



# Celebrating 10 Years

2012-2022



# GIVE NEXT

## REFLECTING ON 10 YEARS

Give Next was created when a group of community members came together in 2010 with the goal of strengthening the culture of philanthropy in Larimer County. The original intent was rooted in the idea that youth learn by doing and that giving feels good. Starting young people on a philanthropic path will hopefully lead to continued giving into adulthood.

While these elements remain core to Give Next, it has become clear over the last 10 years that the program is much more than that ... something truly special.

We expected that Give Next would be good. Really good. We didn't expect that it would:

- Help kids who often feel disconnected feel cared for and valued by their community and know they belong.
- Create space for civil debate, discourse, and consensus-driven decision making.
- Shape young people's career pathways toward community service and activism.
- Transform our own view of what's possible when we trust young people.

In this report, we celebrate Give Next's tremendous potential to create a community of future leaders. Leaders who know and embrace their role as change-makers, who understand the complicated root causes of social issues and inequities, and who value connection as paramount to community-building.

We are grateful for the first schools, teachers, students, and classroom donors who were willing to give it a try back in 2012. We're proud that we've grown intentionally from those first five schools to 29 schools this coming year. We could not have done any of it without our partners and supporters. We are humbled by the commitment of so many across our community who show up for Give Next.

Everyone who plays a role in Give Next values and believes in the power and potential of every child. We are inspired by their passion, their ideas, their thoughtful questions, and their determination to do the hard work to come to shared decisions about important things.

Thank you to everyone who is involved, especially all the young people who are making a difference in our community. When we see you in action during Give Next, we are truly hopeful for the future.

Bohemian Foundation Staff

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# GIVE NEXT

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Since 2012, **2,800** middle school and high school students granted nearly **\$830,000** to Larimer County nonprofits. Students made decisions based on what's important to them and the issues they experience. Here's a look at Give Next by the numbers over the past 10 years.



**505**  
GRANTS



**\$725,000**  
FROM DONORS



**111**  
NONPROFITS



**NEARLY \$105,000**  
RAISED BY STUDENTS



**145**  
STUDENT GROUPS

# GIVE NEXT

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Give Next is a school-based youth grantmaking program designed for middle and high school students in Larimer County. The grantmaking process is the tool through which we **shift power** to youth; help **build youth's understanding** of complex social issues; and **connect** youth to each other and their community. Give Next values young people's insights about the needs in our community and celebrates the impact they can have now and in the future.

## GIVE NEXT STUDENTS >>>



### ATTEND

Give Next Kickoff Day in the fall.



### WORK

with peers to identify a need in the community that will guide their grantmaking.



### RESEARCH

nonprofits, volunteer, and meet local nonprofit leaders.



### RAISE

additional money for grantmaking.



### REVIEW

grant applications and award grants at an end-of-year ceremony.

# GIVE NEXT

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our community works together to make Give Next possible.



### BOHEMIAN FOUNDATION

Bohemian Foundation leads the program design, implementation, and evaluation. They fund every aspect of the program so all donor dollars go toward student grantmaking.



### GIVE NEXT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee is a team of community volunteers responsible for securing classroom donations. They offer insights and expertise to help Give Next grow and succeed.



### SCHOOL LEADERS

School board members, superintendents, and principals champion Give Next and support teacher and student involvement in the program.



### STUDENTS

Students are the decision-makers in Give Next. Their insights into the needs of the community guide them in making grantmaking decisions. They direct the program through the Youth Advisory Committee and shape it with their participation and feedback.

### COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHERN COLORADO

The Community Foundation receives donations for classrooms, and processes grant awards to the nonprofits students select.



### NONPROFITS

Nonprofits build relationships with students through visits and volunteer opportunities, and support them in learning about community issues.

### TEACHERS

Teachers help students navigate the program and facilitate connections between students, donors, and nonprofits. Each year, teachers direct more than \$20,000 in teacher-directed Give Next grants to nonprofits.



