

# Colorado Community College System Foundation

---

9101 East Lowry Boulevard  
Denver, Colorado 80230-6011  
(303) 620-4000

## ~ Profile ~

The CCCS Foundation, established in 1987 by the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education, is a public foundation created to support the Community College System's mission. Formed as a nonprofit corporation, the CCCS Foundation is charged to serve as the development arm of the Colorado Community College System.

The CCCS Foundation enables new partnerships and enhanced collaboration, outside the typical realms of state government, among public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

### Colorado Community College System Foundation

#### Mission Statement

The purpose of the CCCS Foundation  
is to support the mission of the Colorado Community College System  
by creating strategic partnerships, developing resources, and advocating  
for the value of a community college education.

### CCCS Foundation Board of Directors

CCCS Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors, which is appointed by a majority vote of the Foundation Board. The Chair of the SBCCOE and the System President serve as ex officio voting members. In addition, the System President appoints a CCCS college president for one-year renewable terms to serve as a voting member of the board. The officers of the corporation consist of a Chair, a Vice Chair, Secretary, and a Treasurer. The President of the CCCS serves as President of CCCS Foundation.

#### CCCS Foundation Board Members

Vacant – Chair  
Vacant – Vice Chair  
Vacant – Secretary  
Kayleen Hollines - Treasurer  
Mike Beasley  
Tilman Bishop  
Gilberto Cisneros  
Julianne Haefeli  
Sherman Hamilton  
Paul Hanley  
Leonard M. Perlmutter  
Doug Schneider  
Ruben Valdez  
Raymond Wilder

#### Ex Officio Voting Members

Bernadette Marquez, SBCCOE Chair  
Dr. Nancy McCallin, CCCS President  
Dr. Linda Bowman, CCA President

#### Executive Director

Vacant

## **CCCS Foundation Grants, Initiatives & Programs**

### **Lumina**

The CCCS Foundation successfully completed the Lumina Initiative for Performance Grant in October 2008. This began as a two year grant in FY2004 for \$349,650 and focused on improving access and success for academically under-prepared students. The Colorado Lumina Initiative for Performance provided the Community College of Denver, Front Range Community College and the Community College of Aurora the funds to develop innovative services and programs to address the needs of under-prepared (remedial) students. In July of 2006, CCCS submitted a Supplemental Funding Proposal to the Lumina Foundation to extend the work begun in the first two years of the project, both at the college level and the system level. The \$324,000 proposal was approved, extending the project at all three colleges. Under the supplemental grant, the colleges continued to refine the strategies developed in the initial phase. The college institutional research (IR) departments provided longitudinal tracking and analysis. Other activities included peer learning among all system colleges and the development of a student unit cost/benefit analysis, tied to the Lumina strategies. This information was used to inform the colleges and the system in the strategic planning process with the ultimate goal of improving access and success for underserved students. The grant closed in October 2008.

### **Accomplishments include:**

- The project exceeded grant objectives, providing direct services to 756 students and involving 213 developmental education faculties, resulting in ongoing changes in the way developmental education is delivered and positioned at the three colleges.
- The core strategy of the project was to demonstrate the actual impact and cost of strategies directed toward the target population—students requiring developmental education—in ways that would increase retention and promote institutional and systemic change. A cost-benefit analysis funded by the Ford Foundation showed these strategies to be both effective in improving student success and cost effectiveness with the strategies able to pay for themselves within a few semesters based on increased retention.
- Evaluation and outcome analysis was introduced into the process, feeding information back into the colleges' strategic planning processes and providing materials for dissemination.

