

INVESTING IN POSSIBILITIES

2013 | 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

INVESTING IN POSSIBILITIES

In one of her most famous poems, Emily Dickinson encourages us to "dwell in possibilities." The people of this region have embodied this state of mind for decades. This mindset has empowered our community not only to—in the words of former Denver Mayor Federico Peña—"imagine a great city," but to create it. The Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation has spent the last 40 years investing in possibilities by equipping our region's leaders with the tools they need to make meaningful contributions to our community.

This year the Leadership Foundation expanded its programming with the addition of Civic Refresh, giving more community leaders the opportunity to explore broad perspectives on the Denver metro region's issues and opportunities. By offering additional chances to engage, community leaders have formed deeper connections with fellow leaders and have embraced the collaborative spirit that has propelled our region forward.

We also partnered with five major Colorado civic institutions to release the first-ever Colorado Civic Health Index, revealing that though our state leads the way in participation in important civic activities such as voting and volunteering, civic life is not shared equally by all Coloradans. These findings inspired us to further our efforts to prepare leaders to foster a community where all can contribute and thrive.

We are also exploring new ways to engage and activate our alumni. This year, our annual Fall Forum focused on the game-changing work that our alumni are doing in our community to invest in possibilities in their daily lives, building on the lessons learned and topics explored while participating in our programs.

As you read this annual report, we invite you to celebrate with us the work of this organization and its alumni to make the impossible possible.

Katie Kramer
Executive Director

Cindy Parsons
Chair, Board of Directors



Katie Kramer, Executive Director



Cindy Parsons Chair, Board of Directors







INVESTING IN: A 40-YEAR LEGACY

Over 400 alumni and community leaders celebrated the 40th anniversary of Leadership Denver, the flagship program of the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation. Since the first Leadership Denver class graduated in 1974, over 3,000 regional leaders have leveraged their experiences as participants in the programs of the Leadership Foundation to make a lasting impact on our community. From FasTracks and the redevelopment of Lowry to the Denver International Airport and our sports arenas—no matter where you look in our city, you can see the transformative impact of Leadership Foundation alumni.



THE LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION AT A GLANCE

VISION

Inspiring a diverse community of leadership to improve Colorado.

MISSION

Providing content, context and access to inspire leaders to engage in issues critical to the region's success.

VALUES

- Cooperative, collaborative relationships
- Inclusivity and diversity of perspective
- Dedication to quality
- Commitment to volunteerism



LEADERSHIP DENVER

Leadership Denver (LD) equips leaders with knowledge of important regional issues and new connections that can be instrumental in creating a vibrant community. This year Leadership Denver celebrated 40 years of promoting meaningful civic engagement and fostering a sense of community among Denver's leaders from the private, public and nonprofit sectors.



Team building during LD '14 Retreat at The Nature Place

Karla Maraccini, Office of Community Impact, Office of Governor John W. Hickenlooper:

The [Leadership Denver] experience provided me with an enriched and safe space in which I could gain a better understanding of the impact of poverty on our communities, our education system, social welfare and social justice, and other challenges and areas for reform in our communities. I have learned that in order for those of us in government to more effectively harness the collective talent and goodwill of others in addressing these issues, we first have to better educate, motivate and engage.

INVESTING IN: TAKING DENVER TO THE NEXT LEVEL

- This year's LD class piloted the Positive Leadership model, which included leadership development curriculum along seven essential capacities. This model provided opportunities for class participants to reflect on their leadership style and to discuss the issues of focus throughout the LD year.
- The Class of 2014 explored the issue of hunger around the metro area on Poverty Day. The newest LD alumni will partner with Hunger Free Colorado, GrowHaus and Food Rescue Alliance for their class project to help fight hunger in our community.

59 Denver leaders participated in Leadership Denver 2014.

100% of participants agreed that Leadership Denver was a good investment in their growth.

100% of the Class of 2014 believes that Leadership Denver increased their awareness of regional issues with relevant, applicable content.



LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE: PITTSBURGH

Leadership Exchange (LEX) is an annual city-to-city trip that convenes our region's top leaders to strengthen collective vision and collaboration in our community, provide inspiration for solutions to regional issues and forge relationships among metro Denver's top leaders.

