The Catalog for Giving Boulder County

Second Edition

A project of The Community Foundation
The Catalog for Giving® is based on an idea by Emily Soell.

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The Catalog for Giving

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Dear Friends,

We are delighted to share the following stories about youth and families overcoming enormous obstacles — abuse, neglect, poverty, violence, racism and more. We believe that some of the best and most innovative solutions to the complex difficulties facing youth today are found in our own local organizations. This Catalog was conceived to give you a glimpse of the important services of 11 such nonprofits in Boulder County, all working to help kids grow, develop, learn and thrive in our community. We hope the Catalog will open doors of opportunity for these grassroots groups, and that you will join us in supporting their work.

For this second edition, members of our local community convened to evaluate an array of applicants. The profiles that follow describe the everyday stories of the 11 youth organizations chosen for their outstanding work dedicated to promoting healthy, strong, educated kids. A wholly pro-bono design team, coupled with financial support from The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County and the Brett Family Foundation, means that each dollar you contribute goes directly to the organization(s) you choose to support. We hope to help you get to know a nonprofit that may be new to you, or to shed light on an issue impacting kids in our community, to inspire giving — so all our kids grow up to reach their dreams.

Thank you for reading on. These stories paint a picture of hope for the future. Through the work of these Boulder County nonprofits, and that of many others, we can all make a difference in the lives of children throughout Boulder County. Take a look. Choose one. Choose more. But, please, give to those organizations that speak to your head and shout to your heart.

Peggy Driscoll
Executive Director
Brett Family Foundation

Morgan Rodgers
Programs Director
The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County

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

The Catalog for Giving is about what you can do.

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Alternatives For Youth

“Some of the roughest kids finished first.”

Better to assume they’re smart, than judge them just because they don’t always stay in their seats when doing math at Homework Heroes or elsewhere.

“How do you tell kids, ‘No, you can’t go?’” when 79 line up for a trip to the zoo — instead of the expected 60.

Better to fill the bus and pack some last-minute PB&J sandwiches for the ones whose parents hadn’t made it to the store, or couldn’t afford it. Better to squeeze in and explain than to isolate and complain.

“Why are you being mean this summer?”

When kids ask this, Crystal, who used to take summer field trips and now leads them, explains that she’s helping younger kids “learn how to control their behavior,” instead of having some adult control it for them. Better to plant seeds of responsibility than those of resentment and doubt.

“It’s OK to be smart.”

Luis, 17, grew up in the Celebrando la Familia program. Now he works here. He carries a new cell phone — and a sense of pride. He pushes kids to learn about “other people around them.” To learn it’s OK to ask for help. Better to put out a “positive vibe” than let your talents go to waste.

Sometimes, the kids do it themselves. They have to. A floor below, in the stark, glass-and-brick building behind the auto-repair shop, some three dozen kids — about 70 percent of those expelled from St. Vrain Valley schools — begin to understand the message often repeated at Clearview Educational Center: “You’re responsible for you.”

“There’s still good in these kids. If we throw them out, we’re making criminals. We’re making what we fear,” says Clearview’s Amy Jenkins.

That future criminal might have been one 17-year-old, who more than once was caught with drug paraphernalia. The second time was after he’d picked up a middle-school friend. When police pulled the car over, his marijuana habit and BB gun were enough to get him booted from public school.

He says he’s almost achieved his goal of giving up smoking — pot — completely. He knows upon “reentry” into public school he’ll face harsher deadlines than the self-paced academic goals he’s set in the last few months. He knows one of the toughest tests he’ll face is the “eye test” from the principal or school cop, when they check to see if he’s high.

He knows they’ll look in his eyes, but see into his soul. That’s why he works hard each day at Clearview’s alternative education program.

Better to let the school cop stare you in the face than find yourself staring down the wrong end of a gun. Or be unable to look at yourself in the mirror.
Boulder County Partners

The 13-year-old with straw-colored hair and topaz-blue eyes quietly talks of “special places” they’ve gone and “new experiences” they’ve shared – like working horses in a dusty corral on a rise near the eastern edges of Boulder.

Like lunch at Old Chicago, or a trip to Rocky Mountain National Park. Maybe a hike on a warm, moonlit night, or a good book read together on a cold, dark one.

“Because Linda’s not my mom, it’s just different,” the young girl says, gently.

Like many of the 125 or so kids in the Boulder County Partners youth mentoring program, she’s been through “rough patches,” according to the staff here.


Abuse in all its forms.

