

Our journey to consensus

# 23 voices, one goal



Started in 2001, Rose Youth Foundation (RYF) is a youth-led program, empowering teens to use the tools of strategic philanthropy to make a difference in the community. Over eight months, members work together to discuss what it means to give in a Jewish way, explore community issues, determine a funding priority, meet with nonprofit leaders, and ultimately grant \$60,000 to better the Greater Denver community.

"In RYF we use consensus to make every decision. This process ensures that everyone in the group is okay with the choices we make," said participant Lindsay Hertz. **"Working in consensus helped me to put myself in other's shoes and to be a better listener while working in a group environment."**

"The program showed me how to act in the real world," said participant Charlie Downing. "Members take part in site visits with organizations; until now many teens haven't been treated as professionals. We were expected to know what questions to ask and how to behave. **Our time in the boardroom leading up to the site visits made me prepared to be comfortable in this new role.**"

The 2018-2019 members of RYF represent 15 high schools throughout Greater Denver and identify across the spectrum of Judaism.

The cohort chose to focus their grantmaking on organizations supporting immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers in the Greater Denver area. They were committed to supporting programs that welcome newcomers, help them achieve economic self-sufficiency and bridge cultural divides between welcoming and receiving communities.

As Jewish teen funders, the members recognize the history of the Jewish people being treated as "the other" and felt called to use their Jewish values to help marginalized communities. **"It was helpful for me to have a Judaic outlet that put teachings into action."** said participant Eden Turnbow.

The work can sometimes be challenging, but participant Macy Miller felt inspired by her peers' dedication. **"I have been honored to work with such an inspiring group of activists who refuse to stand idly by and are committed to leaving this world in a better state than they found it in."**

Rose Community Foundation believes youth are not only tomorrow's community leaders, they are today's. Join us in ensuring that future generations of young Jewish people have the chance to serve as grantmakers by supporting the Rose Youth Foundation endowment. Visit [rcfdenver.org/donate](https://rcfdenver.org/donate).

Know a Jewish teen in grades 10-12 that would enjoy participating in RYF? Learn more at [rcfdenver.org/ryf](https://rcfdenver.org/ryf).



### 2018-2019 ROSE YOUTH FOUNDATION

**Members:** Lauren Buchman, Rebecca Chapman, Aaron Denberg, Ari Diamond Topelson, Charlie Downing, Aiden Foster, Jeremy Gart, Andrew Goldblatt, Chloe Hansen, Lindsay Herz, Lauren Huttner, Aiden Kboudi, Max Makovsky, Macy Miller, Maya Mor, Elisheva Parkoff, Hannah Pederson, Sydney Protass, Zoe Siegel, Abbie Snyder, Eden Turnbow, Elaiah Rose Volin, Emmie Weprin

**Advisors:** Emily Kornhauser, RCF Initiatives Manager; Zach Kiefer, Volunteer

# 2018-2019 grants

## CASA DE PAZ — \$6,000

To support immediate housing and basic needs assistance for people affected by immigrant detention in hopes of reuniting families separated by detention and providing support to those recently released.

## DOWNTOWN AURORA VISUAL ARTS — \$12,000

To support the Job Training in the Arts and Technology Program for middle and high school students through arts education with a focus on leadership and positive youth development.

## ECDC AFRICAN COMMUNITY CENTER OF DENVER — \$5,000

To support the Driving Opportunity Program, a female-centered driving class and on-road instruction designed to best meet the cultural and religious needs of immigrant and refugee women working towards obtaining a driver's license.

## LA CLÍNICA TEPEYAC, INC. — \$10,000

To support children in immigrant and refugee families in accessing high-quality, culturally responsive, integrated health and mental health services regardless of a patient's insurance coverage or ability to pay.

## PROJECT WORTHMORE — \$12,000

To support an additional adult English language class to meet the needs of refugee student on the road to self-sufficiency.

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN IMMIGRANT ADVOCACY NETWORK CHILDREN'S PROGRAM — \$15,000

To support the Children's Program that provides free legal services to immigrant children in deportation proceedings, to youth eligible for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and to abused, abandoned, and neglected immigrant children.

