

FOUNDATION FOR COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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DENVER, COLORADO 80230-6011 •
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MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on this past year, I think about the resilience of our CCCS students, faculty, and staff. During an incredibly trying time, our students again demonstrated their grit by navigating remote learning environments, balancing work and educational pursuits, tending to loved ones in need, addressing childcare, and so many other challenges brought on by COVID-19.

Our faculty and staff continued to deliver on our CCCS mission despite shifting delivery approaches, overwhelming COVID related initiatives, and remote work. Our employees have focused on supporting student success, closing equity gaps, and developing the workforce that powers Colorado's economy.

I also think of our donors who answered the call this year in ways previously unimagined. We received an astonishing \$5.5 million in gifts in FY21, exceeding our previous fundraising high water mark by over \$2 million. WOW! Thank you to our incredibly caring, thoughtful, and dedicated family of donors who have provided hope and opportunity to thousands this past year.

Looking back on this truly momentous year, I want to share a few additional highlights:

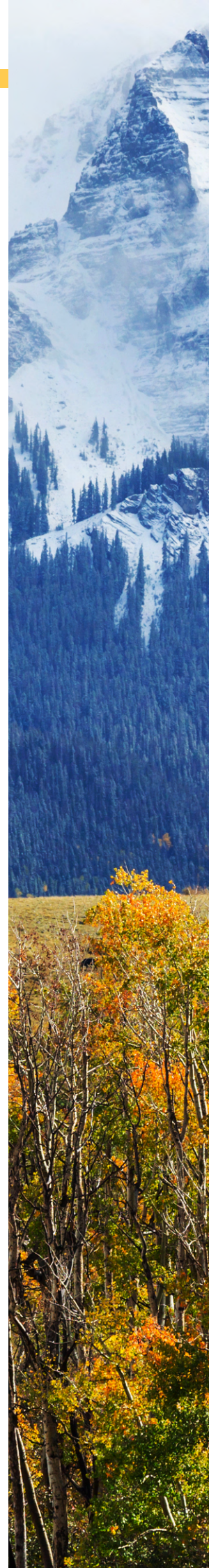
- We provided over \$1,000,000 to our 13 partner college foundations to be awarded in scholarships at a local level.
- At the System level, we approved 163 student to receive a total pf \$270,000 in scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year.
- We were able to impact significant institutional priorities including a redesign of our law enforcement academy curriculum, the hiring of advisors and navigators, deployment of Single Stop - a tool that helps connect students with public benefits, and implementation of Return to Earn - a program designed to help students who stopped out return to college.
- Also this year, we saw our endowment grow to over \$5.5 million. Our total investment portfolio now stands at over \$6.25 million, up from under \$1 million just five years ago.
- We celebrated dynamic gifts including two gifts of \$1 million, two additional gifts over \$500,000, and a significant bequest intention.
- We engaged over 110 volunteer readers in our scholarship process, grew our volunteer board, and engaged donors through a variety of virtual events.

I hope that as you reflect on the past year and read the stories in this annual report, you will see why it is easy to be inspired and enthusiastic about CCCS! I am looking forward to another great year ahead and hope to hear from many of you.

Sincerely,



J. Adam Cermak



SCHOLAR PROFILE: MOHAMED IBRAHIM-SHUKRI

Scholarships have the ability to impact our students in immeasurable ways, and we have the privilege of working with hundreds of students each year. One such student is Mohamed Ibrahim-Shukri, a 2020-2021 Stratosphere Scholar. Mohamed utilized his scholarship to advance his educational dreams while at the Community College of Aurora (CCA).

In 2018, Mohamed emigrated from Oman as a high school senior and began taking concurrent enrollment classes as a student at CCA, the college attended by both of his sisters. During his first full year at CCA, Mohamed learned about the transfer pathway program, a program that is designed to support students seeking to transfer to a four year institution. He worked with his advisors to make sure he was strategic about his class choices with a goal of transferring to Colorado School of Mines.

Mohamed was thrilled to receive the Stratosphere Scholarship, one of the Foundation's largest awards, in spring of 2021. Before earning the scholarship, Mohamed, along with three of his siblings, were sharing limited resources to complete their coursework. Due to materials being in short supply, they had to go to the library, requiring transportation and costing time. Mohamed's experience was further complicated due to remote learning and COVID restrictions.

With the funds he received from the Stratosphere Scholarship, Mohamed was able to buy books and his own laptop. This transformed his college experience. He shared that beyond the scholarship, the one-on-one relationships he was able to develop at CCA, the small class sizes, and the lower cost of attendance made a huge difference in his ability to be successful in college. Mohamed graduated from CCA in fall 2021 and is now attending his transfer destination, the Colorado School of Mines, where he is studying Petroleum Engineering.

The support that Community College of Aurora, the Stratosphere Group, and the Foundation provided was instrumental in Mohamed being able to finish his coursework, graduate on time, and transfer to the school of his dreams.



