The Catalog for Giving is based on an idea by Emily Soell and an original design by Mindy Lang.

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The Catalog for Giving

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Dear Friend:

This Catalog gives you a glimpse of some of the remarkable work non-profits in Boulder County are doing to change the lives of disadvantaged children. It also gives you the opportunity to support these local grassroots organizations.

Within our community, various disadvantages interfere with our children’s health and happiness. Though many of us enjoy prosperity, Boulder County’s high cost of living drives a surprising number of families into poverty. Some children live with abuse and neglect. Some struggle with developmental, emotional, or physical disabilities. Many lack adult guidance and support. Children from minority or non-English-speaking families face yet other challenges.

The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County and the Brett Family Foundation partnered to create this Catalog to give these non-profits the recognition they deserve. Your contribution will ensure they receive the financial support needed to continue their crucial work.

Following a rigorous evaluation process, a community selection committee chose these twelve non-profits from numerous applicants. Each of the organizations practices sound financial management and operates with a competent and caring staff, board of directors, and group of volunteers. Because the costs of this Catalog were donated, 100% of your contribution will go directly to the organizations, whether you designate a particular nonprofit or want us to divide your contribution equally among them.

All of these dedicated groups work to make a difference in the lives of our community’s disadvantaged children. They strive to give kids faith in themselves, the knowledge that someone genuinely cares, and the chance to develop the strengths and skills they need to make it in life.

Recent events in our country and our world have reaffirmed many Boulder County residents’ commitment to community. You are holding a Catalog that shows how you can positively impact the lives of our community’s most vulnerable children. Please join us in making a difference.

It’s easy to recognize what you can’t do.

The Catalog for Giving is about what you can do.

Colleen N. Carden
Executive Director
Brett Family Foundation

Lindsey Edlund
Vice President of Programs and Administration
The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County

It’s easy to help . . .
VISIT www.cfgbouldercounty.org
CALL 720-565-3898
MAIL the enclosed donation form
Boulder County Early Childhood Connections

Born two and a half months early. A fragile one pound twelve ounces. On a ventilator in Children’s Hospital for six months. How does a family manage? How do parents bond with their child? What about their other children? What if they rely on two incomes to make ends meet? What happens when the infant finally comes home, continues to need oxygen, and the family feels lost about how to help meet their child’s developmental needs?

You can help families of infants and toddlers with special needs find resources
Life changes, often dramatically. Priorities shift. Uncertainty sets in.

In some cases, disabilities exist from the start. The child may be born with a hearing impairment, cerebral palsy, or Down syndrome. In other cases, developmental delays come to light over time. The child may be slow to walk or talk. Families in such situations need to draw upon every possible resource for help with day-to-day challenges. They must learn how to hang on to a normal life for their child and family. They may want support from other parents. Often they require financial assistance as their astounding costs mount.

Parents of children up to age three can turn to Boulder County Early Childhood Connections. BCECC ensures that their child receives a free evaluation. A BCECC service coordinator helps the family navigate the complex network of community resources. BCECC shows families how they can meet their child’s developmental needs in a natural and comfortable setting rather than going to yet another clinic. And after the family exhausts its financial options, BCECC steps in. They may buy therapeutic toys . . . pay for a therapist to work with the child and family in their home . . . find respite care so parents can have time with each other or with their other children.

The compassionate and competent people from BCECC hear over and over from the families they serve, “We will be forever grateful to you.”
You can help link disadvantaged kids with mentors who teach them to dream

Boulder County Partners

“It was Valentine’s Day when I first met Lynn,” recalls Cathy. “For six years now we’ve been . . . well, the best way to put it is that she’s kinda like a mom. She’s the one who got me to go back to school after being out for over a year; then she helped when my mom left me and my stepmom divorced my dad. And she was there for me all last year when my grandpa died, then my grandma, then my other grandpa.”

One situation. One of 85 existing pairs of adult mentors and 8 to 17-year-old at-risk youths linked through Boulder County Partners. Each pair has its own unique story.