So “junior partners,” kids, spend time with “senior partners” – adults who commit about three hours a week for a year.

Together, they do things many families take for granted: Like a trip to the movies, or maybe trying to catch one of six spirited horses – many themselves former victims of abuse, neglect and other troubles – playfully cavorting inside a pine-rail pen on a hot summer day.

Amanda says outings like this have helped her overcome her depression. Try accomplishing that alone when you’re 14. With divorced parents. When half the family now lives nearer to Rodeo Drive than some makeshift Colorado rodeo.

But with help from Michelle, a carefully matched adult partner, even rough patches get a little easier.


After two and a half years as partners, when they stand together, the manner is easy. The space Amanda and Michelle share, even among 1,000-pound mustangs, is comfortable. They talk. Their shoulders support one another. You know, like two horses nipping at the same tuft of grass – half leaning, half supporting. Both stronger for that moment in time.

Trainers say horses reflect their handlers’ feelings. Rusty, the horse they’ve roped and are casually walking, can sense the bond.

He can feel the commitment. This partnership works.

Meanwhile, Singapore, a gentlemanly horse with a straw-colored mane, is within earshot as Linda describes a goal she and her partner have set for two years out.

“We’re going to drive to California so she can see the ocean,” Linda says, as her young partner’s blue eyes sparkle.

Except for the wind, you can almost hear two sun-baked horses think it: Howdy, partner.

“In a crowded room, you’re not going to be able to tell the at-risk kid from the not-at-risk kid.”

– Comment from a Boulder County Partners staff member
Boulder Day Nursery

Her mom's the bank teller who says "Hi," when you cash your check.

His dad is the quiet guy who bags your groceries while you swipe your credit card.

My mom works at the university, where she helps kids about 10 times older than me. My name's Aidyn. I'm two. Most of the time, it's just me and my mom, though I really like it when Grandma visits, like she does in the summer sometimes.

I like my teachers here. And all the different kids, too – even those itty bitty ones that don't talk. They're not big like me. I can talk. I like trains. I like books.

I wish I could go fishin' with Grandma more, but Isabelle gives me a hug sometimes. She's here everyday. She's been coming here since about 13 years before I was born. I learned that number, 13, and nine, 10, 11, 12 and some others here at Boulder Day Nursery. Isabelle talks mostly Spanish.

Amber, she's one of the big people teaching me, says that Isabelle is a volunteer grandma.

I like Isabelle. I like Amber, too.

Sometimes they make me smile then check my teeth. Sometimes they play sounds and make us listen. I like to listen. The lady that helps is nice. She said they are screening. Some of the babies screen sometimes, too.

I like trains. I learned to share my trains here.

My mom says I learned how to put my shoes in my cubby here. I do that at home now, too. My mom doesn't even ask me. She has her own cubby at home.

That's my mom over there. She's wearing a purple dress. She likes turtles. We have a ginny pig here. I like ginny pigs. Some of the bigger kids – they're like five – are learning to spell and count and read. They said how to spell guinea pyg.

I heard Steve, he's the director here, tell someone the median income of families here is $22,000. That's a lot of money, especially in Boulder...

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The Counseling Center

Somewhere in the community there’s a child who would cry if she saw the royal blue “betta” ripping into the beautiful feather-like fins of its teal-green mate. Or maybe this day the green one is doing the damage.

Two beautiful creatures tearing each other apart is a tragedy — especially to a young child.

But in this same community, there’s a child who’s seen similar vicious behavior at home, in the grocery store or maybe at the park, where she was meeting mommy for lunch.

They “can’t be in the same tank with one another or they wouldn’t be around,” says Connie Antonelli, director of the Safe Exchange Program at The Counseling Center.

She spoke of five bettas — fighting fish is a more common name — that greet visitors to the program, which provides a safe, supervised place for separated or divorced parents to drop off children to former, or potentially former, mates.

Wiseely, the pretty fish swim in separate spaces. Not always true for parents, so a “transition” window between one parent’s departure and the next’s arrival helps ensure “high-conflict” situations don’t develop.

Lots of “last straws” can trigger “nasty” aggression: how the kids are dressed, a stereo that was never returned, a girlfriend in an ex’s car as the kids arrive. Sometimes it’s a one-time thing.

Sometimes it’s a lifetime thing.

Scary part is, some kids begin to learn it’s a normal thing.

Sometimes it takes time to realize that economic stresses, job losses, substance dependencies or long-ago traumas contribute to the “bad behavior” kids or adults face everyday.

