



LEAVE YOUR MARK...

WESTERN COLORADO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Charitable Funds for Community Good

Nonprofits Building Their Endowments with Our Community Foundation



New warehouse provides the space volunteers need to pack and distribute food for over 5,500 individuals per month.

Sharing Ministries, the regional hub providing both wholesale bulk food and retail food supplies to qualified persons and 40 hunger relief nonprofits in five counties, recently completed and opened a new warehouse and distribution center in Montrose. A next step for the growing organization is to set up an endowment fund to build a permanent funding source to sustain their operations. Their board established an endowment at our Community Foundation in January.

Surface Creek Animal Shelter in Cedaredge is the most recent animal care organization in western

Harmony in Action New Partnership with Grand Junction Symphony Foundation



The Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra performs on stage at the Avalon.

The Grand Junction Symphony Foundation, formerly the Grand Junction Musical Arts Association Trust, was the first local nonprofit organization to establish an agency endowment fund with our Community Foundation back in 1997. Their mission is to raise money and build an endowment to support the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra.

Now, two decades later, both foundations are working together to continue to build a permanent endowment to support the symphonic arts. Our Community Foundation will manage the almost million dollars of the Symphony Foundation's long-term assets and provide its board and donors with planned giving expertise. The Symphony Foundation will continue to organize annual fundraising events and raise awareness about supporting the local symphony orchestra.

"For us, the partnership makes so much sense," notes Adele Suydam, President of the Grand Junction Symphony Foundation.

Colorado to establish an endowment fund to provide opportunities for loyal donors to make estate gifts and provide funding for future operations. Board member Bruce Joss remarked, "The Community Foundation will provide the stability and professional expertise needed to manage this vital long-term financial resource for the Animal Shelter."



Our Community Foundation also manages endowments for Roice-Hurst Humane Society and the Black Canyon Animal Sanctuary. Anne Wenzel, Executive Director of the Community Foundation, reflects "Our local animal shelters are committed to finding 'forever homes' for homeless pets. An endowment is like 'forever funds' for these organizations to do their good work."

Care about cats, dogs and other furry critters being cared for and finding "forever homes"? Consider an endowment donation for your local animal welfare organization!

*Partnering with
Nonprofits to Manage
and Build Endowments*

"We are a board of volunteers who love the symphony but have limited time and expertise with complex estate gifts. We are pooling our assets with the Community Foundation's large investment pool which costs us very little in fees and takes the worry of monitoring investment managers off our plate."

Community Foundation Vice Chairman and symphony lover, Mike Sewell, "I'm delighted to see the Symphony Foundation partner with the Community Foundation. Our symphony is such a great asset for our community. People don't realize that ticket sales only cover about 30% of the operating budget. I hope we can build a large endowment and provide for a very stable funding future."

The Community Foundation will also be helping the Symphony Foundation board develop and implement a comprehensive endowment fundraising plan as part of their 25th anniversary next year.

For more information or to discuss leaving a gift to support the local symphony orchestra in your will or estate plans, contact Mike McCormack at gjresidents@gmail.com, or Kristin Lynch at klynch@wc-cf.org.



*Providing Opportunities,
Enriching Lives*
Hilltop Establishes New
Endowment

Our regional Community Foundation manages dozens of permanent endowment funds to provide financial support to nonprofit organizations working to make our communities in western Colorado better. These endowments are either set up by a donor to support a favorite organization (designated funds) or established by a nonprofit board with surplus funds or a restricted gift (agency funds) to provide an ongoing funding stream to support its mission.

Our Community Foundation currently manages 22 **agency funds** ranging in size from \$10,000 to over \$1 million.

We currently manage 40 **designated funds** ranging in size from \$10,000 to multi-million dollar endowments.

These endowed funds provide an annual pay-out from the invested assets and are attractive to donors who want their support to provide ongoing, multi-year funding for the nonprofit organizations they care about.

Endowment Funds 101

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 sustainable way over the



A volunteer enjoys a meal and conversation with a resident of The Commons, one of several assisted living programs run by Hilltop.

