



WESTERN COLORADO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS

Ouray County Community Fund Awards \$18,400

Now in its second year, the Ouray County Community Fund (OCCF) recently awarded \$18,400 in grants to fifteen nonprofit organizations serving Ouray County. Made up of six local community leaders, the OCCF Steering Committee reviewed grant applications totaling \$46,000 in requests from 21 organizations.

Nonprofits receiving OCCF grants this year include: Log Hill Mesa Fire Protection District (for breathing equipment for volunteer fire fighters), Top of the Pines (pavilion education center), Weehawken Creative Arts (for children's creative arts programs) and Ouray Public Library (for STEM programs).

Go to wc-cf.org for a complete list of current grantees.



Children in the Partners program play games with their adult mentors.



Jake Lasko, Board Chairman for Two Rivers Community Foundation, announces the establishment of a grants endowment to benefit Glenwood Springs and communities south to Carbondale, west to New Castle.

T.R.U.E. Local Philanthropy *Two Rivers Community Foundation Establishes Endowed Grants Fund*

Our regional Community Foundation has enjoyed an affiliation partnership with Two Rivers Community Foundation in Glenwood Springs for almost ten years. Our regional foundation provides charitable legacy gift planning assistance and endowment fund management services to donors who live in Glenwood and Garfield County. Two Rivers Community Foundation manages short-term project and scholarship funds. At our 20th anniversary celebration in Carbondale in late October, Two Rivers Community Foundation announced the

Community Funds an Attractive Vehicle for Local Philanthropy

The Ouray County Community Fund is one of several geographic funds managed by our regional Community Foundation. WCCF provides "back office" administration (accounting, investment management and grants administration) while working in close partnership with a local steering committee. Local community leaders who know their communities best raise awareness, attract resources and identify worthwhile projects to fund each year.

While these community funds distribute relatively small grants in their early years, over time they will grow through good investment returns and new donations. Donors who love their home community can make provisions for an end-of-life donation in their wills or estate plans.

In the next decade, our regional Community Foundation hopes to add more geographic funds, involving many community-

establishment of an endowed fund for community grants. The new fund is named the T.R.U.E. Grants Fund - the Two Rivers Unrestricted Endowment Grants Fund. Donor outreach, investment management and grants administration services will be provided by our regional foundation.

Long-time Glenwood Springs resident and WCCF board member, Steve Vanderhoof, commented, "My family is thrilled to see a grants fund like this set up. Members of our community can simply write a check, see their donations pooled with others and watch our home become a better place. This fund also provides an option for locals to leave money to our community as part of their wills or through estate planning. My family is planning to do this because it is important to give back to our home community."

Donors who make a donation of \$500 or more before December 31, 2017 will be recognized as "Founding Donors" to the T.R.U.E. Grants Fund.



Across our Region: Spotlight on Recent Grants

Our regional Community Foundation is pleased to highlight some of our grants awarded in October 2017.

minded people as donors and grantmakers, supporting every community we serve.

Interested in learning more about community grant funds or starting a fund for your community? Contact our office at (970) 243-3767.



Help us expand STEM resources on Colorado Gives Day Tuesday, December 5th

Tuesday, December 5th is Colorado Gives Day - a grand day of on-line giving to promote local philanthropy. Our Community Foundation has a generous donor who will match all contributions to our STEM initiative on Gives Day and through December 31, 2017. Your generous donation will help us expand STEM resources for our students by funding coding, 3D printers, robotics, science programs and more.

Pre-schedule your donation today or plan to donate on **Colorado Gives Day, Tuesday, December 5th**, and help us *expand community resources for K-12 education...exponentially!*

Click [here](#) to donate now!

First Place on Second Street

Last year, our Community Foundation helped CASA of the 7th District (Montrose) with funding to build their first tiny house, giving youth aging out of foster care a trade to support themselves. CASA Executive Director, Carlton Mason, had a bigger vision that is quickly becoming a reality. CASA is actively developing an eight-unit, micro-home community that will provide affordable housing for youth turning 18 and transitioning to being independent adults. Read more about the project [here](#).



