Our Mission and Values

Rose Community Foundation works to enhance the quality of life of the Greater Denver community through its leadership, resources, traditions and values.

We value our Jewish heritage and our roots in Jewish traditions including charity, philanthropy and nondiscrimination.

We value excellence and uphold the highest standards in the pursuit of our mission.

We value the trust and respect of the community and continually strive to earn and sustain that trust by consistent and disciplined adherence to our mission.

Our Impact

Grantmaking: We make grants to nonprofit organizations and public institutions that are working to improve the quality of life in the Greater Denver area. Our grantmaking is focused in five areas: Aging, Child and Family Development, Education, Health and Jewish Life.

Philanthropic Services: We engage with donors to support and assist them in making thoughtful, strategic decisions to achieve their philanthropic goals.

Programs and Initiatives: We create and manage special programs and projects that further the goals of our grantmaking focus areas and the Foundation as a whole, often in collaboration with other funders.

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We thank all of our donors for their generous and thoughtful contributions. To see a list of 2012 donors, please visit RCFdenver.org/2012donors.htm.
Community and impact are terms we often use when describing our work, so it’s important that we explain what those words mean to us and how they shape and define what we do.

For Rose Community Foundation, community is more than our middle name and more than the geographic place where we operate. For us, community means the many people that we touch through our work in the Greater Denver area, as well as the variety of local and national partners, agencies, organizations, donors and other funders that together tie the diverse threads of our population into the fabric of society.

And our impact is much greater than our grants and distributions, which totaled $16.6 million in 2012. The ability and imperative to advance social change in the community through leading, convening, organizing, partnering, facilitating and focusing — in coordination with our grantmaking — defines the breadth of influence and problem-solving we can have in the communities we serve. For us, how we work is often as important as the work itself.

The founding trustees of Rose Community Foundation had a clear vision that we could empower positive, systemic change to strengthen the community by lowering barriers and increasing access for the people who need it most. Our values of social justice and nondiscrimination compel us to leave the community a better place than we found it. In this, the 17th year since our founding, we are successfully doing what we were created to do: leveraging a variety of tools and resources to improve the quality of life in Greater Denver.

Our influence in the community is also being expressed through our growing efforts to actively invite and engage donors — individuals, families, nonprofits, businesses, and local and national funders. We saw tremendous growth in these activities throughout 2012.

We know we cannot tell every Foundation success story of 2012 in this brief report. But we hope that by focusing on the way we approach our work and by highlighting a few of our grants, initiatives and donor collaborations, we’re providing insight into our ambitious mission and inviting you to join us.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Rose Community Foundation. We hope you’ll continue to follow our progress online at RCFdenver.org.
Leadership and the Community

“Rose Community Foundation has been a guiding influence for progress on early childhood education issues in Colorado. The Foundation’s impact is felt through their grants, their community leadership, their long-term perspective and their ability to bring other leaders and funders to the table to help solve our common challenges.”

– Lt. Governor Joe Garcia

Race to The Top Early Learning Challenge Fund

In 2012, Colorado was awarded $29.9 million in federal Race to the Top education funding to advance the state’s plans to improve school readiness. The grant will increase access to high-quality early learning programs and will help develop the capacity of those people, programs and places serving children with the highest needs. The grant will accelerate many of the statewide initiatives the Foundation had a role in developing. Rose Community Foundation provided funding to support the process for this successful proposal.

Health Care Public Policy

Rose Community Foundation continued its long-standing investments in public policy work to transform Colorado’s health systems with grants to several advocacy nonprofits, government agencies and the Colorado Health Institute. These organizations are closely involved in the Medicaid expansion discussions, development of Colorado’s health insurance exchange and other important health policy issues. Rose Community Foundation also hosted its first annual legislative reception as a chance for state policymakers in a nonpartisan setting.

The Birth to Five Policy Alliance

The Birth to Five Policy Alliance has set an ambitious goal to shift the odds so that the nation’s youngest, most vulnerable children grow up eager to learn and ready for success. The Alliance has pooled funds and support from seven high-profile national investors: the Buffett Early Childhood Fund, the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the JB and MK Pritzker Family Foundation, the George Kaiser Family Foundation, the Irving Harris Foundation and an anonymous donor. Because of its long history of success in addressing policy reform, Colorado was asked to become one of the focus states for the Alliance. A coordinated advocacy plan was needed from an engagement team that included Rose Community Foundation grantee, has become a nationally recognized expert on early childhood education (ECE) as well as the premier ECE training and research center in the state.

