From the Desk of Josie Heath

I can’t count how many times a day I pick up my phone and say “OK, Google” to search for directions, the weather forecast, or some other nugget of information.

Our reliance on technology is only increasing, and I often ponder who makes it work. Who is designing the systems to make information available at our fingertips? Who ensures our questions can be answered on demand, day or night, wherever we are?

Google, a company now celebrating a decade in Boulder, certainly plays a major role, as do other tech companies - many right here in Boulder County. Indeed, there’s no doubt that we have a lot of talented folks here - but many of them moved here from somewhere else, were educated in another state, and acquired their creative and technology skills elsewhere, too.

That brings up a question: what are we doing to grow our own crop of innovators and entrepreneurs? Read Josie’s full note.

Leadership Fellows Spotlight: Manuela Stewart Silfuentes

Manuela Stewart Silfuentes is a woman on the go. She’s Executive Director of the Latinx Task Force of Boulder County and at the helm of the countywide One Action 2016: Arts + Immigration Project, working to open conversations about immigration issues through the arts.

“Arts + Immigration is a collaboration among the cultural arts, immigration services, and educational organizations,” explains Manuela, a 37, who recently completed the Leadership Fellows program. Read full story.

Our day at the Capitol and the Ralph L. Carr Justice Center

On Feb 25, Leadership Fellows, donors, trustees, staff and other friends of The Community Foundation spent an informative day touring the State Capitol and the new (since 2012) headquarters of Colorado’s court system. We invite you to increase our Facebook, photo viewers of the day.

Our group of 40 or so engaged participants began the day at the Newscastle, golden-domed Colorado State Capitol, one of the prominent features in Denver’s skyline. There, participants enjoyed Q&A with Sen. Rollie Heath, Rep. Mike Foote and Rep. Dickey Lee Hullinghon, Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives.

Another highlight of the day was meeting Justice Monica Márquez, the first Latina and first openly gay person to serve on the Colorado Supreme Court...and her youngest masabote.

Bravo BRAVO Fund

Arte de Conocer (“Art of the Heart”) raised more than $4,200 for The Community Foundation’s BRAVO Fund, focused on improving the quality of life for Latino communities throughout Boulder County. Featured artworks on display at the Katz Carol and Phoebe Wurzbach Studio in Longmont - created by Marcelo Fernandez - attracted record-breaking attendance. Read full story and how low-income arts events funded that.

Members of BRAVO’s advisory committee were joined by County Commissioner, Deb Gardner during The Community Foundation’s February edition of “A Public Affair” on KDVR: I learn here.

Money skills for generous kids

It’s never too early to start learning about money - and giving.

That’s a key takeaway from a recent lunchbox - hosted by the Community Foundation and sponsored by JPMorgan Chase - that focused on philanthropy, families and "financially fit” kids.

“The broader context is how to successfully develop the next generation of leaders in your own family,” says Robin Conlin, Vice President, JPMorgan Chase. “When we think about wealth, the question then is to promote their kids to make smart decisions about money and giving back?” Read full story.

Make a gift to The Community Foundation today!