



**WESTERN COLORADO
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS

Community Foundation partners with nonprofits to manage and build endowments

Our regional Community Foundation manages dozens of permanent endowment funds to benefit specific nonprofit organizations. These endowments are either set up by a donor to support an organization he or she supported generously over the years (a "designated fund"), or as an endowment established by the nonprofit organization itself with surplus funds or a restricted gift (an "agency fund").

WCCF currently manages 22 agency funds ranging in size from \$5,000 to \$300,000.

WCCF currently manages 40 designated funds ranging in size from \$5,000 to \$6 million.

These endowed funds yield annual earnings for the nonprofit and are attractive to donors who want their support to provide on-going, multi year funding for the organizations they care about.

Forever Fund for "Forever Homes" for Pets *Roice-Hurst Humane Society Establishes Endowment*



A Roice-Hurst volunteer cuddles up to Gargoyle at its Mesa County animal shelter

Roice-Hurst Executive Director, Anna Stout, and her board of directors have a dream: to build a million dollar endowment to support their animal care programs in perpetuity. After many years of struggling financially, the humane society is in excellent financial shape and looking to offer more donation opportunities to its many loyal donors.

"An endowment is the last piece of our comprehensive fundraising plan. We have loyal donors who give annually. We have a very successful annual fundraising event. What we want to do next is encourage our long-time supporters to include Roice-Hurst in their wills and estate plans. We have set up an initial endowment of \$50,000 with the Community Foundation and hope to build it to over \$1

Endowment Funds 101

Many nonprofit organizations would love to have an endowment; few actually have one. Endowments require long-range planning, as well as commitment and discipline to build over multiple years, something that is hard to do in the normal busyness of running programs and securing annual operating funds.

Endowments provide multiple benefits for a nonprofit organization:

- * Diversified funding
- * A dependable revenue stream
- * An opportunity for loyal donors to support the organization in a different way
- * A signal to the community that the nonprofit is a mature organization

Learn More about Endowments!

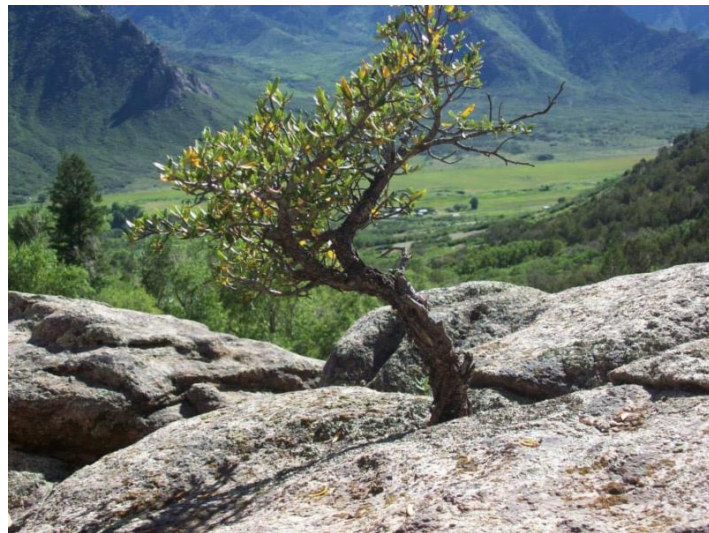
Is a nonprofit that you are involved with interested in exploring an endowment?

Our Community Foundation will be hosting a free brown bag lunch program in the next several weeks.

Endowments 101: Are You Ready to Consider

million in the coming three to five years."

Endowments provide diversified funding for nonprofit organizations and can attract larger end-of-life gifts from donors who have supported the nonprofit during their lifetime. Notes Anna Stout, "Having an endowed fund at the Community Foundation makes us feel like we are here to stay. Our work involves providing "forever homes" for abandoned cats and dogs. Now we have a forever fund - an endowment - that will support our mission of promoting bonds between pets and their people, now and well into the future."



Healing from Trauma Sozo Youth Sanctuary Foundation Taking Steps to Secure Financial Future

"Sozo" is a Greek word, meaning to make whole, to protect, to heal, to restore. Founded in 2005 by two long-time School District 51 employees devoted to working with at-risk youth, the Sozo Youth Sanctuary Foundation provides holistic, case-by-case therapeutic and positive interventions for children and youth who have suffered severe trauma. Services are provided regardless of ability to pay and are delivered primarily in a beautiful outdoor setting.

The Sozo board of directors approved the creation of an endowment in January to provide long-term funding to support their work. They

an Endowment? This 30-minute presentation will include time for Q & A. Bring your lunch and we'll provide dessert and drinks.


Please let us know you are interested and we'll get you information on the day and time of this education opportunity. Contact Kristin Lynch, klynch@wc-cf.org to get your name on the list.

In addition to this short training session, our staff are happy to present to your nonprofit organization's Finance Committee or Board of Directors. Call Anne or Kristin to schedule a presentation that works for you, (970)243-3767.



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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chose to partner with our Community Foundation in managing their endowment because of our reputation and the expertise we provide donors in charitable legacies and planned giving.

Reflections from the Executive Director

I spend a lot of my work time explaining what an endowment is and why a charitable endowment may be of interest to our donors, prospective donors and the nonprofit organizations doing so much good in our Western Slope communities. Very simply, an endowment is a permanent fund that provides ongoing, multi-year funding to a nonprofit organization. The funding can be for general purposes in support of the nonprofit's mission, or it can be restricted, either by a donor or a board of directors, for a specific purpose. (Think about a scholarship fund restricted for a certain department at a college or a specific ministry for your church.)

Endowments appeal to donors who have worked hard to build up some wealth and do not want to see that wealth "used up," over the course of a year or two for immediate expenses. Donors who like the idea of preserving their wealth and supporting favorite organizations over the long-term may want to consider setting up an endowment.

At our community foundation, we describe an endowment gift as "the gift that keeps on growing, the gift that keeps on giving." An endowment is to a nonprofit what a long-term trust is for a child or other family member. It provides ongoing support and financial security, year after year, so that the nonprofit can go about its mission and purpose without financial worries.

Freedom from financial worry is a fabulous gift to give!
