



LEAVE YOUR MARK...

# WESTERN COLORADO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Charitable Funds for Community Good

## 2017 Highlights

2017 was our 20th anniversary and another year of tremendous growth for our regional Community Foundation!

Highlights from our year:

***\$5.3 million in donations in 2017.***

***\$3.5 million in grants and scholarships awarded -***  
a 40% increase from 2016.

***17 new donor funds established.***

Nearly ***\$73 million\**** in total donor fund assets under management - 21% growth in total assets in one year.

\* 12/31/17 financial statements are not yet audited.

A big thank you to our donors and friends for their involvement and confidence in our Community Foundation!

Together we make a big difference in improving the communities we live in and call home.

## Mr. Glenwood Springs

Don Vanderhoof

(1931 - 2017)



*Don and Eddi Vanderhoof in their garden. Don lived in Glenwood Springs most of his life, 71 of his 86 years.*

Long-time Glenwood resident, family man, businessman and banker, community leader and public servant, Don Vanderhoof passed away at the end of 2017.

Affectionately known as "Mr. Glenwood

*TRUE Grants Fund*  
New endowment for  
Glenwood Springs  
raises over \$25,000  
in two months

WCCF has long partnered with the Two Rivers Community Foundation (2RCF) to manage their endowments. This past October, 2RCF established a new endowed grants fund. The Two Rivers Unrestricted Endowment Fund (TRUE) will provide money each year to nonprofit organizations helping the people and communities of Glenwood south to Carbondale and west to New Castle.

The 2RCF board is pleased to thank and recognize the TRUE Fund's founding donors!

Tom and Joyce Ball  
John and Lauri Bosco  
Debonney Fox  
Rob and Melissa Jankovsky  
Scott and Terri Miller  
John and Mandy Murray  
Rodney and Andrea Naylor  
Jason and Gina Neuman  
Daniel and Courtney Petre  
Gregg and Marilee Rippey  
Angela and Stuart Sampels  
Scruby Brothers Fund  
Ken and Maxine Stein  
David and Linda Sturges  
Thomas B. Beard Fund  
Robin Tolan  
Two Rivers Community  
Foundation  
Vanderhoof Family Fund  
Western Colorado Community  
Foundation

For more information, check out the 2RCF website at [www.2rcf.com](http://www.2rcf.com).

Springs", Don's contributions to his community are extensive. These included serving two terms as a City Councilman (including two years as Mayor), kissing pigs for Garfield Youth Services, running Strawberry Days for over a decade, and being active in the Chamber of Commerce and the local Lions Club. He was recognized as Citizen of the Year in 1987.

Don's son, Steve, serves on our regional Community Foundation board and is also active with our affiliate in Glenwood Springs, the Two Rivers Community Foundation. "It was my dad's commitment to Glenwood Springs that propelled him to give so generously with his service and philanthropy, thereby instilling this same calling in his children and grandchildren."

The Vanderhoof name is synonymous with philanthropy and community leadership. We were pleased to work with the family in establishing a donor-advised endowment fund in 2003. Their family was instrumental in forging the affiliation partnership between our two community foundations. Our regional Community Foundation manages 12 different endowed charitable funds to benefit the Glenwood Springs community.

The Vanderhoof Family requests that memorial contributions be made in Don's name to the Western Colorado Community Foundation for the Vanderhoof Family Fund. The family will distribute grants in Don's memory in Glenwood Springs later in the year.

---

*Resilience 2018*  
20th anniversary impact grant  
offers support for  
care giving professionals



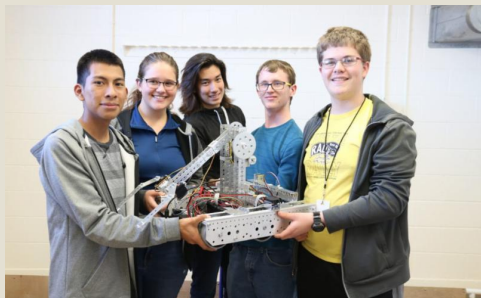
[Online Scholarship Application Now Open](#)  
Students can access 36 different scholarship funds through one application

WCCF's on-line application process is now open for 36 different scholarship funds managed by our Community Foundation. Scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$5,000+ and many are renewable for up to four years. In 2017, WCCF committed over \$790,000 to 113 students in scholarship support to be paid out over the next four years.

For more information or to apply, visit:

[wccf/students/scholarships](http://wccf/students/scholarships)

## New Robotics Lab for STEM Academy at Central High School



Central High School students show off one of their creations at the opening of their new Robotics Lab, funded by WCCF's STEMx initiative to expand community resources for



Staff from organizations including Hilltop, Center for Children, Grand Junction Police Department and others gathered for the kick-off of Resilience 2018.

Throughout our community, countless professionals deal with trauma every day - in law enforcement, social work, counseling, first response, health/medicine, education and many other fields. While these dedicated people navigate vicarious trauma and fatigue, they often suffer in silence, which leads to burnout and resignation. Our community needs to support these professionals so they can continue their vital work.

As part of our 20th anniversary impact grants initiative, our Community Foundation funded a new program that will offer monthly sessions facilitated by licensed professional counselors from the Counseling and Education Center (CEC) and the Western Slope Center for Children (The Center). The **Resilience 2018** program will help participants develop personal and professional skills to build resiliency, increase work satisfaction and prevent helper fatigue.

**Resilience 2018** kicks off in February and their 40 slots are already filled. Additional trainings will be offered in the future. Other partner agencies in this collaboration include Mesa County Public Health Department, Hilltop Community Resources, and the Grand Junction Police Department.

**Chris Mueller, Executive Director of CEC, notes "We recognized the need to support both the individuals and the agencies dealing with vicarious trauma**

## *Expanding Horizons* TEDx in Grand Junction

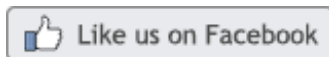


WCCF was pleased to sponsor the first TEDx Grand Junction on January 27th. The event featured 14 inspiring presentations, from building solar-powered homes to human trafficking.



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**



***on a daily basis. WCCF's funding has allowed us to develop a community-wide, outcome-based model that will provide long-term support for our professional caregivers."***

View recent media interviews on the project [here](#), or read the Daily Sentinel article [here](#).

## Reflections from the Executive Director

The new year is always a time for reflection and resolutions, a time to look ahead with optimism and make plans. Our board and staff have been catching a short breath after a very successful 20th anniversary year and are now turning to priorities and goals for the next three years as we enter the final stages of our Vision 2020 and Strategic Plan.

We expect to continue to grow steadily, working with more community-minded donors and having greater impact in the communities we serve. We are committed to providing top notch grants and scholarship administration and investment stewardship of the assets entrusted to us by our donors.

One exciting new project for this year involves the next frontier of our hunger work. We were excited to be part of the Colorado Health Foundation's release of their new *Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger* and have plans to develop our own local action plans to address this basic need in western Colorado. Stay tuned for more information on this initiative. And we are in full swing with our scholarship season and plan to give away an additional \$50,000 to \$100,000 in scholarships in 2018.

So many good things on the horizon for 2018! Happy new year!

- Anne Wenzel

