



# Aspen to Parachute Giving Guide 2023

Dear Donor Advisors and ACF Donors,

The Board and staff of Aspen Community Foundation are pleased to present the Aspen to Parachute Giving Guide 2023 which is designed to help you with your local giving decisions.

Since 1980, Aspen Community Foundation has been addressing the needs of the Aspen to Parachute region by supporting nonprofit organizations and connecting donors to community needs. This work is made possible by annual contributions from donors including individuals and families, businesses, foundations and donor advised fund holders.

Donor Advised Funds are an important part of Aspen Community Foundation. Since 1997, more than \$141 million has been awarded to nonprofit organizations and charitable causes across the nation and 70% of these funds has supported the Aspen to Parachute region.

This Giving Guide is designed to help you with your local giving decisions throughout the year by providing information on Aspen Community Foundation's annual grantmaking, Cradle to Career Initiative, scholarships, and special interest area funds as well as the nonprofit organizations we support. Through your Donor Advised Fund, you may support any of Aspen Community Foundation's funds or recommend grants to the organizations in this guide.

If you would like to learn more about the work showcased in this guide or if you need assistance with Donor Central, either to obtain your fund balance or to recommend grants, please contact Stephanie Gianneschi, Director of Philanthropic Services, at 970.925.9300 or [stephanie@aspencommunityfoundation.org](mailto:stephanie@aspencommunityfoundation.org)

Click [HERE](#) to access your fund via Donor Central.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erica". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'E' being particularly large and stylized.

Erica Snow  
President & CEO

[erica@aspencommunityfoundation.org](mailto:erica@aspencommunityfoundation.org)

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## We help individuals and families in the Aspen to Parachute region thrive!

The Aspen to Parachute region is an amazing place to live. Incredible outdoor lifestyle, world-class arts and cultural experiences, safe neighborhoods, quality schools. No matter where you are in the region, you'll find friendly, welcoming faces, people working hard, raising families, contributing to the community. Yet, sadly, among us there are neighbors who are struggling. Struggling to make ends meet. Struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues. Struggling to ensure that their children have equal opportunities to thrive.



Founded in 1980, Aspen Community Foundation (ACF) has been dedicated to helping those in our community who are struggling, ensuring that they have opportunities to live healthy, successful, and self-sufficient lives. We do this by connecting donors to community needs, building permanent charitable funds, and bringing people together to address the most pressing issues.

In 2010, when ACF was closing out its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we asked ourselves some tough questions. Questions like, are we, as a community foundation that serves the diverse region from Aspen to Parachute, as effective as we can be? Are we, as the largest private funder in the region, making a significant difference? And are we, as an institution with deep knowledge and long-standing relationships in the community, *moving the needle*?

This led us to look more comprehensively at the persistent needs of our community, in particular at our children, ages 0-18. We commissioned an issue paper and found an alarming set of statistics that reflected poor performance on school readiness, academic proficiencies, high school graduation, and college enrollment. As a funder, we were aware of the numerous nonprofit organizations providing programs for these children and various school improvement efforts. Yet the disparity and gaps were still evident: many children were not getting off to a strong start, falling through the cracks, and unable to get on a pathway to a successful future.

While our nonprofits, schools, philanthropists, government, and businesses are working diligently, our challenges are too complex and far reaching for any single organization to fully address on its



own. Needle-moving change requires the engagement of all sectors working together toward the same goals, using data to drive decisions and policies, and continuous communication and collaboration among the partners. Recognizing that we were uniquely situated to coordinate a collective impact effort in our region, ACF stepped into the backbone role to provide facilitation, data collection and reporting, communications, and a myriad of other logistical and administrative supports needed to transform our community. This led to the launch of Cradle to Career in 2012.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Coordinated networks of nonprofits and agencies to work collectively toward common goals and common measures of success
- Engaged all four school districts in cross sector collaborations and shared measurement
- Engaged more than 250 businesses to advocate for early childhood education policies and offer more career exploration opportunities for youth
- Leveraged philanthropic dollars to increase government funding and partnership (City of Aspen, Garfield County, City of Glenwood Springs)
- Built trust with donors to fund emergent needs (Giving Network, Ultimate Ski Pass)
- Supported the creation of family resource centers in three school districts, providing safe, accessible places for families to connect with comprehensive services
- Founding partner of Roaring Fork PreCollegiate, an academic mentoring program that supports students who will be the first in their families to attend college
- Created and operated the Preschool on Wheels program for seven years, filling a critical gap in early childhood education and increasing the kindergarten readiness
- Created the Post High School Success project, placing dedicated college and career counselors in all nine public high schools to ensure all students have access to postsecondary planning and support
- Established the Healthcare Alliance Fund to develop affordable health insurance options for small business owners in the region

As ACF concludes its 43<sup>rd</sup> year, we continue to ask ourselves how we can deepen our efforts to build a region of thriving children, supported and supportive families, and healthy communities. We've learned that we can make lasting change in our community through partnerships and collaboration. We've also learned that tackling deep-seated social issues like poverty and inequity is a long game. There is so much more to be done to address root causes and change systems so that everyone has opportunity and hope. ACF won't back down from this challenge and is eager to continue to support the success of the Aspen to Parachute region.

# Supporting ACF's Mission

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*Each year, Aspen Community Foundation raises funds to support its work in the Aspen to Parachute region. There are a variety of ways you can make a gift to Aspen Community Foundation and make a lasting difference in the community. ACF accepts many kinds of donations including cash, publicly traded securities, real estate, life insurance policies, artwork and various other appreciate assets. Donors are invited to support ACF's mission through the following options:*

## ANNUAL GIVING

A gift to one of ACF's funds builds a stronger community through our annual grantmaking and backbone work for the Aspen to Parachute Cradle to Career Initiative. Your gift supports nonprofits that provide critical services, emergency financial assistance, and youth and family programs from Aspen to Parachute. Funds include Early Childhood, Youth Empowerment, Community Leadership and Mental Health. Or give to the Greatest Need and your gift will be directed to have the most impact in our community.

- **ACF ENDOWMENT**

Gifts to ACF's permanent endowment provide a reliable source of operational funding for the foundation and make it possible for more dollars to be used to help children and families thrive.

## COLORADO CHILD CARE CONTRIBUTION TAX CREDIT

When you give to the Early Childhood Fund at Aspen Community Foundation, your gift qualifies for the Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit. Individual and business taxpayers may claim a Colorado state income tax credit of up to \$100,000 per year for 50% of your total qualifying contribution. Your support goes to qualified childcare providers to enhance programs, providing staff training and offer financial assistance for families.

## IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

Aspen Community Foundation can help turn your individual retirement account (IRA) into tax-saving charitable gifts. Individuals 70 1/2 and older are eligible to roll over up to \$100,000 annually from an IRA to a qualified charity without being taxed. Please note: gifts to donor advised funds do not qualify.

## PLANNED GIVING

Donors can leave a legacy that will support the causes they care about through their estate planning decisions. There are a variety of future gift planning options to align your personal legacy with your financial goals and needs. Bequests to charitable remainder trusts, and gifts of life insurance are just a few ways to support ACF.

# Supporting ACF's Mission

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## ESTABLISH A FUND

ACF holds several types of funds that fulfill the interests and goals of donors, nonprofit organizations and the community. Donors may open a donor advised, field of interest, scholarship, designated or organization fund.

- **DONOR ADVISED AND MEMORIAL FUNDS** – These funds offer the advantage of a private foundation yet have lower management costs and greater tax benefits. With a minimum contribution of \$10,000, you can establish a fund in the name of your family, business, or anyone you wish to honor. ACF assists fund advisors by maintaining fund records, researching potential grant recipients, ensuring that distributions are made to qualified tax-exempt organizations, and connecting donors with nonprofit organizations within their area of interest.
- **FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS** – These funds allow donors to invest in specific causes and can support a broad array of interests such as the arts, education or health. The donor specifies their interest at the time the fund is created and relies on ACF to identify organizations capable of making the greatest impact.
- **SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS** – ACF's scholarship funds bring together students in need and individuals who care about education to enable more students to reach their educational goals. Scholarship funds may be established to benefit a specific student demographic, school or field of study.
- **DESIGNATED FUNDS** – Designated Funds ensure long-term support for a specific nonprofit organization, identified by the donor at the time the fund is established. The named organization receives an annual disbursement from the designated fund.
- **ORGANIZATION FUNDS** – Nonprofit organizations may place their funds at ACF, thus assuring donors that funds earmarked for the future will be invested wisely and used appropriately. ACF manages the fund as part of its investments and then distributes an annual payment to the organization.

## AMAZON SMILE

Support Aspen Community Foundation while you shop. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and specify Aspen Community Foundation as the organization you would like to support and ACF will receive 0.5% of the purchase as a donation.

## REFUND CO

Donors can decide to donate some or all of their Colorado state tax refund to one or more Colorado-registered nonprofit organizations, including ACF.

# Supporting ACF's Mission

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## GIVING NETWORK

The Cradle to Career Giving Network offers the opportunity to directly participate in strategic philanthropy to benefit children and families from Aspen to Parachute. Our Giving Network members engage in facilitated learning opportunities throughout the year and annually grant their pooled funds to organizations and areas where they believe will have the greatest impact.

*For information about joining the Giving Network, please contact Stephanie Gianneschi, Director of Philanthropic Services, at 970.925.9300 or [stephanie@aspencommunityfoundation.org](mailto:stephanie@aspencommunityfoundation.org)*

## ULTIMATE SKI PASS

Honoring a 43-year partnership, Aspen Skiing Company and Aspen Community Foundation are pleased to offer the Ultimate Ski Pass, an exciting way to blend your philanthropy with your passion for skiing.

The Ultimate Ski Pass provides you, your family and friends with a fully transferable ski pass and unlimited access to Aspen, Aspen Highlands, Buttermilk and Snowmass ski areas. And, with your Ultimate Ski Pass, you are helping Aspen Community Foundation strengthen the community and improve the quality of life for people living in the greater Roaring Fork Valley, many of whom work hard every day to make your Aspen/Snowmass experience possible.

For each contribution of \$25,000 (\$23,000 tax deductible), you will receive a one-year transferable ski pass for unlimited skiing at the four Aspen Skiing Company ski areas in the winter. These contributions support the Aspen to Parachute Cradle to Career Initiative and support opportunities for children and families in the valley to flourish.