As with all Senior Partners, Lynn committed to spending three to five hours with her Junior Partner each week for at least a year. And as with most, she’s gone far beyond that. Some find creative ways to get a new bike for their partner. Or a prom dress. Most spend lots of time just “hanging out” and sharing everyday activities . . . gardening, playing ping-pong in the garage, shooting hoops, or helping with homework. All provide the stability and consistency these young people crave. Those very things that save them from the traumas of the juvenile justice system or out-of-home placement. Their mentors serve as adult role models, friends, and advocates, always holding their young partner accountable.
Not all pairs connect as easily as Cathy and Lynn. Helping the youths discover interests can challenge Senior Partners since many of these kids have had few opportunities to explore life. Both partners initially may feel anxious. But that anxiety almost always gives way to an extraordinary relationship that deeply enriches both lives.

Through Boulder County Partners, kids who might otherwise become a statistic develop self confidence, motivation, and a sense of responsibility. They believe in themselves. They begin to dream. And step by step, they move ever closer toward that dream.

How your support can help

Many kids wait months for a permanent partner. The more volunteers Partners recruits, the more youths they can serve. Expanding the program requires additional staff and higher costs all around. Partners also wants to support existing partnerships by offering no-cost outings that help kids learn, grow, and enjoy life.

It's easy to help...

VISIT  www.cfgbouldercounty.org
CALL  720-565-3898
MAIL  the enclosed donation form

Boulder County Partners
1430 Nelson Road, Suite 206
Longmont CO 80501
303/772-1411
Susi Keith, Executive Director
Boulder Day Nursery

An 11-month-old child arrives unable to sit upright, having been confined to a crib day after day. In less than a year at Boulder Day Nursery she sits straight and tall, bright-eyed and eager to take on the world.

A single mother of an autistic child desperately needs a job. Boulder Day Nursery’s excellent care enables her to work and complete school. Today she’s vice president of a local corporation.

Opened in 1917 when mothers went to work to support our World War I efforts, Boulder Day Nursery established solid traditions. Grassroots community support. People pitching in to help families with the greatest needs. A sliding scale fee of 10 cents a day to 10 cents an hour.

Boulder Day Nursery continues to reach out to parents in stressful circumstances by offering quality care and support. Parents learn how to parent. They sense the commitment of staff, teachers, and the on-site mental health professional. With 85% of the children coming from low to moderate income families, today’s sliding scale allows the families to live in our costly community and to secure a nurturing, stimulating environment during their child’s first six years.

Boulder Day Nursery takes on challenging kids others expel or simply turn away. The child in a wheelchair or with Down syndrome. The child whose behavior confounds parents and teachers.

This place has what it takes to succeed. Deep roots in our community. Dedicated teachers who stay long term and see to it that all children learn and are fed, in body, mind, and spirit. Curriculum that builds early literacy and social competencies. Unwavering commitment to these precious children—tomorrow’s parents and citizens.
How your support can help

Your generosity will help Boulder Day Nursery retain its committed teachers, maintain quality programming, and provide educational excursions for these young children. Funds also will reduce the large gap between what most parents can pay and the costs of providing services for these families.

It's easy to help...

VISIT www.cfgbouldercounty.org
CALL 720-565-3898
MAIL the enclosed donation form

Boulder Day Nursery
1518 Spruce Street
Boulder CO 80302
303-442-7605
Steve Callander, Executive Director
Boulder Prep’s faculty and staff never give up on a kid. Some of their students have committed felonies. Some have been kicked out by parents or expelled from school. Others feel alienated or simply “lost” in a traditional high school. Whatever the case, the caring people at Boulder Prep don’t judge or focus on the past. Instead, they accept kids for who they are, and help them get their lives back on track. And if students leave for a time, the door is always open for their return.

You can help high risk adolescents turn their lives around
In 1995 the Boulder Courts, hoping to reduce the numbers of incarcerated teenagers in Boulder County, created Boulder Prep. The founders knew that 79% of kids in the juvenile justice system were failing or out of school. Without intervention, many would become repeat offenders, waste their lives, and burden the community. These kids needed intensive guidance and a chance to turn their lives around.

Boulder Prep gives them that chance. The school’s 65 students benefit from a 1:5 adult to youth ratio, with small classes offered year round. Dedicated faculty, staff, and intervention specialists figure out how to reach each student. They set clear boundaries and high expectations. Building upon kids’ interests, abilities, and gifts, they tap into an intellectual curiosity and desire to succeed that others have not unearthed.

