



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

THANK YOU for a successful Chamber After Hours Event!

We had the honor of hosting the Lafayette, Louisville and Superior Chambers in our office for their Chamber After Hours event. Over 80 Chamber members came to spend an evening learning about Foothills United Way and about other small businesses in our community. Thank you to the Chambers for your support!



Thank you, Lafayette, Louisville, and Superior Chambers!

REAL IMPACT of Foothills United Way

Art and Advocacy were always an integral part of Juan Ignacio Stewart's life. As part of a Bi-National family, with his mother immigrating from Guatemala and his father being a Boulder local, he spent much of his formative years traveling to Guatemala and learning about the issues faced by the Ladino and Mayan indigenous peoples of the region.

"I was able to learn about the struggle of the indigenous minorities in my mother's home country and I wanted to do something to help," said Stewart. However, this would prove a bit more difficult than he had anticipated. After graduating college he wanted to begin a photography and videography company, but the instruments were expensive and he had no real idea of how to even start a business. "For a while I was borrowing my friends' cameras and computers, but that was time consuming and limited the work I could do, I was dependent on others support to get work done."

That is why, when he heard of the PIE program, he immediately signed up. "I don't remember where or how I heard about the program, I just knew that if I could get the matched-savings and learn about starting a business, I would be able to get this dream of mine off the ground," said Juan.



After the six-month program, he succeeded and was able to purchase editing software and a camera. "It truly made a difference in my life, I was able to work but also DO work that is important to me. I want to give a voice to the voiceless and going through this program has allowed me to do that." Juan has concentrated his talents on documentaries about the people that inspired him to take this path, as well as teach classes, workshops and youth media programs for teenagers that teach media production as a means for positive youth empowerment, civic engagement, and technology education.

In addition to his artistic work, Juan says the classes he took during the PIE program gave him the insight and knowledge to begin another venture - he has taken his mother's famous green chile recipe and started another small business, named Green Belly Foods. "Green Belly Hot Sauces are inspired by my mother, Maria del Carmen, and her traditional Guatemalan home-made hot sauces. They are simple and delicious sauces which are a pleasure to have with many meals," Stewart says.

He finished by saying, "I know for a fact that I would not be where I am today without the PIE program, without the matching funds but more importantly, without the classes they offered. Because of this program I was able to start not one, but two businesses. And for that, I am forever grateful."

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

Feb 11 = 2/11 = 211

Each February we celebrate an important resource available to every resident in Boulder and Broomfield counties, as well as 98% of the U.S. population. The 211 abbreviated number was set aside by the federal government in 2000 as one of only 8 short codes (like 911) as a service (free to callers) that directs folks to help when they don't

know where to turn. 211 Colorado makes sure that each caller is directed to help near their home. Keeping up with how people are communicating, live 211 resource specialists can be reached by text and chat, as well as phone, via mobile and a website data resource.



A NOTE FROM OUR CEO: How is the new Foothills United Way like a Venture Capital firm?

Foothills United Way's new community impact model is unique in the nation and was built to specifications designed by local residents. No surprise then, that we resemble the innovative incubator economy that is so prevalent in the Boulder valley area!

After more than 90 years of supporting individual nonprofits to achieve their own missions, we have shifted our strategy. We now help innovate new solutions that exist no place else on the planet. These collaborative solutions draw together diverse partners from several sectors: business, education, government, faith, and of course nonprofits, because it really takes a breadth of talent, creativity and assets to address the biggest challenges in our community.



Foothills United Way encourages entrepreneurial solutions, the kind that people who know our community best can create. We cooperate with other funders so that together, we invest in growing strong collaboratives, then support the measurable, impactful work only a strong partnership can accomplish.

If you encounter a great idea or a fledgling partnership that's targeting the attainable housing issue, building community resilience, or advancing early childhood success, let us know! We'll jump in with all kinds of support to give traction to the brightest initiatives.

You can be a partner in our venture capital investments! Your tax-deductible contribution to Foothills United Way gives you the unique opportunity to provide that incentive that urges great organizations to work together and accomplish more than they could alone.

Who says a 95 year old organization can't be cutting edge? Foothills United Way is your key partner in growing new ventures that make all our lives better. And 16 months in, our investments are starting to produce real results!

Foothills United Way thanks our Annual Sponsors!



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