



# 2025 Annual Review



DENVER  
CHILDREN'S  
FOUNDATION

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# Developing Leaders | Benefiting Children

The year brought exciting opportunities and challenges for fundraising, event planning and management, and Member growth.



**NICK PIRNACK**  
2024-2025  
PRESIDENT

DCF reached unprecedented heights in 2025. Together, we raised record-breaking funds—and deepened our enduring promise to Colorado’s at-risk and disadvantaged youth.

Our 100 dedicated young professionals lead with purpose and passion as a sustainable engine for change. Hands-on leadership ensures that our state’s most vulnerable children receive the critical resources, mentorship, and support they need to thrive.

Your unwavering belief in our mission fuels every life-changing grant we award. Your investments are more than financial; they attest to our collective commitment to the next generation. The future of Denver is bright because of your partnership. Thank you for being the heart of community-driven philanthropy.

2025 DCF Annual Review



**ROSS BLAHNIK**  
2025-2026  
PRESIDENT

As DCF President, I am proud of the impact we continue to make for Colorado’s children. We hope to raise even more during the 2025-2026 fundraising year to meet the growing need to help the most vulnerable in our community.

DCF is built on a simple, powerful idea: when you invest in developing philanthropic leaders, you create lasting change for kids in our community who need it most. Our 100 committed Members are deeply engaged—learning by doing, through hands-on grantmaking, community leadership, and meaningful service. Your support makes this possible, allowing us to develop thoughtful, values-driven leaders while ensuring at-risk and disadvantaged children have access to critical resources in health and wellness, education, advocacy, and enrichment.

Together, we are building a stronger community and a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive.



**ADAM COHEN**  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR

At DCF, our Members know that leadership – in the community, at work, and at home – is a contact sport.

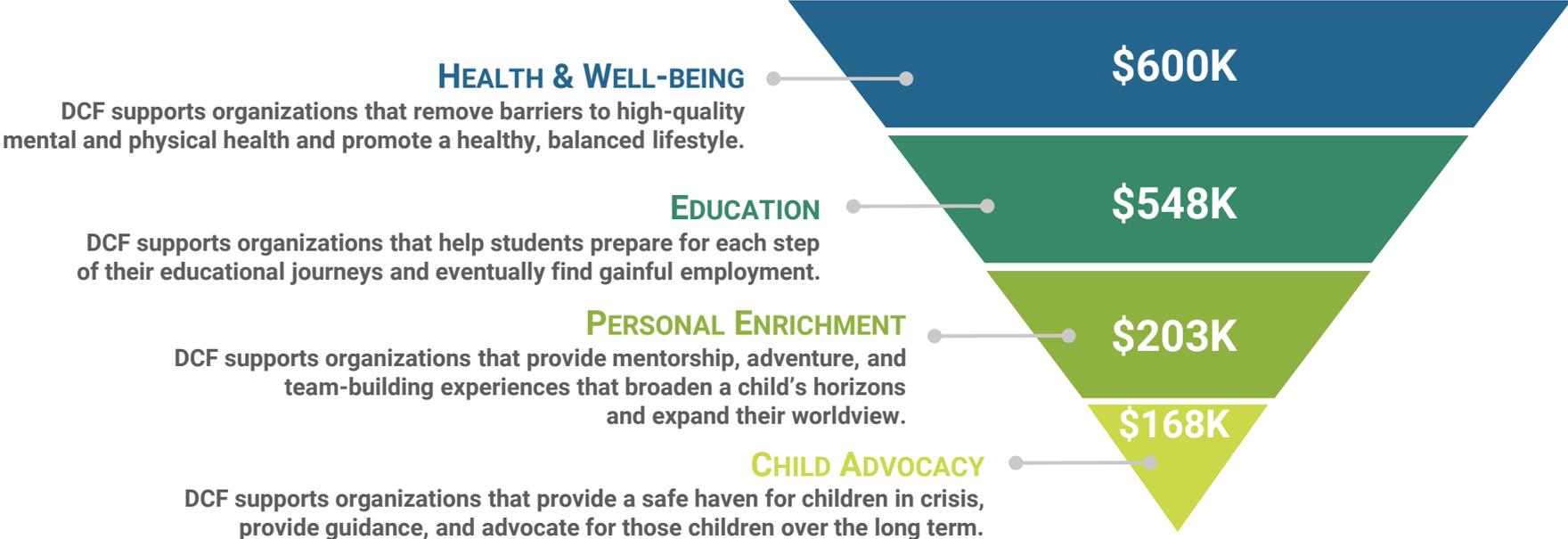
DCF’s 100 purpose-driven Members step up every day in many different ways. They build value for sponsors, share our impact with donors, elevate our fundraising, support each other’s success, and select the best-of-the-best charities to fund. In 2025, we set top-line revenue records across multiple events helping to offset rising costs and expenses for event amenities and venues. And, we installed and implemented new Donor Management and Grant Management Systems to advance operational efficiency.

With tens of thousands of children counting on us, and our sponsors and donors relying on us to make the right calls, DCF Members know that leadership has no waiting period.

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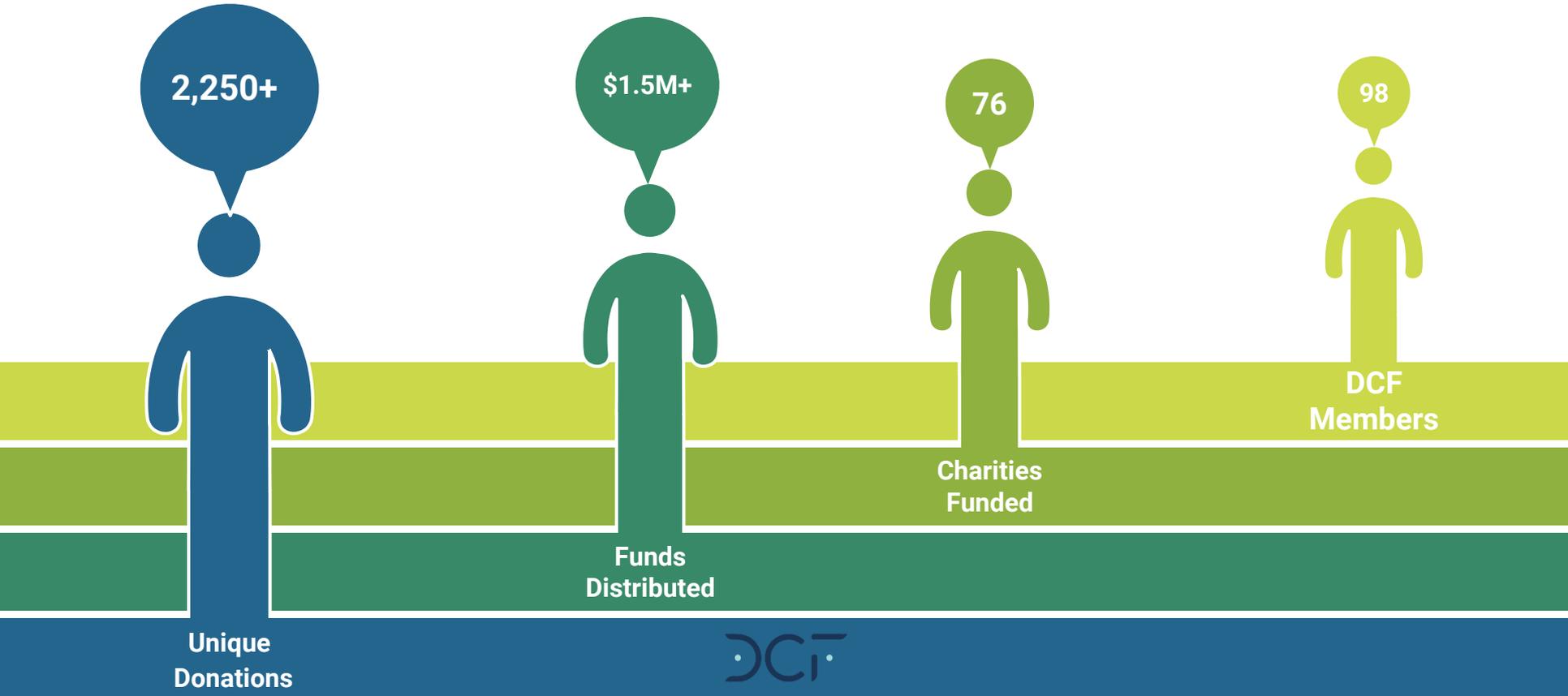
# Community Investment Overview

DCF Members, sponsors, and donors lead the way, investing \$1.5M+ in grants to transform the lives of children in need.



