Volunteering for their community – Colorado Springs Utilities

Employee volunteerism is alive and well at Colorado Springs Utilities. These employees believe that supporting their community helps them to be a better utility provider.

The Community Focus Fund is an outreach program that provides employees with opportunities to volunteer with local non-profit organizations. Its purpose is to add to the quality of life in our service area and in communities that are significantly affected by utilities operations. Major focus areas for support include: seniors, youth, education, community, environment, housing assistance, safety and well-being.

Our relationship with Colorado Springs Utilities began more than 20 years ago. On the first Saturday of each month, you’ll find their volunteers helping sort and pack food in our warehouse. Thank you!

Johnna Chapman, Community Liaison, has a personal connection to Care and Share. “I am a Colorado native and grew up in a small farming community in the Southeast part of the state where there is an ever present need in these small communities for the service and support you provide.”

With collaborative efforts, we can raise greater awareness for the need of healthy, nutritious food in Southern Colorado. Thank you Colorado Springs Utilities for sharing in our belief – no one should go hungry and for continuing to build upon a relationship of “Together we can solve hunger.”

YOU Made a Difference

Colorado Gives Day was December 8th and our goal was to raise $18,000 through online giving. So how did we do?

Watch the video to find out: https://youtu.be/ttK9EuvufkM

We are always so amazed and humbled by the generosity of our community. We truly cannot thank you enough for your participation in this vital campaign and for sharing in our belief that no one should go hungry.

With enormous gratitude,

The Care and Share Team
Potato Program

Potatoes deserve a second look as a powerful health food

Interactions with potatoes anywhere else but on a dinner plate can be a foreign concept. Colorado has a long, rich tradition, dating from the early 1880’s, of growing potatoes and today is one of the top production areas in the US. The Colorado State University potato program is based at the San Luis Valley Research Center, which is engaged in various potato research programs which includes breeding and selection, pathology, crop management and field physiology, postharvest physiology, and seed certification.

Our partnership with the Potato Program at Colorado State University is a first. As a USDA certified farm of Good Agricultural Practices, the research potatoes once thought of as natural waste can now be repurposed as a nutritional food source. The associates of the potato program are glad to have the opportunity and the responsibility to contribute their available potatoes to any and all hunger-relief organizations within Colorado.

Potatoes are a powerful health food. There are many varieties of potatoes including purple, white, red, blue, yellow, and orange-ish flesh colors that can contribute impressive levels of anti-oxidants, anti-diabetic compounds, vitamin C, potassium, starch, and many other nutrients.

Join us in learning more about the Potato Program at Colorado State University by visiting potatoes.colostate.edu. We’re excited about this promissory partnership, and we hope you will be too!
You have helped people struggling with hunger in Southern Colorado more than ever — thank you!
From July through November 2015 we received:

**GIVE FOOD.**

278,505 pounds of food donated from individuals and food drives.

**GIVE TIME.**

16,410 hours of service from volunteers who are the heart of our organization.

**GIVE MONEY.**

$1,419,373 from corporations, foundations, organizations, and individuals.

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**Thanks to our Funders!**

The support of our grant makers is integral to the work that we do every day. We would like to thank the following grant makers, who recognize the mutually beneficial partnership of strengthening programs, services, and partner relationships. **THANK YOU for your support!**

**September Grant Makers**

Ameriprise Financial
El Paso County Community Development Block Grant Program
Pikes Peak United Way

**October Grant Makers**

Black Hills Energy
Boettcher Foundation
Colorado Department of Human Services
Virginia Hill Foundation
William and Betty Osborne

**November Grant Makers**

Delta Omega Zeta of USC – Pueblo
Deluxe Corporation Foundation
Garone-Nicksick Foundation
Joseph Henry Edmondson Foundation
LexisNexis
T. Rowe Price
TJX and the TJX Foundation
The Frank Lamb Foundation
Used Car Dealers of Colorado City
Walter and Lucille Timme Foundation

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**Business Champions**

Does your company want to take action in the fight against hunger? There’s no better way than to become a Business Champion. Recognition is given to businesses who give unrestricted gifts of at least $500. To become a Business Champion, visit [www.careandshare.org](http://www.careandshare.org) on Ways To Give.

“**At Panera Bread, we believe in giving back to our neighbors in Colorado Springs. We truly appreciate the opportunity and are proud to partner with Care and Share Food Bank to help those in need in Southern Colorado. Like Care and Share, Panera is committed to helping end hunger in our local communities and we will continue to work together to make a difference.**”

Dacia Henshaw, Marketing Manager