Reflections On A First 100 Days:

Hirotaka, CEO

Dear Friends,

Immediately after the Board of Trustees hired me to lead the Community Foundation Boulder County, I began to hear some version of the question: “What is your vision for the foundation?”

My first response is the foundation belongs to all of us - everyone who calls Boulder County home. Therefore, to begin, I’m listening to you. And it’s my privilege and responsibility to continue the foundation’s work: catalyze our community by responding to immediate needs, anticipating future challenges, and helping us all make informed decisions.

I also understand that “What’s your vision?” is another way of asking, “Who are you?”, “What can we expect from you?”, and “How will your leadership influence the work of our foundation?”

In reply - having completed my first 100 days as CEO of the foundation - I’d like to share with you what I’ve heard and learned so far, and what I’m still learning.

Read Jeff’s letter.

On Our Blog: Grantee Spotlights

Dental Aid, Inc.

“We need to think about people in our community who are working very hard, but who don’t have a list of disposable income for dental or medical insurance. It’s the person who is a restaurant cook, or the person who’s removing snow from our parking lots. They’re all living paycheck to paycheck. We’re trying to make things a little easier for people, and to keep them free of pain and infections.”

—Dennis Lewis, President and CEO

Boulder County Health Improvement Collaborative

“Boulder County is home to 76,000 people who are publicly insured, or who remain uninsured - and our estimated 70 percent of these are unable to access medically necessary specialty care. Our hope is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and accessibility of healthcare and public health services for all community members.”

—Morgan Mckinlay, BHIC Director

Community Cycles

“We provide the bridge - the knowledge and the understanding - for people who maybe don’t ride so much now, but who may become people who ride all the time.”

—Lucy Kranz, Executive Director

Cal-Wood

“Recently, the mother of one of our Latino campers really summed up what we’ve all been about. She said, ‘My family has participated in other outdoor programs. There are no barriers to participating in your activities. After 35 years providing environmental education in a special mountain setting, that’s exactly what we want to hear.’”

—Rafael Salgado, Executive Director

Association For Community Living

“Our mission is to promote awareness - that people included with developmental disabilities are an integral part of community life. It’s our goal to help break down the silos that exist within systems, and to support individuals and families in creating their own good life.”

—Alisa Wronnick, Executive Director

Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Rocky Mountain Butterfly Consortium

Thorne Nature Experience, and Cottonwood Institute

Environmental education and protection is a proverbial marathon - not a sprint. We spoke to a few of our grantees about their purpose and priorities in shifting perceptions over the long term toward better guarding and appreciating Boulder County enviros, and beyond.
On Our Blog: Donor & Planned Giving Spotlights

Donor-Advised
Fundholders: Making a Statement

"We used to write a lot of checks to lots of different organizations we believe in. The Foundation helped us realize we could make more of an impact by investing fewer - but larger - grants. Now, I feel like we're reducing overhead and really making a statement in how we support environmental causes, and how we help vulnerable people, especially in light of changing government policies."
-Paulaletta Middleton & Dave Renne

Planned Giving: Judy Snyder

"I had been commuting 64 miles a day, which left little time to explore my own community. I figured the Community Foundation was a good way to learn about Boulder and Boulder County. Now, I have a heart with the Community Foundation."

Planned Giving: Dee & Scott Andrews

"This is home, and it always will be. So, we wanted to make sure that our giving would achieve the greatest possible philanthropic impact in the community we love. That led us to join the Legacy Society by designating a portion of our estate to the foundation."

Many Hellos And Many Goodbyes!

We're pleased to announce that Carmen Ramirez has begun her service as Chair of our Board of Trustees, and that Leslie Allen is Vice Chair. At the same time, we welcome four new trustees: Sue Anderson, Josh Foreman, Cindy Lindsey, and Jim Williams III. Learn more about our new trustees. Earlier this month Sandy Bracken, John Creighton, Chris Hazlett, and Kathy Leonard completed their board terms. We extend our gratitude to all!

Heartly thanks also to Morgan McMillan whose last day, after 16 years with the Community Foundation Boulder County, is today. Morgan has provided incredible leadership through her work on our TRENDS Report, Leadership Fellows program, Boulder County Health Information Collaborative (BCHIC), Pledge 18 Colorado, and more. Morgan will continue to manage BCHIC, as a consultant to the foundation.