INVESTING IN COMPLETION THROUGH LAST MILE SCHOLARSHIPS

For many of Colorado's community college students, barriers to completion are more common than with their four year counterparts. In too many cases, life events or financial restraints can keep students who are near completion from graduating. Last Mile Scholarships become a critical strategy to keep our students on track. A generous gift of \$50,000 from the Kenneth King Foundation has allowed us to expand this program and is helping students complete their credentials and move on to the next phase of their journey.

Now in its fifth year, Last Mile Scholarships are awarded to students pursuing an Associate's Degree or a certificate who have completed 75% of program requirements and have a financial barrier that is delaying completion. Students who have reached this stage have proven they can succeed in college. However, they may have financial obstacles that limit the number of classes they can take, which delays their academic progress. This scholarship helps dedicated and well-performing students complete their education. Without it, students are at risk of joining the "some college and no degree" demographic — a population that CCCS is working hard to serve.

LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION REIMAGINED

In December 2020, the Foundation was honored to be awarded a \$1 million grant from The Colorado Health Foundation to reshape law enforcement training and better prepare future officers to serve and protect all members of Colorado's diverse communities.

The grant will allow CCCS to review current law enforcement academy curriculum and training, course objectives, program requirements, and instructor techniques to identify opportunities to embed a focus on social justice. The redesigned curriculum will be offered to academy cadets and delivered statewide to current officers.

"We acknowledge that as the state's largest provider of post-secondary training and workforce education, we have a responsibility to re-examine our law enforcement curriculum that prepares hundreds of new police officers each year," said Joe Garcia, Chancellor of the Colorado Community College System. "We are grateful for this generous support from The Colorado Health Foundation that will help us move our initiative forward and empower us to make a lasting impact on the health and safety of our communities."

Partners in this important work include the Colorado Attorney General's Office, the POST Board, community organizations such as Urban League of Metropolitan Denver and Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police, and prominent leaders in the community. Higher education partners include Colorado Mountain College, Aims Community College, and Western Colorado Community College. CCCS and these college partners collectively house 11 of the 24 Law Enforcement Academies in the state, all of which are governed by the POST Board, training close to 700 cadets per year.

The redesigned curriculum is expected to be offered in 2022 to cadets and the new training for officers will be available in 2023.

FOUNDATION EXPENSES

The Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges takes pride in the responsible stewardship of funds raised and strives to limit administrative and fundraising expenses to direct as much as possible to programs that advance the CCCS mission.

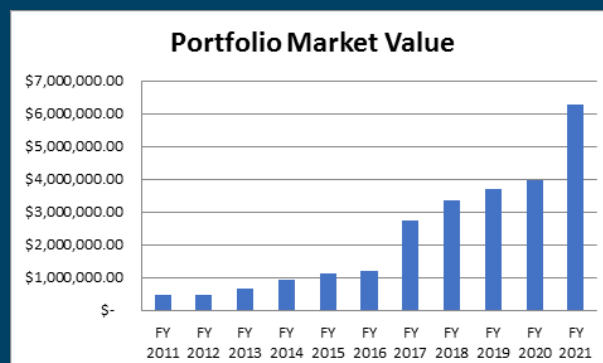
83% Program

6% Administration

11% Fundraising

PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE

As of June 30, 2021, the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges' investment portfolio was valued at \$6,281,516. The investment portfolio represents a combination of permanent and term endowed funds (totaling \$5,595,911) and the Foundation's sustainability account (totaling \$685,605). Over fiscal year 2021, the Foundation received \$1,484,184 in new gifts to the endowment.



ONE MILLION DOLLAR GRANT FROM KAISER PERMANENTE PROMOTES DIVERSITY IN HEALTHCARE

To meet the intensifying need for a diverse and inclusive health care workforce, the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges announced a \$1 million gift from Kaiser Permanente to create the Kaiser Permanente Colorado Equity Scholarship Fund. This 15-year endowed scholarship fund will provide financial assistance to Colorado community college students who are African American/Black, Asian American/Pacific Islander, Latinx, Native American, LGBTQI, a person with a disability, or a U.S. Veteran for the advancement of their education in the health care industry.

“Inclusive economic growth is imperative to both individual and community health,” said Mike Ramseier, Kaiser Permanente regional president in Colorado. “By looking to the future and expanding access to education, we can model the way toward a health care system that reflects the diversity of our communities and prioritizes equal access to care.”

Kaiser Permanente, the state’s largest nonprofit health plan, is committed to strengthening Colorado’s higher education system and supporting local communities to catalyze inclusive economic growth. This \$1 million contribution is Kaiser Permanente’s latest pledge to the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges having provided more than \$1.5 million in support of students enrolled at schools in the Colorado Community College System since 2013.

Applications for the Kaiser Permanente Equity Scholarships will open in 2022, with at least 28 scholarships set to be awarded each year.



CULTIVATING HOLISTIC STUDENT ADVISING PATHWAYS

This year, the Foundation received a \$975,000 gift from the Sturm Family Foundation that will support efforts at both the Community College of Aurora (CCA) and the Community College of Denver (CCD) to improve academic outcomes for their students.

