



PARTNERS



CB SCHOOL OF DANCE

*Through our long-standing relationship with the CFGV, we have strengthened ties with local nonprofits and utilized the CFGV as an organizational resource. The staff... is always available to answer questions and share knowledge...*

ELLA FAHLANDER,  
ADAPTIVE SPORTS

*The game of life is a game of boomerangs. Our thoughts, deeds, and works return to us sooner or later with astounding accuracy.*

FLORENCE SCOVEL SHINN



GUNNISON ARTS CENTER



GUNNISON ARTS CENTER



BRIGHT BEGINNINGS



ADAPTIVE SPORTS

## An extraordinary gift

Through the end of 2009, American seniors may make the gift of a lifetime—by giving a portion of their individual retirement accounts (IRAs) to charity, tax-free. What a wonderful opportunity for individuals who saved diligently for retirement and now have the good fortune to be able to give back to the community!

People age 70½ and older can transfer up to \$100,000 of IRA assets to public charities, including the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley, without triggering federal income taxes today or estate tax in the future. The Foundation is honored to have received gifts in just this way. At this time, the bill sunsets at the end of December and there has not been public Congressional discussion about extending this extraordinary option. Your professional advisors have details... or you are welcome to call us directly.

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*... the gift of a lifetime*

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*We cannot all be great,  
but we can attach ourselves to a great cause.*

ANONYMOUS

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
of the GUNNISON VALLEY  
Post Office Box 7057  
Gunnison, CO 81230  
www.cfgv.org

## 5 Foundation Facts:

- Our most treasured asset are the intentions of our donors – our job is to be sure that the gifts they give are stewarded well and used to fulfill their philanthropic interests
- Our monetary assets of more than \$5,000,000 are held in 99 separate funds – most are designated by donors for specific purposes
- We increased our competitive grant giving to local nonprofits by 20% in 2009 – just when other grants became scarce
- Almost half the kids under 5 in the County are enrolled in the Imagination Library program
- In the past five years, the CFGV has offered counsel to 97 nonprofits and community groups on 23 topics – and that doesn't count the three nonprofit conferences we've sponsored!

### Board of Directors

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Gunnison County

update

CFGV  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
of the GUNNISON VALLEY

OUR MISSION To preserve and develop permanent resources to enrich the quality of life for people of Crested Butte, Mt. Crested Butte, Gunnison, and our neighbors.

## What's UP when the Economy's Down?

The Valley's nonprofits have turned back to their missions, have trimmed their budgets and are still delivering crucial services. It's true that in good times, missions "creep" and budgets tend to grow. When an economic crisis is reality, the extraneous evaporates and we get back to basics.

And what did the Foundation do this year for the nonprofits? We INCREASED our competitive grantmaking by 20%. Is that counter-intuitive? We don't think so. The nonprofits needed us – and we were there. And is money all we gave? Absolutely not! We gave them more time and gave them counsel, we worked with them on budgets and on building better boards, improving communication with their donors in tough times and how to "make their balance sheet their friend." Really. One agency needed to replace all of their ancient technology to keep on delivering services – we showed them how to do that for 10% of what they'd been quoted! Another agency needed an amount of money greater than the Foundation could grant – we found them a private donor!

Every dark cloud really does have that proverbial silver lining.

CFGV is committed to building the capacity of our nonprofits to deliver services and use best practices in their governance – and we're able to do that because our family of donors is caring and generous; we share our expertise; and because our investment committee and manager do an incredible job of stewarding our resources. *Hip, hip hooray for Board Members Steve Ogden, Ashley Burt, Fred Buxton, and Bob Tesch of Wells Fargo Private Banking.*

### Newest member of the family...



Developed by Dr. Roanne Rouse Houck, N.D., now in partnership with Mark Pike, ACLI-MATE, a local company, is changing its marketing strategy – part of which is to now give back 1% of profits to the community – the Foundation will steward that gift for the greatest impact!

## Donor Spotlight:

Resource Engineering, Inc.

Dave Houghton and August Hasz



DAVE HOUGHTON

DAVE HOUGHTON, BUSINESS OWNER AND A STRONG PROPONENT OF "GIVING BACK" GRACIOUSLY PARTICIPATED IN AN INTERVIEW WITH PAM MONTGOMERY OF THE FOUNDATION.

Pam: What is your philosophy about giving back?

Dave: Our business—like most around here—depends on our community, so it makes perfect sense to make sure that we complete the circle. My wife and I have always been "amateur" donors. As our business has grown, we wanted to be more organized, so now almost all of our donations come from our business. My business partner, August Hasz, agrees that we can give more and be more consistent by doing it through the Foundation, since they help give structure to our plan.

Pam: How does it feel when you give?

Dave: It's definitely the best check of the month to write. It's a similar feeling to when you lay out a nice meal for your friends. It feels great.

Pam: Why did you choose the Foundation and a Donor Advised Fund?

Dave: Originally, we wanted to start our own foundation. I spent time looking into what it takes to start a 501(c)(3), the tax implications, the cost, etc. It was going to cost a few grand just to get it going, plus a lot of my time and resources to keep it going. Then one day Brian Krill told me about Donor Advised Funds, and it was so obvious that this was the way to go. Now all we do is add to our fund and recommend grants – the Foundation does all the work! Our donor advised fund allows us to be pro-active in our giving, not just react to mail requests or renewal notices.

Pam: Would you advocate this way to give to other people/businesses and why?

Dave: I believe that every for-profit business in this valley that depends on our local economy, should give back to make sure that that economy stays strong. If your work draws on the outside world, then lucky you; it still makes sense to donate to maintain the beauty and vibrancy of this amazing place in which we choose to live. Nonprofits play such an important role in our lifestyle here; this is our way of saying "thanks for what you do." And doing it through the Foundation is just so easy.

### The Foundation comments:

Dave and August are great examples of how to have an impact in the Valley both today and tomorrow. They give a percentage of their business profits to their fund each year, make grants of about half and are building an endowment at the same time. Dave said it: it's easy and it makes giving more thoughtful. Donor advised funds work for individuals, too. Start a fund with the Foundation and we pledge to steward your gifts well and be responsive to your intent.

## Western Slope Rural Philanthropy Days

As part of a 20-year-old state program of the Community Resource Center (CRC) in Denver, CFGV hosted more than 400 nonprofit representatives from 7 counties and 50 representatives of more than 30 funding agencies at a conference in Mt. Crested Butte in June.

Intended to provide educational opportunities for nonprofits on the Western Slope and to nurture relationships with private and government funders, the conference was a declared "the best Rural Philanthropy Days yet" by CRC! Eighteen educational seminars on three tracks; a day of hands-on tries at community problem solving; and 5 rounds of "meet the funders with the best fit for you" have already resulted in additional dollars into the valley for our nonprofits . . . and great prospects for much more. What a winner! The two and a half days were a perfect example of the Foundation's "Speak Your Peace" initiative: building a network of relationships to strengthen the fabric of our communities and encouraging civil dialogue to solve community problems. Nonprofits, governmental agencies and the private sector came together for the common good of our respective communities and our region. For more detailed information, visit [www.westernrpd.org](http://www.westernrpd.org).

## Nonprofits Smile in the Valley

The Community Foundation (CFGV) distributed \$70,131 in competitive grants to a wide variety of nonprofits serving the Gunnison Valley. Smiles and warm hearts filled the UCC Church in Crested Butte at the grant ceremony held in July.

In its 2009 Competitive Grant Cycle, the Foundation awarded grants to groups in the areas of animal welfare, arts and culture, community development, the environment, education, athletics and recreation, and health & human services. The competitive grant cycle is funded by donors to the grant fund and the foundation's unrestricted resources.

Surely the most touching moment was when Selenia, from the Light Program (which provides vouchers for health care), stood in front of the group gathered to celebrate the awards, held the Foundation check to her heart and said, with tears in her eyes, "Thank you, thank you – we don't have any money left and now our clients can go to the doctor."

For a full listing of grants made, see the press release on the foundation's website: [www.cfgv.org](http://www.cfgv.org).

## Natural Resources and Return on the Future

**Question: What is our most important resource?**

**Answer: Our kids, of course!**

We know everyone scored an A on that test – there's no other answer for the question.