*There are a limited number of Ultimate Ski Passes available, so please let us know if you'd like us to reserve one for you. Please call 970.925.9300 or email Stephanie Gianneschi, Director of Philanthropic Services, [stephanie@aspencommunityfoundation.org](mailto:stephanie@aspencommunityfoundation.org).*



# STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

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As we move beyond Cradle to Career, ACF's major initiative since 2012, we carry on our commitment to helping children and families thrive through strategic focus areas. Support for these focus areas will allow ACF to continue to partner with donors, nonprofits, government agencies, businesses, and schools across 3 counties, 14 communities, and 4 school districts to create a better future for all people in the Aspen to Parachute region.

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

ACF's Community Leadership efforts address a broad range of community goals. We convene community leaders, assess changing needs, gather and distribute data, and, when appropriate, propose action on critical concerns. We support community-led conversations around pressing needs and promising solutions to issues affecting the Aspen to Parachute region. To ensure a sustainable ecosystem, we support our nonprofit network in accessing opportunities to increase their capacity and effectiveness. Contributions to Community Leadership will support ACF's programmatic work including:

- Convening and facilitating, guiding coalitions, and supporting collaborative work that creates equitable opportunities for people to thrive
- Capacity building and technical assistance for nonprofit organizations to strengthen and improve programs and services
- Sponsorship of community conversations about pressing needs and promising solutions

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

Ninety percent of brain development occurs between birth and five years old and provides the building blocks for social, emotional, and cognitive development. ACF's Early Childhood efforts ensure that all young children and their families have support, resources, and access to quality care so that the children can grow up to be healthy, engaged, contributing members of society.

Contributions to Early Childhood will:

- Help adults – parents, teachers, child care staff – to strengthen their skills so they can support the healthy development of the children in their care
- Support interventions to address sources of significant stress for families
- Improve the quality of the broader childcare environment and increase economically disadvantaged families' access to high quality care both licensed and informal
- Increase sustainable funding for early care and education across the region

## YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Equitable access to youth-driven empowerment opportunities and connecting to critical resources are essential to youth building competency and confidence to thrive, now and in the future. ACF's Youth Empowerment efforts build resiliency and strengthen physical, emotional, and mental health of youth throughout the Aspen to Parachute region. Contributions to Youth Empowerment will support:

- Accessible, affordable and trusted programming that is delivered in a collaborative, coordinated and sustainable manner across youth serving systems
- Quality, culturally competent programs, staff, and experiences that are grounded in youth-centered needs
- Youth voice and leadership that facilitates connection, challenge, and choice
- Relevant, reliable, and responsive programs and resources delivery scalable impact

## ANNUAL OPERATING AND PROGRAM GRANTS

ACF's annual operating and program grants prioritize nonprofits working in the areas of early childhood education, education and youth development, family support and essential human services. The organizations have submitted grant applications and financial information and have been vetted by ACF staff within the context of our grantmaking guidelines and funding priorities.

### A WAY OUT

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** "Providing youth and adults in crisis with drugs and alcohol access to the treatment and recovery support regardless of an inability to pay."

**Overview:** A Way Out offers need-based financial aid to motivated adults in recovery and their families for residential treatment and counseling. The agency also provides assessments, crisis support, aftercare follow-up, case management, counseling, and public education/prevention presentations about substance abuse, co-occurring mental health diagnoses, and recovery solutions.

Leadership:	Becky Gordon, Executive Director
Number of staff:	3 full-time, 6 part-time
Number Served:	400
Current Budget:	\$850,000

### ACCESS AFTERSCHOOL

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** "To enrich the lives of youth, support working families and build healthy communities by providing high-quality afterschool and summer programs."

**Overview:** Access AfterSchool provides low-cost afterschool enrichment programs in middle schools in Aspen, Basalt, Carbondale, Glenwood Springs, New Castle, and Rifle and in two K-8 schools in Carbondale and Glenwood Springs. In addition, Access operates a Boost Camp in Rifle and recently expanded to Aspen to provide a summer camp that focuses on academic and enrichment programming for first through fifth graders.

Leadership:	Deb Rice, Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 150 part-time
Number Served:	1,200
Current Budget:	\$950,000

### ADVOCATE SAFEHOUSE PROJECT

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Carbondale to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** "To promote healthy relationships free from violence as we strive to overcome imbalances through advocacy, collaboration, education, and shelter, empowerment and safe housing."

**Overview:** Formed in 1987, Advocate Safehouse Project provides services for domestic and/or sexual violence survivors and their children, including volunteer advocates, a 24-hour help line, safe housing and transitional housing, women's support groups with childcare provided, Latina outreach, sexual assault crisis intervention, and community education.

Leadership:	Betty Lucas, Executive Director
Number of staff:	7 full time, 3 part time
Number Served:	600

Current Budget: \$1,060,000

## ALPINE LEGAL SERVICES

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To ensure access to justice by providing and coordinating quality legal services that protect and advance fundamental legal rights.”

**Overview:** Formed in 2004, Alpine Legal Services provides legal representation to crime victims, seniors, youth, and low-income people in critical situations often involving domestic violence, child safety, family law, senior issues, restraining orders, housing disputes, custody disputes, employer/employee conflicts, victim rights and consumer law. These services are provided either pro bono or on a sliding scale.

Leadership:	Jennifer Wherry, Executive Director
Number of staff:	6 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	2,000
Current Budget:	\$725,000

## ANDY ZANCA YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To empower youth from diverse backgrounds to express themselves, build self-confidence, and develop leadership skills through community broadcasting.”

**Overview:** AZYEP was formed in 2000 by the Zanca family to honor their brother who was a DJ on KDNK from age nine to 21. The family recognized the power of radio to help young people develop self-esteem, combat isolation and to have an opportunity for self-expression and gaining a voice in the community. The program has grown from a youth-led 30-minute weekly music show to hosting 6.5 hours of weekly youth-led music and talk shows in English and Spanish.

Leadership:	Aimee Yllanes, Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 9 part-time
Number Served:	1,000
Current Budget:	\$168,000

## ARC OF THE CENTRAL MOUNTAINS

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Arc of the Central Mountains promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.”

**Overview:** Arc of the Central Mountains supports individuals with disabilities to fully participate in inclusive practices within the key areas of life, including home, community, and school-based settings. Arc is a collaborative community partner with six school districts, county human services, public health, law enforcement agencies and numerous non-profit organizations.

Leadership:	Jill Pidcock, Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	200
Current Budget:	\$260,500

## THE ART BASE

# Nonprofit Support

*Based in Basalt, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “The Art Base fosters creative expression in the visual arts for all ages and abilities through education, exhibitions and providing opportunities to artists and artisans.”

**Overview:** The Art Base started in 1996. In 2020, they purchased a building in downtown Basalt, embarked on a capital campaign, and moved into the new location in June 2021. They offer art instruction in many disciplines for all ages and levels, education programs for youth and adults and engagement in community events like ‘Crafternoons’ at the Basalt farmer’s market. Their exhibiting artists are Colorado-based, often having their first solo exhibition in a professional gallery. During the 2022-23 school year they served 2,104 youth from Basalt and Garfield and Pitkin counties via their afterschool, summer camp, and in school programs.

Leadership:	Lisa DeLosso, Executive Director
Number of staff:	6 full-time, 49 part-time
Number Served:	2,100
Current Budget:	\$900,000

## ASPEN CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (ACES)

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Aspen Center for Environmental Studies’ mission is educating for environmental responsibility. ACES believes a deep, informed connection with nature leads to a healthier earth, lives of meaning and purpose and communities of harmony and strength.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1968, ACES provides programs in environmental science and ecological literacy for everyone from school children to adult leaders and decision makers. Programs include youth education in schools and in the field, guided hikes, free public lectures, adult ecology classes, kids’ camps, and community events with an emphasis on the environment, sustainable agriculture, forest health, climate change and ecosystem restoration.

Leadership:	Chris Lane, Executive Director
Number of staff:	31 full-time, 17 part-time
Number Served:	1,600 regional youth
Current Budget:	\$3,700,000

## ASPEN FAMILY CONNECTIONS

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen School District*

**Mission Statement:** “Aspen Family Connections is a response center and activity hub created to connect all families all Pitkin County with services and programs to support them and their children in any and all aspects of their family journey, building on strengths, self-reliance and community connections.”

**Overview:** Aspen Family Connections was established in 2016 and is a resource hub, designed to be a one-stop shop for families seeking services, connection to and help with navigating resources, and prevention education, information, and support.

Leadership:	Katherine Sand, Executive Director
Number of staff:	5 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	156 families served in 2022-23
Current Budget:	\$870,000

## ASPEN HOPE CENTER

# Nonprofit Support

*Based in Basalt, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To extend a beacon of hope to those in emotional crisis and offer a continuum of comprehensive care while steadfastly working to decrease the stigma of mental illness through expert clinical treatment, public education, community collaboration and outreach.”

**Overview:** Aspen Hope Center is a mental health nonprofit specializing in crisis: prevention, response, intervention, stabilization, and recovery. In addition to its 24/7 crisis line and mobile crisis team, AHC provides a stabilization program as an alternative to inpatient hospitalization, school-based mental health programs, and education programs.

Leadership:	Michelle Muething, Executive Director
Number of staff:	27 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	11,374 clients in 2022
Current Budget:	\$3,800,000

## ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET FOLKLÓRICO

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** “To cultivate and enhance an understanding and appreciation of dance by maintaining the highest standards of artistic excellence in performance, education and outreach.”

**Overview:** Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's Folklórico outreach program is an afterschool Latin folk-dance program for elementary through high school students. Through disciplined rehearsal and frequent performances, Folklórico promotes artistic excellence, instills positive youth development, increases cultural awareness, and encourages the crossing of cultural boundaries.

Leadership:	Jean-Philippe Malaty, Executive Director
Number of staff:	11 full-time, 38 part-time
Number Served:	150 (Folklórico)
Current Budget:	\$3,000,000

## ASPEN SCIENCE CENTER

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** “Advancing public understanding of science through lifelong discovery, exploration, and education.”

**Overview:** Aspen Science Center was founded in 2005 by George Stranahan and members of the Aspen Center for Physics to create a vehicle for increasing public understanding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). For the first 15 years, ASC conducted its programming without a home base, but as of 2020, now has a location in the Third Street Center in Carbondale. They partner with regional libraries, schools, farmer’s markets, and after-school programs to bring their programming to youth and families in the region. Their free STEM Exploration Hours, Coding Club and Teen STEM program are now hosted at eight libraries between Aspen and Parachute. They also provide summer day-camp opportunities in four communities- Aspen, Basalt, Carbondale, and Glenwood Springs.

Leadership:	David Heil
Number of staff:	3 full-time, 8 part-time
Number Served:	3,600 regional youth in 2022
Current Budget:	\$268,000

## ASPEN VALLEY SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB (AVSC)



# Nonprofit Support

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide all youth in the greater Roaring Fork Valley the opportunity to excel as athletes and as people through winter sports. AVSC strives to instill the core values of Commitment, Teamwork, and Integrity in all participants.”

**Overview:** AVSC was created in 1937 and, as the oldest youth-serving nonprofit in the area, has taught winter sports to generations of local children and has a legacy of training Olympians and hosting national and international competitions. AVSC has expanded summer youth activities in recent years. They provide scholarships to help families afford the cost of programs and serve as an integral connection for regional families to introduce their young children to skiing, snowboarding or mountain biking, and our mountain culture.

Leadership:	David Volz, Interim Executive Director
Number of staff:	37 full-time, 108 part-time
Number Served:	2,721 youth in the 2022-23 season
Current Budget:	\$6,162,000

## ASPEN WORDS, A PROGRAM OF THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** Aspen Words’ mission is to encourage writers, inspire readers and connect people through stories.

**Overview:** Aspen Words was founded in 1976 as a two-week conference focused on poetry and has blossomed into a nationally recognized literary organization that provides author-speaker series events, writer residencies, writer’s conferences, school-based youth programs and more. In 2009, they became a program of the Aspen Institute, yet it still operates with its own board of directors, budget, and fundraising responsibilities. Since 2009, it added programming to support a robust youth poetry project, partnering with 16 different schools in the Aspen to Parachute region. They currently host workshops for schools in Aspen, Basalt, Carbondale, Glenwood Springs, and Rifle.

Leadership:	Adrienne Brodeur, Executive Director
Number of staff:	6 full time
Number Served:	910 middle- & 250 high-school students served last year, in addition to 1,800+ attendees at events and adult programs
Current Budget:	\$1,800,000

## ASPEN YOUTH CENTER

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide a safe and supportive place for youth to connect, learn and grow.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1991, Aspen Youth Center provides a safe, supportive, and supervised space for youth afterschool and all day during the summer, offering fun extra-curricular activities such as cooking, science, art, sports, outdoor activities, and volunteer clubs, free of charge. Participants can also get help with their homework and are fed healthy afternoon snacks.

Leadership:	Michaela Idhammar, Executive Director
Number of staff:	3 full-time, 10 part-time
Number Served:	800 students served last year
Current Budget:	\$557,000

## BLUE LAKE PRESCHOOL

*Based in El Jebel and Carbondale, serving to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Nurturing and empowering young children to learn and grow in a safe and challenging environment and creating a setting for children that will foster positive self-esteem and prepare them for a successful, long-term, educational experience.”

**Overview:** Blue Lake Preschool in El Jebel, along with its second program in Carbondale, Little Blue, is the largest childcare provider in the region, providing infant, toddler, and preschool care as well as afterschool care for children in kindergarten through third grade. The school strives for all students to attend at least two days per week despite the family’s ability to pay.

Leadership:	Michelle Oger, Executive Director
Number of staff:	31 full-time, 6 part-time
Number Served:	150 families
Current Budget:	\$2,600,000

## BRIDGING BIONICS FOUNDATION

*Based in Basalt, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide access to affordable and ongoing physical therapy and advanced technology for all individuals with neurological mobility challenges.”

**Overview:** Bridging Bionics Foundation provides affordable access to consistent and ongoing physical therapy and personal training at no cost to low cost to neurologically impaired individuals. Their program incorporates interventions such as access to advanced technologies including bionic exoskeletons, a wholistic rehabilitation approach that promotes inclusivity and wellbeing, and mental health support in partnership with Pathfinders.

Leadership:	Amanda Boxel, Founder & Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 7 part-time
Number Served:	420 clients and caregivers served since 2016
Current Budget:	\$900,000

## THE BUDDY PROGRAM

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** “Empowering youth through mentoring experiences in order to reach their full potential.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1973, the Buddy Program provides mentoring for young people ages 6-18 through several programs: the “big buddy” model where an adult is paired with a young person, “peer-to-peer” where a high school student is matched with a younger student, and through experiential group programs such as wilderness adventures and ropes courses. The Buddy Program also offers scholarships for extra-curricular activities, therapeutic counseling, and college scholarships.

Leadership:	Lindsay Lofaro, Executive Director
Number of staff:	21 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	450 youth, 130 adult buddies
Current Budget:	\$2,260,000

## CARBONDALE ARTS

# Nonprofit Support

*Based in Carbondale, serving to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** “To build an inclusive and vibrant community through the arts, supporting Carbondale’s identity as a place that fosters creativity, collaboration, innovation, and artistic exploration.”

**Overview:** Carbondale Arts has been providing arts programming and education for over 50 years and is leading the Carbondale Creative District. It provides arts programming and education from preschool-aged children through older adults. Its Rosybel Mobile Maker Bus provides afterschool art classes in the Roaring Fork School District, fifth-day art classes in the Garfield School District Re-2, and arts programming through collaborations with other nonprofits.

Leadership:	Jamie Abbott, Executive Director
Number of staff:	4 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	12,000
Current Budget:	\$1,025,000

## CASA OF THE NINTH

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving the Ninth Judicial District (Pitkin, Garfield, and Rio Blanco counties)*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide well-trained, court-appointed volunteer advocates to abused and neglected children in Colorado’s Ninth Judicial District. The program’s vision is to support a safe, permanent, nurturing home for every child it serves.”

**Overview:** CASA of the Ninth provides support for children ages 0 to 17 during court proceedings who have been abused, neglected, or witnessed domestic violence. CASAs are specially trained community members who investigate family situations, facilitate communication, monitor treatment plans, and advocate for children.

Leadership:	Traci Gurley-Tomashosky, Executive Director
Number of staff:	4 full-time
Number Served:	60
Current Budget:	\$350,000

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES, WESTERN SLOPE

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “As the charitable arm of the Archdiocese of Denver, and inspired by God’s love and compassion, Catholic Charities extends the healing ministry of Jesus Christ to the poor and those in need. Catholic Charities serves individuals and families of all faiths, backgrounds, and cultures to alleviate poverty and promote self-reliance.”

**Overview:** Catholic Charities Western Slope office serves Pitkin, Garfield, and Eagle County residents with financial assistance for rent and utilities, case management to those at risk of homelessness, and services for the immigrant community including helping them access resources and workplace equity, mediation, and conflict resolution.

Leadership:	Marian McDonough, Regional Manager
Number of staff:	6 full time, 1 part time
Number Served:	950
Current Budget:	\$1,300,000

## CHILDREN’S ROCKY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

# Nonprofit Support

*Based in Carbondale and providing child care services for midvalley and commuting families*

**Mission Statement:** “To inspire creativity, a joy in learning, and self-confidence through exploration, love and laughter.”

**Overview:** Children’s Rocky Mountain School provides quality, five days a week, year-round preschool for children ages 2 to 5 in Carbondale. Founded in 1989, the school’s new location in downtown Carbondale enables their students to have an immersive experience within all of the nature and places of the town. All teachers are director qualified and the school is open every weekday to serve working families and their children.

Leadership:	Brigitte Buckingham, Executive Director
Number of staff:	3 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	25
Current Budget:	\$300,000

## COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Glenwood Springs*

**Mission Statement:** “To promote health through the delivery of high quality, affordable preventative health services for everyone in the community with inclusiveness, respect and compassion.”

**Overview:** Community Health Services started as a home visiting nurse nonprofit organization in 1971. From 2009-2017, Community Health acted as the Pitkin County Local Public Health agency, performing all of the state’s mandated core public health services until Pitkin County formed an internal public health department and a board of health to assume the role of the agency. Today, Community Health Services continues to contract with Pitkin, Eagle, and Garfield County public health departments to perform essential preventive nursing services on behalf of the departments. They provide preventative public health/nursing services, maternal and reproductive health, dental, immunizations, cancer screenings, and nutrition counseling. Cardiovascular screening services will be added in 2024.

Leadership:	Logan Hood, Executive Director
Number of staff:	6 full-time, 9 part-time
Number Served:	1,400
Current Budget:	\$1,200,000

## COOK INCLUSIVE COMPANY

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Glenwood Springs*

**Mission Statement:** “Cook Inclusive provides therapeutic recreation and vocational services to the Roaring Fork Valley disability, deaf, neurodivergent and queer communities.”

**Overview:** Cook Inclusive Company began in 2021 and provides therapeutic recreation, vocational services, advocacy and education, and community events that support queer, disabled, deaf and neurodivergent community members in the Roaring Fork Valley. All services are provided with Spanish, American Sign Language and English access. It works in collaboration with schools, nonprofits, government, and businesses on issues including employment services for people with disabilities, respite services for families of children with disabilities, therapeutic recreation programming for queer youth and their families, alternative work-based learning education programming for students with disabilities, accessibility and inclusion policy improvement, and inclusive community events.

Leadership:	Kaleb Cook, Founder
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Number of staff:	4 full-time, 0 part-time
Number Served:	100
Current Budget:	\$175,000

## DANCE INITIATIVE

*Based in Carbondale, serving the Roaring Fork Valley*

**Mission Statement:** “To support the art and creation of dance through education, collaboration, and presentation.”

**Overview:** Dance Initiative’s School Partnership Program has been providing free dance education during the school day since 2016. Focused on the Roaring Fork School District, Dance Initiative provides teachers for multi-week sessions during physical education periods. In addition, Dance Initiative works with local organizations to bring movement and wellness to existing programming including libraries, community centers, nonprofit organizations, and others. They host visiting artist residencies, specialized classes, workshops for all ages and performances.

Leadership:	Megan Janssen, Executive Director
Number of staff:	0 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	1,600
Current Budget:	\$100,000

## EARLY CHILDHOOD NETWORK

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Early Childhood Network’s mission is to enhance capacity, quality and accessibility of childcare in Garfield County and the western portion of Eagle County.”

**Overview:** Early Childhood Network is Garfield County’s primary resource for all things related to early childhood. It provides childcare resources to families, quality improvement coaching to licensed childcare programs and informal childcare providers, houses the Early Head Start Family Coordinator, provides professional development, and connects families to financial aid resources in Garfield and western Eagle counties.

