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Foothills United Way  
United we fight.  
United we win.



*Focusing community investment to create sustainable, positive changes in people's lives.*

## LIVE UNITED COLLABORATIVE HIGHLIGHT: DREAM BIG INITIATIVE

Today, we highlight the **Dream Big Initiative**, a Foothills United Way LIVE UNITED® Collaborative whose overarching objective is to "increase Boulder's collective commitment to eliminate the opportunity and achievement gaps" so that "by 2040, all children in Boulder County are succeeding academically and reaching their full potential." The Dream Big Initiative is dedicated to addressing this by providing low-income youth and their families with Cradle-to-Career support through three tiers: increasing academic success, strengthening family support networks and promoting student well-being.

Members of the Collaborative include: Boulder Housing Partners, I Have a Dream Foundation, Foothills United Way, Boulder Valley School District, Boulder Parks and Recreation Youth Services Initiative, Boulder County Housing and Human Services, The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County, City of Boulder Family Resource Schools and Community Member Cathie Williamson. We have been building and piloting this model for two years now, each partner bringing their particular talents, resources, access and expertise to a common table, to accomplish jointly what no organization could do alone.



Dream Big Initiative Participant

In addition to being named a LIVE UNITED® Collaborative, the Dream Big Initiative received major funding through a multi-year grant to further support the Collaborative's efforts in the community.

"This award illustrates the importance of collectively supporting our youths' education, and the value of working with students from cradle to career to close the achievement and opportunity gap." Said Lori Canova, CEO of I Have a Dream and Co-Chair of the Dream Big Initiative, "knowing Foothills United Way supports this collaborative illustrates the larger community's commitment to make sure all of Boulder County's students have an equal chance of achievement, and the community's faith in our efforts!"

Foothills United Way LIVE UNITED® Collaboratives are local collaborative groups made up of nonprofits, government agencies, school districts, faith communities, businesses and other leaders in Boulder and Broomfield Counties who have illustrated their dedication to collaborating with each other to solve some of the area's most pressing issues.

## LEARN ABOUT LIVE UNITED® COLLABORATIVES

**GOOD NEWS FOR VOLUNTEERS AND CORPORATE VOLUNTEER TEAMS!**

Foothills United Way will welcome our new Volunteer Director, **Katriñe Arnedo!**

Katriñe grew up in a multi cultural family in Boulder, Colorado. After graduating from Boulder High School, she attended the University of Miami, where she double majored in International Studies and Political Science.

While in college, she began working as a student and community organizer for the United Auto Workers Global Organizing Institute on a campaign to support Nissan worker's rights to organize a free and fair union election. This role set her on a path focused on social change.

She then worked on the campus recruitment team for Teach for America and upon moving back to Denver, began working for Mile High United Way, helping corporations give back to the community and organizing volunteers as a School Partnership Coordinator.

She is excited to join the Foothills United Way team and hopes to advance meaningful and impactful volunteerism in the community she grew up in.

In her free time, Katriñe enjoys spending time with her family and friends, reading, creating art, practicing yoga, traveling, and spending time in the mountains and the ocean (whenever possible)!

**DRIVING COLLABORATION - ENCOURAGING INNOVATION**

Foothills United Way recently invested major, founding capital into an initiative that stands out for its collaborative nature, ingenuity, and replicability.

It turns out that in a child's first 18 years, they are in school only 9% of the time! In that limited amount of time, a child must absorb and become fluent in all the education we expect our K-12 education systems to deliver! Too many of our students are not meeting state standards for Math and English; which translates into a continued and increased need for social service investments for individuals and families into future generations.



[CLICK to read on!](#)

**A CONTRIBUTOR PERSPECTIVE**

**"We appreciate the new direction of Foothills United Way**  
 in focusing resources on three targeted priorities where there is a significant need, and where a major impact can be made and measured. This new mission is something that we can and will support in our future giving."

**- TERRY AND NOEL HEFTY**  
 Founder, Peak Asset Management & Community Volunteers  
 Foothills United Way Tocqueville Members



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