Established in 1950, Hilltop Community Resources - most commonly referred to as simply Hilltop - provides a broad and diversified range of human services to individuals of all ages in our community. After 65 years of serving the community, Hilltop this year is starting a permanent endowment with our Community Foundation.

Hilltop's annual budget is large and the organization receives a lot of government contract funding and reimbursement for services. Charitable foundation and individual support are very important for providing top notch care for patients and the flexibility to introduce new programs and services needed in the community.

Notes Hilltop CEO Mike Stahl, "So many families are thankful for what we provide their loved ones. We want to encourage families who have benefited from our services to consider supporting us so we will be here for others in the future. The partnership with the Community Foundation allows us to encourage this kind of self-sustaining support."



Grantee Spotlight

Joseph Center offers day shelter and resources to help families get back on their feet

long term

- * A signal to the community that the nonprofit is a well-established organization

Salvation Army recovering from fire that destroyed home on Grand Avenue

Several weeks ago the Salvation Army's home for 16 men enrolled in its adult rehab and recovery program was destroyed by fire. The Army is scrambling to locate temporary new housing for 16 men for a 6-month period while it explores longer-term options.

Our Community Foundation has stepped up and will provide a grant to cover six months of rental expense, something the organization does not have available in its budget. Some of this funding comes from our **Bruce Dixson Fund for Basic Needs**; Bruce was a loyal and long-time supporter of the local Salvation Army and served on their board of directors for over 30 years.

View more on the story [here](#).

Mesa County Community Impact Council's Nonprofit Day Breakfast 2018

300 people turned out for the annual Nonprofit Day Breakfast on March 20th to celebrate nonprofits, the work they do and the volunteers who support them. Keynote speaker Jonathan Liebert, Executive Director of the

Staff and volunteers at the Joseph Center like to say their program "fills a gap" by providing a safe, welcoming environment during the day for families experiencing homelessness in the Grand Valley. The relatively new center complements Grand Valley Catholic Outreach's Day Center for homeless adults. Families with children can come for a hot meal, use the washer/dryers and shower facilities, and store their personal belongings in locked spaces. More importantly, families can get help with finding a job and accessing other services and resources they may need.

A recent \$10,000 grant from our Community Foundation supports the growing need in our community for families in crisis and transition. Executive Director Mona Highline notes, "We see many working families who can't find an affordable place to live. They are on waiting lists for housing or have recently lost their jobs. The Joseph Center is here to help them come in from the cold, regroup and get connected so they can get their lives back on track."

Read more about the Joseph Center in the Daily Sentinel [CLICK HERE](#).

Colorado Institute for Social Impact and an adjunct faculty member at the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs Business School, introduced the concept of a "fourth sector" that combines the best of entrepreneurial business practices working to deliver a social good as well as make a profit.


Many of the attendees were inspired to think differently about social venture and earned income enterprises for nonprofits. We will be exploring this more in our communities in the coming months.

To view Jonathan's speech, [CLICK HERE.](#)



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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Currently housed above the Salvation Army Thrift Store on North Avenue, the Joseph Center day shelter provides clothing and diapers, hot meals, laundry and showers to homeless families with children.

Reflections from the Executive Director

It's countdown time for completing and filing your annual tax return. The end of March and the first half of April is always a scramble for our accounting and financial adviser colleagues, as well as those of us who wait until the last minute for this annual ritual.

Tax time is a good time to assess how we spend our money, which typically reflects our priorities. We look at our discretionary funds for the year and dream of purchasing a new car or boat. Or a river trip down the Danube or Nile. We might also think about saving some of our surplus funds or tax return money: for our own retirements or for education funds for kids or grandkids. Hopefully at least some of our wealth is put into savings vehicles that are invested and grow over time for future.

This concept of "set money away for later" and building up some wealth is very much what nonprofit endowments are about. People who care about an organization or their community can give money now, combine funds with other like-minded donors, and provide future funding to support causes they care about.

So tax time is a great time to encourage our donors and friends to look into giving back and providing endowment funding to help others in the community they live in and call home.

- *Anne Wenzel*