Leadership:	Kelly Esch, Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 4 part-time
Number Served:	120+ families via their coaching network; 60+ licensed child care centers and providers
Current Budget:	\$500,000

## EARLY LEARNING CENTER OF ASPEN

*Based in Aspen and providing childcare services for Aspen and commuting families*

**Mission Statement:** “We nurture our students, educators, and families by providing inclusive, creative and individualized learning experiences.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1991, the Early Learning Center is a nonprofit childcare center located at the Yellow Brick Building in Aspen, occupying eight of 12 classrooms. It provides care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, year-round from 8 am to 5 pm Monday-Friday. It is the second-largest childcare center in the region, serving an average of 100 children a year, including infants. The ELC is rated 4 out of 5 on the Colorado Shines quality rating scale, meaning that it demonstrates high



quality in the areas of children's health and safety, staff training effectiveness, and supportive learning environments. The rating also indicates that the program demonstrates good leadership and business practices.

Leadership:	Karla Gomez, Director of Operations
Number of staff:	31 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	100 families
Current Budget:	\$1,870,000

## ENGLISH IN ACTION

*Based in El Jebel, serving Aspen to Carbondale*

**Mission Statement:** "To build a stronger community and intercultural relationships through language development, personal empowerment and community engagement."

**Overview:** Founded in 1994, English In Action helps adult immigrants develop the language and leadership skills they need to participate fully in our community as workers, parents, and community members. The program also aims to build bridges of trust between immigrant and non-immigrant residents. Students in EIA's individual tutoring program work with a community volunteer who tutors the student in English with a personalized course of study based on the student's English language level, personal goals, and learning styles. EIA also offers open office hours, small group programs, community engagement opportunities and seminars.

Leadership:	Lara Beaulieu, Executive Director
Number of staff:	10 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	400
Current Budget:	\$850,000

## FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER OF THE ROARING FORK SCHOOLS

*Based in and serving Basalt, Carbondale, and Glenwood Springs schools.*

**Mission Statement:** "To strengthen student health, well-being and academic achievement by partnering with families, schools, and communities."

**Overview:** The Family Resource Center connects students and their families with needed health and human services and removes the barriers to those services by providing case management, transportation, translation, information, referrals, and financial assistance. Family liaisons also assist families in applying for public benefits, arrange tutoring and other academic assistance, and connect at-risk students with enriching after-school activities. Students with low-income, poor academic performance, second language and/or identified behavioral risk factors are given priority.

Leadership:	Kelly Medina, Executive Director
Number of staff:	21 full-time
Number Served:	300 families
Current Budget:	\$1,800,000

## THE FARM COLLABORATIVE

*Based in Aspen, serving to New Castle*

**Mission Statement:** "The Farm Collaborative's mission is to accelerate the regenerative agriculture movement locally to transform the health of people and the planet. Our vision is to facilitate a collaboration for systemic change from the ground up, to co-create a new reality where the interconnections between farming, nature and community give rise to a new standard for the food system, one that promotes human health and connection to nature and reverses climate change."

**Summary:** The Farm Collaborative focuses on integrating local food systems to include community engagement, ecosystem service, farmer support and food equity and access. Founded in 2008 as Aspen TREE, they have since moved to Cozy Point Ranch and secured a 25-year lease from the City of Aspen to operate their farm and learning center. They operate after-school programs, youth summer camps, and teen apprenticeship programs, as well as managing 2 Forks Club, a regenerative philanthropy investment club that makes 0% interest loans to farmers and local food entrepreneurs.

Leadership:	Eden Vardy, Executive Director
Number of staff:	9 full-time, 8 part-time
Number Served:	500
Current Budget:	\$1,250,000

## FOCUSED KIDS

*Based in Basalt, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “FocusedKids partners with schools, families, and community organizations to make healthy brains a priority for our children. FocusedKids instills mindful self-regulations skills and brain-building techniques into daily routines to increase resilience, self-awareness, and academic potential.”

**Summary:** Founded in 2013, FocusedKids provides social and emotional training for children ages 0-8, their teachers and parents. They have led in this field while focusing on healthy relationships and self-management at the earliest stage of development. Their teacher professional development curriculum is sanctioned by regional school-districts. They work with family resource centers, FFN childcare providers, school districts, early childcare centers, and many nonprofits.

Leadership:	Amanda Petersen, Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 5 part-time
Number Served:	4,000
Current Budget:	\$340,000

## FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES, WESTERN SLOPE

*Based in Grand Junction, serving the western slope of Colorado.*

**Mission Statement:** “To ignite the power of community to nourish people facing hunger.”

**Summary:** Food Bank of the Rockies works with hunger relief organizations throughout Colorado and Wyoming to distribute food to those who are food insecure. They provide food to community organizations such as nonprofits and schools, distribute food directly through mobile pantries and food box delivery, and coordinate surplus food rescue from grocery stores, restaurants, and caterers. The Totes of Hope program provides children with food for the weekends when they are not in school.

Leadership:	Sue Ellen Rodwick, Western Slope Director
Number of staff:	211 full-time, 4 part-time*
Number Served:	367,685 clients*
Current Budget:	\$39,000,000*

*\*Figures represent the entire Food Bank of the Rockies organization*

## GARFIELD 16 SCHOOL-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

*Based in and serving Parachute and Battlement Mesa*

# Nonprofit Support

**Mission Statement:** “To affirm, strengthen, and support families in Garfield 16. It promotes increased student achievement by supporting their progress towards the overall agency of personal wellness, productive citizenship, and intellectual development.

**Overview:** Garfield County School District 16’s School-Based Family Resource Center provides before/after school and summer programming, behavioral health services, family navigation, a clothing and food pantry, and laundry facilities for the districts’ students and families. In addition, the Center houses several county agencies that otherwise would not be physically accessible to families in Parachute.

Leadership:	Claudia Flores-Cruz, Coordinator
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	807

## GARFIELD RE-2 SCHOOL-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

*Based in and serving Rifle, Silt, and New Castle.*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide engaging educational experiences in a safe environment for students and staff which result in exemplary learning and teaching.”

**Overview:** Garfield School District RE-2 contains approximately 4,700 students, 350 certified staff and 800 employees. The school-based Family Resource Center known as “One Door” opened in August 2021 and provides bilingual support for students and their families, with a prioritization on mental health services and connecting families to other community organizations and agencies that can support their needs.

Leadership:	Amanda Vaughn, “One Door” FRC
Number of staff:	3 full-time, 15 part-time
Number Served:	2,800

## GRAND VALLEY RESIDENT TEAM

*Based in Parachute, serving the Colorado River valley*

**Mission Statement:** “A non-profit organization that works together to improve the well-being and progress of low-income families in the Colorado River Valley by developing leadership, education and rights in communities.”

**Summary:** Grand Valley Resident Team began in 2016 and works with members of the communities in the Colorado River Valley (primarily Battlement and Parachute) to develop leadership, education, and rights in communities. A trusted partner in the community and leader for the representation and promotion of educational equity and advocacy for Latino voices in decision making.

Leadership:	Esmeralda Zuniga
Number of staff:	0 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	500
Current Budget:	\$180,000

## GREAT EXPECTATIONS

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To promote healthy families by providing education, advocacy, and support services that strengthen and empower families, foster the optimum development of children, and prevent child abuse and neglect.”

**Summary:** Great Expectations, formerly Family Visitor Programs, provides home-based parent support from pregnancy until the baby is two years old. The programs focus on strengthening parenting skills and protecting young children from toxic stress caused by abuse, neglect, domestic violence, and family dysfunction which has been linked to lifelong health and social problems. The agency offers four core programs: Nurse Family Partnership, Healthy Families America, Partners for Healthy Baby and Colorado Bright by Three. All services are offered free of charge.

Leadership:	Andrew Romanoff, Executive Director
Number of staff:	12 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	378 families
Current Budget:	\$1,600,000

## GROWING YEARS SCHOOL

*Based in Basalt and providing childcare services for midvalley and commuting families*

**Mission Statement:** “We envision a world of children who are self-confident, self-disciplined and enthusiastic about learning.”

**Overview:** Growing Years School provides year-round childcare for children ages six weeks to six years old. They have six classrooms and twenty staff members located in a modular unit and the “red brick” old elementary school in Basalt. Both of their programs received a level 5 in Colorado Shines, the highest level possible. They are starting a planning process with RE-1 school district to become one Early Childhood Center by August 2024.

Leadership:	Adele Melnick, Executive Director
Number of staff:	20 full time
Number Served:	150
Current Budget:	\$1,300,000

## HEADQUARTERS

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “HeadQuarters engages, educates, and empowers people to build and enjoy Mental Fitness – paving the way for a healthy, vibrant community.”

**Overview:** Formerly Aspen Strong, HeadQuarters rebranded to represent their growth into a regional-serving organization focused on engaging, educating, and empowering people to build and enjoy mental fitness, and to pave the way for a healthy, vibrant community. HQ works with people to help them navigate their own unique journeys with physical, mental, and social self-care and comfort. They have expanded online resources to support mental wellbeing and everyone’s unique journeys by focusing on four pillars of emotional, physical, social, and financial wellbeing. In 2022, they took over management of the Mental Health Fund at ACF to provide clinical expertise and timely responses to those seeking financial assistance.

Leadership:	Angilina Taylor, Executive Director
Number of staff:	3 full-time, 5 part-time
Number Served:	5,000 people, 200 individuals received subsidies from the Mental Health Fund
Current Budget:	\$450,000

## HIGHWATER FARM

*Based in Silt, serving Garfield County*

**Mission Statement:** “Highwater Farm uses sustainable agriculture to transform the lives of young people and increase access to healthy food in Garfield County.”

**Overview:** Founded in 2019 on the Silt River Preserve, Highwater Farm connects the community back to the land through sustainable agriculture practices, stewardship, and youth development. The farm dedicates at least 25% of its produce to regional food banks and pantries. In 2021, they hosted the inaugural Summer Youth Program for teens to graduate with an understanding of local agriculture, respect for the land and labor and key skills to be leaders in the community. This program has been successful and will expand next year.

Leadership:	Sara Tymczyszyn, Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 3 part-time
Number Served:	725
Current Budget:	\$287,000

## LA CLINICA DEL PUEBLO / THE PEOPLE’S CLINIC

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “La Clinica del Pueblo is a community-based clinic that provides all services and programs in a bilingual environment providing access to quality medical care for the uninsured or those unable to afford it. La Clinica believes that many chronic illnesses can be ameliorated through healthy choices and by utilizing listening, education, nutrition, and supportive care.”

**Overview:** Founded in 2016, La Clinica del Pueblo, or The People’s Clinic, operates two days a week and one Saturday a month, with appointments scheduled at odd hours to accommodate working family’s schedules. They are based at the Third Street Center in Carbondale. On average they see 15 patients per week from low-income, Latino communities who are uninsured and lack access to government-provided services. In 2023 they received a Colorado Health Foundation grant that will help them grow by increasing their visitation hours with a full-time staff member and expanding and improving other services available to patients and community.

