Dear friends,

As 2021 draws to a close, we find ourselves facing another crisis in Denver in what, at times, has seemed like a never-ending wave of anxiety. Yet, despite the trials our community has endured over the last 20 months, I have been reminded how fortunate we are at the community foundation to everyday get to see the best in people. We have the honor of seeing your generosity, your helpfulness and collective care for our community. Whether you are a donor, a fundholder, a partner organization, or any other stakeholder or leader in our community, we see how, in the face of overwhelming challenges, you rise to the occasion.

We have witnessed financial generosity as well as generosity of spirit. Neighbors gave their time to inform funding decisions in our community, volunteered at vaccine clinics, made artwork, and paid their respects in honor of the lives taken from us this year. And this week, our hearts are with our friends in Denver, suffering a loss we know all too well. This is the ninth mass shooting in the Denver metro region this year alone, and I hope in 2022 we are ready to have an open and frank discussion about the root causes of violence in our communities.

In 2022, your community foundation will continue to respond to crises as needed and we are also working hard to make long-term improvements needed to best support all members of our community. Donor Advised Fund Holders can expect to see an upgrade to the donor portal later in the year. We will work to expand our support of the nonprofit community—through convenings, information sharing, and thought leadership. At our grantees’ request, we’ll be working throughout the year to make changes to our grantmaking programs for 2023. As we have throughout our 30-year history, we remain steadfast in our commitment to serving the needs of Boulder County while striving to improve our efforts in doing so.

The strength of any community foundation lies in its ability to engage and understand the needs of the community. These enhancements are a response to what we have heard from you through deep community engagement in 2021. We will continue to listen, evolve, and respond. And hope to continue demonstrating that, together, we can weather any storm.

This month, we welcome a new staff person and thank two others who are off to new adventures. Eric Cade Schoenborn will join the foundation in January as the new Vice President of Engagement. Eric joins us with extensive experience leading nonprofit and foundation communications efforts. His work at the ACLU, Knight Foundation, and as a consultant have helped usher numerous nonprofits into the digital age. An interactive and visual storyteller, Eric will bring new approaches to support our mission and the entire nonprofit community. Welcome, Eric!

Lynda Ricketson will join Dental Lifeline Network, a nonprofit organization that nationally provides
access to dental care and education for people who cannot afford it, as their CEO in January 2022. As Vice President of Philanthropic Services for the past three and half years, Lynda has served CFBC’s mission with grace, leading our development efforts, and helping to grow our assets by approximately $20 million. Lynda’s expertise in community foundations and complex gifts has been invaluable. Her kind, donor-centric approach will continue to be meaningful to any effort she puts her energy towards.

Lisa Moreno will join Boulder County as its new Behavioral Health Strategic Planner where she will spearhead a community-engaged effort to develop a comprehensive approach to behavioral health provision in Boulder County. As Vice President of Programs for the past two and half years, Lisa has served our mission with passion and persistence, leading our ongoing grantmaking efforts as well as three disaster relief funds. Her thoughtful approach and keen understanding of systems have been great assets to the foundation and will be a great asset for the County as well.

We invite you to join us as we thank Lisa and Lynda for their service on Wednesday, January 5th from 4 – 6 pm on the foundation patio.

Warmly,
Tatiana Hernandez

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Next Steps for ARPA Federal Funds and the Second Phase of Community Engagement and Planning Process Announced

Working groups will be comprised of community members, nonprofit leaders, policy experts and county leadership and staff with expertise in the focus areas. The process will include a forum of national experts and an ideas symposium, and draw from thought-leaders and best practices to create opportunities for transformative solutions for a stronger, more equitable Boulder County.

The focus areas are based on insights and ideas collected from residents of Boulder County in the first phase of the process. “The participation of Boulder County residents has been invaluable as we gain insights to understand how residents have been most affected by the pandemic and how we can co-design solutions. I deeply appreciate the community partners who worked through 2021 to co-create the Phase I community engagement process and continue to lead the ARPA Community Steering Committee,” said Commissioner Marta Loachamin. A report on outcomes from phase one can be found on the ARPA website at boco.org/arpa.

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Josie Heath Honored in "Great Colorado Women" Film Series

Rocky Mountain Public Broadcasting in partnership with the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame announces 2022 Film Series
The story of former Community Foundation Boulder County President Josie Heath will be the first film of the series. It will air Thursday January 13 at 7 pm on Channel 6. Former Community Foundation board chair and trustee, Jane McConnell will also be featured in the film.

Other films in the series will feature Rachel Noel, Education Advocate, Frances Wisebart Jacobs, United Way founder, Mary Coyle Chase, author and Joy Burns, philanthropist.

For more information, visit the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame>

Boulder County will allocate up to $405,000 for Sustainable Food and Agriculture Fund

Taken from Boulder County news release.

Boulder County, CO —Boulder County’s Office of Sustainability, Climate Action & Resilience invites farmers, agricultural producers, the private sector, and non-profit organizations to apply for funding to accelerate and launch environmental sustainability projects that benefit Boulder County’s food system.

Pending Boulder County Commissioner formal board approval of the 2022 budget, $405,000 has been set aside for sustainability-focused initiatives that address the priority needs of local farmers and agricultural producers.

Please see details about applying here, deadline is Jan. 5, 2022.

Important Thing to Keep in Mind for Year-End Giving

Community Foundation Boulder County appreciates your support! Gifts received or postmarked by December 31 will be credited to the 2021 calendar year. If your contribution is made later in December, you may not receive your acknowledgment letter until January 2022.

You can make your year-end gift through our online donation page.

In Case You Missed It

Here are some of this month’s headlines from your Community Foundation and other local news outlets.

KGNU’s "A Public Affair": A Conversation About Climate Initiatives in Boulder County
BROADWAY WORLD: Stories On Stage and Buntport Theater Company Present High School Confidential
DAILY CAMERA: Colorado Gives Day keeps arts nonprofits thriving in the face of pandemic setbacks
TRENDS DIARY: Working to Show the Importance of the Arts in Boulder

Was this newsletter forwarded by a friend? Sign up to receive it monthly in your inbox.

Make a Gift You Can See. Donate today to Community Foundation Boulder County, and make a gift with an impact you can see in our community.

commfound.org