

Round Up

February 2021

Hello and welcome to this month's Round Up from Community Foundation Boulder County. In this edition:

Our CEO reflects on what we've learned as we collectively hike out of the pandemic;

An artist confronts white supremacy on Boulder's Pearl Street Mall;

We unveil a new leadership award honoring the legacy of Nino Gallo;

We announce our 15 Forever Request for Proposals;

We explain the competitive advantage of opening a donor-advised fund at your Community Foundation;

We share our latest radio show, TRENDS Podcast, TRENDS Diary, and other timely news you may have missed.

Plus, join NAACP Boulder County and other partners for a [celebration of Black History month](#), today through Saturday, with a community panel tonight looking at Boulder's history of racial exclusion, a viewing and talkback of "Black Panther" on Friday, and a Black history celebration on Saturday.



Hiking back out to the trailhead

What have we seen and what is coming into view?

Dear friends,

In just a few weeks we will be passing the disturbing milestone of a full year since the start of the pandemic and our physical distancing. For some, this year has been difficult but not for lack of basic necessities. For others, this year has been wrought with concerns over housing, food, access to healthcare and much more. While the arrival of a vaccine may have turned us around

on this in/out hike, we still have a way to go.

As many of us know, an in/out hike can feel shorter on the return. Let's hope that is true for the pandemic as well. From this new perspective we can ask ourselves, what have we seen and what is coming into view? What is tangible that was abstract before?

In addition to the ongoing trauma of the pandemic, our community experienced another trauma – that of the fires that raged across our region last fall. While we are on the “out” part of that hike as well, there is also still a long way to go to restoring the thousands of acres burned, ensuring our watersheds are healthy, and mitigating any future devastating effects, like that of a flood.

Our team was offered a first-hand view of the damage by our friends at Cal-wood. We caravanned through the property (in the motorized version of an in/out hike pictured above) and got a sense of the magnitude of the damage.

In a word: overwhelming.

The fire burned fast and quick – in some cases charring trees without destroying them, in other cases, due to an accumulation of duff, the fire smoldered near root systems and burned trees from the inside out. While we are extremely fortunate to not have experienced the kind of loss our neighbors to the north and west experienced, these events are yet another reminder that we are deeply interconnected. Our community's health and safety is linked with others as well as with one another.

So, as we continue our march towards the trailhead, stay vigilant. What we do individually can and does save lives. What we do collectively will continue to set our trajectory into the future.

Warmly,

Tatiana Hernandez, CEO

Supremacy on Pearl Street

An artist's reflection on confronting hate

Dear TRENDS Diary -

Part of building an equitable future is getting comfortable with being uncomfortable.

Recently, a mural I was commissioned to paint on the Pearl Street Mall was defaced with white supremacist language:

“White Pride,” it read, among other provocations.

The tagging was random.

My mural on three Jersey barriers at 9th and Pearl streets had nothing to do with race. In fact, they are intended to be playful reminders to inspire health and wellbeing. They encouraged people to “Call your friends,” “Wear a mask” and “Wash your hands.”

The city, in collaboration with Street Wise Arts, has been wonderful to deal with, hiring me again after it happened, to come up and repair my mural. You wouldn't know it happened now, unless you saw it. Unless you heard me or someone speak out.

I'm conflicted as to what to say. Yet, I feel the need to say something. Confronting hate and bias is exhausting, physically and emotionally. I'm speaking up because there are so many instances of this sort of thing that I can look back on in my life, where I didn't speak up. Those experiences still poke at me. When they accumulate, each one starts to hurt a little bit more. They take my energy. They are senseless and I have no power over them.

I have come to learn that there was a racial equity plan laid out by the Boulder City Council at the same time this random act was inflicted on my work. It felt like a familiar, “one step forward, two steps back” moment.

People do not want to feel unsafe in their communities. They don't want to be uncomfortable. I think people are quick to assume these things don't happen in their community, or they've progressed beyond this way of thinking. However, if those ideas are not challenged, then there is no growth.

Despite this random act, it was a pleasure adding to the landscape of your vibrant community.

On my final day, a young person and their parent walked by. “I've never seen an artist in real life!” they exclaimed.

That joy and excitement is the future we are all working for.

- Alexandria Jimenez

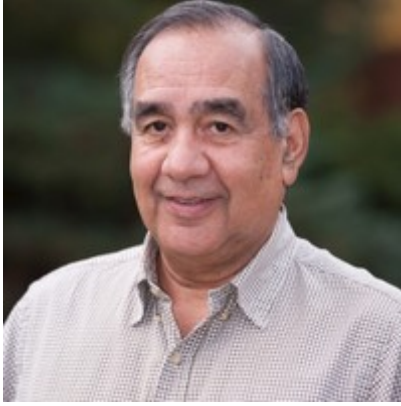
TRENDS Diary is a place for Boulder County residents of all ages to share personal experiences that relate to a pressing community need. **Share your story today!** It could wind up on KGNU's airwaves.