Leadership:	Dr. Maria Judith Alvarez, Clinic Director
Number of staff:	0 full-time, 5 part-time staff
Number Served:	500
Current Budget:	\$150,000

## LIFT-UP

*Based in Rifle, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “LIFT-UP is the leader in providing equitable food security for individuals and families: educating, building understanding and support to end hunger from Parachute to Aspen, Colorado.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1982, LIFT-UP is the Aspen to Parachute region’s anchor organization for hunger relief. It operates brick-and-mortar food pantries in Parachute, Rifle, New Castle, Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, and Aspen. LIFT-UP also organizes the Extended Table program that offers hot meals each weeknight in Glenwood Springs, provides fresh produce and meat through its Farm to Pantry program, and operates a thrift store to provide low-cost goods to families.

Leadership:	Ivan Jackson, Executive Director
Number of staff:	15 full-time, 0 part-time
Number Served:	60,000
Current Budget:	\$1,700,000



## LITERACY OUTREACH

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Garfield County*

**Mission Statement:** “To teach essential literacy skills.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1986, Literacy Outreach teaches basic literacy and language skills to residents of Garfield County. Literacy Outreach recruits and trains volunteers to provide individualized or small group tutoring including one-on-one student tutor pairs, small group conversation circles, citizenship exam study groups, and Hands on English cooking and sewing classes.

Leadership:	Martha Fredendall, Executive Director
Number of staff:	2 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	125
Current Budget:	\$350,000

## MARBLE CHARTER SCHOOL

*Based in Marble, serving Marble to Glenwood Springs*

**Mission Statement:** “Marble Charter School teaches a growth mindset in a unique and nurturing environment while exceeding state standards. We build awareness of sustainability and our relationship with the greater global community.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1995, Marble Charter School serves students in grades K-8 who live in the Marble to Glenwood Springs corridor. While it is classified as a Gunnison County district school and receives state mandated per-student funding, due to its rural geographic location and disconnect from their district’s contracted services, it does not have enough funding for the essential mental health and social services for its students. All students who graduate MCS in 8<sup>th</sup> grade will go on to attend high school in our region, with most attending Roaring Fork High School in Carbondale.

Leadership:	Gina Mile, Executive Director
Number of staff:	9 full-time, 8 part-time
Number Served:	114
Current Budget:	\$800,000

## THE MEETING PLACE (ROARING FORK RECOVERY SUPPORT CENTER)

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide a safe and supportive location for meetings, fellowships, educational activities, and social events for people, families, and friends in recovery.”

**Overview:** The Meeting Place is a Carbondale-based recovery center that hosts 23 in-person recovery meetings weekly, including AA and other regional recovery fellowship groups. At two sessions they provide free childcare services for parents attending the meetings, a service they seek to expand. All meetings are free or by donation. There are more people using their space and services than ever before. Since TMP opened in 2010, the board of directors has functioned as staff, volunteering in all capacities. The strength of the fellowship group and their daily support of each other’s recovery brings them to TMP. Their space and the meetings they host, large or small, embodies the creation of communities and relationships that help sustain individuals in recovery.

Leadership:	Daniel Benavent
Number of staff:	0 full-time, 1 part-time (mainly board and volunteer led)
Number Served:	1,500 individuals annually

Current Budget: \$45,000

## MOUNT SOPRIS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

*Based in Carbondale and providing childcare services for Carbondale and commuting families*

**Mission Statement:** “Dedicated to cultivating children's respect for themselves, their community and their natural environment through the insightful application of Montessori principles.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1981, Mount Sopris Montessori School offers half- and full-day childcare for children ages 18 months to five years of age throughout the school year and for eight weeks in summer. Fifty-five children are enrolled from mostly middle class, dual working families. Scholarships are available for lower income families and MSMS accepts Colorado Childcare Assistance Program tuition assistance.

Leadership:	Carrie Tippet, Executive Director
Number of staff:	10 full-time, 1 part-time
Number Served:	50
Current Budget:	\$680,00

## OUR SCHOOL

*Based in Glenwood Springs and providing childcare services for Glenwood and commuting families*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide experiential learning opportunities for children ages six weeks to six years in an environment that promotes discovery, self-regulation and a life-long enthusiasm for learning.”

**Overview:** Since 1997, Our School provides year-round childcare for children ages six weeks to six years. The 50 children who are enrolled in the program come from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds including children who receive Colorado Child Care Assistance Program and Colorado Preschool Program tuition assistance. It is the only center in Glenwood Springs that cares for infants.

Leadership:	Jennifer Dauberman, Executive Director
Number of staff:	6 full-time, 4 part-time
Number Served:	50
Current Budget:	\$535,000

## PATHFINDERS

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide free or low-cost counseling for those dealing with serious illnesses, grief and loss for all ages from Aspen to Parachute.”

**Overview:** Pathfinders was created in 2004 to support cancer patients with psychosocial support around their diagnosis and planning. In 2013, grief and loss counseling was added to its services. Through referrals from school counselors, Pathfinders works directly with children of all ages to provide bilingual counseling around death, loss of family to divorce or immigration, and other trauma-based experiences.

Leadership:	Allison Daily, Executive Director
Number of staff:	1 full-time, 20 part-time
Number Served:	150 youth, 135 adults
Current Budget:	\$450,000

## PFLAG RFV

# Nonprofit Support

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “PFLAG RFV is an organization of LGBTQ+ people, parents, families and allies who work together to create an equitable and inclusive region from Aspen to Parachute. We are leading with love to support families, educate allies, and advocate for just, equitable, and inclusive legislation and school policies.”

**Overview:** PFLAG’s (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) national chapter was started in 1972 and has grown to over 400 chapters. The PFLAG RFV was reinstated as a nonprofit in 2022. Their work supports the emotional wellbeing, health and resiliency of children and families in LGBTQ+ communities. They seek to increase and improve mental health services and school-based support. They support community-based events and social programs, while increasing visibility, awareness, and networking between organizations in community, affirming public environments and public education. Their efforts focus on meeting people where they are, collaborating with others and offering support to families, allies and people who are LGBTQ+, educating on issues and challenges, and advocating for a community that fosters equality.

Leadership:	Claire Graff
Number of staff:	0 full-time, volunteer run
Current Budget:	\$100,000

## PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS, GLENWOOD SPRINGS

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains (PPRM) provides education, advocacy, and patient-centered sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion care.”

**Overview:** Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains offers reproductive health care and provides comprehensive sex education programs and advocacy through 18 health Centers in Colorado, including Glenwood Springs (which opened in 1979). In addition to reproductive health services, the clinic provides testing and early identification of breast and cervical cancer. In a rural community, it is often the only health care available to women. Through its Patient Assistance Fund, PPRM is committed to serving patients regardless of income, identity, or background.

Leadership:	Rebecca Binion, Glenwood Clinic Manager
Number of staff:	281 full-time, 194 part-time
Number Served:	2,500 annual clients served by Patient Assistance Fund
Current Budget:	\$65,000,000*

\*Budget represent the entire Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains organization

## RAISING A READER ASPEN TO PARACHUTE

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To foster early literacy bonds between children and their parents to ensure that all young children from Aspen to Parachute develop a love of books and the skills to become successful readers.”

**Overview:** Raising a Reader Aspen to Parachute seeks to improve kindergarten readiness and early literary success by fostering early brain development and parent-child bonding through its “take home” book bag program. Working with preschools, churches, libraries, and community centers from Basalt to Rifle, about 900 children under the age of six are exposed to 60 to 80 books yearly.

Leadership:	Suzanne Wheeler Del-Piccolo, Executive Director
Number of staff:	1 full-time, 7 part-time

Number Served:	1,500
Current Budget:	\$250,000

## RESPONSE

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to El Jebel*

**Mission Statement:** “To work with our community to end domestic and sexual abuse and to support survivors in achieving their own safety and empowerment.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1983, Response serves victims and survivors of domestic violence and their families by training volunteer advocates and providing 24/7 crisis intervention, support-group counseling, and court advocacy, as well as offering the Housing for Survivors program. Response’s staff and volunteer advocates work closely with local law enforcement, schools, and other nonprofit organizations to provide confidential, non-judgmental support for people from Aspen to Basalt/El Jebel.

Leadership:	Shannon Meyer, Executive Director
Number of staff:	5 full-time, 3 part-time
Number Served:	175
Current Budget:	\$825,000

## RIVER BRIDGE REGIONAL CENTER

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To provide collaborative services to child abuse victims, their families, and the community in a supportive environment through a child-centered approach.”

**Overview:** Founded in 2007, River Bridge is an accredited, evidence-based children’s advocacy center. RBRC brings together the services and support needed, including law enforcement, prosecutors, child protective services, and medical and mental health professionals to confront child sexual abuse. This approach reduces trauma to the child, aids in the prosecution of abusers, and maintains and supports the accuracy of information capable of withstanding the scrutiny of court proceedings. Since 2018, the Mountain West SANE Alliance (Sex Assault Nurse Examiners) has been under their management.

Leadership:	Blythe Chapman, Executive Director
Number of staff:	7 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	600
Current Budget:	\$950,000

## RIVER CENTER OF NEW CASTLE

*Based in New Castle, serving families in New Castle, Silt and beyond.*

**Mission Statement:** “To address and identify unmet community needs with compassionate volunteerism.”

**Overview:** River Center of New Castle is the community resource center for New Castle and Silt. It provides an array of services including financial assistance for individuals and families, senior luncheons, food for students on weekends and during the summer, school supplies, and winter coats for those in need. It also organizes the community garden and Angel Tree programs.

Leadership:	Heather Paulson, Executive Director
Number of staff:	1 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	500
Current Budget:	\$335,000

## ROARING FORK MUSIC SOCIETY

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Silt*

**Mission Statement:** “We believe in inspiring and educating the next generation of musicians – empowering them to carry their musical skills onto the performance stage, throughout the community and into all aspects of their lives.”

**Overview:** Roaring Fork Music Society is dedicated to making orchestral and traditional music education and performances accessible and affordable to regional youth and community members. In operation since 2011, the Roaring Fork Youth Orchestra program fills the gap in music education access for K-12 youth. Initially based in Aspen, they have expanded rehearsal opportunities to Aspen, Carbondale, New Castle and Silt, and increased needs-based scholarships.