Lorii Rabinowitz. Rebound Solutions:

I have not stopped talking about Bill Strickland and Manchester Bidwell Corporation since I returned from LEX Pittsburgh. A Denver steering committee was created to launch a feasibility study to bring this game-changing programming to Denver; I serve as convener. Should Denver be approved as a strong site for replication, we will continue the effort through the remaining phases establishing community partnerships along the way. In total, the process has been exhilarating. It has been so exciting to see the groundswell of support, of Denver area citizens moved by Bill's work and his words and eager to help bring the concept to Denver. I am honored to be part of it and can't wait to see what the future brings.





John W. Hickenlooper, Governor, State of Colorado



Michael B. Hancock, Mayor, City & County of Denver

INVESTING IN: INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

- After learning about the innovative education efforts of Manchester Bidwell, an organization providing youth arts programs and adult workforce development courses in an impoverished area of Pittsburgh, a local feasibility study was launched to bring this education model to the Denver metro area.
- As members of the delegation observed collaboration in Pittsburgh, they were inspired to explore strategies for building diverse coalitions to find solutions to the energy debate in Colorado.

IMPACT DENVER

Impact Denver (ID) provides up-and-coming leaders with an introduction to local business and civic issues, collaborative community engagement experience and networking and mentorship opportunities to promote civic, professional and personal growth.

69 leaders participated in Impact Denver.



98% of the Class of 2014 felt that Impact Denver helped them to initiate or improve their civic engagement skills.



100% of participants said Impact Denver provided them with experiences that expanded their knowledge base.

Ryan Padilla, RAS & Associates:

As a result of my ID experience, I'm going to leverage my talents and invest time to positively impact the local community. I plan to stay connected with my project team partner organization and offer my time to continue to help them make a difference in the lives of underserved youth in metro Denver.



Farhana Morales, Courtney Jones, Stephanie Dybsky, Katelyn Roberts Charles Gilford



Impact Denver Class of 2014

INVESTING IN:

THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

- ID participants engaged in collaborative projects to serve seven community organizations: Northeast Denver Leadership Week, Reading Partners, Mile High Montessori, Open World Learning, Denver City Lacrosse, Executives Partnering to Invest in Children and Read12. Participants held book drives, served as mentors to high school students, developed strategies for fundraising and marketing, wrote grants, planted gardens and drafted budgets and sustainability plans to help these nonprofits serve the people of the metro area—all while learning more about issues around the metro area.
- The Leadership Foundation launched its first-ever board shadowing program to
 give ID participants the opportunity to learn more about meaningful board service.
 ID participants were paired with Leadership Foundation alumni who serve on
 boards and will shadow them in their upcoming year of service.

ACCESS DENVER

Access Denver (AD), a two-day intensive program for senior-level executives, gives top business leaders exposure to broad perspectives on Denver issues and opportunities and access to fellow executives and influential leaders.





AD participant Tucker Gorden and speaker Kevin Flynn at the Governor's Residence reception

Steve Kreidler, Metropolitan State University of Denver:

"I will be much more attuned to the collaborative nature and the culture around which to make decisions, create connections and make progress both at the university and as a civic contributor."

Helen Kaminski, White Wave Foods Company:

"The most valuable aspect of Access Denver is networking with like-minded people and hearing an overview of the most pressing issues facing Denver."