New Partnerships with National Funders: Birth to Five Policy Alliance

The Foundation has been working for more than seven years to improve Jewish early childhood education through the Jewish Early Childhood Education Initiative. Partners on this effort include Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, Colorado Agency for Jewish Education, Paul Gillis, The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation and others. The Initiative’s key outcomes are developing better teaching, better learning environments, better integration of Judaism into curricula and better connections between families and Jewish life.

Educator Effectiveness

A 2012 Rose Community Foundation grant to the Colorado Legacy Foundation (CLF) seeks to create statewide district support for the implementation of the new teacher evaluation law and the new Colorado academic standards. The phenomenal success of CLF is often linked to the initial local partners — including Rose Community Foundation — who were willing to invest in the public-private model that is now gaining nationwide attention.

Toward a Lifetime of Jewish Engagement

The Foundation has been working for more than seven years to improve Jewish early childhood education through the Jewish Early Childhood Education Initiative. Partners on this effort include Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado, Colorado Agency for Jewish Education, Paul Gillis, The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation and others. The Initiative’s key outcomes are developing better teaching, better learning environments, better integration of Judaism into curricula and better connections between families and Jewish life.

More information on Jewish early learning at: ROFdenver.org/JewishECEStudy

for change in our priority areas of Aging, Child and Family Development, Education, Health and Jewish Life. We frequently cite our role in strengthening the community through the ability to bring a disciplined focus and by building on incremental successes around issues such as early childhood education.

To be an effective leader for positive systems change can often mean taking the long view on persistent challenges. Leaders must first identify a problem, convene and mobilize the right community partners and resources, and then move purposefully to lower barriers and increase access for those who need it most.

Since our founding in 1995, Rose Community Foundation continues to be proud of the leadership role we have undertaken
Connecting Community Resources and Partners

National Collaborations: Education Partnerships with National Funders
On the strength of Rose Community Foundation’s reputation as a trusted partner in the Denver community and as a leader in education reform, the Ford Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation each established restricted grant funds at Rose Community Foundation in 2012. The partnership with the Ford Foundation supports expanded learning opportunities and work with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will be directed toward parental outreach on implementation of new Colorado academics standards and new teacher evaluation measures.

fordfoundation.org
gatesfoundation.org

Connecting Young Families to Jewish Life
MazelTot, a grant initiative of Rose Community Foundation, connects parents of prenatal through preschool-aged children to local Jewish life and to each other. With a network of 36 Jewish organizations all offering families grant-funded discounts on programs and events, MazelTot makes it easy for families to explore their Jewish options. In 2012, MazelTot was named one of the nation’s 50 most innovative Jewish nonprofit projects by Slingshot: A Resource Guide for Jewish Innovation.
mazeltot.org

Leveraging Community Resources to Address Enduring Issues
In 2012, Rose Community Foundation continued its financial support of Boomers Leading Change in Health, a groundbreaking, grassroots volunteer effort dedicated to improving the health — and access to health care — of individuals and families across the Metro Denver area by harnessing the experience, energy and conviction of adult volunteers over age 50.

Boomers Leading Change in Health is part of a national movement, the Community Experience Partnership, to provide adults 50+ with meaningful volunteer opportunities that will empower them to affect significant social change. The Denver focus is on health and health care.

blcih.org
ceplearning.org

Building Capacity, Connecting Communities
In 2012, the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado (LCFC) celebrated its fifth anniversary and received the prestigious “Outstanding Foundation” award presented by National Philanthropy Day of Colorado. The LCFC promotes Latino philanthropy in Colorado, bringing Latinos and others in the community together to leverage individual giving and expand the amount and impact made by and for the Latino community. The LCFC was created by Rose Community Foundation in partnership with Hispanics in Philanthropy, The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation and the Western Union Foundation. Since inception, the LCFC has provided 65 grants totaling more than $1 million to Latino nonprofit organizations throughout Colorado.

latinocfc.org

The founding trustees instilled the Foundation with a responsibility to respect diverse opinions, to honor different perspectives, and to connect people and populations to strengthen the community. We believe this collaborative approach can ignite the most creative ideas, the boldest strategies and the most effective tactical approaches to facilitate positive change.
Addressing Core Problems: Childhood Mental Health in Colorado

Research points to a clear correlation between a child’s mental health and future wellness. Yet many challenges exist in Colorado’s current systems to provide the services that many children require. In 2012, Rose Community Foundation and Caring for Children Foundation teamed up to take a need-based, systems-wide approach to understand the challenges and examine what programs, policies and providers currently exist to meet those needs.

Planning for next steps is an important step in addressing the systemic gaps in capabilities and opportunities to improve early childhood mental health in Colorado.