Boulder Prep adults also spend time with students outside of school. With 67% of the kids living away from home, it may be that a private lunch conversation or watching a ballgame with a caring adult will be just what it takes to build the trust and self-worth that help a student take off academically.

The Boulder Prep community creates what is, for some students, the only “family” they’ve ever had. Teachers stick around. Students share burdens, offering support that only a peer can. Having found a physically and emotionally safe place, these students finally are free to unleash their potential and get on with their lives.
Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center

“It makes me cry when I think how brave my son is, and how hard he’s had to work all his life to do the things you and I take for granted.”

— mother of 11-year-old rider

Muscle control. Balance. The strength to hold your body upright. The ability to concentrate. To think clearly. To verbalize your thoughts.

Many of us do take these for granted. Children with disabilities and their parents don’t. Instead, they celebrate what others might see as the smallest accomplishments—taking a step... sitting high in a saddle... speaking for the first time. Some have been told never to expect independent movement or speech. With time at the Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center, many beat the odds.

Whether the young riders have cerebral palsy, severe emotional disorders, spina bifida, or any number of other disabilities, life has been tough. They’ve spent countless hours with doctors and at clinics. Some have multiple disabilities that require multiple therapies.

When these kids become riders at CTRC, many of them finally find the one therapy they don’t fight. In fact, it’s the highlight of their week. It brings them self-confidence. Trust in their newfound human and animal friends. Peace. A sense of pride as they gain control over something much bigger than they are. Here they can be “like other kids.” As one seven year old put it, “I can’t walk and I can’t run. I can’t play soccer or basketball or go swimming with my friends. But I can ride.” And he has ribbons from horse shows to prove it.
CTRC served 400 children last year. While the gentle, patient horses are the heart of the program, the passionately committed staff and volunteers form the backbone. Each week more than 240 trained volunteers help kids ride. Many more lend a hand in other ways. All of them join with the parents and marvel as they watch these courageous children blossom in ways never thought possible.

How your support can help

It costs CTRC $68 to provide one lesson. Riders pay $20 or less. CTRC wants to keep services accessible to all families, many of whom face insurmountable medical expenses. The staff hopes to recruit and train more volunteers and to expand programs for young people dealing with grief, mental illness, and visual impairment.
You can help connect kids with nature and their communities

**Colorado Youth Program**

“I had never caught a fish or camped before I met Steve and got into the Colorado Youth Program. Mostly because my mom is sick, so she can’t do those kinds of things. I’ve been with CYP for three years now and have caught and cooked my own dinner and gone to sleep under shooting stars. Thanks to CYP I do these fun things, plus I am a volunteer in our community. I make a difference!”

—“Fox,” 16-year-old CYP participant
The Colorado Youth Program changes kids’ lives. It offers local 11 to 16 year olds from lower income households year-round outdoor experiences that instill pride and confidence through active learning, working, and playing in a natural setting. CYP serves kids who otherwise could not afford such opportunities. Ninety percent come from families earning less than 50% of Boulder County’s median income.

Most youths benefit from CYP’s programs throughout the year and participate year after year. In the summer, kids take part in CYP Summer Camp. During the school year, the CYP Adventure Club provides after school volunteer opportunities and weekend recreational outings.

CYP connects these young people with nature and their communities by teaching environmental stewardship. The kids study wildlife, forests, and weather. They breathe the fresh air and revel in the beauty of their natural surroundings. They clean up creek banks around the county and do service projects for local charities and community causes. CYP helps youths see first hand the difference their commitment and energy can make in the world.

Of course these young people also have fun. They sled and play in the snow, fly kites, sleep under the stars, mountain bike, fish, and go whitewater rafting. They build relationships with peers and adults. They find out who they are.

One mother of three participants summed it up perfectly: “Thank you from the bottom of my heart. . . . I just want you to know how much we appreciate who you are, what you do, and how you serve the earth and the children.”

How your support can help
CYP spends over $1,000 per child in year-round programs. With more than 120 kids, that adds up fast.
Based on family income, most pay $100 or less for the entire year. With your help, CYP can make up that difference, remain open to all youths, update equipment, and provide adventures that promote kids’ personal growth.