Access Denver Class of 2014

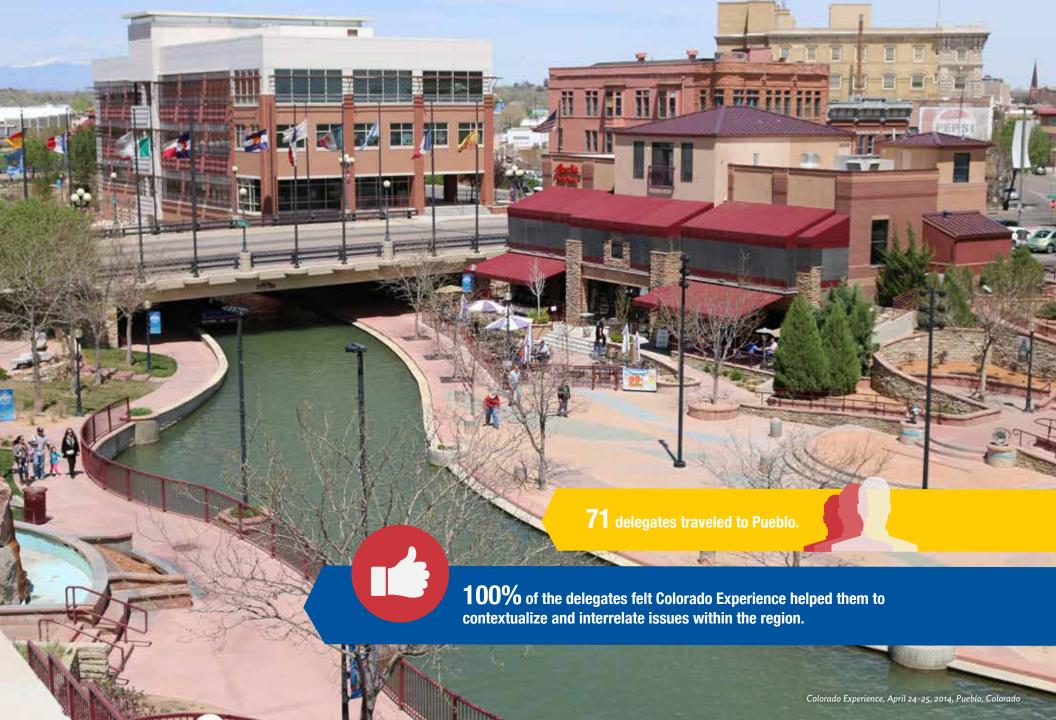
INVESTING IN: EXECUTIVE EXCELLENCE

- Hearing from local and national leaders and experts, the AD Class of 2014 explored the metro area's most pressing issues, including infrastructure, education, water and energy.
- The senior executives of AD 2014 comprised the largest class in the history of the program.

56 senior-level executives and two undergraduate students from the Colorado Leadership Alliance attended AD.



100% of participants felt that the experience gave them the tools they need to engage in the community and deepen their community connections.



COLORADO EXPERIENCE: PUEBLO

Colorado Experience (CE) is a two-day trip that immerses metro Denver leaders in the issues and opportunities of another Colorado city, encouraging dialogue on statewide business and policy issues and fostering collaboration in the metro area and across the state.

Sara van Rensburg, Colorado Thought Leaders Forum:

The most valuable thing about Colorado Experience has been understanding the culture of the communities outside the metro area. My organization has been evaluating the possibility of expanding our footprint across the state.

Because of my participation in Colorado Experience, I was able to reach out to community and business leaders to gain insight and hear their perspectives.



Lt. Gov. Joe Garcia and Kristin Todd



Drew Dix, Founder, Center for American Values, Medal of Honor recipient



Delegates tour Vestas Wind Systems, Pueblo, Colorado.

INVESTING IN: REGIONALISM

- For many delegates, this trip dispelled many of the long-held impressions about the city of Pueblo and the value it offers to the region.
- Pueblo has attracted many international companies, such as Vestas Wind Systems and EVRAZ, in recent years. Delegates from Denver learned about the key characteristics of this southern Colorado community that led these businesses to expand in Pueblo.
- As Denver leaders seek to revitalize neighborhoods around the metro area, they can note valuable lessons from Pueblo's recent redevelopment of its historic downtown and riverwalk, once blighted and now bustling after investment from the public and private sectors.



COLORADO LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

The Colorado Leadership Alliance (CLA) is a consortium of leadership education programs at 12 Colorado universities that equips students with skills for civic engagement and career success and connects students to Denver leaders through the annual CLA Summit.



Elise Yenne, 2014 Student Leader of the Year, and Katie Kramer, Executive Director

Darren Markley, US Bank, The Private Client Reserve:

Every student that I have met as a mentor at the CLA Summit has humbled me with their amazing enthusiasm for leadership, academics, civic engagement and the possibilities for the future. Through sheer tenacity and focus these students have risen to the highest level of academia and taken on leadership roles at their respective universities. Every year I leave the CLA Summit with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for our youth, our country and our future—it's in good hands!

Megan Gibson, 2014 graduate of Metropolitan State University of Denver:

The CLA Summit is a day where students can focus on the big issues in Colorado. During this day, we are more than just college students, we are "changers." This experience has not only opened up a door for a job after graduation but also provided me with connections that will help me follow through with my goals created during the CLA Summit.

INVESTING IN: A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR COLORADO

- The CLA Summit incorporated the first-ever Summit Mentors Walk, pairing some of Denver's top leaders with undergraduate students to offer insight and advice into professional success, civic engagement and the benefits of building a career in Colorado.
- Students drafted an action plan that Coloradans, communities and our state
 government could implement to improve statewide disaster preparedness
 during a problem-solving exercise. Students had the opportunity to present
 their plans to metro area leaders and talk through the issue.
- CLA Summit keynote speaker and CLA alumnus Daniel Epstein, founder
 of Unreasonable group + Unreasonable at Sea, spoke to students about
 the importance of collaboration and his experience as a global entrepreneur
 in Colorado.







