



About Community First Foundation

Who We Are

Community First Foundation helps donors and nonprofits come together to improve quality of life in the Denver metro area. We use our resources to fund community programs, support the services of nonprofit organizations, and assist individuals with charitable giving. By monitoring the pulse of the community, we create new and innovative programs such as GivingFirst.org, an online giving resource, and Colorado Gives Day, an initiative that inspired Coloradans to donate more than \$8.4 million in one day last year. We've been serving the community since 1975.

Mission & Guiding Philosophy

Our mission is to improve quality of life by increasing community generosity and involvement. We are also guided by the philosophy called "The Nine Dimensions of Health and Well-Being," from our community-wide study showing that good health is more than the absence of disease. It encompasses aesthetic, economic, educational, emotional, environmental, occupational, physical, social and spiritual dimensions.

What We Do

We improve quality of life in the Denver area in three primary ways:

- *Supporting Donors.* We help generous individuals support charitable causes by matching their interests with nonprofits, providing guidance on planned giving, and managing charitable funds such as Donor Advised Funds.
- *Supporting Nonprofits.* We help local nonprofits thrive by stewarding funds and offering grants and programs that support their long-term health. We also invest in community programs that align with our mission.
- *Governing Exempla Healthcare.* Since 1997, we have co-sponsored Exempla Healthcare, a nonprofit health organization that manages three front range hospitals and a network of clinics with a mission to foster health and healing.

Signature Initiative & Programs

- *Nonprofit Preservation* is a unique initiative that focuses on the long-term health of Denver area nonprofits. Comprised of innovative programs, grants and opportunities, the initiative helps sustain the nonprofits for future generations.
- *Endowment management and support.* From 2004 – 2010, the Foundation has helped nearly 70 nonprofits establish endowments through Endowment Challenge Grants, a program of our Nonprofit Preservation initiative. Today, we continue to support the long-term health of nonprofits through endowment fund management, training and mentoring.
- *Online philanthropy.* **GivingFirst**, an online philanthropy program that centers on a website called GivingFirst.org, helps hundreds of local nonprofits attract donations by featuring in-depth profiles about their work. **Colorado Gives Day** is an initiative to increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving.

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Grants

- Colorado Gives Day 2011 resulted in \$12.4 million raised and \$12.8 million distributed to 928 Colorado nonprofits. The inaugural Colorado Gives Day 2010 resulted in \$8.4 million raised and \$8.7 million distributed to 529 nonprofits.
- In 2010, we awarded \$13.4 million in grants to support community health and well-being.
- Since our founding in 1975, we granted a total of \$54.7 million to the community through Dec. 31, 2010.
- Since the May 2007 inception of GivingFirst.org through December 2010, more than \$13.9 million has been processed through the site. In 2010 alone, more than \$11.2 million was raised, including Colorado Gives Day.
- From 2004 – 2010, we matched \$4.3 million on the dollars nonprofit organizations contributed to their endowments through our Endowment Challenge Grants program.

Our History

In 1975 we were founded as Lutheran Medical Center Foundation, serving as the fund-raising arm of the hospital. In 1997 we became a community foundation and then changed our name to LMC Community Foundation. In 2007 we changed our name to Community First Foundation to further reflect our Denver-wide community mission. Our initial corpus of \$300,000 surpassed \$53.4 million as of December 31, 2010.

Our Leadership

Stephanie Tuthill, Esq., Board Chair

Marla J. Williams, President and Chief Executive Officer

Cheryl Haggstrom, Executive Vice President

Kenneth R. Kirwin, Vice President of Finance

Contact Information

Community First Foundation

6870 W. 52nd Ave., Suite 103

Arvada, Co 80002

www.CommunityFirstFoundation.org

info@CommunityFirstFoundation.org

720.898.5900