Welcome to Matt Zwiebel, new Director of Pledge 18 Colorado. Matt comes to the foundation from the startup world. Matt, we’re excited to make learn how to “play ping pong while holding a beer” from you!

Advocacy Updates

Johnson Amendment

The foundation has chosen to support the continuation of the Johnson Amendment. The amendment ensures that organizations such as ours - that claim tax-exempt status - cannot collect contributions on behalf of political campaigns, or make any statement for or against a particular candidate. More

Colorado Endowment Funds Tax Credit

We have joined other Colorado institutions urging the Colorado General Assembly to support SB 17-287 to create a Colorado Endowment Funds Tax Credit. More

Spotlights & Announcements

A Public Affair on KGNU "Boulder County Housing" This month's show was a discussion about what's happening in the county's housing market... and the ripple effects of the high cost of living here. Our own Elvis Ramos was joined by DB Wilson (RE/MAX of Boulder) and Marta Loachamin (IRA Tradewind Real Estate, Longmont).

On the fourth Monday of every month, the Community Foundation hosts "A Public Affair" on KGNU Radio (88.5 FM). Our radio show is one of the ways in which we listen to our community, and stay informed about issues and opportunities in Boulder County.

Are You 70.5 Or Older?

Thanks to the permanent passage of IRA Charitable Rollover Legislation, donors age 70.5 and older can transfer up to $100K from their IRAs to the Community Foundation, as a tax-free lifetime gift. More

Listen
Open Door Fund Gala Success

On April 8, our Open Door Fund, co-chaired by Amy Tuckerman (left) and Keith Ellis (right), hosted its 20th Gala. Thanks to everyone who attended, the event raised more than $170,000 for the Open Door Fund Endowment.

Kate Nondell (center) from the National Center for Lesbian Rights was the Guest Speaker. David Ernst (second from left) and Marjorie Moore (second from right) were our honored Change Makers 2017.

Recognizing Innovation & Celebrating Impact in Our Community

Pledge 1% Colorado, Techstars, Foundry Group, and the Community Foundation Boulder County are excited to host an inaugural Pledge 1% Pitch Contest as a part of Boulder Startup Week.

The Pitch Contest, through an interactive and fun event, seeks to recognize and support entrepreneurial and innovative nonprofits ideas to solve pressing problems and critical issues facing Boulder County. $10K will be awarded to the winner selected by a panel of judges and audience votes.

Join us to support local nonprofits that will present their programs on stage at the Boulder Theater. Throughout the night we’ll be highlighting inspirational stories of how startups are positively impacting community.

Interested in having a table or stage time at the Open House? Please fill out this form and we’ll get back to you if selected.

Tentative Agenda:
6:30pm - Doors Open, 7:00pm - Show Starts

The Pitch Contest is free and open to the community. Registration is required - you may register here.

Boulder Startup Week is an independent, free, five day event that celebrates the unique community in Boulder, Colorado. Boulder Startup Week is heading into its 7th year! As the original Startup Week, we set the tone for how startup communities come together to build the next great things. We have 200 events that are free and open to the amazing community. See the full event schedule and register to attend here.

2017 Statement Of Affirmation

The Community Foundation Boulder County is committed to being a community catalyst for good, alongside donors and partners like you. We believe our community is stronger when all people - women and men, children, older adults, immigrants, people of color, GLBTQ individuals, those with varying abilities and from all faiths - are respected, welcomed, and invited to share their assets and contributions in community building.

We stand with others, in Boulder County and beyond, who courageously strive to build more inclusive communities rather than walls of division. We remain wholeheartedly committed to social justice for our most marginalized and vulnerable people and for the core of threatened environments. We believe in the power of art and music to improve our lives and community. Now, more than ever, we seek opportunities for local action and invite you to join our ongoing leadership work that includes grantmaking, outreach, and advocacy. We accomplish more together than we do alone.

Surveying The Field

- Times eyes cap: charitable deductions (April 19, The Hill)
- Rapier Dations. Is Your Nonprofit Ready for this New Trend(April 12, Wired Impact)
- Secular, Religous Nonprofits Petition To Save Johnson Amendment (April 5, The Nonprofit Times)
- Changing the Political Landscape (April 6, Philanthropy News Digest)
- Never Say Die: How State Health Funders Are Defending Obamacare (April 5, Inside Philanthropy)
- When to Speak Out: Three Questions Foundations Might Consider (March 29, Community Wealth Partners)