It’s easy to help . . .
VISIT www.cfgbouldercounty.org
CALL 720-565-3898
MAIL the enclosed donation form
Colorado Youth Program
1877 Broadway, Suite 701
Boulder CO 80302
303.402.9656
Steven Ehret, Executive Director
You can help young African Americans celebrate their heritage and become dynamic leaders.

Institute for African American Leadership

“I remember washing my hair and wishing it was straight. When I went out of my house I was all alone. I was desperately trying to fit in.”
These words, spoken by a young black woman just graduating from high school, point to the pain of isolation in our community, where fewer than one percent of people are of African descent.

The Institute for African American Leadership helps diminish that isolation and creates a safe haven for local black youths ages 10 to 18. It provides a place where they can connect with others who share their experience. Where they learn about their cultural heritage. Where they find role models and mentors committed to promoting academic excellence, strengthening black youths’ cultural identity, and developing young African Americans’ leadership skills.

The IAAL fosters unity and strength within the African American community. It links generations. Bimonthly meetings and workshops often feature African American adults sharing their professions, skills, and resources. Sometimes the agenda includes artists’ demonstrations or trips to local dance and theater performances. Spring Break brings the opportunity for a national tour of black colleges.

As our county’s African American youths pull together to learn and offer each other support, they’re also reaching out into the broader community. Participating in service projects. Spending hours and hours perfecting their annual Kwanzaa performance. Heightening sensitivity to multicultural issues through open forums. And working with the schools so that our community will embrace rather than shy away from multicultural issues.

The IAAL is all about building community . . . in more ways than one.
You can give the gift of loving care to Longmont’s youngest

OUR Child Care Center

Marco’s teeth look unhealthy, his gums red and swollen . . . maybe that’s the problem. The last few days the usually happy 17 month old has been fussing and crying. He won’t eat. OUR Child Care staff members watch him closely all day. That afternoon, a bilingual caregiver explains Dental Aid resources to Marco’s grandmother, who works full time, speaks no English, and takes care of her four young grandchildren. Marco returns a few days later, his front teeth extracted, once again a hungry and happy infant.

Walk into Longmont’s old Post Office and you’ll see things at OUR Child Care Center that can’t help but warm your heart. Babies fast asleep, being gently cuddled and rocked. An infant staring intently, in awe of the life-like painted cardboard horses hanging from the 18-foot ceiling. Next door you’ll find a grinning toddler, eagerly moving from adult to adult to see who will give her the most attention. And in the midst of it all, you will sense the calm, safety, and warmth of this place.

Over the last 12 years, OUR Child Care Center has offered Longmont’s only infant care with a sliding scale fee for families with children six weeks to 18 months
old. Last year the Center served 50 children... 60% from families at or below the national poverty level... 40% ethnic minorities... 70% being raised by single mothers. With a 1:3 staff to child ratio, the committed staff provides well baby education, developmental screenings that many of the uninsured families would not seek elsewhere, and support to families in crisis. They offer the steadfast day-to-day care needed to ensure that each child flourishes.

At age three, Longmont’s children can go to Head Start or the YMCA for affordable care. But for 18-month to 3-year-old children, affordable care is extremely difficult to find. OUR Child Care Center’s next ambitious step is to fill that glaring gap. And they’re well on their way to doing just that.

How your support can help

OUR Child Care Center underwrites $60,000 to $80,000 each year to ensure quality care for all infants. As they expand to provide for kids up to age three, those expenses will more than double. Maintaining their 1:3 staff to child ratio will present a real challenge. But with your help, they’ll make it happen.

It's easy to help...

VISIT www.chibouldercounty.org
CALL 720-565-3898
MAIL the enclosed donation form

OUR Child Care Center
501 5th Avenue
Longmont CO 80501
303.772.4320
Jean Werner, Executive Director
You can help ensure a place for every family to feel at home

Parenting Place

Your first child! You are in awe of this infant, so small and helpless. But as reality sets in and sleep deprivation takes its inevitable toll, you sink into a feeling of helplessness yourself. With family and friends far away, you feel isolated. Overwhelmed. Baffled by this tiny creature. You don’t know what to do or where to turn.