# Record-setting Community Investment

Thanks to thousands of community members and the hard work of DCF Members, we deployed a record level of funds in 2025



Unique Donations

Funds Distributed

Charities Funded

DCF Members



# Elite Due Diligence Invests in Best of the Best

DCF Members are your community's top "charity hedge fund", dedicating 1,000+ due-diligence hours to evaluate nearly 200 applicants.



## APPLY

Nonprofits spanning Education, Health & Well-being, Child Advocacy, and Personal Enrichment request grants.



## REVIEW

Members visit with and interview grant applicants, complete the grant review form, and calculate ratings.



## EVALUATE

Member-led Grant Review Committee rates each charity and evaluates the portfolio of Member recommendations, proposing a grant funding slate.



## APPROVE

Entire Membership reviews proposed grants, advocates for changes, then votes to finalize the funding slate.

DCF's Grant Review Committee differentiates charity organizations using due diligence, rating formulas, and financial and operational analysis. There's no other approach like it in our state, and the all-Member Committee dedicates *more than 250 hours in total* to the task. Unlike other foundations where consultants or outside advisors make key decisions about grant recipients, *only* DCF Members choose who receives the funds our sponsors and donors entrust to our stewardship.

# Making a Difference Where It Matters Most

DCF invests funds in top charity organizations with the greatest impact and strongest operations. Here are the 2025 recipients.

A Precious Child, Inc  
Adam's Camp  
Adoption Options  
Advocates for Children - CASA  
Aurora Public Schools Foundation  
Better Tomorrow  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado  
Book Trust  
Boys & Girls Club of the Pikes Peak Region  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County  
Boys and Girls Clubs of Weld County  
Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center  
Careers in Construction Colorado  
CASA of Adams & Broomfield Counties  
CASA of Jefferson and Gilpin Counties  
CASA of Larimer County  
CASA of Pueblo  
CASA of the Pikes Peak Region  
Child Advocates - Denver CASA  
City Year Denver  
Clothes To Kids of Denver, Inc.  
Cobbled Streets  
Colorado African Innovation & Cultural Center  
Colorado Association of Black Professional Engineers and Scientists  
Colorado Center for the Blind  
Colorado Dream Foundation

Colorado FriendShip  
Colorado UpLift  
Denver Children's Advocacy Center  
Denver Kids, Inc.  
Doctors Care  
Dolls for Daughters and Kenzi's Kidz DBA Kenzi's Causes  
Environmental Learning for Kids  
Escuela de Guadalupe  
ETM- Colorado Inc.  
Family Voices Colorado  
Finally Home  
Focus Points Family Resource Center  
Food for Hope  
Forward Steps  
Foundation of Trustees for The Family Learning Center (FLC)  
Griffith Centers  
HighView  
Hope House Colorado  
Horizons Colorado at Colorado Academy  
Illuminate Colorado  
Judi's House  
Kids First Health Care  
Kids In Need of Dentistry  
Little Giants Learning Center  
Minds Matter Colorado  
National Sports Center for the Disabled

Peak Education  
Raise the Future  
Ralston House  
Reaching HOPE  
Rise Against Suicide  
Rocky Mountain Down Syndrome Association  
SafeHouse Denver  
Save Our Youth  
Second Wind Fund  
SECOR  
Special Olympics Colorado  
Tennyson Center for Children  
The Exodus Road  
The Family Learning Center  
The YESS Institute  
Thriving Families  
Traillionaires Foundation  
Vail Valley Charitable Fund  
Voices for Children - CASA of Boulder County  
We Don't Waste  
WeeCycle  
Westminster Public Schools Foundation  
Young Americans Center for Financial Education  
Young Aspiring Americans for Social and Political Activism (YAASPA)

# Investing Where Funds Have Greatest Impact

Leading charities provide critical and essential programs to elevate our community's youth and to change their lives.