Leadership:	Sarah Graf
Number of staff:	0 full-time, 3 part-time
Number Served:	75 students
Current Budget:	\$115,000

## ROARING FORK OUTDOOR VOLUNTEERS

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To promote stewardship of our public lands by engaging our community in education, restoration, and conservation projects.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1995, Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers connects volunteers to work in partnership with public agencies and municipalities that manage our public lands. The Young Stewards Program broadens their community-wide ethos of outdoor stewardship while also addressing the need for outdoor education programs for underserved populations. They partner with schools, libraries, and youth-focused nonprofits to provide experiential learning in the outdoors. RFOV is the lead partner for ACF’s Youth in Nature program.

Leadership:	Rebecca Schild, Executive Director
Number of staff:	6 full-time, 7 part-time
Number Served:	1,000
Current Budget:	\$900,000

## ROARING FORK PRECOLLEGIATE

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Basalt, Roaring Fork and Glenwood Springs schools*

**Mission Statement:** “To identify promising first-generation students and motivate them to pursue higher education. Through personal mentoring we provide access to information and resources and equip students with relevant life skills to enable them to successfully complete high school and graduate into a postsecondary program of their choice.”

**Overview:** The Roaring Fork PreCollegiate program provides academic and extracurricular support to first-generation students in order increase high school graduation rates and help establish a college-going culture within the school district. The program consists of four main components: group mentoring with community volunteers, summer residential college camps, parent classes and outreach, and comprehensive college advising and transition planning.

Leadership:	David Smith, Executive Director
Number of staff:	4 full-time and 1 part-time



Number Served:	400 students
Current Budget:	\$525,000

## THE SAVINGS COLLABORATIVE

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “The Savings Collaborative makes it easy for people left outside mainstream banking to save money and develop the habit of saving, building financial resilience and wealth across generations. SC provides a unique savings solution for families living with low incomes, most of whom are un/underbanked. SC directly impacts the economic safety of historically excluded communities of color, immigrants, and refugees.”

**Overview:** The Savings Collaborative, previously known as LaMedichi, was incubated within MANUAS, and currently serves over 1,800 members with banking and loan services for individuals who are left behind by traditional financial ecosystems. They are grounded in community and include a community ambassador model who share lived experience of the members and listen and build relationships while supporting members with goal setting, savings tips and mobile app support. What sets them apart is that they help unbanked individuals get started with savings habits in practice. To date they have provided over \$180,000 in emergency loans with no defaults. Members identify as 87% Latino and 60% state they cannot meet a \$400 emergency payment.

Leadership:	Barbara Freeman, Executive Director
Number of staff:	3 full-time and 12 part-time
Number Served:	1,800 members
Current Budget:	\$750,000

## STEPPING STONES OF THE ROARING FORK VALLEY

*Based in and serving Carbondale and Roaring Fork school district students*

**Mission Statement:** “Empowering Roaring Fork Valley teens to reach self-sufficiency by providing youth with a safe and structured environment to learn life skills, participate in experiential learning, and have access to professional counseling and support services”

**Overview:** Founded in 2013, Stepping Stones of the Roaring Fork Valley is a safe, drug- and alcohol-free place for teenagers to come after school and during summer. Stepping Stones offers mentoring, skill development, educational support, drug and alcohol education, and access to programming in the arts, community engagement and outdoor recreation. Its drop-in center provides home-cooked meals each night as well as access to basic needs services such as showers and laundry.

Leadership:	Kyle Crawley, Executive Director
Number of staff:	6 full-time, 5 part-time
Number Served:	350+
Current Budget:	\$700,000

## SUMMIT 54, SUMMER ADVANTAGE ROARING FORK VALLEY

*Based in Aspen, serving Basalt, Carbondale and Glenwood Springs schools*

**Mission Statement:** “Summit 54 is committed to improving K-12 education effectiveness through coordinated, strategic, and accountable investments in evidence-based programs.”

**Overview:** Since 2012, Summit 54 has operated the Summer Advantage Roaring Fork Valley program, which provides five weeks of rigorous daily academic instruction and enrichment for kindergarten

through fourth grade students who are most at risk for falling behind. The program is free of charge and includes breakfast, snacks, and lunch for all participants.

Leadership:	Terri Caine, Executive Director
Number of staff:	1 full time
Number Served:	650
Current Budget:	\$1,150,000

## TACAW: THE ARTS CAMPUS AT WILLITS

*Performance arts venue based in Willits/Basalt*

**Mission Statement:** “TACAW presents exceptional performing arts, cultural events, and thought-provoking programming that sustain a connected, engaged, and inspired community.”

**Overview:** The Arts Campus at Willits (TACAW) emerged out of the midvalley’s growing community need for an arts space to host a wide array of local and national performing entities. TACAW builds programs that provide equitable space and social hub for arts education and art creation opportunities. They host year-round ticketed and free events, featuring national touring bands, artists, and entertainment. They present local musical, dance and theatre groups, and partners with local nonprofit organizations and Roaring Fork School District to host events and utilize the space. Their Youth Art Pass is an equity-building program that offers two free tickets to age-appropriate events for 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students in Basalt and Carbondale. Their Education & Outreach Initiative is intentionally designed as a bilingual and bicultural community event series focusing on social/emotional learning opportunities through programming specifically produced for local elementary and middle school students.

Leadership:	Ryan Honey, Executive Director
Number of staff:	7 full-time, 15 part-time
Number Served:	1,200 youth through Education & Outreach Initiative Over 13,000 ticketed patrons last year
Current Budget:	\$2,100,000

## THEATRE ASPEN

*Based in Aspen, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Theatre Aspen’s mission is to produce world-class entertainment and arts programming in an engaging, intimate, and personal way. World class theatre, dramatically closer.”

**Overview:** Theatre Aspen was founded in 1983 to create an artistic training center and offer inspiring theatre in Aspen. The current theatre venue was built in 2012 and houses the main stage and summer conservatory productions. In addition to professional theatre performances, Theatre Aspen provides education programs for youth and adults, operates an apprentice program to bridge the gap between education and starting a career, and provides a venue for artists to create new work. They have created dual-language theatre education programs for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in regional schools. This work focuses on establishing relationships with under-resources schools and arts departments where programs can have a larger impact, such as the 2022 theatre camp at Bea Underwood Elementary School in Garfield No. 16 School District.

Leadership:	Jed Bernstein, Executive Director
Number of staff:	15 full-time, 103 part-time
Number Served:	500+ children through theatre education programs
Current Budget:	\$4,500,000

## VALLEY SETTLEMENT

*Based in Carbondale, serving Basalt to Glenwood Springs*

**Mission Statement:** “Valley Settlement listens to Latina families, and together we create opportunities for early childhood and adult education, connection, and growth, so children and families can thrive.”

**Overview:** Established in 2012, Valley Settlement addresses the barriers low-income Latino immigrants face when settling in and connecting to the community. Valley Settlement focuses on two primary goals: improved school readiness and elementary school achievement for children, and family economic stability. Programs include mobile preschool, parent education and home visitation, family health and wellness, parent mentors, and adult literacy and career education.

Leadership:	Maria Tarajano Rodman, Executive Director
Number of staff:	34 full-time, 5 part-time
Number Served:	900 individuals in 600 households
Current Budget:	\$4,000,000

## VOCES UNIDAS DE LAS MONTAÑAS

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “We envision a mountain region where Latinas and Latinos are thriving, engaged and leading in all of communities. We do this by creating opportunities to advocate for themselves, to actively participate in all civic institutions, and to take leadership roles in all decision-making tables.”

**Summary:** Founded in 2020, Voces Unidas de las Montañas provides culturally and linguistically relevant leadership programs, advocacy focused on social justice issues such as transportation, housing, healthcare and education, and civic engagement activities including voter registration drives, issue education and get out the vote campaigns.

Leadership:	Alex Sanchez, Executive Director
Number of staff:	4 full-time
Number Served:	300
Current Budget:	\$1,250,000

## VOICES

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Rifle*

**Mission Statement:** “To amplify voices through the arts. VOICES believes that arts transcend boundaries of cultures, races, traditions, and social-economic differences. Through VOICES programs In School, On Stage and In Community, we bring focus to thriving youth, and support them in discovering their authentic selves, feeling heard and seen.”

**Summary:** VOICES was founded in 2016 with a commitment to creating a community of open hearts. The founders and the current team are all artists, teachers and community leaders striving to contribute to a strong landscape of community services through the shared belief that every voice is powerful. The Youth VOICES Project is an in-school residence through Roaring Fork School District. The program provides artistic mentorship and guidance to support youth exploration and expression of their authentic selves. Over the years VOICES has identified other on-stage anchor programs such as Women’s VOICES, Queer VOICES, the intergenerational Sage VOICES project and Nuestras VOCES.

Leadership:	MinTze Wu, Executive Director
Number of staff:	1 full-time, 2 part-time
Number Served:	300 students

Current Budget: \$250,000

## WEST MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To build an integrated healthcare system to achieve optimal health for all people who live in the West Mountain region (Garfield, Pitkin, and Eagle Counties).”

**Summary:** Since 2010, WMRHA has worked as a backbone organization and convener to bring together hospitals, clinics, private health care providers, government, and community organizations. WMRHA guides regional strategies and initiatives that increase access to integrated care (physical, behavioral, oral), address social determinants of health (food, housing, transportation, interpersonal violence, social isolation), and advocate for and educate on health policy. It also operates the Community Resource Network and the regional ‘Call 2-1-1’ database for statewide community resources. By convening over 175 organizations and key stakeholders, utilizing shared health data and aligning efforts, WMRHA is building regional plans to make system-level changes.

Leadership:	Cristina Gair, Executive Director
Number of staff:	4 full-time
Number Served:	100 organizations and community partners
Current Budget:	\$1,500,000

## WINDWALKERS EQUINE ASSISTED LEARNING & THERAPY CENTER

*Based in Carbondale/Missouri Heights, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “WindWalkers is an equine assisted learning and therapy center with a family-centered approach. WindWalkers is where caring professionals and an exceptional herd of horses care for individuals in need. The mission is to provide a variety of equine-assisted activities and therapies to aid in the development and growth of those with challenges, be they physical, neurological, emotional, behavioral, or psychological.”

**Summary:** In 2005, WindWalkers began with two clients and only one horse. Today, they serve 130+ clients weekly with 24 equine therapy school horses. They provide all-inclusive summer camps, group and individual counseling sessions, and school-based field trips through their equine assisted psychotherapy and therapeutic riding programs. In February 2020, they fulfilled their dream to purchase the ranch property that was leased.