Something as simple as a parent reading with a pre-school child contributes tremendously to their success in school and in life. And that's a fact! The Foundation's support of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program is critical to the children of the valley – and an expression of CFGV's concern about the future of our very young children and the world they will influence. More than 300 of the Valley's almost 700 preschoolers are enrolled in the program – which delivers an age-appropriate book each month to each child and encourages parents to read with their kids.



MACKENZIE PEARCY

Mackenzie Percy is one of "our" kids.

Her parents said to the Foundation, ". . . the books are really helping expand her vocabulary . . . we recently received an ABC book and now she hums her alphabet song since we sing it together . . . it is such a gift that Mackenzie gets to keep her books since she wants to read them over and over . . . we can't wait to open our mail each month and see what adventure awaits." Mackenzie – we can't wait to see you thrive in school!



THANKS FROM MACKENZIE

The program costs about \$30 per child per year – small price for the return on our future. We'd welcome your investment in the future, too – please give us a call if you would like to help build the Early Childhood Literacy Fund or to register your child. 970-641-8837.

*"If at first, the idea is not absurd, then there is no hope for it."*

ALBERT EINSTEIN

## Community Commitment Volunteer of the Year

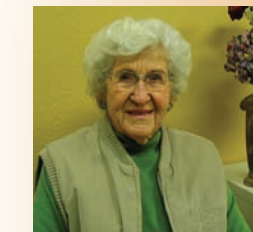
Each year the Valley's nonprofits are invited to nominate a citizen for Volunteer of the Year – an award given by the Foundation for outstanding service and volunteerism. From nine impressive nominations, Rich Karas was selected by a community-based committee to receive the award "for his work on the Energy Action plans that will help the valley's communities begin the difficult process of weaning ourselves from our total dependence on fossil fuels" as stated in his nomination letter. In a letter to the editor of the valley's papers, Karas said he was humbled by the experience of receiving the award and "is grateful for the opportunities to learn and to make new friends that volunteering provides." See both the press release and the letter to the editor in the Press section of the Foundation's website: [www.cfgv.org](http://www.cfgv.org).



RICHARD KARAS

## Lifetime Achievement Award

In a surprise move, the Foundation Board created a new award to be given, from time to time at the Board's discretion, to honor especially outstanding service to the community. Gunnisonite



VIRGINIA JONES

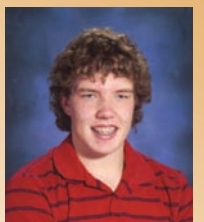
Virginia Jones was the first recipient of the Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award. A volunteer in the Gunnison Valley for more than 40 years, Virginia, in her 90s, continues her lifetime of service by chairing the Literacy Action Program, coordinating the Gunnison Valley Journal, serving on the Board of Restorative Practices and continuing to meet with a cancer support group twice weekly (which she founded 10 years ago)! The award was made for her "intrinsic enthusiasm, brave determination to just do what needs to be done and with grateful thanks for living what 'community' is all about."

## Defensive Driving Award

Each year a high school student is able to participate in Master Drive's Defensive Driving Course in Colorado Springs because of generous donations from anonymous donors. This year, the winner of the competitive award was Jamey Albers, now a junior at Gunnison High School. MasterDrive is the premier driver education and driver training program in the state, with a mission of saving the lives of teens by preparing them to respond to dangerous conditions and crisis situations – far beyond the minimum to get a permit and license.

In Jamey's thank you note to the Foundation, he told us that after the class his father told him that Jamey was already a better driver than his Dad – sweet words to a teen!

Master Drive delivers experiential, hands-on training; psychomotor skill development is essential, just as in learning to play a sport. The instructors help teens develop car control skills through actual practice of crash avoidance and skid recovery maneuvers. Congratulations, and be safe, Jamey! Many thanks to our anonymous donors.



JAMEY ALBERS

## Welcome New Board Members & Advisors



Jim Bertelsmeyer  
ADVISOR



Paul Duba  
ADVISOR



Gary Hausler  
TREASURER



Boyd Pederson  
ADVISOR

A complete list of board, advisors and staff can be found on the Foundation's website: [www.cfgv.org](http://www.cfgv.org)

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