

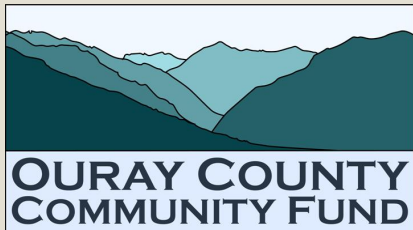


LEAVE YOUR MARK...

WESTERN COLORADO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Charitable Funds for Community Good

Spotlight on Ouray



**Ouray County
Community Fund
awards \$15,000 in
grants to Ridgway and
Ouray nonprofits**



Founding members of the Ouray County Community Fund are Kevin Chismire, Hazel Price, Mick Graff (standing) Sue Hillhouse, Francie Tisdell, Bob Risch (seated)

The Steering Committee of the newly established Ouray County Community Fund met in October to review applications and award \$15,000 in grants to fourteen nonprofit organizations that serve Ouray County. The fund

Our Regional Board Approves \$40,000 in Community Grants for 2016

*Local Committees direct grants for
maximum impact in our communities*



The Rifle Community Foundation board directed grants to Reach-Out and the Rifle Branch Library.

On November 1st, our regional Board of Directors approved \$40,000 in grants to organizations across our region. Annually, our local steering committees and board members recommend grants in their counties to tackle unmet needs, provide seed funding for programs to start or expand, or help invest in innovative solutions to respond to community needs.

Our affiliates in Garfield County directed the following funding in their communities. The **Rifle Community Foundation** (RCF) recommended \$3,000 for Reach-Out Colorado, whose mission is to connect those in need with solutions through programs like Totes of Hope, delivering weekly food bags to 250 elementary school students, and Angel Tree Christmas gifts to children in need. The RCF board also approved \$2,000 for the Rifle Branch Library to support summer and Friday enrichment programs.

received over \$36,000 in grant requests and committee member Francie Tisdell noted "there is always more need than we have funding for, but our hope is to grow this fund so that the many organizations that serve Ouray County can be supported now and well into the future." Grants were distributed to the following organizations:

- Friends of the Wright Opera House
- Ouray County Housing Authority
- Ouray County Arts Association
- Ouray County Food Pantry
- Ouray County Historical Society
- Ouray County Performing Arts Guild
- Ouray Public Library
- Ouray Mountain Rescue Team
- Ridgway Chautauqua/Sherbino Theater
- Ridgway Community Gardens
- Ridgway Spirit Fest
- Top of the Pines
- Voyager Youth Program
- Weehawken Creative Arts

Read more about the Ouray County Community Fund in the [OCCF Brochure](#)

The **Two Rivers Community Foundation** (2RCF) board approved \$5,000 for local programs, including a grant to the newly established Project PACK (Provide a Crisis Kit) that supplies backpacks with emergency supplies to kids in crisis. Other grants directed by 2RCF include Aspen Hope Center, Junior Achievement, Mountain Madrigals, Raising a Reader, River Bridge Regional Center, River Center and Windwalkers Equine Center

In **Delta County**, a total of \$9,000 included funding for the newly established Kidz Clinic based at Delta County Elementary School and A Little Help North Fork which pairs volunteer community members with seniors that need help staying in their homes. Other Delta County grants include CASA of the 7th District - Delta County programs, Delta County Library District, and Girl Scouts - Delta County programs.

Grants in **Cedaredge** are supporting the Grand Mesa Nordic Council and Surface Creek Community Services.

In addition to A Little Help North Fork, Mountain Harvest Creative is receiving a grant to support agricultural education in honor of Bill Ela.

Our community grants also funded \$2,000 to Lift-Up for programs in **Parachute** and **Battlement Mesa**. This funding helped increase the amount that our Mt. Callahan Fund had to distribute and was in recognition of our first and oldest geographic fund.

2016 Mesa County
Community Grants fill a gap
in funding to Arts and Culture
organizations



Ouray Mountain Rescue Team received funding for rescue equipment and training.



The Grand Junction Senior Theater received funding for their 2017 production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore".

Support WCCF Community Grants!

Donations of any size to our **Western Colorado Community Fund** are greatly appreciated and allow us to respond to pressing and unmet needs in our communities. Donors can direct a gift to the Community Fund at any time from their donor-advised fund by giving us a call or checking the box on the [DAF form](#). Make checks payable to WCCF and mail to PO Box 4334, Grand Junction, CO 81502.

**Colorado Gives Day
Tuesday- December 6**

**[Click Here](#)
to donate to WCCF
through Colorado Gives
Day**

WCCF is part of Grand Valley Gives, a Mesa County nonprofit collaboration working to promote year-end giving

Every year our board of directors distributes a small pot of discretionary funds to current unmet needs across the counties we serve. Having learned that the City of Grand Junction Arts and Culture Commission was not in a position to provide its regular \$50,000 in small grants to support grassroots arts and culture organizations, WCCF decided to designate its funds for this purpose.

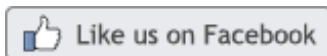
Grant requests totaling over \$26,000 from various arts and culture organizations were received and reviewed by our Community Grants Committee. **Talking Rhythms**, a program of the Grand Junction Symphony, received \$1,000 to expand their programming to rural schools in the region and to agencies that serve at-risk youth. The Western Colorado Center for the Arts received a grant to support their Artability program which serves more than 200 students with physical and mental challenges, and \$1,500 to support their Visiting Artist Lecture series. Other Arts and Culture grants include: Super Rad Art Jam, Grand Junction Senior Theater, High Desert Opera, Messiah Choral Society of Grand Junction, KAFM Community Radio and the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra.

through state-wide Colorado Gives Day efforts. Donations made to WCCF made now through Gives Day will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$3,000 by one of our generous donors, and will help us expand our mobile summer meal programs. You can pre-schedule your donation any time, or donate on Gives Day through the link above.



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

[Visit our Website](#)



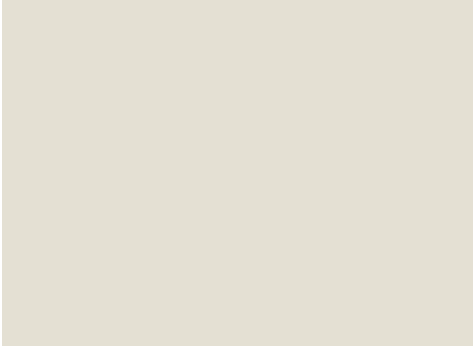
Arts and Culture grants support the Artability program at the Western Colorado Center for the arts, providing art activities to over 200 students with mental and physical challenges.

WCCF manages a limited number of donor-directed funds that support the arts so we are very pleased to be able to use discretionary funds for this purpose this year. Across our region, other arts and culture organizations like Mountain Madrigal Singers in Glenwood Springs and the Ouray County Arts Association and Performing Arts Guild were supported with Community Grants this year.

Reflections from the Grants and Community Outreach Director

As Director of Grants and Community Outreach, I have the responsibility and honor to work with our donor advisers to facilitate their grant making, and to help our affiliates, partners and community grant committees to promote, review and award our community grants.

Selecting community grant recipients can be a challenging process, as the need is always greater than the funding we have available. It is also extremely rewarding to be part of the process where our funding can help seed new programs, tackle unmet needs, assist organizations to leverage additional grants and resources, and to help fill gaps in funding. We know our community grants help to do all of this and more. As someone who has worked in nonprofits all of my professional career, I know the need of our nonprofits is great and that



they do a tremendous job in serving our communities. As the Director of Grants for our Foundation, I know the impact our funding makes across our seven counties, the lives that we are helping to improve and the investment by our generous donors truly does make a difference in our communities.

- Tedi Gillespie