CELEBRATING CIVIC LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

At the annual Celebrating Civic Leadership Luncheon (CCLL), the Leadership Foundation honors the 9NEWS Leader of the Year and features speakers who inspire meaningful community among Denver's leaders.

Amy Venturi, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation:

I first heard Bill Strickland while touring Manchester Bidwell on the LEX trip to Pittsburgh. I invited several people from my company to hear him speak at the Celebrating Civic Leadership Luncheon. I rushed back into town for the luncheon, suitcase in tow. As much as I enjoyed listening to him again, I most enjoyed watching the faces in the crowd. You could see it—every person in that room wanted to do more for this community. Because of that day, I'm a part of the steering committee for the feasibility study to replicate the Manchester Bidwell model in Denver. Experiences like the one we had at the Celebrating Civic Leadership Luncheon remind people that they can make a difference.



Lisa Hill, 2014 9NEWS Leader of the Year



Tom Brinegar and Gino Greco at the Celebrating Civic Leadership Luncheon

9NEWS and the Leadership Foundation honored the **16**th Leader of the Year, Lisa Hill, executive director of Invest in Kids.

650 alumni and community leaders gathered to hear from the keynote speaker, Bill Strickland, and honor the 9NEWS Leader of the Year.

\$130,000 was raised to benefit the work of the Leadership Foundation.

INVESTING IN: UNITING DENVER'S LEADERS

- Bill Strickland's keynote address at the luncheon created public awareness, overwhelming support and excitement for the possibility of replicating the Manchester Bidwell education and workforce development model in our own community. As a result, the City of Denver launched a feasibility study.
- CCLL increased awareness of the important work being done to promote health among mothers and their young children through Invest in Kids.

FALL FORUM

With a new TED Talk-style, the Fall Forum features alumni whose contributions to the community have had a transformative impact on the region.



From left to right: Councilman Christopher J. Herndon, Rick Petersen, Kimball Crangle, Mary Ricketson, Rebecca Holmes, Jandell Allen-Davis, Jamie VanLeeuwen

Justin Ball, Bespoke Event Group:

My biggest lesson learned at the Fall Forum came from speakers Kimball Crangle and Rick Peterson in their shared presentation on Mariposa redevelopment: Remembering the personal investments and traditions of individuals and small groups is key in gaining buy-in and success of your project. Acting on these lessons learned in directing organizational change, leaning in to listen, erasing my personal assumptions and being intentional in seeking and utilizing input from all stakeholders has brought strength and credibility to my company's projects.

Jandell Allen-Davis, Fall Forum emcee





Tara Dunn and Jennifer Hallam at the Fall Forum closing reception

100% of attendees felt the Fall Forum helped them to increase their awareness of regional issues, contextualize regional issues, gain access to thought leaders and build meaningful relationships.

93% percent of attendees felt that Fall Forum helped them to improve their civic engagement skills.



INVESTING IN: COMMUNITY GAME CHANGERS

Five alumni of Leadership Foundation programs shared their stories of meaningful and impactful civic engagement that "changed the game" in the community.

Jamie VanLeeuwen | Global and Local Leadership Lessons
Kimball Crangle & Rick Petersen | Transformation of the La Alma Neighborhood
Rebecca Holmes | New Solutions in Education
Councilman Christopher J. Herndon | Northeast Denver Leadership Week

CIVIC REFRESH

In this new, experiential program series, alumni and community leaders update their knowledge of the issues and trends facing the metro area and discuss how they can contribute to the solution.

Don Richards, Richards Financial Group, Inc.:

I thought the day was outstanding. Whether one is an alum or not, these kinds of timely and relevant sessions help us to be better leaders.

Ruth Rohs, IMA Foundation, IMA Financial Group:

Civic Refresh gives alumni the opportunity to be reminded of what is happening in our own backyard. We get focused on our own lives and forget about issues affecting our community that we might not consider every day. Bringing a group together of diverse experiences and perspectives drives great dialogue.



Andy Seth, Economic Development Day Chair



The number of participants nearly **DOUBLED** after the first event.

More than 1/3 of those at Civic Refresh were first-time Leadership Foundation participants.

INVESTING IN: A FRESH PERSPECTIVE

- As the first new continuous Leadership Foundation program in three years,
 Civic Refresh brought new life to the organization and new opportunities for alumni engagement.
- Civic Refresh broadened participants' perspectives of the changing landscape of the criminal justice system and economic development.
- Though primarily a means of offering continuing education on community issues to our alumni, this program also served as an introduction to the Leadership Foundation for those interested in getting involved with the organization.

