



Collaborative investment that creates sustainable, positive change in people's lives.

Let's #LIVEUNITED in 2018

We recently announced that we were awarding five Community Resilience Grants to help fund projects in Boulder and Broomfield counties to help create a more resilient community, one that is able to withstand and recover from any type of community setback.

Now in their second year, these Community Resilience Grants are awarded to support the development of projects that build the resources and relationships necessary to address the needs of residents impacted by family emergencies or community-wide disasters.

We know that a resilient community has strong relationships among individuals, neighbors and organizations with nearby places to turn for help. We want all residents of Boulder and Broomfield counties to know where to turn when they are facing hardship. The needs we face can only be addressed by working together for a common goal. By providing these innovative grants, we want to continue encouraging the hundreds of nonprofits, government and faith organizations to continue building resilience in our community.

Projects we are investing in are:

Boulder Meadows Comes to Life!

This initiative will create an interactive, multi-functional landscape in Boulder Meadows Mobile Home Park that uses a community garden as the medium to build resilience in a community that hosts multiple cultures, languages and socioeconomic levels. (Boulder Meadows Mobile Home Park).

CircleTalk - Increasing Engagement and Decreasing Social Isolation for Older Adults

This initiative will train facilitators in and provide CircleTalk - a program for vulnerable and at-risk older adults to enjoy a sense of belonging, develop a feeling of community, experience meaningful engagement and connection and feel less isolated - in the Boulder and Broomfield communities. (Jewish Family Service of Colorado, Inc).

Getting Ahead for Spanish Speakers

This initiative offers a Getting Ahead class for Spanish-speakers in our community, with additional emphasis on Financial Skills and being a Smart Consumer (OUR Center).

Lyons Prepared

This initiative is a citizen partnership with a mission to support emergency preparedness. It seeks to enhance communication in neighborhoods in preparation for any emergency

event (Town of Lyons, Lyons Fire Protection District).

Nederland Restorative Practices Initiative

This initiative will build bonding and bridging capital by supporting strong adult/student and student/student relationships in grades K-12 (TEENS, Inc., Boulder Valley School District, Nederland Elementary School, Nederland Middle-Senior High School).

GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Our appreciation continues for those companies and employees who selflessly give to Foothills United Way every year. We could not continue our work without you and as you read above, our work has the power to impact thousands in our communities. Today, we highlight the following companies, who help ensure our work can continue.

Thank You!

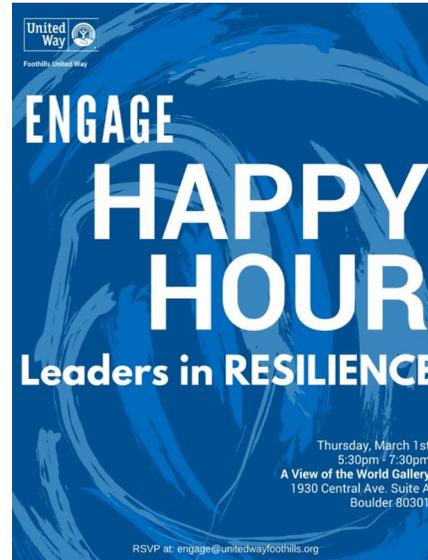
- **Target** in the Boulder/Broomfield region participated in their internal campaign as well as in multiple fundraisers at each store! Thank you Target for strengthening our community.
- **Macy's and Bloomingdale's** stores across the Front Range have come together and collected winter clothing at their locations as part of their internal campaign, helping those in need of an extra layer of clothing this winter.
- **UPS** continues to be a community leader through their employee giving campaign across the state of Colorado. In support of FHUW's three priority areas!
- **Leanin' Tree** calls Boulder home and has a long history of generous support of FHUW and our initiatives in the community.

These campaigns are about more than raising money for worthy causes; they strengthen connections between employees and their community. These are just a few of the many companies who participate in workplace and employee giving campaigns - we are thankful to all of the corporate partners who support us year after year. Thank you for believing in the mission of Foothills United Way and for providing us with the resources necessary to succeed in making a difference in our community.

GAINING AN EDUCATION THROUGH PIE

Last December, Deja Loa Forsythe graduated with a degree in Marketing from Metropolitan State University of Denver. She always knew she wanted to get a degree, and when she found herself struggling to pay for school, she looked to the Personal Investment Enterprise (PIE) program for help.

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"My aunt told me about the PIE program when I was trying to figure out how I would be able to finish college. I've always been good with saving and my finances but the matching funds were really key, I was able to not work so many hours and concentrate on my school work," Deja said.

The youngest of six children, Deja has had a difficult family life in recent years and was considered 'at-risk' during her time in high school, but her parents always stressed the importance of getting an education and completing college. "My parents would always tell me, you can be successful without a formal education, but so many more doors and opportunities are open to you when you have a degree." Today, she is already working in her field, specializing in digital marketing.



"I thought about going into music or psychology, but I wanted something a bit more practical. Marketing interested me because it is business-oriented, but you can also be creative in your day-to-day work." She found a paid internship while she was attending school that turned into a full-time job upon graduation. With that and the PIE program, she was able to purchase books, get hands-on experience in her field and not graduate with so much debt. "Without the PIE program, I would not have been able to purchase books; they would have been too much out of my budget. I know that would have held me back in my classes and would have had a negative impact on my studies."

Deja is proud of what she has achieved. She is the first in her family to graduate college and she knows she will be a good example for the younger generation in her family and others. "I want to create something that I am proud of; I want to volunteer with at-risk youth, giving back to the community which helped me so much. There is still a lot for me to learn and accomplish."

She finished with some words of wisdom, "Look for resources, because there are people out there who want to help you; get involved with the right people and the right programs. If you're looking to go to college, the PIE program can make your dream a reality."

To learn more about the PIE program, click [here!](#)

A NOTE FROM OUR CEO: LOOKING TOWARDS A GREAT 2018

Foothills United Way's commitment to community resilience is strong! With our latest round of awards, we have now invested in a dozen ground-breaking Resilience projects that are unique because they provide a permanent impact with a one-time investment. Congratulations to the creative problem-solvers in our community that have identified a need and designed a solution that works with a single investment! Foothills United Way is proud to make these life-changing solutions reality!



Just like a strong retirement savings portfolio, we make sure we put the right blend of investments into our community to produce the greatest return. Resilience projects can bring immediate and lasting returns with a one-time grant. On the other hand, our Collaborative Initiatives are the critical building blocks for our community's future, and garner our largest grants. Why? When dealing with the most challenging problems, individual organizations just can't get to scale. The solutions have to be sophisticated and multi-pronged if they're to be effective against complex problems. Continue reading [here.](#)

Foothills United Way thanks our Annual Sponsors!



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