### DONORS

Donors provide funding for each classroom's grantmaking. Give Next would not happen without the generosity of these community members.

# GIVE NEXT

## »» HISTORY AND TIMELINE



“At Give Next’s first award ceremony in 2013, every adult in attendance was blown away by one student’s leadership and vulnerability—talking about his own experience with homelessness and what it meant to be able to grant to organizations that had helped his family. It was more powerful than any of us expected it would be.”

- Founding Give Next Advisory Committee Member

### 2012-2015

- » United Way of Larimer County manages the Give Next program with support from the Give Next Advisory Committee—a group of initial donors—and a grant from Bohemian Foundation.
- » The pilot program starts with five schools in Poudre School District.
- » Give Next expands into Thompson School District in 2013.
- » The program grows to 10 schools.

# GIVE NEXT

## »»» HISTORY AND TIMELINE

### 2015-2022

- » Bohemian Foundation begins managing Give Next.
- » Program grows from 10 to 26 schools.
- » Give Next expands county-wide to include Estes Park School District in 2021.



# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

These outcomes are the foundation of Give Next and guide every aspect of the program.

### SHIFT POWER

Youth know and understand issues in a unique and important way. By shifting decision-making power to them, their knowledge is utilized for grantmaking. Participants gain confidence in their ability to strengthen their community now and in the future.

### BUILD UNDERSTANDING

As students learn about the issues in our community and the people working to help, they are well positioned to dig deeper into the systems and structures that create and perpetuate these issues. This orientation toward complex social issues helps participants look past the symptoms of problems to the root causes.

### CONNECT

Connection has always been key to Give Next. Students connect to their teachers, nonprofits, and their community at large. They also build deeper relationships with each other as they have difficult and meaningful conversations throughout the school year.





# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

### SHIFT POWER

Give Next shifts power to young people by looking to them to decide which issues are important. Students bring their personal experiences and perspectives to the program. Based on their knowledge and insight, they choose a community issue on which to focus.

“Past experiences [of students in our group] lead us to our mission statement—to prevent, educate, and help people who have experienced domestic violence. My sister, my family, and I unfortunately experienced domestic violence, which drew me to this mission even more. I felt comfortable and safe sharing my experience. We never expected it to be so meaningful. The most powerful moment we had with Give Next was having a voice for the first time on a topic important for so many people.”

- Jenni, Give Next Student



# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

### SHIFT POWER

In Give Next, students are the grantmakers. After honing in on a community issue, they create a classroom mission statement and decide which nonprofits will receive funding. We look to them to apply their knowledge and understanding of community needs to allocate donor dollars.

*“It felt empowering to be entrusted with directing someone else’s money because as a freshmen I have never really been trusted with something so important.”*

- Give Next Student

*“I finally feel like I have the power to make a difference in our community. I can’t wait to see the seeds of change that we planted flourish into a beautiful garden.”*

- Give Next Student



# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

### SHIFT POWER

Another way Give Next shifts power is with the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC). The YAC was launched in 2021 to center youth voice in the program.

The committee provides a means for students to guide the program at a higher level. Their insights and feedback are integral in bringing positive change to Give Next.

Join givenext  
YAC 

- \*Have your voice heard!
- \*Make a difference!
- \*Be a leader



“Being on the YAC was an amazing part of my year. I knew I could look forward to the days that we would meet. It was a great way to meet other students who share the same and different opinions and goals.”

- Cooper, Give Next Youth Advisory Committee Member

# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

### BUILD UNDERSTANDING

Give Next recognizes that youth have unique experiences with community issues. Rather than telling students what to focus on, we provide opportunities to learn more about the issues important to them.

**83%** of students are more aware of issues in our community after completing Give Next.\*

“My class’s mission statement was to ensure foster care and unaccompanied youth are able to build a healthy future. We learned that last year, 838 Thompson School District students experienced homelessness/housing instability. I learned that some of those students are in my school and I didn’t even realize it. I also learned how much harder it is to learn the life skills that many of us take for granted. Many of the presentations we heard brought up the statistics of students who are living under these conditions and how hard it is to graduate high school and college.”