2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Boettcher Foundation

DAN LEWIS, Immediate Past Chair, Chief Public Affairs Officer, Molson Coors Brewing Company

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TARA DUNN, Senior Council, Perkins Coie LLP

MIKE FORDYCE, President and CEO, Craig Hospital

STEVEN FOSTER, Chief Operations Officer, Global Technology Resources Inc. (GTRI)

GINO GRECO, Chief Executive Officer, Colorado/Wyoming Region,

American Red Cross Mile High Chapter

CHRIS HANSEN, Director, Corporate Strategy, IHS

GG JOHNSTON, Principal, Be Intentional, LLC

DR. STEPHEN JORDAN, President, Metropolitan State University of Denver

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The Private Client Reserve

DENNIS MOORE, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Denver Broncos Football Club



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MICHAEL NIYOMPONG, COO, Clayton Early Learning

JAMES PINTO, Shareholder, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

RAMONNA ROBINSON, Vice President and Managing Partner, GroundFloor Media

RUTH ROHS, Vice President, Corporate Communications, IMA Financial Group,

Executive Director, IMA Foundation

MAJA ROSENQUIST, Vice President and General Manager, Mortenson Construction

KIRK SCHEITLER, Area Manager, Community and Local Government Affairs, Xcel Energy

HOLLY SHILLIDAY, Managing Attorney, McCarthy & Holthus, LLP

KRISTIN TODD, Senior Vice President, Daniels Fund

MAUREEN UPTON, Principal, Resource Initiatives, LLC

JAMIE van LEEUWEN, Senior Policy Adviser to Governor Hickenlooper, State of Colorado

AMY VENTURI, Director of Social Investment, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

TRAVIS WEBB, Managing Partner-Colorado, BKD, LLP

BERT WILLIAMS, CEO, Johnson Financial Group

TAMI YOUNG, President, AdvenTech

Kathryn Albright Amani Ali Tricia Allen Jandel Allen-Davis Alires Almon Rebecca Almon Jeremy Anderson Anne Gottlieb Angerman Norton Arbelaez Kristi Arellano Justin Ball Alex Ballas Ramon Bargas Michael Bartolo Tom Base Christine Benero Peter Bernstein Amadou Bility JR Bitzer Joe Blake Ron Blan Andrea Blankenship Tom Boasberg Gil Boggs Kenneth Boyd Margaret Brawley Carol Breslau Thomas Brinegar David Broadwell Kelly Brough Michael Brown William Browning Stephanie Bruno Marti Brust Cedric Buchanon Michael Cafasso Amber Callender Ned Calonge loe Cannata Gina Carbone William Cash Amy Casseri Ryan Chase Joe Chickey Ken Chin Steve Chorak Ralph Christie Mary Cipollone Floyd Ciruli Lynn Clark

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2013-2014 LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION DONORS

\$25,000 and above

9News

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

Boettcher Foundation

Comcast

DaVita HealthCare Partners

Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

MillerCoors

MolsonCoors Brewing Company

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Bryan Cave LLP

El Pomar Foundation

Kaiser Permanente

Lockton Companies

Merrick Companies

U.S. Bank

UnitedHealthcare

Wells Fargo

Xcel Energy



305 community leaders invested their time and talent in the work of the **Leadership Foundation.**

\$5,000-\$9,999

FirstBank

Baker & Hostetler LLP

Be Intentional

BKD, LLP

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

Children's Hospital Colorado

Craig Hospital

CRI Associates

Daniels Fund

Flood and Peterson

GroundFloor Media

Hogan Lovells US LLP

IMA Financial Group

Jones Lang LaSalle Brokerage, Inc.

LiveWell Colorado

M.A. Mortenson Construction Company

Metropolitan State University of Denver

Morrison & Foerster LLP

NorthStar Bank Colorado

RAS & Associates

Sewald Hanfling

St. Joseph Hospital

Suncor Energy

The Colorado Health Foundation

University of Colorado Denver

University of Colorado Denver

Anschutz Medical Campus

University Physicians Inc.

\$1,000-\$4,999

GE Johnson Construction Company

American Red Cross of Colorado

Bonfils-Stanton Foundation

Citywide Banks

Cody & Seth Belzley

Colorado State University

Community College of Denver

D.A. Davidson & Co.

