



# The Community Foundation

## BOULDER COUNTY

Non-profit e-News

September 2009

### In this issue...

- :: One year down, \$1 million raised!
- :: Staff Changes at The Community Foundation
- :: Congratulations Women Who Light the Community!
- :: ToolBank USA would like to hear from Boulder, CO!
  - :: Announcements
  - :: COG Blog & TCF on Facebook
  - :: Community Partners

### One year down, \$1 million raised!

#### Gift from Bill Sterner Memorial Fund lifts Community Trust Initiative past key milestone

Bill Sterner's legacy of leadership lives on, thanks to a decision by his surviving family this month to infuse The Community Foundation's Community Trust with a gift of \$64,000.

The gift puts the Foundation's major fundraising effort over its first- year goal of \$1 million, one year to the month after launching the four-year, \$4 million campaign. It includes a bundled gift of \$14,000 that was collected from donations by 136 friends of Bill Sterner in the three months after his passing.

Bill died on March 31, 2008, one month before he was scheduled to become chair of The Community Foundation's Board of Trustees. He was deeply passionate about helping people and organizations thrive. His primary goal of his term as Chair was to build The Community Trust - The Foundation's unrestricted endowment supporting needs in the areas of health and human services, the environment, education, civic engagement, and the arts.

In his spirit, The Community Foundation launched its Community Trust Initiative in September, 2008. Since then, more than 1,000 Boulder County residents have contributed to the campaign.

"The family is very excited and grateful to all the donors to the Bill Sterner Memorial Fund," said Bill's widow, Pat Sterner. "Building The Community Trust was really a big goal of Bill's and an important legacy for him. Now it's also a legacy for his kids."

The family has additionally pledged \$50,000 to the initiative, whose mission is to double The Community Trust's support for Boulder County nonprofits, now and forever, while also raising enough money to significantly impact one specific area of community need.

The funding has already allowed the Community Foundation to:

- Nearly double our Community Trust grants to nonprofits in January - less than five months into the campaign.
- Keep our Community Trust endowment stable during the most volatile financial period since the Great Depression.
- Make great early strides in our chosen impact area of closing the achievement gap between our county's successful students and those who start school so far behind that they can never catch up.
- Grant \$90,000 to the Providers Advancing School Outcomes program (the Foundation's largest Community Trust grant ever) and see it leveraged for \$629,000 through a state grant turning every Community Trust dollar into \$8.

The Foundation has also begun early stage work on an awareness campaign whose goal is securing a sustainable source of public funding to support access to quality early care and education for at-risk children in Boulder County.

This month, we kick off the second year of this fundraising campaign. The goal is to raise another \$1 million by next September. Thanks to the Sterners, we're off to a great start.

Together, we are stronger. That's the idea behind The Community Trust.

### Staff Changes at The Community Foundation

We are happy to announce that Elvira Ramos will be our new Programs Director. Elvira has extensive grant-making experience and will be returning to Colorado,



after four years as the Brownsville Community Foundation CEO in Texas. "We're delighted to welcome someone with such extensive community foundation experience," said Josie Heath, President.

More about Elvira when she joins our team here in Boulder County later this fall!



### Congratulations to...

Josie Heath, President of The Community Foundation and recent honoree for Women Who Light the Community! The Boulder Chamber of Commerce recognized Josie, Diane Magliolo, JoAnn Joselyn, Sue Deans, and Bev Sears on September 18th for their unwavering community contributions. Congratulations to all and thank you for all you do!

### ToolBank USA would like to hear from Boulder, CO!

A group of individuals are assessing local interest in bringing a "ToolBank" program to Boulder, CO. What exactly is a ToolBank? A ToolBank consists of a vast inventory of tools (ladders, rakes, wheelbarrows, cordless drills, and much more) available for borrowing by nonprofit / charitable organizations to facilitate all types of community service projects. Typical tool-borrowing organizations include public schools, churches, environmental nonprofits, neighborhood associations, community groups, social clubs, parks, cemeteries, and many, many others. The goal of the ToolBank is to help community organizations increase their impact by providing quick and reliable access to an abundance of tools. Click here to see a short video about a working ToolBank

The ToolBank program originated at the Atlanta Community Tool in 1993, which now equips over 40,000 volunteers a year with a tool inventory worth more than \$500,000. ToolBank USA was started last year by a generous grant from the Home Depot Foundation, and is presently seeking to collaborate with cities outside Atlanta to start pilot ToolBank programs. ToolBank USA is nonprofit 501c3 organization.

To determine if a ToolBank would be viable in Boulder, we need to assess the interest level within our local community organizations.

This is where you play an important role!!!

A 90-second Community Interest Survey awaits you at the link below, along with a chance to win a \$50 Home Depot gift card for completing the survey. You can complete the survey multiple times, provided that you complete it on behalf of a different organization or company each time you complete it. [Example: a parent might complete the form three times: once on behalf of her employer, again on behalf of her child's school, and a third time on behalf of her church.] The survey is open to all residents in the Greater Boulder area - and the more responses the better!!

[Click here to take the survey](#)

Additionally, if you are interested in participating with the launch of a Boulder ToolBank, please contact me

### Announcements

#### Grant Deadlines

**The deadline for Community Trust grant proposals is Wednesday, September 30th.** [See www.commfound.org for more information.](http://www.commfound.org)

#### Awards and Debuts

**The 2009 recipients of the Pat on the Back and Stan Black Awards**, honoring outstanding volunteers in Boulder County, are Mary Nutt and Sophie Walker respectively. Thank you to both of these extraordinary women!

And we're thrilled to announce that the **2009 TRENDS Report is coming soon!** Stay tuned for the latest scoop on what makes our community tick and the new ways you will be able to access the information. **If you'd like to schedule a presentation to hear TRENDS highlights, please contact [Gretchen Minekime by email](mailto:Gretchen.Minekime) or at 303-442-0436 x107.**

#### Save-the-Date

The annual **Open Door Dinner will be May 8, 2010.** Mark your calendars today!

### Join The Community Foundation's Facebook group and follow our COG Blog!

The Community Foundation is on Facebook. Get plugged in to Boulder County news and events you care about by searching for "Community Foundation of Boulder County" from your Facebook page. You can also stay informed by reading or subscribing to our [COG Blog](#).

### Thank you Community Partners!

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Western Disposal  
Jared Polis Foundation  
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Elevations Credit Union  
Kaiser Permanente Foundation**

for further information. We are currently seeking members for our Formation Team / Board of Directors.

Don't live in Boulder ? Kindly forward this email to your professional or personal contacts in the Boulder area, and ask them to donate 90 seconds to ToolBank USA by completing the survey.

Thank you for your participation!

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