- Maggie, Give Next Student



# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

### BUILD UNDERSTANDING

As students learn more about community needs, they become advocates for change, supporting the local nonprofits working to address those needs.

“Through Give Next, students take on positions of leadership and demonstrate compassion and curiosity. The time and energy they put into researching nonprofits and sifting through all the information is remarkable. I have seen students help get our programs into their schools and participate in focus groups to help better our curriculum.”

- Cori, Give Next Nonprofit Grant Recipient



# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

### CONNECT

Student connection to peers is more important than ever for school success and overall well-being. Give Next connects students to each other and creates a sense of belonging.

**70%** of students say that they feel connected to their community and classmates after participating in Give Next.\*

*“I love the way Give Next helps students from various backgrounds find common ground and move forward with a collaborative mission. It helps students who truly need to find a place to belong. Each year the dynamic is different, but each year I see kids find a place where they feel safe and they learn to see their own power to make change.”*

- Kelly, Give Next Teacher



# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES



## CONNECT

Through Give Next, students connect with nonprofit leaders and learn more about the important role nonprofits play in our community. Leaders share their insights about issues and hear from students about their own perspectives. Students and nonprofits facilitate site visits and organize volunteer opportunities for an immersive experience.



“I learned there are so many community nonprofits I had no idea about. I am inspired by the people involved in these organizations.”

- Give Next Student

# GIVE NEXT

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

### CONNECT

Give Next is intentionally designed to engage community members as donors. This strengthens connection between donors and students and ensures grantmaking capacity is not dependent on student fundraising.

“Supporting Give Next amplifies any donation we make. Knowing funds will end up supporting community nonprofits is wonderful. Knowing that students will have the opportunity to learn about and engage in issues they are concerned about, and recognize that they have the power to effect meaningful change around those issues through their time, talent, and resources is even more powerful.”

- Kirsten, Serimus Foundation,  
Give Next Classroom Donor



Give Next students will soon surpass **one million dollars** granted to community nonprofits thanks to the commitment of our generous classroom donors.



## THANK YOU CLASSROOM DONORS!

Classroom donors give decision-making power to students, trusting them to identify and address community needs. Donor dollars provide a transformational experience for youth—the next generation of community leaders.

- » Advance Tank & Construction Co.
- » Alpine Bank
- » Judith Aranow
- » Bank of Colorado
- » Berthoud Community Fund
- » Blue Foundation
- » BOGG Fund
- » Brinkman and Brinkman Construction
- » Canvas Credit Union
- » John Chapdelaine
- » Carol and Tim Cochran
- » Colina Foundation
- » Kris Cord
- » Jim Dickinson
- » Distinctive Welding, Inc.
- » Dohn Construction
- » Mark and Neyla Driscoll
- » Dan and Jeannine Eckles
- » Ed Carroll Motor Company Inc.
- » Edwards Family Fund
- » Elevations Credit Union
- » Encouraging Educational Excellence Fund
- » Ent Credit Union
- » Estes Valley Community Fund
- » First Interstate Bank (formally Great Western Bank)
- » First Western Trust
- » Foothills Rotary Charitable Foundation
- » Forney Industries
- » Fort Collins Automobile Dealers Association
- » Fort Collins Community Fund
- » Hewlett Packard Enterprise
- » Houska Automotive
- » Dr. Andy and Pam Howard
- » Denise and Patrick Juliana
- » Kaiser Permanente
- » Larry and Pat Kendall
- » Kneeland Family Fund
- » Loveland Community Fund
- » Loveland Generations Fund
- » Madwire
- » Mawson Lumber and Hardware
- » Blake and Kelly McBartlett
- » Jim and Suzanne Miller
- » Gerard and Pennie Nalezny
- » NOCO Unify
- » One80 Physical Therapy
- » OtterCares Foundation
- » Plante Moran
- » Carol Quinn
- » Len Roark
- » Serimus Foundation
- » Leslie and Steve Taylor
- » The Woodward Charitable Trust
- » UCHHealth Northern Colorado Foundation
- » Jim and Nicole Whitenight
- » Cheryl and Joe Zimlich
- » Katie and Randy Zwetzig
- » Anonymous Donors

# GIVE NEXT

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### SCHOOLS

A total of 28 schools in Larimer County participated in Give Next within the first 10 years. School leaders recognize the program's value and impact on students. We are thankful for their support and implementation of Give Next.

#### POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

- » Blevins Middle School
- » Boltz Middle School
- » Cache La Poudre Middle IB World School
- » Centennial High School
- » Fort Collins High School
- » Fossil Ridge High School
- » Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School
- » Leshar Middle IB World School
- » Lincoln Middle IB World School
- » Polaris Expeditionary Learning School
- » Poudre Community Academy
- » Poudre High School
- » Preston Middle School
- » PSD Global Academy
- » Rocky Mountain High School
- » Webber Middle School
- » Wellington Middle School

#### THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

- » Berthoud High School
- » Conrad Ball Middle School
- » High Plains School
- » Loveland High School
- » Lucile Erwin Middle School
- » Mountain View High School
- » Riverview PK-8 School
- » Thompson Valley High School
- » Turner Middle School
- » Walt Clark Middle School

#### ESTES PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

- » Estes Park High School





## TEACHERS

Give Next relies on teachers to facilitate the student-led process. These teachers implement the program in addition to their regular teaching duties. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do to make Give Next a meaningful experience for students.

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“As a teacher of emerging bilingual students, Give Next provides me with a real-world opportunity to cultivate my students’ listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English and in some cases their first language as well. I see more buy-in and motivation from my students when it comes to our work with Give Next because it is real work. Students see the real-world application of using literacy and language skills to make their community a better place.”

- Dominic, Give Next Teacher

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### TEACHERS

We are inspired by the dedication of each Give Next teacher who has participated during the first 10 years of the program.

- |                          |                      |                      |                    |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| » Aaron Appelt           | » Jay Denning        | » Zac Larsen         | » Shayna Seitchik  |
| » Stacy Arellano         | » Sarah Dobo         | » Liz Lautenschlager | » Jennifer Smith   |
| » Kris Ayers             | » Rachel Eaton       | » Lisa Mahler        | » Daryl Solomon    |
| » Julie Baker            | » Mike Emmons        | » Deanna Martinez    | » Amanda Steele    |
| » Carin Barrett          | » Anne Flemming      | » Sue Martino        | » Ryan Stillahn    |
| » Christine Bebout       | » Nathan Fristed     | » Kurt Mayer         | » Matt Strand      |
| » Rachel Bednar          | » Anne Genson        | » Billy McDonald     | » Jacob Tafedian   |
| » Morgan Bennett         | » Alison Gonzalez    | » Peter McFeely      | » Krista Taylor    |
| » Karen Bennett          | » Wendi Grigg        | » Kelli McPhee       | » Kayla Thomas     |
| » Lauri Brandt           | » Mikole Grindel     | » Kirstan Morris     | » Nichol Thomas    |
| » Laurie Brandvold       | » Tara Gross         | » Craig Moyer        | » Morgan Truelove  |
| » Russ Brown             | » Leah Hager         | » Lisa Needy         | » Casey Trumbo     |
| » Matthew Bruno          | » Amy Hazel-Colley   | » Dave Neisler       | » Maria Turain     |
| » Andy Buchanan          | » Matt Holland       | » Cassandra O'Connor | » Melissa Vasa     |
| » Marc Buffington        | » Aaron (AJ) Jackson | » Tammy Orr          | » Seth Vincent     |
| » Dominic Buttice        | » Monica Jankow      | » Kelly Parks        | » Lilly Wadding    |
| » Wylie Cate             | » Jennifer Jennings  | » John Parks         | » Kristin Walker   |
| » Kirstan Chalfant Adams | » Janelle Joers      | » Melissa Perricone  | » Marsha Weaver    |
| » Joanna Clark           | » Leslie Johnson     | » Leanne Porzycki    | » Kris West        |
| » Kate Clifford          | » Maggie Jones       | » Rob Porzycki       | » Shannon Wick     |
| » Jana Cline             | » Misti Juergensen   | » Mike Ruffner       | » Nichol Wolverton |
| » Ginny Cox              | » Pam Kilness        | » Kathy Sampson      |                    |