Denver Broncos Football Club

Eide Bailly LLP

EKS&H

Greenberg Traurig

Hill Family Foundation

Invest in Kids

Ireland Stapleton Prvor & Pascoe, PC

Johnson & Wales

Leadership Denver Class of 2009

Leadership Denver Class of 2014

McWhinney

Mile High United Way

Ms. Gail Schoettler | Ms. Judi Wagner

Public Education Business Coalition

Quickland Technology Group

Rebound Solutions

Regis University

RTL Networks, Inc.

Saunders Construction, Inc.

Southwest Airlines

UMB Bank, N.A.

University of Denver | University College

University of Colorado Health

VOCA Public Relations

WorkNvision

2013-2014 REVENUE AND INVESTMENTS

YOUR INVESTMENT IN THE LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

Administration | \$37,623

In-Kind | \$120,70

Leadership Development Programs & Events | \$984,637

Scholarship Donations | \$26,347

Sponsorship | \$485,320

OUR INVESTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

Administration | 17%

Fundraising | 4%

In-Kind | 9%

Leadsership Development Programs & Events | 70%



LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION TEAM

Back row:

Mara MacKillop, Program Specialist
Danielle Mellema, Marketing & Communications Specialist
Dave Suss, Senior Operations Manager

Middle row:

Denise King, Senior Program Manager Kirsten Vermulen, Program Manager Mikaela Gibson, Programs & Events Coordinator Jenna Farley, Alumni Engagement Manager

Front row:

Beth Justice, Executive Assistant Katie Kramer, Interim Executive Director

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS *Participants' employers listed as of program conclusion

ACCESS DENVER 2014

Salvador Aceves, Regis University

Rebecca Alexander, Baker & Hostetler LLP

Donna Baros, Colorado PERA

John Betzer, Snell & Wilmer, LLP

Kristen Blessman, Goodwill Industries of Denver

Shannon Block, Denver Zoo

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COLORADO EXPERIENCE 2014

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David Cohrs, Grant Thornton LLP

Kristin Colon, Denver Public Schools Foundation

Mizraim Cordero, The Colorado Competitive Council

Jerome Davis, Xcel Energy

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Jason Doyle, UMB Bank Colorado

Megan Fisher, Denver Museum of Nature & Science

Mike Fordyce, Craig Hospital

Bill Fowler, Daniels Fund

Unity Franko, SlimGenics

Paul Giovannetti, Mortenson Construction

Marcy Grossman, Consulate General of Canada

Chris Hansen, IHS

Amanda Kanekuni, Teach for America

Tammy Keffeler, FirstBank Holding Company

David Kenney, The Kenney Group

Eric Kintner, Snell & Wilmer, LLP

Katie Kramer, Boettcher Foundation

Katherine Kranz, Pinnacol Assurance

Debra Lemke, Kaiser Permanente

Christian Lewis, North Star Bank Colorado

Lynnea Louison, Boettcher Foundation

Christopher Lueth, BKD, LLP

Donna Lynne, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado

Olivia Mendoza, State of Colorado

Charlotte Min-Harris, American Red Cross, Mile High Chapter

Brittany Morris Saunders, Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.

Jennifer Nealson, The Denver Center for the Performing Arts Brent Neiser, National Endowment for Financial Education

Robert Osborn, Public Service Company of Colorado

Greg Osborne, Bridge Capital Resources, LLC

Shelly Parker Arnold, UMB Bank

Cecilia Prinster, Colorado Enterprise Fund

Pam Reichert, Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation

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Jeffrey Riley, American Red Cross, Mile High Chapter

Gil Rudawsky, GroundFloor Media

Kirk Scheitler, Xcel Energy

Ed Scholz, Denver Musuem of Nature and Science

Kristi Shaffer, Junior Achievement - Rocky Mountain, Inc.

Steven Silvers, Noble Energy

Amanda Skrzypchak, Teach for America

Abram Sloss, Denver Metro SBDC

Kimberly Smith, AvenueWest Global Franchise

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Sara van Rensburg, Quickland Technology Group

Gregory Welch, UMB Bank Colorado

John Wilkins, Suncor Energy USA

Rydne Williams, Comcast Cable Communications, Inc.

Elise Yenne, Colorado State University Fort Collins

IMPACT DENVER 2014

Narine Avanesova, UMB Bank

Jessica Bachus, Dolls for Daughters and Kenzi's Kidz

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Evan Rothstein, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

Catherine Schwartz, self employed (contracted through Waddell & Reed)

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