Strengthening Families

A 2012 Foundation grant supported the Family Resource Center Association (FRCA), which has 24 family centers across Colorado. FRCA works with entire families to help them become more self-reliant in key areas that affect family stability, including parenting, health, education, employment, housing and financial management. FRCA’s collaborative network of family resource centers provides nearly 60,000 people each year with a safe, accessible place to connect with comprehensive, coordinated services and support in their own communities.

Values in Action

T

o leave the community a better place than we found it is a fundamental value of the Foundation. This value informs our mission and priorities, and compels us to support innovative policies and programs that strengthen the quality of life in the Greater Denver area.

We are proud to support the many nonprofit organizations that receive our grants, as well as the Foundation’s special projects and initiatives that are effectively helping vulnerable populations and Jewish life.

By combining program innovations with the Foundation’s leadership and resources, we can create a powerful force for good in the community.

In 2012, the Foundation continued to seek ways to advance positive change through our grantmaking, leadership and donor engagement.

Focusing on Emerging Issues: Colorado Latino Age Wave

Launched in 2011, Colorado Latino Age Wave was created by Rose Community Foundation as a multi-year partnership with Hispanics in Philanthropy and the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado. The project advocates for the well-being of Latino older adults and celebrates their valued role in the family and community.

Accomplishments include a 2012 Community Assessment, a fellowship program and grant awards to agencies serving Latino elders.

Read the 2012 Community Assessment report and learn more about Colorado Latino Age Wave: latinoagewaveco.org

Values in Action

Helping Vulnerable Populations

For the eighth consecutive year, Rose Community Foundation provided a grant to the Colorado Department of Human Services to help support 9News SeniorSource, a multimedia online resource designed to assist anyone navigating issues related to aging. Resources on the website range from transportation and financial planning to nutrition and fraud protection. SeniorSource funding is provided by Rose Community Foundation in partnership with Caring for Colorado Foundation, Colorado Department of Human Services, the Colorado Health Foundation and the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

seniorsourcecolorado.com

Members of Roots & Branches Foundation developed collaboration and teambuilding skills at their 2012 opening retreat. Roots & Branches is a special program of Rose Community Foundation engaging young Jewish adults in strategic grantmaking guided by their Jewish values.

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Aging

We believe that supporting the healthy development of young children is the most crucial way to create a better future for our community. The foundation’s priorities for early childhood development and education are: to ensure high-quality, affordable and cost-effective care for all young children; to support the development, recruitment and retention of great educators; and to promote leadership and the growth of educational systems.

Education

We believe that a strong, productive society depends on healthy, vibrant, educational systems that encourage innovation and ensure high-quality, affordable and cost-effective care for all.

Health and Jewish Life

We believe that building strong Jewish communities depends on supporting a vibrant, relevant and diverse Jewish community. The foundation funds innovative ways to connect Jews to Jewish life and to each other. Grants focus on supporting food justice and environmental activism in the Denver and Boulder Jewish communities.

To view a list of all focus area grants made in 2012, visit http://www.rosecnf.org/grants.htm.

Opportunities and Innovation Fund

Rose Community Foundation also supports projects that improve the health and well-being of our community. Our Opportunities and Innovation Fund was created through a gift from the Ford Foundation to allow the foundation to make a difference when the need is most urgent.

Progress & Opportunities

The federal $325 million Race to the Top grant awarded to Colorado to improve the state’s education system. The foundation’s leadership in early childhood education is a key focus and related philanthropic priorities.

Aging

The Child and Family Development Committee, along with the Foundation’s Health and Health-related Committee, awarded a three-year grant to support the development and recruitment of great educators.

Education

Funding Priorities:

• Early childhood development, especially parent education programs
• Full-day kindergarten
• Family self-sufficiency, including employment training and family support services
• Efforts to plan, create, implement and evaluate public policy that has systemic impact

Progress & Opportunities

•  Support emerging issues and innovative opportunities for systemic change
•  Expand and improve transportation services

Funding Priorities:

•  Support emerging issues and innovative opportunities for systemic change
•  Health policy and public health leadership

Jewish Life

To promote a more welcoming Jewish community, we made a two-year grant to the Jewish Community denver’s Genesister program at the Colorado Health Institute (coloradohealthinstitute.org) for advocacy to increase the health of children and to the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (cohealthinitiative.org) for outreach to help expand the state’s health care coverage for individuals.

Funding Priorities:

• Welcoming and connecting Jews and their households to build support for local and national social justice and environmental action in the Denver and Boulder Jewish communities.

