

Round Up

March 2021

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

Our CEO reflects on the fallout from the Boulder supermarket shooting;

We update you on \$1M raised for the Boulder County Crisis Fund, and how it will be spent;

We invite you to attend a new book series called TRENDS Dialogues;

We announce a new series on Boulder County's underhoused residents, in partnership with Boulder Beat and KGNU;

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

Plus, join us for two virtual panels this week focused on diversity, equity and inclusion. Norma Johnson and Maya Sol will lead "**Palabras & Circulos: On Bias, Privilege & Power**," tomorrow, April 1, from 2:30 to 5 p.m. The event is part of a series of virtual trainings about inclusive leadership for nonprofit leaders, presented by alumni of Leadership Fellows Boulder County.

Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement (HOPE for Longmont) on Friday, April 2, will host "**The Imperative of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**," a virtual panel featuring Boulder County Commissioner Marta Loachamin, NAACP Boulder County Branch President Annett James and Community Foundation CEO Tatiana Hernandez.



Leaning into love

We will get through this together

Dear friends,

Earlier this month, I expected this message would speak to the 550,000 people we've lost to COVID this year. I was reminded of the song "**Seasons of Love**" from the play Rent and how there are 525,600 minutes in a year. The correlation of lives lost to minutes felt poignant and unimaginable.

I expected to touch on vaccine equity and distribution and the challenges faced by our healthcare system, healthcare providers, and community partners as they sprint towards a finish line that continues to be elusive. Those challenges still exist, and your community foundation is working to support these efforts as part of our **COVID-19 Response Fund**.

On Monday, March 22, I received a text at 3:00 pm that read, "Active shooter in Boulder?" I read it with both alarm and disbelief. As if it said, "Is that even possible?"

In an instant we were reminded: expectations are an illusion.

We watched in horror as the tragedy of that afternoon unfolded. We checked in on loved ones, reached out to neighbors, and struggled to find words to express the magnitude of our pain. We held victims and their families in our hearts, heard and felt the fear and trauma of survivors, and looked for ways to be of service. The Mister Rogers in all of us came alive as we began to both BE and look for the helpers.

The Community Foundation launched its **Boulder County Crisis Fund** the following morning. It is an effort, in partnership with the Colorado Healing Fund, the Colorado Organization for Victims Assistance, and others to address the needs of victims, families, those directly affected, and our entire community. We have received an outpouring of love and support from near and far. Our community, true to form, came together, this time in a tearful embrace.

As we process our grief, look for answers, and jump to act so that something so awful never happens again, I am

reminded of [The Starfish Story](#) (an adaptation of "The Star Thrower" by Loren C. Eiseley). I both appreciate and am frustrated by this metaphor. As someone who grew up in Miami, when one dolphin beaches itself, we ask, "What's wrong with the dolphin?" When dozens or hundreds beach themselves, we ask, "What's wrong with the water?"

Ten cherished friends and neighbors were taken from us last week. Our entire community is suffering a collective trauma. Healing will take time. Healing is non-linear. Everything you are feeling is okay. You are not alone. Our pain is a testament to the love we have for each other and our community. We will get through this, stronger and likely changed forever, but we will get through this together. We are Boulder County. I believe in us.

In Greek, philanthropy means, "the love of humanity." Thank you for continuing to trust us with your philanthropy, your love, as we steward it to those who need it most.

Warmly,

Tatiana Hernandez, CEO

More than \$1M raised for Boulder County Crisis Fund

More than 9K donors have supported those impacted by the Boulder supermarket shooting

Donors have responded in droves to The Community Foundation's Boulder County Crisis Fund since it opened the day after the supermarket shooting. Thank you to the more than 9,300 donors who had already donated more than \$1 million to the fund as of March 30.