It also often takes help to change such behavior, so The Counseling Center provides for safe exchanges as well as counseling, therapy and psycho-education for individuals, couples, families, young children and adolescents.

Last year, about 850 people took advantage of its sliding-scale fee schedule, which means on average clients pay just $9.40 per session. Some pay far less, some a bit more — as their means allow. None are turned away if they ask for help.

Sometimes therapists use play therapy, often over a six-month period, to “reparent” a traumatized child who has developed a slightly skewed version of “normal.”

“I’ll be in the corner playing. When I say I’m hungry, ignore me,” might be how a 4-year-old directs a therapist during the re-creation of life at home.

But somewhere into the 25 or so sessions, the child changes the scenario “so they get what they need.” Maybe food. Maybe a quiet spot for homework. Maybe a bedtime story with mom or dad that amounts to “the child getting their full attention.” Maybe a chance to see the pretty fish and the people who “create hope that things can be better.”
Kids Connections

Envision being alone. Alone in a dark room. Completely dark. Blacker than the starless nights that scared you as a kid. A place filled with more uncertainty than the colorless depths of a vast, cold lake.

Think about a book of matches in the room. A flashlight on the table. A light switch on the wall. Right next to you.

Consider feeling so overwhelmed or unprepared or breathless that finding the matches or flashlight — never mind the light switch — seems impossible.

Imagine feeling “something just isn’t right” with your child, a dear friend’s daughter or a sister’s son. Imagine knowing, minutes after childbirth, that something’s wrong. Imagine knowing, months after hearing someone tell you, “It’s OK, he’ll grow out of it,” that he hasn’t.

But, unless you have a child with any one of a thousand potentially devastating conditions, don’t try to imagine the moment you hear the diagnosis. You can’t.

“It just altered my life. It was quite difficult,” said Pamela, who Kids Connections has helped connect with equipment, funding, therapists, seminars and other resources to support Cody, her 3-year-old son, who has been diagnosed with a form of cerebral palsy.

Now imagine a whole platoon of spotlight-toting guides who know “almost any family has a different system” of social workers, teachers, doctors, hospitals, therapists, school districts, insurance companies and psychologists to work with and piles of paperwork to understand, if it’s even written in a language you’ve mastered.

Kids Connections is the light-carrying, connection-making platoon that ensures infants and toddlers with special needs, and their parents, have access to resources — from legal rights to equipment to medical and other professionals. And more.

“We help families get (to) the right folks,” in the words of one worker.

This organization knows what the paperwork means. What the law says. What rights your child has. Who the experts are. Which doctors are experienced. How bills get paid.

One baby may need a specialized oxygen machine. They know where it is. A toddler may need a series of vision, hearing or motor evaluations. They know who does them, and when they should be done.

Children with developmental disabilities and their parents have legal rights. Kids Connections helps parents understand those rights and shape them into a plan that supports the child’s health, learning and developmental needs, among other things.

Service coordinators identify choices. They empower parents. They collaborate with and receive referrals from pediatricians, hospitals, social workers, childcare providers, friends, family, teachers, therapists and just about anyone who touches a child’s life.

Kids Connections makes sure the lights are on — so parents can find what their kids need.

Imagine knowing, months after hearing someone tell you, “It’s OK, he’ll grow out of it,” that he hasn’t.
New Horizons Cooperative Preschool

If ever in need of the definition of diversity, don’t bother reaching for a dictionary. Instead, travel to a place founded in the wake of Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination.

A place where 4-year-old Daniel, new to Boulder from Russia, ended up speaking more Spanish than English for a time. A place where, Nicole, the English-speaking, blond daughter of a stay-at-home mom plays under the cottonwoods while mom cleans up after other monolingual kids – who just happen to speak a different language.

A place where Justice has found a home.

While her mom tries to put feelings into words, 4-year-old Justice slowly, deliberately picks her way over the leaves and rocks, careful not to drop her bowl of cake.

“The love. The patience and the love around here,” makes New Horizons Cooperative Preschool special to Jannie and her daughter Justice, an African-American child with Down syndrome.

Meanwhile, 3-year-old Crystal — “La reina del cumpleaños,” or birthday queen, in the words of a longtime staff member – contemplates a question while turning her potato chips into Dracula-like fangs.

“Pulcera,” Crystal says in Spanish. She likes to make bracelets, like the one she’s wearing, as she plays and learns English from classmates and others. Her 24-year-old father, Juan, sitting in the shade of a pint-sized log cabin with 2-month-old son Luis Angel, says Crystal is always happy after school.