In 2012, we joined the national Building Healthy Communities partnership to expand primary prevention efforts. We made a grant to the Genesister program at the Colorado Health Institute (coloradohealthinstitute.org) for advocacy to increase the health of children and to the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (cohealthinitiative.org) for outreach to help expand the state’s health care coverage for individuals.

Funding Priorities:

•  Efforts to plan, create, implement and evaluate public policy that has systemic impact
•  Early childhood development, especially parent education programs
•  Systemic change focused on closing the achievement gap between high-poverty students and white students and working with parents to support their child’s learning

Funding Priorities:

•  Access to care
•  Coverage for primary prevention efforts
•  Effective teaching by supporting the development, recruitment and evaluation of great educators

Progress & Opportunities

•  Health policy and public health leadership
•  Stronger, healthier early childhood education systems
•  Primary prevention

Funding Priorities:

•  Health policy and public health leadership
•  Fostering leadership

•  Welcoming and connecting Jews and their households to build support for local and national social justice and environmental action in the Denver and Boulder Jewish communities.

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Rose Community Foundation engages with donors to support and assist them in making thoughtful, strategic decisions to achieve their philanthropic goals. Our philanthropic advisors and activities offer donors an expert level of insight, creative thinking and knowledge.

From clarifying a philanthropic vision, to advisory services for family foundations, to reporting on the results a grant produced, we empower donors to give with a clear purpose — to build on their philanthropic values, to understand the impact of their giving, and to see themselves as innovative, strategic agents of change.

Ways to partner with Rose Community Foundation:
• Donor-advised funds are convenient and flexible, and allow donors to stay involved in their charitable giving.
• Field of interest or designated funds allow donors to direct their philanthropy to a specific cause or organization.
• Collaborative giving groups like Rose Women’s Organization (RCFdenver.org/rwo) teach donors about philanthropy and community giving opportunities in a group setting.
• Bequests and planned gifts to Rose Community Foundation can support future community needs while stewarding donor values and intentions.
• Endowment gifts can provide sustainable income for a nonprofit organization or program.

We believe…

that the quality of life in our community — and our world — can be strengthened when we connect generous donors and innovative ideas.

that promoting strategic philanthropy in the community is a central part of our mission.

that our expertise and insight, combined with personal, customized service will empower donors to make informed, purposeful decisions with their philanthropic giving.

Philanthropic Services

2012 By The Numbers:
$9.1 Million - total donations to Rose Community Foundation (view a complete list of donors: RCFdenver.org/2012donors.htm)
$5.3 Million - total donor-directed grants
67 donor-advised funds (see pages 20 – 21 for a complete list)
27 nonprofit endowments
58 members of the Rose Community Legacy Circle (see page 19 for a complete list)
8 members of the Rose Community Foundation Professional Advisor Council, a standing committee of area financial advisors who counsel Philanthropic Services staff on ways to offer better service to donors
4 Insight Series events. The Insight Series provides donors with information and experiences to enrich their philanthropy.

Join us!
We invite you to learn more about the range of philanthropic services we offer to donors. Please call 303.398.7459 or visit RCFdenver.org/donor_services.htm.
Rose Community Foundation is governed by its board of trustees, a committed group of volunteer leaders. The trustees set Foundation policy, serve on committees and are actively involved in reviewing funding requests and managing the Foundation’s assets.

Jennifer Alter Fischer
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Judy Altenberg
Lisa Reckler Cohn
Stephanie Foote
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Fred T. Davine
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Joseph M. Aragon
David C. Boyles
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Stephen H. Shogan, M.D.
Martin H. Shore
Robert A. Silverberg
Richard B. Tucker*
Albert C. Yates, Ph.D.
Donald L. Kortz
Founding President and CEO
* Deceased
Rose Community Foundation receives guidance and direction from its committees, which are comprised of trustees and volunteer community leaders with specialized expertise.

Committee on Aging
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Jeremy Bloom
Lynnea ‘Neal’ Brown
Mark Cordova
Jean Gallaway
Courtney Hoekis
Ronald E. Montoya
Neil Osterfeld
Sister Lydia M. Peña, Ph.D.

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Jerry Glick and Shannon Gifford
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Martin C. Gross
Lisa Herschfield
Barry and Arlene Herschfeld
Elsa Halpinn-Lucero and Edward Lucero
Robert R. Jarzowski, M.D. and Philip A. Nash
Larry and Heleneisy Jones
Ron and Gail Kahn
Rob and Kathy Klugman

Trustee and Committee on Aging Chair Roy Alexander and Bob Timm from Seniors’ Resource Center at a Foundation and Boomers Leading Change in Health reception.

