Western Colorado Community Foundation Milestones

1996 - Founded by local community leaders

1997 - First donor-advised fund established by Harold and Ruth Moss

1999 - First legacy gift received from the estate of Jane Quimby

2001 - Community Grants Fund established with a 3-year challenge grant from the Boettcher Foundation

2002 - First scholarship fund established in memory of Lew Goodhart

2006 - Nonprofit training and support program launched with generous support from the Bacon Family Foundation

2007 - $10 million in total assets

2008 - First affiliations established with Two Rivers Community Foundation and Rifle Community Foundation in Garfield County

2010 - $1 million awarded in annual grants and scholarships

2012 - 15th anniversary - $35 million in total assets under management and

Our Regional Community Foundation Reaches $50 Million

Sale of Citizens State Bank Pushes Total Assets Over the $50 Million Milestone

Dave Wood, founder and long-time donor, made provisions for a significant estate gift to our Community Foundation. We are the beneficiary of a portion of the proceeds from the recent sale of Citizens State Bank in Ouray, propelling our Community Foundation past the milestone of $50 million in total assets.

Our Community Foundation reached a major milestone this month when we exceeded $50 million in total assets. An essential factor in reaching this $50 million milestone is the recent sale of Citizens State Bank, a small community bank with branches in Ouray, Ridgway, Naturita and Silverton. Dave Wood, Citizens State Bank and community philanthropy are synonymous in the communities his bank served. Extremely generous during his lifetime, Dave included his ownership position in the Bank as
$1.5 million in annual grants and scholarships awarded

2015 - Record breaking $2.1 million in annual grants and scholarships awarded

2015 - First community leadership project to address child hunger launched

2016 - $50 million in total assets

Area Community Foundation reaches $50 million in assets

Click here to read the full article in the Daily Sentinel

Dave and Mary Wood were involved with our Community one of several assets in his generous estate gift to the Western Colorado Community Foundation.

WCCF Board Chair Ann Brach commented on this milestone: "Our Foundation has experienced remarkable growth over the past eighteen years with a steady increase in both number of donors and the size of their endowment gifts. $50 million in managed assets is truly significant and our organization is extremely proud to be celebrating this milestone."

The Dave and Mary Wood Fund is an endowed donor-advised fund that supports a number of organizations and projects across Western Colorado. Dave and Mary were leading patrons of music and the arts, but also had many other community interests.

Our Community Foundation serves seven counties in Western Colorado, including Ouray County. We distributed almost $2.1 million in grants and scholarships in 2015. As our endowed assets grow, we will be able to invest more dollars to benefit our communities, year after year.

Reflections from the Executive Director

Just a number. But a big number. $50 million in total assets is a milestone our staff and board and donors have been building steadily towards for 18 years. $50 million in total assets makes the Western Colorado Community Foundation one of the largest charitable foundations this side of the Continental Divide. But it is less the number itself than the implications and positive momentum this provides our communities. An endowment portfolio of this size, managed to grow over time and spending 4.5% each year, distributes $2.25 million in grants and scholarships. That's $2.25 million in annual support for our western Colorado nonprofits to do their important work, and scholarship support for hundreds of students to attend college and pursue their educational dreams.
Dave served on our board of directors from 2000 to 2006 and was the first board member from outside Mesa County. The Woods made plans to include our Community Foundation in their estate plans about ten years ago, when our Legacy Society was just getting organized.

Our Legacy Society now counts over 82 individuals and couples who have made provisions for an end-of-life gift to benefit the community they live in and call home. Many of our donors leave specific intentions regarding their charitable interests; others leave discretionary funds for us to respond to unmet needs in the communities we serve.

To learn more about establishing a charitable legacy fund and including WCCF in your estate plans, please visit our website at wc-cf.org or set up a time to meet with our Executive Director to explore your options.

You love western Colorado... you have lived here for some or all of your life... consider an end-of-life donation to benefit the community you call home.

A community foundation is a special type of organization in our community infrastructure, a home grown funding institution built by the people of western Colorado to benefit the people of western Colorado, now and for years to come. Celebrate with us, share our pride as we build this important community institution, and let’s keep building to $75 million and $100 million and beyond.

- Anne Wenzel
The Western Colorado Community Foundation is confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations by the Council on Foundations.

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