New leadership award to honor Nino Gallo

Donations welcomed

A new leadership award at your Community Foundation will recognize outstanding local leaders who embody the characteristics of Nino Gallo. Donations in support of the award are encouraged.



The award will advance Nino’s legacy, including his innovative work on behalf of immigrants and the economically-disadvantaged that shaped community engagement efforts, programs and policies throughout Boulder and Broomfield counties. The native of Chile passed away on Dec. 1 of COVID-19.

Bob Norris, an environmental scientist and activist, has generously offered a 1:1 match of up to \$10K in support of this award. For all who knew Nino, or were inspired by his exemplary leadership, please donate to the [Nino Gallo Leadership Award Fund](#).

“As immigrants, we have big dreams and many obstacles along the way,” says Norma Fuentes, Nino's widow and program director at [Intercambio Uniting Communities](#), a [grantee](#) of your Community Foundation. “However, with perseverance, hard work and dedication, Nino taught us that we can create opportunities to be the best versions of ourselves – while simultaneously helping our community.

“Nino left a blueprint for people of all ages to believe in themselves and – most importantly – to feel proud to be an immigrant in this country. This award will allow Nino's passion, dedication and vision to continue living.”

According to Norma, “Nino’s name will resonate and carry on to future generations. Through this award, we hope that immigrants and descendants of immigrants can see themselves through Nino's life work because – as we know – representation is power.”

The new award will be conferred through the [Leadership Fellows](#) program. Nino, Norma, and their daughter Adriana are all Fellows alumni. The inaugural community recipient will be selected and announced in the course of the 2021-2022 fellowship year.

Questions? Contact Lynda Ricketson, Philanthropic Services, at lynda@commfound.org, 720.667.3557.

15 Forever announces request for proposals

Applications open starting March 1

Boulder County nonprofits addressing food insecurity and gender-based violence education are invited to apply for funding from the Community Foundation's 15 Forever Fund, starting March 1.



This year's 15 Forever Youth Advisory Committee chose food insecurity after determining this often unnoticed dynamic plays a big role in the lives of youth. They chose gender-based violence education after identifying a need for greater understanding of how to recognize the root causes and signs of this violence, how to intervene, and how to find help.

15 Forever was established by your Community Foundation in 2006 to promote civic engagement, philanthropy, and leadership among Boulder County youth. Since then, this youth-driven program has granted more than \$200K.

Today, 15 Forever is a collaboration with YouthRoots, a national youth philanthropy organization that teaches high school students how to make the world a better place, while developing their leadership and life skills.

The Community Foundation Boulder County will open its 15 Forever Request for Proposals [here](#) from March 1 through April 1. Grantees will be announced in late April.



Donor-advised funds: The community foundation advantage

Some Washington lawmakers have proposed changing U.S. tax laws to require donor-advised funds (DAFs) to grant at least 10% of their corpus annually, according to the Council on Foundations. This would not impact most fundholders at Community Foundation Boulder County, where payout

rates already average closer to 20%.

"Donor-Advised Funds allow donors to make a charitable contribution, receive an immediate tax benefit, and then recommend grants from the fund over time," says Lynda Ricketson, Vice President of Philanthropic Services.

But all DAFs are not created equal. There are notable differences between establishing a Donor-Advised Fund at Community Foundation Boulder County, or with a commercial provider.

"Donors who establish a DAF at the Community Foundation realize the same practical, financial, and tax benefits as those who work with Schwab, Fidelity Charitable, or other providers," explains Lynda. "You can contribute cash or appreciated non-cash assets and securities to eliminate possible capital gains taxes, you can give whenever it's convenient for you, and you can manage your giving online...all with the oversight of your own professional advisor if you wish."

Additionally, community foundations are more experienced in managing DAFs than commercial foundations. "Community Foundations were made for times like these, and DAF fees we earn help fund everything from [our coordinated COVID response to fire relief](#)," says Lynda. "Plus, we're able to provide a far more personalized approach to help donors achieve their charitable goals." ... [View the full story here](#).

For more information and to create a Donor-Advised Fund, [contact Philanthropic Services](#).

In Case You Missed It

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

"A Public Affair" on KGNU: [New national study explores Boulder County's local news and information ecosystem](#)

Donor Spotlight: [Local high school student councils donate to Fires Relief Fund](#)

Nonprofit Spotlight: [YWCA Boulder County hosted this webinar on closing our wide gender pay gap](#)

TRENDS Podcast: [Does everyone have equal access to the Coronavirus vaccine?](#)

TRENDS Diary: [Library maker space fosters self-sufficiency; Local graphic artist creates Inaugural invitation for Biden](#)

Daily Camera: [Terry Benjamin remembered for long career with EFAA](#)

Boulder Beat: [Local Gov't 101: Who you gonna call? Also available in Spanish with Community Foundation support.](#)

Boulder Beat: [Working outside the system, providers offer glimpse into needs of unhoused](#)

ReFUND CO: [Give back and make a difference \(The Community Foundation's registration number is 20033007753\)](#)

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