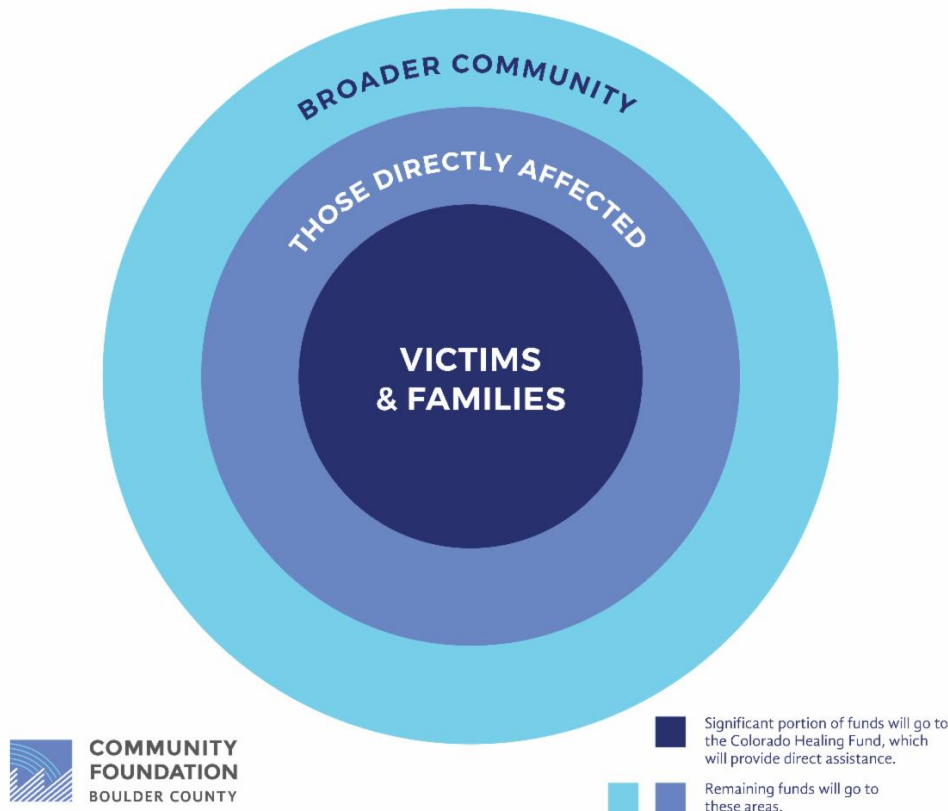
[Donate to the fund.](#)

The Boulder County Crisis Fund will support victims, their families, and our community in dealing with and processing these devastating events, in partnership with the Colorado Healing Fund.

To respond effectively and holistically to this crisis, we will ensure support reaches the following three concentric circles of proximity:



BOULDER COUNTY CRISIS FUND: WHERE YOUR GIFT GOES



Circle 1 – Victims & families: Colorado Organization for Victim's Assistance (COVA) is meeting the needs of those in this circle via direct support to individuals. Colorado Healing Fund and the Boulder County Crisis Fund will send support to COVA for these efforts. Community Foundation Boulder County will not provide direct assistance to individuals.

Circle 2 – Those directly affected: COVA is also meeting the needs of those in this circle via direct support to individuals. Colorado Healing Fund and the Boulder County Crisis Fund will send support to COVA for these efforts. The definition of who is eligible for such assistance is determined based on needs assessed by COVA. Boulder County Crisis Fund will also assist people in this circle by way of grants to local entities providing direct services. We will continue to work together to clarify these supports as the response continues.

Circle 3 – Broader community: Our community has immediate and long-term needs to heal from this event. Boulder County Crisis Fund will support the community's healing via grants and open funding opportunities to and for local nonprofits and government entities.

Community Foundation Boulder County has been your trusted philanthropic partner for thirty years. We earn that trust every day by approaching our work with equity, transparency, and integrity.

We do not do this work alone. The Boulder County Crisis Fund is supported by Community First Foundation, The Denver Foundation, Longmont Community Foundation, Rose Community Foundation, an anonymous family foundation, and many others in our community.

We work with our faith community (Boulder Mennonite Church, Community Church of Lyons, Congregation Bonai Shalom, Congregation Har Hashem, First Congregational Church, First UMC of Lafayette, Islamic Center of Boulder and Westview Church) to help heal our hearts and souls.

In our grief, let us also remember our resilience. We will get through this together.

Tax-deductible donations may be made here by credit card.

Checks made out to "Community Foundation Boulder County" with "Crisis Fund" in the memo line can be mailed to Community Foundation Boulder County, 1123 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302.

To make gifts of stock or inquire about other options, please contact Lynda Ricketson, Vice President of Philanthropic Services, at 720-667-3557.