## Better Tomorrow

The Brighter World Child Advocacy program performed 62 forensic interviews, 4 forensic medical exams, 16 referrals to free mental health services, and 783 client advocacy contacts.



## Denver Children's Advocacy Center

DCAC provided case management, mental health assessments, and treatment for 616 clients, delivering 5,000+ therapy sessions and nearly 8,000 case management sessions - 89% reported reduction of trauma symptoms as measured by pre- and post-treatment tools.



## Escuela de Guadalupe

Escuela student achievements included measured progress at 70-80% increase rates. And, 72% of students meet or exceed the national English Literacy norm and 73% of students meet or exceed the national Mathematics norm after Spring 2025 testing.

# Investing Where Funds Have Greatest Impact

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## SECOR Food for Thought

SECOR was able to distribute 71,936 bags through the Food for Thought program. Over the last year, the Food for Thought program has increased from 1,711 to 2,250 children per week – with operations in 35 schools in five school districts.



## Big Brothers Big Sisters Colorado

BBBSC supports and mentors 2,000 Metro youth, with matches meeting 2-4 times per month for 3-5 hours per meeting. In the STARS Peer Mentoring Program, youth participate in 22 sessions over 25 weeks.



## Griffith Centers

Griffith served 1,621 children who benefited from greater access to mental health services; 83% of youth served maintained family stability and permanency as a result of addressing family trauma and almost 96% avoided crisis care and hospitalization.

# Elite Fundraising Events

Our events cultivate community engagement, where sponsors and donors, DCF Members, and children in our community all win together.



# Colorado Child Care Contributions

DCF offers a unique financial benefit to support children, giving eligible donors a Colorado Income Tax Credit.

## Income Tax Credit

Colorado tax-paying individuals & entities receive state income tax credit 50% of donations > \$1,000

## Tax Credit Gift Maximum

Donations up to \$100,000 annually are eligible for income tax credit

## Donation Options

Donations by cash, check, or stock securities sales are eligible



## Eligible Donations

No goods or services of any value may be provided in exchange for tax credit donations

## Eligible Donations

No goods or services of any value may be provided in exchange for tax credit donations

## Ineligible Donations

Donations from Donor-Advised Funds or tax-exempt Foundations/charities are not eligible

# Create a Legacy Through Your Investment in DCF



## INVEST IN YOUR INTERESTS

You choose the children's needs your grant fulfills.



## INVEST IN BEST-IN-CLASS CHARITIES

Our Members evaluate and select the best charities.



## INVEST IN LEADERSHIP BUILDING

Your contribution empowers our Members to develop their skills as philanthropic leaders.

*\$10K minimum investment for 3-year+ term*



## COLORADO CHILD CARE CONTRIBUTION TAX CREDIT = 50% OF DONATION

Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit AND applicable Federal and State deductions for direct cash donations \$1,000+ up to \$100,000 annually.



**growth + impact**



# Investing in Colorado's Children

Donors and children win through investment in DCF using the Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit.

1

## DONATE \$1,000 OR MORE

Direct cash donations from \$1,000 to \$100,000 (annual limit) with no goods or services received are eligible\*.

2

## GET A 50% DIRECT INCOME TAX CREDIT

Colorado taxpayers (individuals or organizations) receive a tax credit of 50% of the donation to offset state income tax owed.

3

## INVEST TO TRANSFORM A CHILD'S LIFE

DCF evaluates, selects, and funds charities qualified for Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit donations.

*\*Direct cash donations eligible. Donor-Advised Fund and Securities donations are not eligible.*



# DCF's Year by the Numbers

Top-line event revenue records offset increases in vendor costs and enabled another year of incredible grant-making.

## CHILDREN SERVED

Protecting, nurturing, educating, and advancing children in need.



## CHARITIES FUNDED

Our Members select and invest in the best-of-the-best charities serving children.



## GRANT FUNDING

Non-event fundraising surpassed 60% of available funds in 2024.

## YEARS OF SERVICE

Today's Members build on a foundation laid by visionary leaders.