Happy kids playing and learning, together. That’s what the school is about, and it shows.

Much like the words on this page, the mix of races, ethnicities, cultures and incomes is conscious, and has been since 1968. And, of the 60 kids in three classes at New Horizons, more than 50 percent receive tuition assistance. Some parents pay as little as $5 each month; some about half of full tuition, which is about $55 per day.

All parents fulfill various jobs, from carpenter to grant-writer to snack coordinator, as part of the school’s cooperative nature. Board members reflect the multicultural and bilingual, English-Spanish, environment, and kids and parents, alike, seem to thrive in a place where “people who are different – in any way – feel comfortable.”

“We represent ‘humaness’ in all its forms,” says Ardie Dickson, the school’s director.

“You’re likely to see someone who looks like everyone in your family.

— A longtime staff member, reflecting upon the children who play and learn at New Horizons Cooperative Preschool.
Project YES

It takes some gumption for a teen, or a few of them, to unveil a public art project, like the Scent Stations — areas that attract and identify wildlife — at the outdoor classroom behind Lafayette’s Pioneer Elementary, or the 7- by 60-foot mural unveiled under a hot July sun at Centaurus High School.

So here you learn to take the stage with a city council member, the fire chief or, maybe, a famous artist who just improved your brush strokes with a tip or two.

“They really see themselves as community leaders,” notes a staff member.

When you’re new to the community and can’t call too many people friends, it takes some courage to ask for help with your homework from another kid, especially when she doesn’t look like you. It also takes a place to go after school, like the Youth Center.

But it takes brainpower, and some heavy-duty research, to understand how food, or the lack of it, affects kids trying to do their homework or parents working long hours, as everyone seems to do these days.

Sometimes, it takes a little extra paint, too.

“It just kind of expressed that sugar energy,” laughed Sukey Austin, a program manager, recalling a service-learning project that kids from Project YES — that’s Youth Envisioning Social change — did for Community Food Share’s Longmont warehouse.

After painting cow-spotted banners to identify the Dairy section and creating a bright, mega-carrot sign to hang above the Vegetables area, youthful energy resulted in a candy-bar laden banner for the Fats & Sweets section.

They painted it twice, reflecting their natural interest in the subject, or maybe a little sugar rush from the “primary” research they had done. Why rely on the work of some academic, when you can do it yourselves?

Perhaps more than sugar, it’s a natural curiosity about the environment that leads to the red fox sign Eugene made for the scent garden or a sense of style, color and human kindness that led Felicia to create a purple flower with yellow petals on a mosaic tile adorning a Lafayette playground designed for wheelchair users.

“You’re doing something that has to be done … (and) you can help out,” said 13-year-old Marissa, summarizing the importance of the community-focused art, learning and service projects she and nearly 550 other kids, ages 11 to 19, undertook last year.

“Leadership at Project YES is when diverse groups work together as a team to empower people and help them make better choices in their lives, so the world will be a better place.”

— Definition of leadership on a banner hanging in the Youth Center.
TEENS Inc.

THEN. Then was a long time ago, she says, her dark brown eyes nearly as piercing as the tiny, crystal blue stud she wears on the left side of her nose.
Then was a confusing time.
There wasn’t much to do in the tiny foothills town overlooking a crystal blue body of water. Had she been able to pile them, end to end starting at the depths of the lake, her thoughts and feelings may not even have broken the surface.
She knows now, at 20, that you start by talking. But, then?
You start by finding a place where you are offered conversation. Where you aren’t judged. Where you can talk about things you hate. Where the mere mention of drugs or alcohol doesn’t shut things down. Where, when you run screaming from your house because you can’t take being there anymore, you can wear baggy jeans with ragged cuffs. Where black shirts, black stockings, black skirts, and maybe a temporarily black attitude, mix nicely with White Sox caps and more energy than Red Bull ever provided. Where smiles develop over time, as you grow.
So you come here. To Boyfriend Central, if that’s what you need to talk about today. Or maybe the topic is that summer job in the outdoors that keeps you grounded – and funded – for another year at school. Or even a summer field trip to a hot amusement park in a city that must feel a million miles away in the dead of a small town winter.
Then she was 13 and trying to make her own fun. You know the kind. The kind of fun that makes “people think ‘unsightly things’ about teenagers.”

Then she was 13 and trying to make her own fun. You know the kind. The kind of fun that makes “people think ‘unsightly things’ about teenagers.”

