



Focused on Impact to Create Opportunity and Improve Outcomes



Credit Union of Colorado
Foundation

Annual Meeting of the Foundation

Thursday, August 8, 2024 • Video Conference

Since our creation in January of 2012, Credit Union of Colorado Foundation has promoted community development by providing financial and volunteer support in the areas of education and human services. Since that inception we've been able to grant over \$1.6 million dollars to very deserving individuals and organizations, making real on-the-ground differences in hundreds of communities and lives. We are proud of the benefits we have been able to help deliver and look forward to sharing the results and accomplishments of our past year's efforts.

In 2023, the 13,024 credit union members who have joined the Foundation helped our grants reach new highs:

\$52,780 in Colorado State Employees Assistance Program (C-SEAP) grants to 175 individuals in need

32 non-profit organizations received grants totaling \$57,375

\$50,000 awarded in scholarships to 10 high-performing students



\$167,235 in total grants made between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024

We're also excited to announce a renewed focus going forward: we will be focusing our efforts on education, including both student scholarships and educator grants, in order to have the greatest impact on today's students as well as those of tomorrow.

Staying True to Our Culture of Creating Change and Benefitting Our State

To all our valued Foundation members,

Since I joined the Credit Union of Colorado 14 years ago, I've seen both the Foundation and the Credit Union remain strong, innovative and positive forces in our communities. As the new CEO and President of the Credit Union and Chairman of the Foundation Board, my goal is to continue to foster the incredible culture and commitment we've built over 90 years at the Credit Union and now for 14 years with the Foundation.

As a Coloradoan for more than five decades, I am honored to lead our Foundation and continue to be deeply impressed by our ability to meet local needs and expand our impact across the state for our fellow citizens who need it the most.

The opportunity and ability to do good, to strengthen and help so many Coloradoans increase their well-being and expand their own opportunities is truly a gift. We look forward to many more years of delivering benefits and impactful change to those in need.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Phil" and last name "Smith" clearly distinguishable.

Phil Smith
Board Chair
Credit Union of Colorado Foundation

Reaching Across Colorado

Just like our members, the organizations to whom we granted funds this year can be found from one end of the state to the other.

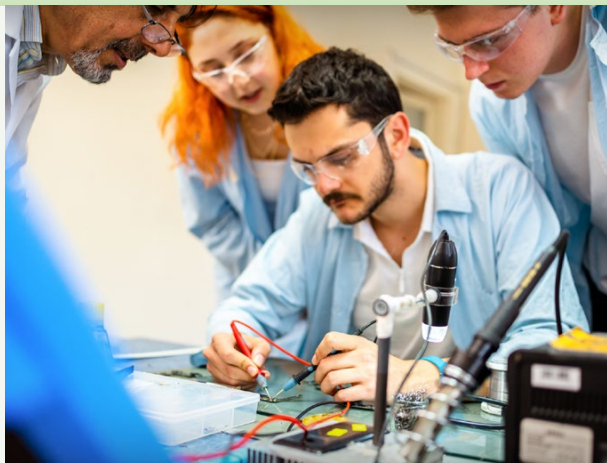
HERE ARE JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS:

Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges

cccs.edu/about/foundation/overview

The Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges works closely with the 13 community colleges located across the state. Scholarships are their primary focus, providing more than \$1 million in scholarships annually to make college possible for deserving students. They also invest in key programs and initiatives that meet the workforce needs of the 21st century and help students develop a path to full-time employment after graduation, and support and strengthen our community colleges so that they can offer exceptional higher education opportunities to their students.

They have also created innovative programs such as “Return to Earn,” which reengages students who were close to completing college but then left—stopped out—before getting a degree. The program puts them back on a path to a college credential and better career opportunities. Another program is based on research that shows students who have a relationship-based advisor show much greater success. More than merely an advisor, the “Navigators” program teams a student with a qualified advisor/mentor who gets to know the student and proactively checks in to ensure progress on their academic plans.



Impact on Education

impactoneducation.org

Based in Boulder, Impact on Education is the foundation supporting 28,000 students and 4,000 educators in the Boulder Valley School District. Since 1983, they've provided supplemental funding and resources to students and educators in order to expand what's possible in education. They equalize opportunity, bolster academic success, and galvanize community engagement to create lasting change. Through their investments, they address systemic barriers that impact students based on socioeconomic status, race, gender, class and other marginalized identities.

Their comprehensive programs cover early childhood education, college and career readiness, and mental health, all with an emphasis on equalizing opportunity in education across racial and socioeconomic lines.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Colorado

bbig.org

Based in Durango, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Colorado provides one-to-one mentors for any youth, ages 6-17 years old. Their mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.

Their goals for the youth they serve are focused in areas that have a positive and long-term impact in each of the children's lives: increased self-confidence, improved academic performance, increased interest in learning, and stronger, positive relationships with humankind through increased sense of belonging. As they say, "Our volunteer Bigs are making impact on their Littles, and we believe are the heart of our programs."



Education is the Building Block that Empowers an Individual's Future

We started the Foundation with the belief that education is the engine that drives one's ability to have greater success in life as well as to make a stronger impact on society and one's local community. But not every student has the means to access higher education. To that end, we were once again able to provide \$5,000 scholarships to ten Colorado students to attend the Colorado school of their choice.





As always, our members make the difference.

In the past year, more than 13,000 Credit Union of Colorado members contributed to the Foundation. Those donations are key to our ability to provide the scholarships and grants to non-profits across the state as we described above.

Please join us! Make a one-time donation or set up a monthly giving amount from your Credit Union of Colorado checking account. Go online to sign up and learn more at: cuofcofoundation.org

By joining us to help our communities, you make Colorado a better place in so many ways, helping your neighbors of all ages and needs, from the front range to the western slope to the eastern plains. Thank you for your contributions.



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