Then you discover “Family Connection,” a monthly newspaper put out by the Parenting Place. You learn that this extended family for Boulder County’s many newcomers and longtime residents embraces all ethnic groups, types of families, and economic levels. Women and men. Seasoned parents and new parents. Grandparents and adoptive parents. Those with special needs. Any family with children from birth to age five.

The Parenting Place began in 1984 in response to the tragic abuse and death of a young Boulder child. With its primary space in Boulder and a site in Lafayette, it has since provided a place for over 2500 people to learn about coping with parenting challenges.

A place to drop in occasionally or visit regularly and draw upon the wisdom of other parents, a remarkable staff, and tireless volunteers . . . to watch children enjoy play groups and develop critical social skills . . . to find others who will celebrate milestones in their children’s lives.

One simple call prompts a “Warm Welcome” visit to get parents off to a good start. Cultural festivals and facilitated support groups, such as
language-based and single parent groups, promote connections that go far beyond the walls of the Parenting Place. Monthly potlucks bring together whole families for support, fun, and friendship.

And so much else happens. Seniors lovingly crochet baby blankets. Parents graciously exchange toys, cribs, and clothes. Professionals speak about nutrition and positive discipline. A staff member patiently walks a non-English-speaking mother through learning the bus route and managing her baby, a stroller, and a diaper bag so that this mom can access services. The Parenting Place has heart! Lots of it!

How your support can help

With 62% of clients from low income households, the Parenting Place wants to expand its Lafayette facility and staff to reach more of these families. They hope to increase services to fathers, update their library, and offer more for children with special needs . . . all investments in building healthy families in our community.

It's easy to help . . .

VISIT www.cfgbouldercounty.org
CALL 720-565-3898
MAIL the enclosed donation form

Parenting Place
2222-A 14th Street
Boulder CO 80302
303.449.0177
Fran Eichner, Executive Director
You can help mountain teens connect with each other and their community

Teens, Inc.

“A teen center is important to me because we need somewhere to hang out. It’s a place where I can see my friends and play games like basketball . . . a place where I can go when my mom is working late . . . I don’t have to go home and be all alone.”

— Elizabeth, 10th grade

Mountain living. Beautiful. Peaceful. Often lonely for teens. But after school and during the summer, young people 11 to 19 years old from Jamestown, Ward, Nederland, Sugarloaf, and other mountain areas can head to Nederland’s Teens, Inc. to “hang out” and enjoy a wide range of healthy recreational activities.

But that’s not all. Here teens’ voices are heard. They make decisions about the center’s policies and activities. They form strong, long-term bonds with the center’s enthusiastic, caring staff. Youths and their families receive professional counseling when times are tough. The teens can channel their creative energies into art projects or “Unmasked,” the center’s drama troupe. They can go on field trips, take a GED prep course to help them get a high school diploma, and rock out at the monthly dance with a lively DJ.

Work opportunities abound. In fact, last summer 33 Teens, Inc. youths earned money doing community beautification projects, mentoring younger children, supervising teen center activities, offering peer support, and meeting other community needs.

These young people benefit. The entire community benefits. In fact, Nederland saw an 18%
overall reduction in juvenile crime rates between 1995 and 2000. With the center's presence, adults are responding to teens more positively. Parents and other local residents increasingly see Teens, Inc. as the community gathering place it was designed to be.

It's no wonder that Teens, Inc. fields calls from many other communities asking, "How do you do it? Can you please help us get started on the same path?"

How your support can help

Teens, Inc. wants to maintain services at no cost to kids. With 71% coming from low to moderate income families, offering more teens jobs and providing more families free counseling rank as high priorities. The "Unmasked" drama troupe would love to have a stage, and the two old vans used to transport kids are in dire need of repair.

It's easy to help...

VISIT www.cgbouldercounty.org
CALL 720-565-3898
MAIL the enclosed donation form

Teens Inc.
PO Box 1070
Nederland CO 80466
303.258.3821
Alisa Musser, Executive Director
Voices For Children

Terrified, confused about what she’s done to make her daddy so red in the face, and sorry . . . oh so sorry . . . whatever it was she did, the little girl cowers in the corner waiting for the first blow. Just one of the hundreds of Boulder County children abused or neglected each year, she knows she must deserve it. She’s a bad girl.