# GIVE NEXT

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### TEACHERS

One of the ways we show appreciation for our teachers is through teacher-directed grants. Bohemian Foundation allocates \$1,000 to teachers at each participating Give Next school. These funds are separate from donor dollars provided to students. Teachers select the nonprofits to which they direct these funds.

*“Many teachers might not have a regular opportunity to give such a significant amount to a single nonprofit. Being able to do so truly makes us included in the larger change that Bohemian hopes to support in Northern Colorado.”*

*- Carin, Give Next Teacher*



# GIVE NEXT

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS



### SCHOOL LEADERS

School board members, district superintendents, and school principals support teacher and student involvement in Give Next throughout each year.

“I have the opportunity to see these students as they wrestle with difficult but meaningful decisions, but my favorite is during the awards event itself.

When students get to grant funds and talk about why they selected a particular nonprofit, it is an incredible insight into their passions and their care for others.”

- Jane, Give Next Principal

# GIVE NEXT

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Give Next Advisory Committee helps build community awareness about Give Next and secure classroom donations. We appreciate all their involvement over time.

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- » Tom Altepeter
- » Nina Bodenhamer
- » Christine Chin
- » Kris Cord
- » Tara Deeney
- » Stephanie Dohn \*
- » Paula Edwards
- » Monique Flickinger
- » Roxanne Fry
- » Konan Hauser
- » Matthew Helmer \*
- » Mary Jackson \*
- » Leah Johnson
- » Denise Juliana \*
- » Leslie Kulbeck
- » Kim McMonagle
- » Elizabeth Messerli \*
- » Suzanne Miller
- » Kevin Mullin \*
- » Lauren Nelson
- » Dawn Paepke
- » Nancy Patton \*
- » Shelia Pottorff
- » Marissa Riopelle \*
- » Jamie Suess
- » Erica Siemers
- » Andrea Stull
- » Krista Taylor
- » Gordan Thibedeau
- » Cheryl Zimlich \*
- » Erin Zimmermann



# GIVE NEXT

## »»» COMMUNITY PARTNERS



## NONPROFITS

**111** nonprofits received one or more Give Next grants between 2012-2022.

- » 3Hopeful Hearts
- » Adam's Camp
- » A Face to Reframe
- » A Friend 4U
- » Alliance for Suicide Prevention of Larimer County
- » Alternatives to Violence
- » American Cancer Society
- » American Red Cross of Northern Colorado
- » Ashley Doolittle Foundation
- » Aspire 3D
- » Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County
- » Canyon Concert Ballet
- » CARE Housing
- » Caring Canines Colorado
- » CASA of Larimer County
- » Catholic Charities - The Mission
- » Center for Fine Art Photography
- » ChildSafe Colorado
- » Colorado State University Foundation
- » Colorado Youth Outdoors
- » Crossroads Safehouse
- » Dance Express
- » Disabled Resource Services
- » Easterseals Colorado
- » Educo Leadership Adventures
- » Elderhaus Adult Day Program
- » Estes Park Learning Place
- » EVICS Family Resource Center
- » Family Housing Network of Fort Collins
- » FCHS Friends of Rachel Club
- » Finally Home Foundation
- » FoCo Cafe
- » Food Bank for Larimer County



# GIVE NEXT

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We are deeply grateful for the time nonprofit staff dedicate to engaging with Give Next students.