For a full list of current committee members, visit RCFdenver.org/about_board.htm.

The Living Legacy Tapestry, created in 2012, recognizes and honors the Foundation’s legacy donors, individuals who have included Rose Community Foundation in their wills and estate plans. Learn more by calling 303.398.7459 or visit RCFdenver.org/donor_services.htm.

Anonymous (4)
Jennifer Alter Fischer
Lawrence A. Alter and
Martin VanDerVliet Miller
Rick and Sheila Bugdanowitz
Lisa Reckler Cohn
Mark Cordova
The Curtis-Lusher Family
David and Dick Harvey
Fred and Marine Dalene
Barbara Melman Davis
Jeff and Theresa Eley
Kenneth and Sheryl Feiler
Marshall Fogel
Charles and Anne Garcia
Thomas and Marjorie Gart
Jerry Glick and Shannon Gifford
The Goldberg Family
Lynda Mallinoff Goldstein
Martin C. Gross
Lisa Herschfield
Barry and Arlene Herschfeld
Elsa Halpinn-Lucero and Edward Lucero
Robert R. Jarzowski, M.D. and Philip A. Nash
Larry and Heleneisy Jones
Ron and Gail Kahn
Rob and Kathy Klugman

To watch a brief video about the Living Legacy Tapestry, use your smartphone to scan this QR code or visit RCFdenver.org/livinglegacy.

The Living Legacy Tapestry was created by Lynn Bregman Blass and Leah Sobsey, visualhistorycollaborative.com
Funds of the Foundation

Donor-Advised Funds

A-P Family Fund
M & S Alexander Family Charity Fund
Allergy and Asthma Health Fund
The Anchorage Fund
The Alter Family Schmitt Fund
The Bay Philanthropic Fund
Budganzow Family Fund
The Button Stores Philanthropy Fund
Mark Cordova Family Fund
The Cotery Family Fund
Mary Gittings Cronin Fund
David L. and Vicki Perlmuter Darkey Fund
Barbara Melman Davis Fund
Lee and Barbara Melman Davis Fund
Figa Family Fund
Flinty Fund
The Folte Wade Family Fund
Charles and Anne Garossi Fund
Tom and Margie Gart Family Fund
GoFish Fund
Brett, Scott, Devon and Kyle Goldberg GoFish Fund
Go Fish Fund
The Harold Lane Memorial Fund
Over the Rainbow Fund
Papa Mary Fund
The Poblick Family Fund
Poblick/Gordon Donor-Advised Fund
The Pollock Family Fund
Ready Foods Fund
RLC Foundation
The RMJF Donor-Advised Fund
Lisa and John Robinson Family Fund
Marcia and Richard L. Robinson Family Fund
Rose Women’s Organization Doror-Advised Fund
The Shreeve Family Fund
Martin and Harriet Shogan Family Fund
Judith and Martin Shore Doror-Advised Fund

Donor-Directed Grants

In 2012, donor-directed grantmaking totaled $5.3 million and reflected a broad range of interests supported by Rose Community Foundation donors. These donor-directed gifts include: those recommended from funds held at the Foundation; matching gifts to qualified charities that received personal contributions from the Foundation’s trustees, committee members and staff; and discretionary grants. Ranging in size from $18 to $2,000,000, these grants to nonprofits were given across the region and around the globe.

For a complete list of all donor-directed grants made in 2012, visit RCFdenver.org/2012donorgrants.htm.

Colorado Child Health Foundation
Rescheduled Grant
Colorado Community Fund of the Harvard Women’s Studies in Religion Program
Colorado Latino Age Wave Fund
Community Builders Fund
Cottonwood Institute Designated Fund
Early Childhood Education Designated Fund
Early Childhood Mental Health Fund
Education Field of Interest Fund
Steven W. Farber Leadership Fund
The Fund for Early Childhood Health Field of Interest Fund
Jewish Life Field of Interest Fund
Latex Community Foundation of Colorado
Sue Miller Transitions Fund
ProComp Restricted Fund
Stephen H. Shogan Philanthropic Leadership Fund

Rose Women’s Organization (RWO) is a volunteer-led fund of Rose Community Foundation that makes grants to improve the health, education and welfare of women, children and families in Greater Denver. Pati Levine, RWO Grants Committee Co-Chair, is pictured at the RWO Gift Shop at Rose Medical Center. All Gift Shop profits support RWO’s grantmaking.
We acknowledge the contributions of the following staff members who left the Foundation during 2012:

Susan Knutten
Angie Stoudemire

For a list of current staff, visit RCFdenver.org/about_whois.htm.