Living in utter filth, his mother hooked on drugs and his father disabled, the ten-year-old boy finds nothing better to do than to set small fires. Neighbors find him wandering outdoors at 3 a.m. His parents don’t seem to care.

When the staff and volunteers at Voices For Children encounter such tragedies, they know what to do. With a well trained and deeply committed cadre of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), they respond quickly when a court appointed attorney asks them to work with the most severe cases. CASAs’ top priorities: spending time with the child, cultivating trust, and providing valuable information and a voice for the young victim in court proceedings. The ultimate goal is a safe, permanent home where the child can thrive.

Knowing how abuse and neglect often are transmitted through generations, the CASA may support the parents once the child experiences some stability and consistency. As role models, CASAs show parents how to nurture and how to gain access to low-cost resources.

While the people at Voices For Children focus largely on intervention, they also attend to prevention. That’s why they created the “Growing Your Child” program. By sharing information about infant and child development, they guide families toward building a caring, loving, stimulating home environment.

With all their hard work and dedication, maybe someday Voices For Children will put themselves out of business. We can only hope so.
How your support can help

CASA volunteers look for small victories like a child’s timid smile. But VFC keeps aiming for the great victory—eliminating child abuse and neglect. Funding to recruit volunteers, update the 40-hour training, expand the prevention program, and support special enrichment activities for individual children will bring that victory closer.

It’s easy to help...

VISIT www.cfgbouldercounty.org
CALL 720-565-3898
MAIL the enclosed donation form

Voices for Children
2305 Canyon, Suite 101
Boulder CO 80302
303.440.7059
Marsha Caplan, Executive Director
You can help teenage girls build courage and confidence in the wilderness.

Anna claims she never would have survived her freshman year of high school without The Women's Wilderness Institute.
Research points to the tendency of girls to lose their confidence and sense of self when they become teens. For girls like Anna, successfully negotiating the challenges of contemporary female adolescence means finding ways to be strong, bold, and “real.” Anna’s grateful that TWWI’s wilderness and community-based programs offer 12 to 17-year-old girls a way to build courage, confidence, and leadership in a fun, challenging, “girl-positive” environment during these crucial teenage years.

Radiating enthusiasm, Anna explains how TWWI has helped her know and accept herself, form strong, long-lasting bonds with other teenage girls, and find capable, caring adult women mentors. One of the 56% of participants on full or partial scholarship, Anna reveals in her newfound self-confidence, sense of purpose, and ability to take action.

TWWI offers a core eight-day wilderness program open to all girls, as well as a course that helps Latina girls build confidence and cultural pride. A 12-day leadership program develops skills in girls with demonstrated leadership potential. And TWWI’s programs don’t end there. Follow-up community service projects and monthly activities help girls foster the positive relationships they’ve built.

The vibrant people behind this program view the wilderness not as a testing ground, but as a place that nourishes girls’ relationships with themselves, others, and nature. Whether backpacking, rock climbing, or setting up camp, the girls expand their confidence and capabilities, reflect on how the experiences relate to their daily lives, and develop deep respect for the wilderness.

So what do these girls gain? They learn to move safely, confidently, and comfortably in the wilderness. Set appropriate boundaries. Make self-affirming decisions. Feel good about their bodies. Take appropriate risks. Work through conflict. They learn that, in the context of their young lives, courage is all about being “real” in relationships, speaking up for their values and beliefs, and stretching themselves far beyond what they previously had believed possible.
Special Thanks

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- Daily Camera

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- photography: Jon Hatch
- writing: Mary Hale, Hale & Associates Communication Consultants
- web design: Ann Dixon, Bolderwomen

Selection Criteria

To be considered for inclusion in the Catalog, organizations must meet the following criteria:
- be located and provide services within Boulder County
- have their own 501(c)(3) tax exempt status
- operate within an annual budget between $25,000 and $1 million
- not be part of a national organization
- have no paid, full-time fundraiser or development officer on staff

Non-profits were selected from numerous applicants following a rigorous evaluation by the selection committee.
The Catalog for Giving
Boulder County
A Project of The Community Foundation

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