

FORWARD

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Foothills United Way

FOOTHILLS UNITED WAY

United we fight.

United we win.



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

SEASON OF GIVING

While we are still enjoying fairly warm weather in Boulder and Broomfield counties, the winter solstice is fast approaching and with it, employee campaigns that have been going full force are coming to a close. We want to take a moment to thank all of you who gave of your time or money to help support the Foothills United Way cause.

Every year, thousands of employees get involved in workplace giving campaigns to support Foothills United Way's initiatives that create change in our community - that improve early childhood success, attainable housing and resilience. We are thankful to these companies and their employees who are dedicated to seeing the continued success Foothills United Way is creating in our community. Without you we could not continue our work.

It is with deep appreciation we wish to acknowledge the following organizations and their employees who make a real difference in the month of November:

- * Baker Hughes (formerly GE Oil & Gas)
- * Boulder Valley School District
- * City of Boulder
- * City of Louisville
- * CordenPharma
- * Current, powered by GE
- * Emerson Automation Solutions (formerly Micro Motion)
- * Suez (formerly GE analytical Instruments/ power/ water)

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.

Watch this space each month for your company!

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.

L&M CLEANING - A PIE GRADUATE SUCCESS STORY

Leticia Miramontes moved to Colorado in May of 1999. She came by herself with no working knowledge of the language or the culture, but she was convinced of one thing, that she would own a company one day.

"I was in a completely new place where I didn't know anyone. It was intimidating, but I did what I had to do to continue working towards my goal," Miramontes said. She began by creating flyers offering her cleaning services and even tried attending small business courses, but her limited English made completing them quite difficult. Many times there was no Spanish option offered, leaving her struggling through the classes and eventually giving up. "I personally feel like I should be doing better when it comes to speaking English, but I continue to work towards that goal every day."



Leticia Miramontes in her home.

All of this changed when she learned about the Personal Investment Enterprise (PIE) program from a friend. "My friend Martha had heard about the program and told me about it. She encouraged me to sign up, and I'm so glad I did." Leticia signed up for the program, taking advantage of the Spanish-speaking instructors and resources. She went on to complete the PIE program and open her own business, L&M Cleaning with her husband Luis.

Leticia recently celebrated the company's first anniversary. While she recognizes it has not been easy, the support she received from the PIE program has made an immense difference in her life, not only professionally, but personally as well, "it was fabulous; through the match-savings program we were able to buy all new equipment. I had my own, but being able to purchase new vacuum cleaners and cleaning items really made me feel like I was a professional. It taught me so many things that I had been ignorant to in a new country. I learned about creating a business plan, about how to market my business, and most importantly, about how to save. I now understand that I can save more than I think I can, and that it is the best option."

Leticia believes that perseverance pays off in the end and that while there will be obstacles, if you put your mind to it you will succeed. "The greatest barrier for me was language, but I never gave up and I can now say that I achieved my dream, I dreamt I would have my own business, and now I do."

The PIE program currently has openings for savers in homeownership, business and education! To learn more contact Nino Gallo at Boulder County Community Action Programs, 303-441-3998 or at ngallo@bouldercounty.org. For more information click [here](#).

If you are interested in learning more about L&M Cleaning, please visit: landmcleaningpainting.com

ENDING ON A HIGH NOTE: A NOTE FROM OUR CEO

This has been a productive year for your new Foothills United Way! Through just one of our programs, our

Personal Investment Enterprise (matched savings and financial literacy program), we have empowered 15 families to purchase a home for the first-time, 7 individuals to start their higher education studies, and 6 individuals to start a small business! Continue to watch for these inspiring stories in our monthly updates.



If you missed our stories in the local newspapers last week (Thank You Prairie Mountain Publishing!) you can click below and learn how our new business model is creating more impact from your contributions in Boulder and Broomfield counties.

We need you! You still have the opportunity to make a gift before year-end that propels our innovative work forward - just click [here](#) to give your tax-deductible donation!

Thank you for caring enough to make our community stronger for all of us! Wishing you a peaceful and happy holiday season!

DID YOU SEE?!

Early this month, we has a feature that ran in the Daily Camera and Times-Call. We had the opportunity to highlight our programs and initiatives and share more about the great job we do in the community. Thank you for this opportunity to highlight our work! Read the full feature here: <http://ow.ly/VYTz30h3Ji7>



Don't forget to make your tax-deductible donation today!

Foothills United Way thanks our Annual Sponsors!



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