CASA volunteers and youth work on the pilot tiny house in Montrose.

Stronger together: New affiliation for the Mesa Land Trust and Black Canyon Land Trust

Two Western Slope land trusts recently entered into a formal collaboration to share resources and increase the pace, quality and scope of land conservation efforts in our area of the state. Mesa Land Trust and Black Canyon Regional Land Trust have now consolidated under the new name of Colorado West Land Trust. Read more about the new collaboration [here](#).



COLORADO WEST LAND TRUST

Conserving Land. Connecting People. Enriching Lives.

Portions for Pets/Grand River Meals on Wheels

Many communities provide home meal delivery to elderly and frail community members, delivering a hot meal and companionship for seniors who are less mobile and have a hard time getting out and about. Many of these seniors are on a fixed income and struggle to care for beloved pets when money runs tight for their own rent and food. In Garfield County, the local meals on wheels program also delivers dried food for pets so that seniors don't have to decide between food and medication for themselves or making sure their pets are fed. Grand River Health Meals on Wheel's Portion for Pets program delivers a bag of cat or dog food to their clients once a month to keep their client's furry companions healthy and happy. Read more about Portions for Pets [here](#).



Our Building Blocks for STEM community collection yielded over 200 pounds of new and used LEGO and K'NEX toys for use in D51 classrooms. ***Thank you to all who donated to BB4STEM!!***

Please include our Community Foundation in your year-end giving plans!

Our Community Foundation appreciates financial support from our friends at year end - for general support, for grant funding for next year or for our new STEM initiative. Donations in any amount are welcome!

With the stock market at an all time high, gifting appreciated stock has many tax advantages. Contact Kristin Lynch to discuss a stock gift, klynch@wc-cf.org.

If you are over 70 1/2, you may want to consider using



Volunteers for Meals on Wheels deliver bags of pet food once a month to clients with furry companions.

Save the BOX

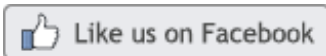
The iconic Box Canon sign on a hill outside Ouray is in desperate need of repair. Our

the IRA Charitable Rollover gifting technique (made permanent by Congress in December 2016) to donate to our Community Foundation. Instead of taking your Minimum Required Distribution, gift it directly to our Community Foundation and avoid paying income tax on that distribution. Contact Kristin Lynch for more details, klynch@wc-cf.org.



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



Community Foundation has awarded a \$10,000 matching grant to the Six Basins project to raise the funding needed to complete the metal work on the O and the X and stabilize the sign so it continues to serve as a beacon for adventurers in the San Juan back country. Read more about the Save the BOX project [here](#).



Erected in 1909, the Box Canon sign has deteriorated through weather and vandalism. Community members are hoping to raise matching dollars to repair and re-install the sign by Fall of 2018 to celebrate 109 years of this beloved symbol of Ouray's history.

Reflections from the Executive Director

The Western Colorado Community Foundation is a regional organization serving seven counties in western Colorado. Headquartered in Grand Junction, we have board members and donors from each of the counties we serve and award grants and scholarships across our region. Some of our largest endowment funds were established by donors outside Mesa County.

Because western Colorado is rural, covering a large geographic footprint with a relatively small population, we work closely with our affiliates and smaller community foundations across our region. We are very fortunate to have partnerships with these community-focused grantmaking groups: the Two Rivers Community Foundation (Glenwood), the Rifle Community Foundation, the Mt.

Callahan Community Fund (Parachute and Battlement Mesa), the Heart and Soul Project (North Fork) and the Ouray County Community Fund.

A community foundation is all about "give where you live." Our community funds allow our donors to target and direct their donations to really help the communities they care about most... the communities they live in and call home.

-- Anne Wenzel