### **Ford Foundation**

The “Bridges to Opportunity” initiative targets increased community college access for low-income adults through: stakeholder engagement, mission integration, policy development, and data driven accountability. Funding from this grant is the key to strategic planning, data management and analysis, and marketing efforts. Through the grant, support in the form of nationally recognized expertise and funding is being provided in each of the aforementioned areas. Longitudinal tracking of student success is a key component of this grant. As one of six states in the Ford Bridges to Opportunity Project, Colorado’s funding was extended to a fifth year, through summer 2008. In addition, the system has been given an additional \$50,000 to be used to develop a cost-benefit analysis of strategies that support retention of low-income students and to build the system’s research capacity. A working draft of the cost-benefit analysis entitled “Cost Effectiveness Analysis: Using an Incremental Cost-Benefit Analysis” is available on the CCCS website at [www.cccs.edu/Docs/Research/CostBenefitESLFinal.pdf](http://www.cccs.edu/Docs/Research/CostBenefitESLFinal.pdf). We have been granted an extension through December 2008 in order to complete the longitudinal student-tracking portion of the grant. Best practices from all six states were shared at the final Ford Bridges to Opportunity meeting in June 2008 in New York. Information on this grant is available online at [www.communitycollegcentral.org](http://www.communitycollegcentral.org).

**Basic Skills Summit Effective Practices-Bridges to Implementation:** The CCCS Foundation in partnership with the FORD Foundation and the Lumina Education Foundation sponsored a full day training at Front Range Community College on February 8, 2008. Over 150 faculty and staff from throughout the community college system attended this professional development summit. Multi-disciplinary teams from each college learned effective practices to improve student achievement. It was an opportunity to share knowledge and experience and reconnect with one another.

### **Colorado SUN(Success Unlimited) / U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education Grant**

The Colorado SUN initiative is a partnership between the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Community College System. It is based on a successful GED transition program, titled *College Connection*, piloted at the Community College of Denver in the summer of 2007. The initiative is funded by a U.S. Department of Education Office of Adult and Vocational Education “Ready for College” grant in the amount of \$875,000 over two years. Colorado was one of four states selected to receive a grant and was awarded the largest amount.

Colorado SUN addresses the following challenges to successful transition of Out-of-School youth:

- Lack of alignment between competencies needed for the GED vs. college level work;
- Lack of outcome data to evaluate transition strategies;
- Lack of communication and coordination between ASE centers and community colleges;
- Students’ lack of clear and realistic career/educational goals or understanding of college processes; and
- Minimal resources and structures for professional development.

The project strategies include:

- Enhanced critical thinking curricula for students who are preparing for the GED;
- Navigators to recruit out-of-school youth to continue their education, help them negotiate the college processes, serve as advocates for the students, and assist them in securing support services;
- Intensive academic skill enhancement preparation(developmental education) for out-of-school youth (*College Connection* program);
- Professional development for instructors and navigators;
- Evaluation and data collection; and
- A State Leadership Team to advocate for policy changes, resource development, and increase the awareness of the importance and urgency in working with young adult dropouts.

Participation from the first four sites has been secured for the second year of the SUN project, and three sites are being added: Morgan Community College, Front Range Community College, and Red Rocks Community College.

### **Boettcher Foundation**

The Boettcher Foundation created a funding policy designed to prioritize capital funding for community colleges and state colleges in Colorado. Approved projects may be funded up to seven percent of the total project cost.

- Northeastern Junior College (NJC) – This fall, a proposal for Northeastern Junior College was submitted by the Colorado Community College System Foundation totaling \$34,998 to assist with the construction costs of the college’s Agriculture Education Center. The Boettcher Foundation awarded this amount for NJC in December 2006.
- Morgan Community College (MCC) – Last year, Boettcher approved an extension for the \$70,000 grant for the Morgan Community College ABLE Building to allow Morgan

Community college additional time to raise the balance of the construction costs budgeted at \$1,437,274. Through diligent fundraising work, MCC raised \$606,755 from local contributions and has scaled back the building in order to fit this budget. Boettcher has agreed to provide a matching grant of \$35,000 to complete the building.

- Trinidad State Junior College (TSJC) – On April 9, 2008 the CCCS Foundation was awarded \$97,500 for Trinidad State Junior College. This grant will be used to renovate the dorms, replace windows, and update the boilers at TSJC.

### **Rose Community Foundation**

The Rose Community Foundation “Boomers Leading Change” initiative was completed in the spring of 2008. The CCCS Foundation received a \$5,000 Boomer Innovation Grant to examine how the 55+ student may benefit from revised programs and services to meet the needs of this growing population. A business plan was developed by a Workforce and Education Task Force staffed and funded by the Rose Community Foundation.

A final report was completed with recommendations that will be shared with community colleges interested in working with this population. A pilot project was developed for implementation. The CCCS Foundation is an active member of the Workforce Development and Higher Education Task Force which is directed by the Rose Community Foundation. Business plans for each Task Force were presented to the RCF Board of Directors for additional funding requests.

CCCS Foundation Executive Director coordinated with the Arapahoe Community College (ACC) Foundation Director, ACC Grant Writer, and ACC Community Education Coordinator to develop a proposal for implementing a pilot “Boomer Resource Center” at the ACC Littleton Campus.

On May 16, 2008 the Rose Community Foundation hosted a Forum to inform numerous foundations about the progress of “Boomer’s Leading Change” Initiative. The CCCS Foundation presented the results of “Project Renew” to the audience. Of the twelve (12) funded projects, only three (3) were chosen to advance to the implementation phase.

### **Credit Union of Colorado**

The Credit Union of Colorado (CU of CO) has been a dedicated contributor to the success of Colorado’s community college graduates and future workforce for many years. These events would not be possible without the generous support of the CU of CO. The CCCS Foundation in collaboration with the 13 community colleges throughout the state have formed and maintained a positive working relationship with the CU of CO. Over the past several years, the CU of CO has sponsored the following activities:

#### **Annual Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Luncheon**

The PTK Annual Luncheon is among one of the most popular events for the best and brightest community college students and their families. It is an opportunity to showcase and reward top academic achievers in a professional and elegant manner. CU of CO receives recognition at the event which attracts over 200 participants. Plaques with photos honoring the PTK All Colorado Academic Team award winners from 1999 to 2007 are on display at the CCCS Lowry Campus main building and are viewed by numerous visitors and staff daily. The luncheon is managed by the CCCS Foundation Scholarship & Event Coordinator.

#### **The CU of CO Scholarship Program**

CU of CO offers scholarships to its members who are students enrolled at any of the 13 colleges of the Colorado Community College System. Each year up to three full-time \$1000 scholarships and

four part-time \$500 scholarships are awarded. These scholarships are renewable for up to four (4) consecutive semesters of study, providing that the student maintains a 2.5 GPA and continues enrollment in one of Colorado's community colleges. Students must meet the eligibility requirements when applying for and renewing the scholarship. The program is managed by the CCCS Foundation Scholarship & Event Coordinator.

#### Annual CCCS Employee Holiday Celebration

CU of CO is the exclusive sponsor of the Annual Employee Holiday Celebration. With on-going budget challenges and shortfalls, it would be impossible to host such a wonderful happening. In addition to the CU of CO sponsorship CCCS staff fundraises throughout the year.

#### Classified Employee of the Year Award & Faculty of the Year Award

CU of CO sponsors the Faculty of the Year Award, and the Classified Employee of the Year Award. Each of these events and activities are valued by all CCCS staff and faculty.

#### Board Development

Over the years higher education budgets have been drastically reduced by the state legislature while federal funds have become scarce and more competitive. The impact of these cuts have led to significant reductions in operating expenses, personnel, travel, and capital for the CCC System, CCCS Foundation, and the thirteen community colleges.

In 2007, CU of CO provided the needed funds for a Board Retreat. This allowed the CCCS Foundation to hire consultants in October, 2007 to conduct a strategic planning session for the Board of Directors. During the CCCS Foundation Board Retreat a new mission statement was established. We have since created two new committees, in addition to our already established Investment Committee. The two new committees are; the Fundraising Committee and the Advocacy Committee. We have also created a Fundraising Development Plan has been developed and focuses on recruitment of new members, securing funds for a more stable operating budget, developing marketing materials to attract donors, solicitation of donors/foundations/federal grants, fundraising events, concentrated scholarship plan, and resource development training.