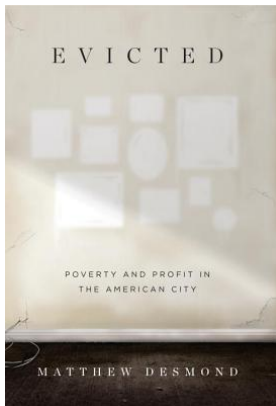
Credit card donations will be assessed a 2.5% processing fee by PayPal. Community Foundation Boulder County has waived all additional fees for this fund. By special agreement, funds transferred between the Boulder County Crisis Fund and the Colorado Healing Fund will not incur additional fees.

Other ways to support*:

- Our partnership with the **Colorado Healing Fund** ensures that funds will go directly to victims and their families.
- If you would like to support memorial services and the family of Officer Eric Talley, please direct your support to the **Colorado Fallen Hero Foundation**.

*It is possible that GoFundMe accounts will be established by members of our community. We encourage you to use caution when donating to individuals or organizations you do not know personally. The organizations listed here are in direct partnership with local and state partners and will work diligently and with integrity.

For more information, see these [Boulder County Crisis Resources](#), or [contact us](#).



New book series: TRENDS Dialogues

*Join us May 13 to discuss *Evicted* with EFAA's Julie Van Domelen*

Community Foundation Boulder County invites you to join TRENDS Dialogues, where we will explore timely themes through books and conversation. The series is free and open to all, excluding the cost of the book.

Our focus during the month of April and May is housing, especially as it relates to race and class in America. The featured book is *Evicted* by [Matthew Desmond](#), and the conversation on May 13, 2021 will be facilitated by [Julie Van Domelen, Executive Director of EFAA](#).

How to Participate

1. [Register on Eventbrite](#) to stay current on event announcements.
2. Locate a copy of *Evicted* at your local bookstore or library and begin reading.
3. Explore the additional resources on our [webpage](#) and in the [TRENDS Report](#).
4. Join us for a dialogue with Julie Van Domelen on May 13 about how the themes from *Evicted* play out locally. Zoom information will be provided to those who register on Eventbrite.

Happy reading!

Underhoused project to diagnose local "housing health"

[Submit your story today](#)

Local journalist Shay Castle – a participant in the Community Foundation's [TRENDS Reporting Fellowship program](#), in partnership with KGNU Community Radio and Home Wanted – is tackling Boulder County homelessness head-on.

Specifically, she's collecting stories from you and your neighbors about the challenges, opportunities, and shortcomings of the available homes in our community. By gathering stories of the "underhoused," Shay (pictured, at right) hopes to present a more accurate picture of housing health in Boulder County.



"The idea for this project originated when I was working for a local nonprofit," says Shay, creator of [Boulder Beat](#). "One of their board members made a comment about renters having a choice of where to live."

"As someone on the lower end of the economic spectrum, I know just how few choices you can have when you're trying to rent in a town as expensive as Boulder. That got me curious about what tradeoffs folks are making to try and live in Boulder County.

"Where do they have choice? Where do they not? What would this community look like if people actually got to live the way they wanted to – in the types of homes they wanted, with the people they chose, with costs they could actually afford?"

According to Boulder Beat, employment isn't just measured by employed or unemployed. There's also a measurement for the underemployed – that is, someone who is employed but working fewer hours than they would like and/or need to.

Housing access can be viewed similarly. There are many challenges that could qualify someone as underhoused, including:

- Paying more than 30% of your income toward housing costs
- A too-long commute
- Substandard health and safety because of an old building, mold, or pests
- Living with too many people or unable to live with your community
- Lack of access to the outdoors, culturally relevant businesses, or family members
- Physical accessibility barriers

What would it mean to you not only to have an affordable home, but one that also meets the needs of your family and aligns with your values? [Please consider sharing your story.](#)

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: [Child- and youth-friendly initiative inspires municipal leaders, educators, advocates](#)

In the News - [Coverage of helpful responses to the Boulder supermarket shooting](#)

TRENDS Podcast: [Coronavirus Vaccines - Voices from the Community](#)

TRENDS Diary: [Official gets creative in support for mountain businesses](#)

TRENDS Diary: [Nederland resident organizes neighbors to help neighbors](#)

Daily Camera Guest Opinion: [Systemic barriers explain COVID-19 gaps in Latino community](#)

Community Foundation Blog: [Free mental health support available for fire-impacted residents](#)

Community Foundation Blog: [Fires relief funding opportunity](#)

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