How your support can help

TEENS Inc. serves more than 500 teens each year, and a similar number of younger children — and each of their families. From toddlers to teens, it provides community-focused fun and programming.
The annual leadership retreat costs about $5,000 for 20 teens, with many more planning to go. Think about it. $250 may make the difference between a leader and a lifer.

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Voices For Children

Being chauffeured between a foster home and a “supervised visit” with a parent gives some kids a chance to tell Court Appointed Special Advocates, CASAs, in the Voices For Children program about the complexities of their lives.

So does going out for an ice cream or going to a ball game.

“Kids talk in cars. When they are not looking at you, they tell you so much,” says one longtime advocate.

Sometimes those casual conversations are not easy to hear. Stories of physical abuse. The party habits of drug-addicted parents. Violence at home. Other signs that a child’s “best interests,” or perhaps needs as basic as safe shelter and food, are not being met.

Strip away the language and the point is clear: The child’s health, well-being or life may be in jeopardy.

So CASAs – 98 at last count, assigned to one case at a time – listen to the kids. They talk with parents. They observe court-ordered visitations. They report the results.

The goal is to reintegrate a child “in the system” with a healthy future.

Highly trained, CASAs evolve from folks who get involved because they care about kids to expert witnesses, who sometimes testify in court on a child’s behalf. They work closely with guardians ad litem, GALs – lawyers who represent the kids.

“GALs and CASAs are critical . . . in that they can perform investigations and make observations outside the courtroom that are invaluable to the courts,” noted Judge Roxanne Bailin of the 20th Judicial District. She added that the “desire to make children safe” is the cornerstone of everyone’s efforts.

As a team, CASAs and GALs become life preservers that buoy the child through a sea of legal issues, social-service investigations, hearings, foster placements and health and mental-health considerations.

Sometimes they help parents find a bus. A way to get mom or dad to a visit tomorrow. Sometimes they help parents find the door. A way to get the child to tomorrow.

Volunteering as a child’s advocate is tough work, sometimes defined by the small smile of a frightened child; more often defined by the bond that smile represents.

Remember the job: “Caring about kids and wanting the best things to happen for kids in bad circumstances.”

It's possible, even easy, to think of “mailbox tackling” as a team sport of sorts. A way to kill some time, have some laughs with friends. And, unless you happen to be a mailbox, no victim, right?

Possible until you understand the owners of that pseudo tackling dummy may have survived the Holocaust. Possible until you learn they may feel, like many crime victims, that they are being targeted. Again.

Possible until you understand what managers at the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, VORP, call the “cascading effect” of your actions—like an avalanche of faces expressing the kind of horror you can’t describe. Memories and faces that didn’t used to come when an elderly couple walked to the mailbox.

“Good kids, well-spoken kids” make “really ridiculous decisions” sometimes, says Nickie Kelly, who’s seen her share of pranks gone horribly bad.

The meaning of ridiculous, of course, is found in the eye of the beholder. When kids, generally ages 12 to 18, look into the eyes of their victims, a whole new meaning of their actions is carved out.

“Pain. I think that was my predominant emotion,” said the mother of a 16-year-old victim of harassment.

The action was a series of vulgar messages directed first at a child, then at his parent. The result was emotional chaos that shook child, parent and family to its core.

A VORP mediation settled some of the puzzlement and hurt for the victims. It brought the callers together with their targets.

Perhaps only then, in a small room with the vile, taped message playing, did the callers begin to understand the anguish they had caused.

It was written onto a mother’s face then, and remains in her voice now.

The idea is to move people involved with a crime to the forefront, instead of masking them behind “an offense against the state.”

“(Restorative justice) looks at crime as harm to relationships in the community,” noted Anne Brubacher, VORP’s program coordinator.

After a few years looking into the eyes of offenders as well as victims, she understands: Crime, in all its forms, offends people.

It destroys much more than a mailbox or a peaceful evening at home.

Crime destroys relationships.

In 2002, 72 cases were referred to the program by juvenile justice authorities as well as schools. Sometimes even victims call.

The pace continues to grow, so it’s likely that more than 150 kids will be involved by the end of 2003.

So VORP mediators, 25 volunteers in all, carefully help rebuild bonds between people in our community.

Victims. Offenders. Maybe they never knew each other before, but they will never forget each other now.
The Women’s Wilderness Institute

The next time a good friend tells you to take a hike, or maybe a flying leap, stop and ask if she means one organized by The Women’s Wilderness Institute.