## MEMBERS

Volunteer Member-leaders learn philanthropic leadership as they transform the lives of children in need.

## GRANT APPLICANTS

Many dedicated charities apply and DCF Members select and fund only the best.

# Honoring Our Sponsors and Donors

DCF sponsors and donors set the standard for community leadership and make a major difference for Colorado's youth in need.

**\$100,000+**



**SCHOMP**



**SCHOMP**

**\$75,000 - \$99,999**

*Planet Solar & Roofing*

**\$50,000 - \$74,999**

*Sunrise Youth Fund  
Phifer Family*

**\$30,000 - \$49,999**

*The Hamilton Group  
Kacy Adams  
Lockton Insurance  
UBS Highline Wealth  
Williams Family Foundation*

**\$20,000 - \$29,999**

*Anna & Jeshua Smith  
Jablonsky Family  
Jackson Family Wines  
Kelln Family  
Mills Family  
Netcom  
PNC Bank & Colorado Rockies  
Vault Insurance*

**\$15,000 - \$19,999**

*Artisan Home Loans  
Bow River Capital  
Corey & Bradley Parker  
Dominic Miller Foundation  
Emich KIA  
Enstrom Candies  
Harvey Cleary Builders  
Irvin Stern Foundation  
PCL Construction  
Reed Smith LLP*

**\$10,000 - \$15,000 LEGACY GRANT DONORS**

*The Morton Family (2021-25)  
The Arnold Family (2021-25)*

**\$10,000 - \$14,999**

*Advance Auto Industries  
Alliant Insurance  
Angela Robine & Hamlin Wade  
Amy Winsor  
Beauty Blade Plastic Surgery  
Ben & Kara Farrow  
Bryn Neil  
CLFS Equities  
Colfax Real Estate Company  
Compass | Blahnik  
Eagle Rock Distributing  
Kaua'i Exclusive Mgmt & Realty  
Kearney Wornall Foundation  
Kenneth Monfort  
Lee Evans  
Longhill Contracting  
Lord Abbett & Company  
Maeve Eichelberger  
Matt Grossman*

**\$10,000 - \$14,999**

*Markham Family Foundation  
Nelson Family Foundation  
Partners Group USA  
Priscilla Stoll  
Provident Construction  
Rachael & Kelton Carter  
Revelstoke Partners  
Schmeits Family  
United Capital Advisors  
VICTAULIC  
Washington Family*

# Honoring Our Sponsors and Donors

DCF sponsors and donors set the standard for community leadership and make a major difference for Colorado's youth in need.

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

*Adam & Erin Massaro*

*Angela Egan*

*Ares Management*

*Bank of Colorado*

*Beazley USA*

*BNBuilders*

*Brad Duhon*

*Brian O'Dea*

*BUILT*

*Buffalo Builders, Inc.*

*Capital One*

*Christopher & Maribeth Younger*

*Clay Brown*

*Compass | Northrop*

*CRS Insurance*

*Darrin Cook*

*David & Kelsey Shirazi*

*David & Pamela Brown*

*E. Thomas and Betty Arrington*

*Ed Higuera*

*Erik & Sarah Carlson*

*Family Tree Corporation*

*First Alliance Title*

*FirstBank*

*FlintCo*

*ForvisMazars*

*Frederick Hubbell*

*Gino & Katie Scarpelli*

*Great Southern Bank*

*Gwenivere Snyder Realty*

*Heidi Rumsey*

*Jim Chapman*

*John & Dot Kelley*

*John Gaines*

*John Mastro*

*Karen Brinckerhoff*

*KPS Electric, Inc.*

*Lee Buckley*

*Lindsey & Frank Auman*

*Mann Family*

*Mark Schryver*

*Marrick Medical*

*Otten Johnson*

*Schneider BC*

*Sean & Sage Hughes*

*Shane Company*

*Sheree Acheson*

*Steve & Gerri Sorenson*

*Steve Nelligan*

*Target Corporation*

*The Supper Club*

*Thomas Vick*

*Troxel Fitch*

*Tyler Snover*

*UMB*

*Vanguard Solar*

*Victor Vargas*

*Ward Electric*

*Weitz Construction*

*White Deer Energy*

*Wintrust*

*Xcel Energy*

*Yagnesh & Deepti Patel*

# DEVELOPING Our Community's Leaders

The gentlemen of DCF embody DCF's mission, ensure fiscal stewardship, and build camaraderie in service to our community.

