COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOULDER COUNTY

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MEDIA RELEASE

2018 Pat-on-the-Back Award and Stan Black Award Recipients Announced

Boulder County (June 19, 2018) – Every year, Community Foundation Boulder County presents two Community Leadership awards: the Pat-on-the-Back Award and the Stan Black Award. Today, the foundation announced Lynette Sipe as the recipient of its 2018 Pat-on-the-Back Award, and Marta Loachamin as the recipient of its 2018 Stan Black Award. Each honoree will receive $1K to be directed to a Boulder County nonprofit(s) of their choice.

Lynette Sipe
Pat-on-the-Back Award Recipient

The Pat-on-the-Back Award honors Patricia Ford Shoemaker (July 4, 1920–October 18, 1998), and recognizes other individuals who have given extraordinary – but often unsung – volunteer time in caring for the community. Shoemaker was a volunteer for Boulder Community Hospital for 28 years, and for 14 years she produced monthly original craft displays for the hospital, and made baby blankets and animal-shaped covers to place over the toes of children with casts on their feet. Her warmth and caring for others was a source of continual inspiration.

Like Shoemaker, Sipe has always believed in being involved in community. “Whatever it is that you give yourself to, it makes a whole person out of you,” says the longtime – 46 years! – volunteer of Coal Creek Meals on Wheels (CCMOW), which nominated her for the award. Sipes’ other volunteer activities have included working on the Colorado Trail, Eldershare, Community Food Share, Sister Carmen Community Center, the Denver Rescue Mission, numerous church activities, and more.

According to CCMOW Volunteer Coordinator Elaine Scanlon, Sipe first learned about Meals on Wheels when her church, First United Methodist Church of Lafayette, chose the organization as a mission project. Since then, just a few months after CCMOW started operations in 1972, “Lynette has done every job imaginable for Meals on Wheels, from bookkeeping and dishwashing to prepping and packing meals, to delivering meals and serving on the board – just to name a few,” says Scanlon.

"In addition to Meals on Wheels, Lynette has been a steadfast volunteer of our community throughout her life. Through the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Lions Club, she has donated countless hours, eschewing recognition." That said, Sipe is also a deserving recipient of the KMGH 7Everyday Hero award.

"Even though we struggled financially from time to time, there were always people to support us – and that's what Meals on Wheels does, too," continues Sipe, who was born in Auckland, New Zealand, in 1944, and has lived in Boulder County since 1954. In 10th grade, she got her first taste of volunteering as a candy striper at Boulder Community Hospital.

Sipe says she's done a lot of driving for her volunteer activities throughout the years, including delivering meals. According to her nomination, when her father died, she put her share of the inheritance toward gas, "as long as my share holds out."

Summarizes CCMOW President Maureen Kanwischer, "Lynette Sipe is an inspiration and embodies the very essence of Pat Shoemaker. She is an unsung hero who volunteers in whatever capacity is needed … she's committed to serving her community, and she does so with no expectation of recognition or praise."

Marta Loachamin
Stan Black Award Recipient

The Stan Black Award honors one of the founders of the Community Foundation. Now retired, Stan Black continues to actively participant in a number of causes – both in Boulder County and overseas. In addition to support from individual donors, sponsors of the award – which honors individuals who have shown a lifetime commitment to offering volunteer time, treasure, and talent in serving Boulder County nonprofits – include the law firm of Hutchinson, Black & Cook.

Marta Loachamin's nomination for this year's award describes her as someone who, like Stan Black, is "an amazing community asset with a diverse skills set" that she freely shares with her community. Indeed, as a Boulder County bilingual, bicultural REALTOR® with ERA Tradewind Real Estate, LLC, Loachamin has long lent her voice, experience, and expertise to various foundation initiatives – including regular contributions to our blog – and other community programs and activities.

Loachamin is active with the Hispanic Wealth Project in collaboration with the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP); through NAHREP, she's held numerous presentations and workshops, facilitated dialogues, and created a committee to promote closer collaboration with organizations like Junior Achievement. "For me, there's a connection between youth literacy, building stronger families, and having

success later on in life," says Loachamin. "It's so important for us to provide positive role models. For kids, you need to see it to be it."

Per Carmen Ramirez, a member of the Community Foundation's Board of Trustees, "Marta is able to assist both Spanish and English speakers, which is key to overcoming language barriers that can prevent people from developing skills, or accessing resources." Specifically, Loachamin teaches homeownership classes to adults, as well as business classes for young people in classrooms along the Front Range through her affiliation with NAHREP and Junior Achievement.

Loachamin has also volunteered for the City of Longmont's Resiliency for All initiative and Longmont StartUp Week, speaking about business to youths and adults, and "mentoring others to be resilient and develop strategic career goals." Additionally, she serves on the board of Longmont United Hospital, seeking to help ensure equity in a community hospital setting that reflects and represents the community it serves.

Continues Ramirez, "Marta is engaged in numerous projects that help people develop the capacity to improve their own quality of life – whether by educating people on homeownership, helping someone to strategize their next career move, or addressing social justices in our community.

"Marta's strength and compassion are gifts to our community."

Responds Loachamin, "The practice of giving back to my community is rooted in a sense of personal responsibility. My background is so varied across so many different types of sectors and walks of life, including the immigrant experience – and I understand how the worlds of finance and investments and property ownership can really change a family's life. That's why I'm compelled to share what I know with people who don't have related experience or education."

Thank you and congratulations, Marta and Lynette! *For more information about the awards and this year's award recipients, visit commfound.org/about/awards.*

Community Foundation Boulder County

For 27 years, Community Foundation Boulder County has been a community catalyst, responding to immediate needs and anticipating future challenges. Through informed decision-making, we inspire ideas, ignite action and mobilize resources to improve the quality of life for all. Advancing inclusivity and providing leadership and on key issues, the foundation collaborates with community-minded individuals and organizations that want to make a difference, accomplishing more together than we do alone. Since its founding in 1991, the foundation has granted more than $83M to nonprofits focused on health and human services, education, civic engagement, arts and culture, and animals and the environment. *commfound.org/news-media*

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