Leadership:	Gabrielle Greeves, Executive Director
Number of staff:	5 full-time, 7 part-time
Number Served:	130 clients weekly
Current Budget:	\$1,000,000

## YAMPAH MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Basalt to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Yampah Mountain High School is a learning community designed to develop meaningful relationships, a pursuit of lifelong learning, and the academic skills in support of multiple pathways to high school graduation and post-secondary success.”

**Overview:** Founded in 1989, Yampah Mountain High School provides individualized learning for students, ages 14-20, who are at risk of not completing high school. These risk factors include teenage

pregnancy or parenting, traumatic life experiences, emotional disabilities, and general disengagement and disinterest in the traditional school setting. Yampah also provides childcare for children ages birth to 3 ½ whose teenaged parents are enrolled in the Teen Parent Program.

Leadership:	Leigh McGown, Principal
Number of staff:	26 full-time, 5 part-time
Number Served:	200 students in grades 9-12
Current Budget:	\$3,000,000

## YOUTHENTITY

*Based in Carbondale, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “To empower youth to build successful futures through financial education and career readiness.”

**Overview:** Founded in 2001, Youthentity offers authentic real-world learning experiences for students including financial literacy and career exploration and development. Youthentity delivers state-mandated personal financial literacy standards for middle and high school students in six counties, helps middle school students match their personality traits, interests, and strengths with potential career paths and to connect them with career-oriented internships in the community, and provides high school students with life-skills coaching, work experience and career-specific training.

Leadership:	Kirsten Petre McDaniel, Executive Director
Number of staff:	4 full-time, 15 part-time
Number Served:	3,949 students
Current Budget:	\$1,125,000

## YOUTHZONE

*Based in Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen to Parachute*

**Mission Statement:** “Providing opportunities for youth to be responsible, contributing members of their communities and work with their families and the community toward this end.”

**Overview:** Established in 1976, YouthZone provides prevention and intervention services for at-risk youth and their families. These services include juvenile justice system intervention (court advocacy, deferred sentencing, diversion, case management and useful public service); restorative justice and victim/offender mediation; individual, family, and adolescent peer group counseling; and preventive programs.

Leadership:	Jami Hayes, Executive Director
Number of staff:	14 full-time, 10 part-time
Number Served:	1,550
Current Budget:	\$2,000,000

## ASPEN TIMES COLUMNS FEATURING LOCAL NONPROFITS

ACF authors a bi-monthly column in *The Aspen Times* highlighting issues that impact children and families and the nonprofit organizations providing services and support.

[Building brain awareness to support belonging](#) – FocusedKids

[Horses as partners for wellbeing](#) – Windwalkers Equine Assisted Learning and Therapy Center

[Shifting habits to create generational wealth](#) – The Savings Collaborative

[Engaged philanthropy leads to increased support for youth](#) – Stepping Stones, Yampah Mountain High School, YouthZone

[Bringing awareness to break the silence](#) – Response

[Connect hearts and minds across communities](#) – Manaus, The Arts Campus at Willits, Voices

[Grief can build a community](#) – Pathfinders

[Nature as an antidote](#) – Aspen Center for Environmental Studies, Aspen Valley Land Trust, Buddy Program, Farm Collaborative, GlenX, Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers

[Upcoming GlenX expo event plants postsecondary seeds](#) – GlenX

[Nonprofit workers are a nonrenewable resource](#) – Early Learning Center, YouthZone

[School's out for the summer](#) – Aspen Valley Ski & Snowboard Club, Aspen Youth Center, Summit54

[Art saves lives is a saying that rings true in our area](#) – The Art Base, Carbondale Arts

[Healing substance abuse in community](#) – A Way Out

[Slow and steady expansion for Buddy Program- Buddy Program](#)

[Older adults are part of the housing conversation- Alpine Legal](#)

[Meeting the increased demand for food access through innovation- LIFT-UP](#)

[Community support is critical for first-gen college students- PreCollegiate](#)

[Supporting youth in accessing their potential- Cook Inclusive Company](#)



## DONOR ADVISED FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS

The following organizations are located in the Aspen to Parachute region and are recent recipients of donor advised fund grants. Please click on the organization to learn more about their work.

[10th Mountain Division Hut Association](#)

[5Point Film Festival](#)

[A Way Out](#)

[Access AfterSchool](#)

[Advocate Safehouse Project](#)

[Alpine Legal Services](#)

[Anderson Ranch Arts Center](#)

[Andy Zanca Youth Empowerment](#)

[The Art Base](#)

[Ascendigo](#)

[Aspen Alpine Club](#)

[Aspen Art Museum](#)

[Aspen Camp for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing](#)

[Aspen Center for Environmental Studies](#)

[Aspen Chapel](#)

[Aspen Choral Society](#)

[Aspen Community School](#)

[Aspen Community Theatre](#)

[Aspen Country Day School](#)

[Aspen Education Foundation](#)

[Aspen Family Connections](#)

[Aspen Film](#)

[Aspen Fire Protection District](#)

[Aspen Global Change Institute](#)

[Aspen Hall of Fame](#)

[Aspen Historical Society](#)

[Aspen Hope Center](#)

[The Aspen Institute](#)

[Aspen Jewish Congregation](#)

[Aspen Journalism](#)

[Aspen Junior Golf Foundation](#)

[Aspen Music Festival and School](#)

[Aspen Public Radio](#)

[Aspen Santa Fe Ballet](#)

[Aspen School District](#)

[Aspen Science Center](#)

[Aspen Snowmass Nordic Council](#)

[Aspen Strong](#)

[Aspen Valley Hospital Foundation](#)

[Aspen Valley Land Trust](#)

[Aspen Valley Ski & Snowboard Club](#)

[Aspen Words](#)

[Aspen Youth Center](#)

[AspenOUT](#)

[Basalt Education Foundation](#)

[Basalt Regional Library District](#)

[Blue Lake Preschool](#)

[Bridging Bionics Foundation](#)

[The Buddy Program](#)

[Carbondale Arts](#)

[Carbondale Clay Center](#)

[Carbondale Community School](#)

[CASA of the Ninth](#)

[Center for Prevention and Treatment of Disease Through Nutrition](#)

[Challenge Aspen](#)

[Chris Klug Foundation](#)

[CLEER \(Clean Energy Economy for the Region\)](#)

[College Outreach](#)

[Colorado Animal Rescue](#)

[Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust](#)

[Colorado Fourteeners Initiative](#)

[Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition](#)

[Colorado Mountain Club](#)

[Colorado Mountain College Foundation](#)

[Colorado Open Lands](#)

[Community Health Services](#)

[Conservation Colorado Education Fund](#)

[Conservation Fund](#)

[Dance Initiative](#)

[DanceAspen](#)

[Early Childhood Network](#)

[Early Learning Center](#)

[EcoFlight](#)

[English In Action](#)

[Family Resource Center, Roaring Fork Schools](#)

[The Farm Collaborative](#)

[Feed My Sheep Ministry](#)

[FocusedKids](#)

[Food Bank of the Rockies](#)

[Forest Conservancy](#)

[Friends of the Aspen Animal Shelter](#)

[Friends of Colorado Avalanche Information Center](#)

[Garfield County Animal Welfare Foundation](#)

[Garfield County Public Library District](#)

[Garfield County School District 16](#)

[Garfield School District Re-2](#)

[GrassRoots Television](#)

# Nonprofit Support

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<a href="#">Great Expectations (formerly Family Visitor Program)</a>	<a href="#">Roaring Fork PreCollegiate</a>
<a href="#">Growing Years School</a>	<a href="#">Roaring Fork Valley Storytellers</a>
<a href="#">Harvest For Hunger</a>	<a href="#">Rocky Mountain Institute</a>
<a href="#">High Country News</a>	<a href="#">Rocky Mountain PBS</a>
<a href="#">Homecare and Hospice of the Valley</a>	<a href="#">The Salvation Army</a>
<a href="#">Independence Pass Foundation</a>	<a href="#">Seed Peace</a>
<a href="#">Jazz Aspen Snowmass</a>	<a href="#">Senior Matters</a>
<a href="#">KDNK Carbondale Community Access Radio</a>	<a href="#">Seniors Independent</a>
<a href="#">LIFT-UP</a>	<a href="#">Shining Stars Foundation</a>
<a href="#">Literacy Outreach</a>	<a href="#">Smiling Goat Ranch</a>
<a href="#">Lucky Day Animal Rescue of Colorado</a>	<a href="#">Sopris Sun</a>
<a href="#">MANAUS</a>	<a href="#">St. Mary Catholic Church</a>
<a href="#">Mark Ross Montessori Foundation</a>	<a href="#">Steadman Philippon Research Institute</a>
<a href="#">Middle Colorado Watershed Council</a>	<a href="#">Stepping Stones of the Roaring Fork Valley</a>
<a href="#">Mind Springs Health</a>	<a href="#">Summit54</a>
<a href="#">Mount Sopris Montessori School</a>	<a href="#">Sustainable Settings</a>
<a href="#">Mountain Family Health Centers</a>	<a href="#">The Arts Campus at Willits</a>
<a href="#">Mountain Rescue Aspen</a>	<a href="#">Theatre Aspen</a>
<a href="#">Mountain Valley Developmental Services</a>	<a href="#">Third Street Center</a>
<a href="#">Mountain Valley Horse Rescue</a>	<a href="#">Thunder River Theatre Company</a>
<a href="#">Neshama Center</a>	<a href="#">UPportunity</a>
<a href="#">Our School</a>	<a href="#">Valley Settlement</a>
<a href="#">Pathfinders</a>	<a href="#">Valley View Hospital Foundation</a>
<a href="#">Pitkin County Library</a>	<a href="#">Voces Unidas de las Montañas</a>
<a href="#">Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains</a>	<a href="#">VOICES</a>
<a href="#">Protect Our Winters</a>	<a href="#">Waldorf School on the Roaring Fork</a>
<a href="#">Raising A Reader Aspen to Parachute</a>	<a href="#">WE-cycle</a>
<a href="#">Reach Out and Read Colorado</a>	<a href="#">Western Resource Advocates</a>
<a href="#">Recovery Resources</a>	<a href="#">Western Slope Veterans Coalition</a>
<a href="#">Red Brick Center for the Arts</a>	<a href="#">Wheeler Opera House Association</a>
<a href="#">Response</a>	<a href="#">The Wilderness Land Trust</a>
<a href="#">Riding Institute for Disabled Equestrians</a>	<a href="#">Wilderness Workshop</a>
<a href="#">River Bridge Regional Center</a>	<a href="#">Wildwood School</a>
<a href="#">River Center of New Castle</a>	<a href="#">WindWalkers Equine Assisted Learning and</a>
<a href="#">Roaring Fork Conservancy</a>	<a href="#">Therapy Center</a>
<a href="#">Roaring Fork Mountain Bike Association</a>	<a href="#">Yampah Mountain High School</a>
<a href="#">Roaring Fork Music Society</a>	<a href="#">Youthentity</a>
<a href="#">Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers</a>	<a href="#">YouthZone</a>
<a href="#">Roaring Fork Pickleball Association</a>	

## ORGANIZATION FUNDS

ACF holds funds on behalf of nonprofit organizations, providing assurance to their donors that funds earmarked for the future are invested wisely and used appropriately. ACF manages these funds as part of its investment portfolio and distributes payments to the organizations.

