 2005, MazelTot.org has helped nearly 3,000 families to Jewish life.

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Compassionate actions add up to impact in flood recovery

She will always remember the devastating toll the September 2013 floods took on our Colorado communities. But with tragedy often come stories of compassion and cooperation. We experienced that here at Rose Community Foundation when so many contributed to our organization came forward wanting to do something to help—people like Katherine Gold, Rose Community Foundation trustee and fund holder.

Katherine’s story is just one of many ways our friends and family rallied in support. When we offered matching funds for flood relief donations, ten of our donor-advised fund holders and dozens of individual donors made contributions, totaling more than $45,000 in support. When we launched a new Colorado Floods Fund Recovery Fund in partnership with the Colorado Association of Funders, we local foundations banded together, contributing nearly $250,000 which will go toward long-term recovery needs.

An important part of our work is being responsive to immediate community issues like the floods as well as the long-term impact, and we’re proud to support opportunities like these for others to make a difference.

Endowment fund helps 100-year-old organization plan for the future

For more than 100 years, Girl Scouts of Colorado has helped girls build courage, confidence and character to make the world a better place. Now, the next 100 years are on the organization’s mind and an endowment fund at Rose Community Foundation is helping create a path to long-term sustainability.

Preserving Girl Scouts of Colorado’s future became a priority for CEO Stephanie Foote in 2013—especially after fires and floods destroyed several of the organization’s camps and properties and the organization diversified in staff. “I realized we needed a good vehicle to help carry the Girl Scouts of Colorado into the future,” says Foote.

Her time on our Board of Trustees exposed Stephanie to our endowment services and their value to nonprofits. “I saw first-hand the fantastic support work that Rose Community Foundation provides to nonprofits in helping them grow and strengthen,” says Foote.

I realized it would be such a benefit to Girl Scouts of Colorado to have their expertise working with us in building and growing an endowment.”

Girl Scouts of Colorado launched its new endowment fund in 2013 and donors are thrilled to support it, including Rae Ann and Richard Dougherty who provided a $25,000 lead gift. “As a donor, my confidence in giving to Girl Scouts of Colorado increased dramatically with the creation of an endowment,” said Richard Dougherty of Golden. “I can give a gift and know that the investment my wife and I have made to develop young women’s leadership capabilities will keep on growing and giving in perpetuity.”

The organization is also participating in a three incentive grants program at the Foundation designed to encourage endowment growth. “We’re very excited and proud to partner with Rose Community Foundation in planning for the future of Girl Scouts of Colorado,” says Foote.

For more information on how you can help support flood recovery efforts, visit rcfdenver.org/floods2013. Make a donation or set up a fund at rcfdenver.org/giveandplan.

“Endowment fund helps 100-year-old organization plan for the future”

Get involved Learn more about how you can help support flood recovery efforts. Get involved Learn more about how you can help support flood recovery efforts. Learn about Girl Scouts of Colorado’s new endowment at girlscoutsofcolorado.org.
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Legacy donors like the Montoyas are welcomed into Rose Community Legacy Circle and have the unique opportunity to have their values and community commitment reflected in an ever-growing work of art called the Living Legacy Tapestry. Displayed in our front lobby, the Tapestry will expand to include images provided by the first 100 legacy donors to Rose Community Foundation. The artists are Leah Sobsey and Lynn Bregman Blass of VisualHistoryCollaborative.com. Learn more about Rose Community Legacy Circle or the Living Legacy Tapestry at rcfdenver.org/rclc.

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For a current list of committee members, visit rcfdenver.org/committees.

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Legacy donors united by philanthropic values

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Kathryn Harris
Lisa Harris
Jim Jonas
Gretchen Perryman
Yolanda Quesada

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