

# Round Up

September 2020



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
BOULDER COUNTY

INSPIRING IDEAS. IGNITING ACTION.®

## Census 2020: Supporting outreach to hard-to-count populations [Watch](#)

## Recent Grants

[Community Trust 1](#)

[Open Door Fund](#)



## Message from Sue Anderson, Chair

2020. It's been quite a year, and it's far from over. COVID-19 has changed so much for so many.

Climate chaos surrounds us with wildfires, hurricanes, and drought—all more severe than ever. Protests in the streets are calling out the inequities of our systems, the racism in our institutions, and divisions in our communities. Political uncertainties and threats to democracy are unprecedented. The loss of iconic leaders such as John Lewis and Ruth Bader Ginsburg has made it all more poignant.

We've had a busy year at Community Foundation Boulder County - one that we could not have imagine...[read Sue's full message](#)

## Be a 15 Forever Youth Leader

[Learn more and apply before December 4.](#)

## Covering equity-oriented issues in-depth

[Announcing TRENDS Reporting Fellows](#)

## Join a festive Halloween evening to celebrate and support Boulder County's LGBTQ communities.

[GAYLA tickets are on sale!](#)



[Spotlight: Rise Against Suicide](#)

[Spotlight: Cultivate](#)

[Wildfires: Where to Donate](#)

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[News from the Field](#)

**Environmental Affinity Group Field Trips inspire the promise of regenerative agriculture**



organized three field trips in September. Participants learned about the science of healthy soil in drawing down carbon, fighting climate change, improving biodiversity and pollinator habitats, and increasing the nutritional value of our food. Participants also had the opportunity to connect with other donors who are engaged and learning about our local environment. Hear directly from participants, below, and visit us on social media for related photos and upcoming videos.

### **Field Trip #1:**

**Contributed by Robyn Landry and Gerhard Assenmacher:**

On September 9, my husband and I (along with a small group of other friends of Community Foundation Boulder County) took a tour of Jack's Solar Gardens off N. 95th Street in Longmont. Byron Kominek, the owner and manager, is creating a 1.2 MW community solar garden – enough to power over 300 homes and to provide nutritional food to the community, as well as educational opportunities to all ages. Beneath the solar panels, he will grow vegetables in healthy soils. It is a family-owned social enterprise. We were absolutely amazed at the size, creativity, and ingenuity of this project, especially for the space that is available. Byron also created an ecosystem of berries, native plants, and beehives. It's an agrivoltaic solar garden – the first in the United States! We were so inspired that the next day...[read Robyn's full blog](#)

### **Field Trip #2**

**Contributed by Heidi and Steve Todd:**

On September 10, Steve and I participated in the Community Foundation's Environmental Affinity Group field trip to two of Boulder County's Regenerative Agriculture farms. While we were aware that organic and regenerative agriculture are developing in the area, walking the gardens, and petting the pigs made it real! I was particularly impressed with the depth of knowledge and commitment displayed by Alice Starek of Golden Hoof farm and Andre Houssney of Jacobs Spring farm. These are not hobby farms, and the complexities are daunting! Now I better understand the challenges in fostering a network of interconnected biological systems inherent in regenerative agriculture. They are not only raising animals and plants for market but also doing so in a manner which restores degraded soils and habitats, improves our regional ecosystem, provides healthy local food, and models a more sustainable kind of agriculture. The important interaction of animals and plants in this dynamic was another surprise. Now I've seen for myself...[read Heidi's full blog](#).

### **Field Trip #3**

**Contributed by Dita Hutchinson:**

Community Foundation Boulder County's regenerative agriculture field trip to Fair Farm with Walt Pounds and Phil Taylor last week was such a joyful and nourishing departure from the very troubling day-to-day world we all inhabit right now. It felt so healing to gather in our (masked & socially distanced) small group on Walt's fields amidst hundreds of his happy chickens roaming freely all around us. On our tour, we got to see and hold precious 1-day old chicks and collect eggs from the roosting pens. Phil talked about regenerative agriculture from his heart – he is clearly so passionate about the importance of this “virtuous flywheel” which results in one farmer at a time finding true happiness in their passionate work that builds healthy and sustainable communities in which we can all flourish. As a group, we brainstormed ways...[read Dita's full blog and David Carpenter's blog](#)