### ASPEN JUNIOR HOCKEY ENDOWMENT FUND

“Developing strong character and a love of the game through the sport of hockey.”

### BOB BEATTIE ENDOWMENT FUND OF ASPEN VALLEY SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

“To provide all youth in the greater Roaring Fork Valley the opportunity to excel as athletes and as people through winter sports.”

### THE BUDDY PROGRAM ENDOWMENT FUND

“Empowering youth through mentoring experiences in order to reach their full potential.”

### ANGUS L GRAHAM MEMORIAL FUND

“The Carbondale Clay Center exists to enrich lives through ceramic arts.”

### GRASSROOTS ASIA ORGANIZATION FUND

“Grassroots Asia identifies and empowers grassroots projects in Asia which offer a high social return on investment. Emphasis is placed on emergency relief, basic care (food, water, shelter, health care) and education for children and the under-privileged.”

### ROARING FORK LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

“RFL develops individuals to become more effective leaders who engage and enhance their communities.”

### TREES, WATER & PEOPLE, INC. FUND

“Our mission is to improve people’s lives by helping communities protect, conserve and manager the natural resources upon which their long-term well-being depends.”

### THUNDER RIVER THEATRE COMPANY ENDOWMENT & GENERAL FUNDS

“By engaging artists and audiences, Thunder River Theatre Company explores the human experience through inspired theatre and innovative artistry.”

### VALLEY VIEW HOSPITAL ENDOWMENT FUND

“To accelerate excellence in healthcare at Valley View through philanthropy.”

### YOUTHZONE FOUNDATION FUND

“Providing opportunities for youth to be responsible, contributing members of their communities and work with their families and the community toward this end.”

# Direct Assistance

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*Despite the perception of abundance, numerous people in the Aspen to Parachute region struggle to provide for themselves and their families. Many in our community are on the edge of financial hardship, often making decisions about which basic need they can afford and are often one unforeseen expense away from crisis. Aspen Community Foundation holds an array of funds that help individuals and families afford essential services, creating stability in their lives and the community.*

## EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND

For over 30 years, the Emergency Assistance Fund has helped individuals and families with limited resources who find themselves in financial crisis meet their basic needs. Local organizations and agencies may apply on behalf of someone seeking financial assistance for food, clothing, housing, utility bills, medical or dental care, or transportation.

## GAP FUND

Established in 2019 by Frances Ginsburg and Robert Olson, the Gap Fund's mission is to improve the lives of individuals and families in the Aspen to Parachute region by providing financial assistance to fill in the gap between available resources and expenses.

## MENTAL HEALTH FUND

The Aspen to Parachute region has significant instances of substance abuse, suicide, and other mental health issues. Access to treatment can be out of reach for many in the community due to seasonal and low-wage jobs without health benefits and the highest insurance premiums in the country. The Mental Health Fund provides assistance to individuals needing mental health services. Since 2022, the Mental Health Fund has been administered by [HeadQuarters](#).

## QUALITY OF LIFE CANCER FUND

A cancer diagnosis can cause financial hardship for patients and families in the form of treatment-related costs and decreased income. Expenses such as household bills, travel for treatment, and childcare take an economic toll on families. In partnership with Aspen Valley Hospital Foundation, the Quality of Life Fund provides financial assistance to patients, survivors, families, and caregivers to help mitigate this burden. Visit the Quality of Life Cancer Fund [website](#) for more information.

## VALLEY AUTISM ASSISTANCE FUND

Families living with Autism Spectrum Disorder often need additional support when dealing with the specialized and complex issues surrounding autism. To ease the compounded levels of stress involved with daily life maintenance and unexpected crisis, this fund was created to provide monetary assistance to families of emergency or crisis.

# Scholarships & Experiential Learning

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Scholarships help students reach their postsecondary educational goals and provide opportunities for experiential learning. Aspen Community Foundation holds 12 funds that provide tuition assistance to graduating high school seniors and returning college students, as well as offer scholarships to experiential learning programs for current high school students. These funds support students from diverse backgrounds with varying college and career paths, including first generation college attendees, low-income students, those pursuing technical certification and apprenticeship training, and those interested in history and conservation.

## GUNILLA ISRAEL ASHER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2015 by *The Aspen Times*

Criteria: Demonstrating financial need

Awards: 1 per year, \$2,000

Schools: Aspen

## HARLEY BALDWIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2005 by ACF in memory of Harley Baldwin, a former ACF board member

Criteria: First-generation and demonstrating financial need

Awards: Five per year, \$1,000 to \$5,000 each

Schools: Aspen, Basalt, Roaring Fork and Glenwood Springs

## BETTYFLIES FOUNDATION FLIGHT SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2022 with a gift from the BettyFlies Foundation

Criteria: Students interested in learning to fly and a career in aviation

Awards: 3 per year, \$12,000 each

Schools: Aspen

## BRADEN Q. BRUINGTON BASALT HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2016 by the family of Braden Bruington

Criteria: Strong academic record and demonstrating financial need

Awards: 1 per year, \$2,000

Schools: Basalt

## FAST FORWARD SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2014 by Paul D. Bushong, Jr.

Criteria: Pursuing technical or vocational certification, or two-year degree program

Awards: Two-year scholarships up to 10 students per year, up to \$10,000 each

Schools: Basalt, Bridges, Roaring Fork, Glenwood Springs, Yampah Mountain, Coal Ridge and Rifle.

## JOHN GOLD PRECOLLEGIATE PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2006 by Barbara and John Gold

Criteria: Roaring Fork PreCollegiate graduates entering and continuing college

Awards: 50-100 each year ranging from \$500 - \$1,500. This is a renewable scholarship.

Schools: Basalt, Roaring Fork, and Glenwood Springs

# Scholarships & Experiential Learning

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## JOHN GOLD PRECOLLEGIATE PROGRAM ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2014 by Anne and Bill Tobey and Kathy and David Chase to provide sustainable funding for the John Gold PreCollegiate Program Scholarship

## JEROME HATEM SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2019 by friends and family of Jerome Hatem

Criteria: Participant in a junior-level rugby program in the Roaring Fork Valley

Awards: 1 per year, \$1000-2,000

Schools: All high schools in the Aspen to Parachute region

## TOM PEIRCE & MELANIE PEIRCE BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2003 by the family of Tom Peirce

Criteria: Strong social conscience and demonstrating financial need

Awards: 2 per year, \$5,000 each

Schools: Aspen and Basalt

## AARON ROBERTS-GRAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2019 by the family of Aaron Roberts-Gray

Criteria: Male student graduating from Glenwood Springs

Awards: 1 per year, \$2,000. This is a renewable scholarship.

Schools: Glenwood Springs

## MCBRIDE AFRICAN INTERNSHIP

Established in 2014 by Laurie and John McBride to promote wildlife and conservation education for youth through annual two-week internships at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya

Criteria: Strong interest in conservation

Awards: 8 students participate per year

Schools: Aspen, Basalt, Bridges, Roaring Fork, Glenwood Springs and Yampah Mountain

## NORMANDY & WWII EDUCATION

Established in 2016 by Paul D. Bushong, Jr., to promote understanding of the significance of Normandy and its place in World War II through an annual 12-day educational trip to New Orleans and France

Criteria: Current Sophomores or Juniors

Awards: 15-20 students participate per year

Schools: Aspen, Basalt, Bridges, Roaring Fork, Yampah Mountain and Coal Ridge



# Special Interest Areas

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*Special Interest Area funds are held by Aspen Community Foundation for specific purposes. These funds are established to support a broad array of interests such as the arts, disaster relief or health. Donors can give to these causes, relying on Aspen Community Foundation to identify organizations and projects capable of making the greatest impact.*

## COMMUNITY TO COMMUNITY FUND

The Community to Community Fund provides a way for donors to support the immediate and long-term needs of disaster victims and their families as well as impacted agencies and communities. Since Hurricane Katrina, contributions to this fund have been used to help other communities impacted by natural disasters. Most recently, contributions collected in response to the Lake Christine Fire were disbursed for immediate relief and recovery efforts focused on impacted individuals and families and to support long-term mitigation and preparedness efforts.

## LAREY J. DRESNER MEMORIAL FUND

The Larey J. Dresner Memorial Fund was established in 2009 by his family. The Fund supports nonprofit organizations that provide quality afterschool programming for elementary and middle school students from Aspen to Parachute.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

The first five years of a child's life is a time of extraordinary brain development that shapes cognitive and social emotional growth. Quality, enriching early childhood experiences during this crucial time is vital to ensuring that children have a positive start in life. Established in 2008, the Early Childhood Fund supports parent education, preschool, and literacy programs that promote social-emotional development and school readiness. Gifts to this fund may qualify for the Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit (see page 4).

## EBF CULTURAL DIVERSITY FUND

In honor of Ellen Freedman, former Aspen Community Foundation executive director, the EBF Cultural Diversity Fund was established to target an important area of community life. The Fund awards grants to organizations that are making a difference in embracing the ethnic and cultural diversity of our communities from Aspen to Parachute. These organizations provide individuals from a variety of backgrounds the opportunity for full participation in community life.

## ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION MATCH

Since 2005, Aspen Community Foundation has partnered with the Environment Foundation of the Aspen Skiing Company to match employee contributions for their semiannual grant allocations. Organizations supported focus on climate change awareness, advocacy, and policy; gardens and local agriculture; responsible oil and gas development; trail work and restoration projects; water policy, and youth environmental education.

# Board and Staff

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pam Alexander  
Jill Aschkenasy, *Co-Chair*  
Jeff Black  
Bob Blattberg  
Ramona Bruland, *Secretary*  
Susan Crown  
Jennifer Elliot, *Treasurer*  
Bruce Etkin  
Allen Grossman, *Co-Chair*  
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Melony Lewis  
Susie Meraz  
Marcie Musser  
Craig Navias  
Rob Pew  
Susana Salamun  
Yesenia Silva Estrada  
Maria Tiscay

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