If so, her advice — and maybe your relationship with her, yourself or even nature itself — may take on a whole new meaning. Because if your friend has been here before, she may have discovered the rush that comes from cresting a mountain to see “lakes and wildflowers and stuff.” Her reward? “…I felt alive every day.”

And envisioned new vistas in life.

She may have stepped backward off a 40-foot cliff, more or less on the advice of others, thinking she was “very not ready to do it.” Her reward? “…I walked back up to the top and did it again.”

And carried newfound confidence up the trail.

Your friend may even have trudged, freezing, through knee-deep snow in June, all the way thinking, “I really want to go home.” Her reward? “We set up tents, boiled some snow and made ramen noodles.”

And shared the warmth with friends.

The leaders of The Women’s Wilderness Institute are passionate about relationships, accomplishments and the outdoors, so they organize backwoods adventures, like backpacking, camping and extended wilderness expeditions, for about 130 girls each year.

The girls, ages 12 to 17, come to understand that they are physically and emotionally capable of achieving great things, both on their own and with the help of others. They learn that courage, self-expression and competence are things strong young women find inside themselves, not along mountain trails.

In the words of one participant, it’s not about “what you look like, what you’re wearing” or whether you’re the “most popular.” It’s about being real.

It’s about girls becoming women. And relationships. And confidence.

“It was like, ‘Wow! I did that,’” said Abby, an east county teen, who participated in her first wilderness expedition after some encouragement from mom.

Of course, mom hadn’t prepared her for a late-June blizzard, so her program leaders did. They encouraged her to keep going. To reach a summit. To pitch a tent. To boil some snow. To share a meal.

They encouraged her to challenge herself to do more than she ever thought she could, to find strength within herself and strength within her group of companions.

Her reward? Knowing “I don’t need anyone else to make me happy.”

And that will warm the soul in any weather.

“I trusted … that she knew what she was talking about.”

— Alana, a 15-year-old who took a hike in the wild — and then some — on the advice of a friend.
Past participants (appearing in the First Edition)

Boulder Early Childhood Connections (now Kids Connections)
Boulder County Partners
Boulder Day Nursery
Boulder Prep High School
Colorado Therapeutic Riding Center
Colorado Youth Program
Institute for African American Leadership
OUR Child Care Center
Parenting Place
TEENS Inc.
Voices For Children
The Women’s Wilderness Institute

Selection criteria
To be considered for inclusion in the Catalog for Giving, 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

Nonprofits were selected from numerous applications following a rigorous evaluation by the selection committee.

Special thanks
Linda Shoemaker and the Brett Family Foundation
Josie Heath and the Community Foundation
ALTERNATIVES FOR YOUTH offers academic assistance, counseling, service learning, enrichment activities and life skills training as well as training to help parents communicate effectively with their children, teachers and others.

BOULDER COUNTY PARTNERS, through one-to-one mentoring, makes a difference in the lives of at-risk young people by helping them develop positive self-images, a sense of belonging and an acceptance of responsibility.

BOULDER DAY NURSERY provides high quality childcare, an early learning program and family services, primarily for low-income families who live and work in Boulder. It also serves children with developmental challenges and behavioral issues, sometimes as the "school of last resort.”

THE COUNSELING CENTER provides early intervention counseling, education and referral services for individuals, couples, families, adolescents and children regardless of their ability to pay. It also provides other services, including a safe site where parents or others can transfer children without violence or hostility.

KIDS CONNECTIONS helps families access the wide network of services available to support the healthy development of infants and toddlers with special needs.

NEW HORIZONS COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL provides a multicultural learning environment that is developmentally appropriate, experientially grounded and child-centered, in a place where children are given time to explore their own interests.

TEENS INC. empowers youth to have a voice in its community. It helps build positive relationships between teens, their families and their community by providing education, a nurturing environment and recreational opportunities as well as youth employment options and a safe, drug-free place to socialize.

VOICES FOR CHILDREN trains volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates, CASAs, to provide support, advocacy, investigation and monitoring to child victims of abuse or neglect.

VDRP – The Victim Offender Reconciliation Program of Boulder County is a community-based mediation and education program serving the victims of crime and offenders of the law.

PROJECT YES provides free after-school and summer programs for youth, developing leadership skills through the arts and service learning.

THE WOMEN’S WILDERNESS INSTITUTE is dedicated to strengthening the courage, confidence and leadership qualities of girls and women, through the challenge and support of group wilderness and community-based experiences.
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