Newsletter

January 2021

BLOG

2020 Reflections

2020. A year none of us will forget. It was full of hard and unexpected things, but there was also beauty to be found. Wendy Banks and Ella Fahrlander, reflect on the year:

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2020 Reflections

Northern Colorado COVID-19 Response Fund: Thank You

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Collaboration
At the onset of a global pandemic – full of fear and the unknown – our community rallied. We learned that a pandemic is better when we work together and support each other. Creative public, private, and philanthropic partnerships became the norm rather than the exception.

Pivot
Word of the year. 2020 was a year of learning to be more flexible and less attached. Meetings once held in the office were suddenly sprinkled with dogs barking at delivery trucks, children popping through, and kitchen backdrops. Pivot is a word we hope to not use in 2021, though we now know just how adaptable we can be.

Appreciation
Our team learned an immeasurable amount about grace, for both ourselves and for each other. We often had to pick ourselves – and each other – up and move forward. We learned a lot about finding great appreciation – and fun – in unexpected ways, such as vehicle caravans celebrating birthdays, retirements, and graduations. Though we are re-acquainting ourselves with life’s simple pleasures, we sure miss – and appreciate – the restaurants and businesses that serve our communities so well!

Connection
It is easy to feel isolated in a “normal” world, and the events of 2020 magnified those feelings. The year became an active effort of finding ways to connect, whether it be via zoom high school graduations, virtual happy hours, or paint and sip Christmas parties.

Adaptability
Even the best-laid plans sometimes go wrong, and in 2020 most every plan changed. We adapted to new communication styles, technology tools, work environments, and ways to connect. Slowing down, thinking through challenges, and supporting others became more important than ever before.

Above all, what we learned at the Foundation is that we are better, happier, and more effective when we're working together as a team, even if it's from afar.

COVID-19 Donor Thank You Video
from Community Foundation of NoCo

Thank you donors and nonprofits

The Northern Colorado COVID-19 Response Fund – a partnership between the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado and United Way of Larimer County – raised over $1.27 million to respond to the impacts of the pandemic. These funds were used for 82 grants benefiting 61 nonprofits during 2020.
Together we launched this short video to recognize our generous donors and honor the work of nonprofits in Northern Colorado. We invite you to take a look.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
2021-2022 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

*Applications for 31 scholarships accepted until February 28*

The Foundation manages scholarships established by individuals, families, and community groups who want to assist today's students from Northern and Eastern Colorado achieve their goal of continued education. These scholarships are targeted by location, high school, field of study, and other criteria that reflect the donor's area of interest.

There are awards for those who may not fit the mold of the traditional college-bound student — and there are scholarships that only receive a few applicants — so we encourage students to apply. Whether schooling is online or in-person, scholarships are available to attend an accredited college, university, or vocational school.
The application process is simple. Students are invited to complete one general application at nocofoundation.org/scholarships that will automatically match them to the scholarship awards for which they qualify.

“A simple thank you is not enough to embody the immense gratitude I have for those who graciously and selflessly donated to support my education. I will forever be thankful for such a great opportunity.”

MaKayla McAllister
Fort Collins
Colorado State University
Class of 2024

Our Community

Frank served for over 20 years on the Foundation’s Estes Valley Community Fund Committee until his passing, and was a pillar of the Estes Park nonprofit community. He helped start the Estes Park Nonprofit Resource Center, The Restorative Justice Program, and the Estes Valley Crisis...
Advocates. He and his wife of 60 years, Donna, made compassionately serving others their hallmark.

**Community Resources for those affected by COVID-19**

Families and landlords: [Download](#) a summary of local resources for support with housing, food, and utilities.

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**BREAKING GOOD NEWS NOCO**

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LOVELAND YOUTH GARDNERS PREPARE UPCOMING PROGRAMMI...

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