Adam Gressa | Alex Nance | Andre Harris | Anthony Georgescu | Austin Snedden | Beau Jenkins | Ben Farrow  
Ben Finn | Brady Anderson | Bryan Lewis | Bryant Mazzetti | Cameron Douglass | Casey Dallas  
Charlie Brackman | Chris Armstrong | Chris Banister | Christian Dinsdale | Christian Myers | Cody Phifer  
Cole Jackson | Colin Mulligan | Colson Castilla | Colt Emich | Dan Miller | David Haudenschild | Devon Bolton  
Dillon O'Dea | Dominic Jablonsky | Dominic Miller | Elio Merino | Erik Carlson | Erik Comer | Ethan Gilbert  
Evan Anundsen | Evan Gart | George Savin | Gino Scarpelli | Grant Oliver | Ian Epstein | Jack Hoyt | Jack Curry  
James Samuelsen | James Veys | Jason Arneson | Jason Kosloski | Jayce Smallwood | Jeremy Rowell  
John Mastro | Johnny Kellogg | Jonathan Shirazi | Jordan Williams | Josh Fitch | Kane Kunz | Kenny Monfort  
Kyle Henry | Liam Ryan | Lukas Johnson | Madison Kelley | Martin Huff | Mason Biggi | Mason Mabry  
Max Gansline | Max Molitor | Michael Grace | Michael Ervolina | Michael Fancher | Michael Sangaline  
Mitch Kelln | Nathan Oxman Nick Behm | Nick Nientimp | Nick Pirnack | Nick Troxel | Patrick Lyons  
Paul Schiano | Paul Zetterberg | Phil Hilaire | Rich Miskiewicz | Richard Self | Rick DeFino | Rob Falick  
Ross Blahnik Russ Sellers | Ryan Cirasiello | Ryan McLean | Ryan Tracy | Ryan Whelan | Ryan Dodson  
Sam Evasick | Scott Jacobs | Sean Hughes | Sutton Cavalier | Taylor Kennedy | Travis Marr | Tyler Chapman |  
Tyler Snover | Vince Malara | Vinny Sangaline | Wick Spaulding | Zac Clark | Zack Mann | Zade Llamas

# Committed to Transform Our Community

Honored to represent their peer Members, DCF's Board of Directors leads with strategic vision and operational excellence.



## Board of Directors

*Ross Blahnik, 2025-2026 President*  
*Erik Carlson, 2026-2027 President-Elect*  
*Nick Pirnack, 2024-2025 Past-President*

*Gino Scarpelli, Treasurer*  
*Jayne Smallwood, Treasurer*  
*Ian Epstein, Secretary*

*Rob Falick, Director*  
*Sean Hughes, Director*  
*Elio Merino, Director*  
*Jack Hoyt, Director*

*James Samuelsen, Grant Review Chair*  
*Nicholas Troxel, General Counsel*

*\* \* \**

*Adam Cohen, Executive Director*

## Mission

*Develop philanthropic leaders who mobilize the community to impact the lives of disadvantaged children*

## Vision

*By 2028, Denver Children's Foundation will have doubled the amount of money raised and distributed over 2023 to \$3M+*

## Funding Pillars

*Education*  
*Health & Wellbeing*  
*Child Advocacy*  
*Personal Enrichment*

# Reach Out to Our Team

We are here to serve our community, to honor our sponsors and donors, and to transform the lives of underserved youth.



@denverchildrensfoundation



denverchildrensfoundation.or



traditional

The Denver  
Children's Foundation  
P.O. Box 202684  
Denver, CO 80220-8684  
303-832-8390



# A man never **stands** so tall as when kneeling to **help a child.**

## **BUILDING LEADERS**



Our Members cultivate philanthropic skills, have life-changing experiences that shape their world views, and solidify their community leadership roles.

## **BENEFITING CHILDREN**



The community need compels us to reach higher and work harder to create value for the nonprofits and children our Foundation supports.