- » Foothills Gateway, Inc.
- » Fort Collins Eyeopeners Kiwanis Club
- » Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity
- » Fort Collins Museum of Discovery
- » Fort Collins Musicians Association
- » Fort Collins Read Aloud
- » Fort Collins Rescue Mission
- » Foster and Adoptive Families of Larimer County
- » Foundation Music School
- » Friends of the Gardens on Spring Creek
- » HalfMoon Arts
- » Harmony House
- » Harrington Arts Alliance
- » Harvest Farm
- » Healing Warriors Program
- » Heart J Center for Experiential Learning at Sylvan Dale Ranch
- » Hearts & Horses
- » Hide in Plain Sight
- » Homelessness Prevention Initiative
- » Homeward Alliance
- » Hope Lives!
- » House of Neighborly Service
- » Intercultural Community Builders
- » Interfaith Solidarity and Accompaniment Coalition (ISAAC)
- » Kids at Heart
- » La Cocina
- » Larimer County 4-H Youth Foundation
- » Larimer County Partners, Inc.
- » LAUNCH: Community Through Skateboarding
- » Lifelong Learning of Estes Valley Preschool
- » Light of the Rockies Christian Counseling Center
- » Live the Victory dba The Matthews House
- » Love Will Find A Way, Inc. (Saturday Morning)
- » Make-A-Wish Foundation of Colorado
- » McBackpack, Inc.
- » Muscular Dystrophy Association
- » National Association of Interpretation
- » Neighbor to Neighbor
- » No Barriers
- » One Community One Family
- » Outreach Fort Collins
- » Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities
- » Project Self-Sufficiency
- » Project Smile Corporation
- » Project Youth and Chamber Music
- » PSD McKinney Programs
- » RamStrength (Lubick Foundation)
- » Realities For Children
- » Reflections for Youth
- » Respite Care, Inc.
- » Royal Family KIDS Camp
- » SAFY of Colorado
- » Sexual Assault Victim Advocate Center
- » Sky High Hope Camp
- » Sound Affects Music
- » Special Olympics
- » Sproutin' Up Corporation
- » Stillwater Ranch
- » SummitStone Health Partners
- » Teaching Tree Early Childhood Learning Center
- » TEAM Wellness & Prevention
- » The Arc of Larimer County
- » The Avery Center
- » The Center for Family Outreach
- » The Crawford Child Advocacy Center
- » The Family Center/La Familia
- » The Genesis Project
- » The Growing Project
- » The Nappie Project
- » The Quarter Project of Northern Colorado
- » Thompson Education Association
- » Thompson Valley Preschool
- » Twin Peaks Bikers Against Child Abuse
- » UCHealth Northern Colorado Foundation
- » United Way of Larimer County
- » Vindeket Foods
- » Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
- » Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program



# GIVE NEXT

## ▶▶▶ LOOKING AHEAD



## GIVE NEXT VISION ▶▶▶

Give Next is a transformational experience that:

- Centers youth voice and their role in strengthening community.
- Encourages youth to examine and understand complex social issues.
- Builds strong, positive relationships with peers, and connects youth to the community in which they will someday be leaders.

## LOOKING AHEAD, WE WILL ▶▶▶

- Implement Give Next in 36 middle and high schools in Larimer County.
- Expand the role of the Youth Advisory Committee.
- Grow, capture, and communicate our understanding of the impact of Give Next on young participants.

“I learned how many people can make a difference in society today. No matter what age you are, you can still make an impact.”

- Give Next Student

“Through Give Next, during the pandemic we had a mission, a reason to care, a way to improve the world even as things felt scary and dark sometimes.”

- Give Next Teacher



INSPIRING YOUTH | BUILDING COMMUNITY

“Watching many quiet students become leaders with the confidence to share and speak up was profound this year. Many students shared that the experience helped them feel valued and that they belonged.”

- Give Next Teacher

“Through Give Next, I was able to tell my peers what I had been through and share my perspective.”

- Give Next Student

“I have gotten to understand more of what makes others passionate, and know that I can definitely trust them with my thoughts.”

- Give Next Student



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