CCA and CCD both serve especially diverse and non-traditional student bodies. As such, each will focus on the matriculation and completion of diverse student populations, specifically first-generation, adult students of color at CCD, and concurrently enrolled students at CCA. Working with navigators, CCA and CCD students will develop an individualized roadmap for their community college journey.

The intentional focus on the full student experience by navigators, creates the opportunity to build trusted relationships with students—making students more likely to view their navigator as part of their support system, and to approach them for help with academic and non-academic challenges. Navigators focus on student success to ensure students can achieve their goals, whether that be completion of a credential, entering the workforce, or successful transfer to a four-year institution. Additionally, navigators increase student motivation and help students feel more connected and committed to their college experience

With the gift from the Sturm Family Foundation, our approach to supporting students at CCA and CCD can ensure Colorado’s students are graduating from high school, attending college, gaining career-specific skills, and then becoming productive and employable citizens.

DONORS

\$1,000,000 +

Kaiser Permanente
The Colorado Health
Foundation

\$500,000 - \$999,999

Colorado Department of
Higher Education's
Colorado
Opportunity
Scholarship Initiative
Sturm Family
Foundation

\$100,000 - \$499,999

Colorado Nonprofit
Development Center
Meg Porfido
Stone Family
Foundation
The Anschutz
Foundation
The Denver Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Kenneth King
Foundation
Pinnacol Assurance

\$10,000 - \$49,999

Amazon
Colorado Garden
Foundation
Colorado PERA
Credit Union of
Colorado
HealthONE
Taylor Merritt and
Family
Liberty Global, Inc.
Mistler Family
Foundation
Optum
Stratosphere Group
Terumo BCT, Inc.
Virtuoso Sourcing Group
Wagner Equipment

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Comcast
Credit Union of
Colorado Foundation

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Kathryn Albright
Dr. Jandel Allen-Davis
Michael Beasley
Carolina Distance
Learning
Center Family
Foundation
Dr. Melissa B. Cermak
and Mr. J. Adam
Cermak
Desire 2 Learn

Diane Duffy and Mary
Markowitz

FirstBank Holding
Company
Full Tilt Ahead
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Tyrone and Sophie
Greenfield
Rollie and Josie Heath
Nancy and David
Hoffman
Christinne Johnson
Julie Ouska
Pearson
Landon and Rebecca
Pirius
Doug Schneider
Marilyn Smith
Mary Spillane
Symbiosis Educational
Consultants
Dr. John and Mrs. Sharon
Trefny

\$1 - \$999

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Presley Askew
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Patrick Brodhead
Lisa Brown-Roberts
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Christina Cecil
Charities Aid Foundation
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Victoria Crownover
Patti Dewhurst
Heidi Dineen
Toni Dinnetz
Wendy and Derrik
Dominguez
Laura DuClos
Janice Fritsch
Full Tilt Ahead
Richard Garcia
Becky Giacomelli
Angela Gramse
Lisa H. Grefrath
Sarah Heath
Terry Hindsman
Jennifer Jasinowski
Sarah R. Jenó
Danen Jobe
Kelsey Jones
Lauren Jones
Chris Juarez
Tyler Kain
Samantha Kalinowski
Zaneta Kelsey
Matthew Lanning
Jay Lee
Terry Leis

Dr. Linda Lujan and
Edward Lujan
Fiona Lytle
Richard E. Martinez Jr.
Landon Mascarenaz
Russ and Helga Meyer
Debra S. Miller
Molly Moats
Denise Mosher
Mary Nero
Matt Niznik and
Kathleen Warrell
Garrison Ortiz
Parchment
Dr. Tina Parscal
Caleb and Keely
Pellouchoud
Barbara Pontarelli
Claudio Rebollo
Erik Richter
Dr. Ryan Ross
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David Summerlin
Mark Superka
Kristi Thorland
The Vercauteren
Family
Carolyn Vitale
Sandy Wallace
Tammy Ward
Jullathep
Wattanasureepoch
Kenneth Weil
Keith Wenzel

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Director, Community Investment,
Mountain West Region Comcast

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Community Volunteer

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College

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College System

Richard Garcia

Founder and Executive Director,
Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition

Zaneta Kelsey

Founder, Transparent Solutions

Richard Rush

Community Volunteer

Doug Schneider

Vice President of Marketing,
Credit Union of Colorado

Carolyn Vitale

Vice President of Education, HCA
Continental Division

FOUNDATION STAFF

J. Adam Cermak

Chief Development Officer &
Executive Director

Sophie Greenfield

Assistant Director of Programs and
Operations

Erin Allen

Foundation Assistant

LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

You can make a significant impact at the Colorado Community College System and ensure your legacy with a planned gift. Legacy gifts provide a meaningful and lasting way for you to support our next generation of students. For more information on how to customize your strategy, please contact the Foundation.



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FOR
COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGES