The Year In Review

It has been a sensational year for the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges – one filled with both change and growth – creating more opportunities for Colorado students than ever before. This year:

• The Foundation welcomed a new Executive Director, J. Adam Cermak, who is charged with leading the Foundation’s continued work in October 2015.
• Significant support from donors resulted in the Foundation distributing in excess of $1.5 million in scholarship funding, a 60% increase over the previous year.
• Over 800 students received support from the Foundation’s scholarship programs, the vast majority of whom will stay in Colorado, becoming the workforce that powers the Colorado economy and the heart of our neighborhoods, businesses, and communities.
• The Foundation’s Campaign for Colorado Community Colleges surpassed $7.5 million toward the goal of raising $10 million to increase scholarship availability statewide.

This important work would not be possible without our donors. Thank you for your support of the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges and the Colorado Community College System.

Endowment And Investment Portfolio Performance

As of June 30, 2016, the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges’ investment portfolio was valued at $1,204,118. The investment portfolio represents a combination of endowed funds (totaling $686,156) and the Foundation’s reserve account (totaling $517,962).

Expenses

93% Program
5% Administration
2% Fundraising

About The Foundation

The Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges advances the mission, vision, goals, and objectives of the Colorado Community College System. Specifically, the Foundation actively seeks contributions from public and private sources to make scholarships available statewide, advances key programmatic initiatives, and develops partnerships with community stakeholders. The Foundation also provides ongoing support, professional development, and coaching to the 13 CCCS college foundations.
Scholarships Provide Opportunity

COSI Partnership Builds Excitement for Scholarships

By 2020, 74 percent of Colorado jobs are projected to require postsecondary education or training, yet currently only 51 percent of Coloradans hold postsecondary degrees or credentials. Through the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative, the Colorado Department of Higher Education is championing the need to increase postsecondary credential completion by making statewide investments in our students.

In 2015-2016, the Foundation was honored to receive a $771,497 Matching Student Scholarship Grant from the Scholarship Initiative. The grant provided a dollar for dollar challenge which was leveraged by our colleges to double the impact of the gift. The Scholarship Initiative has sparked statewide excitement for scholarships, motivated gifts from new donors, and increased giving at each college.

“Access to affordable and quality educational pathways is vital to degree completion and workforce preparedness” said Shelley Banker, Deputy Director, Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative. “As CCCS lives out its mission of providing accessible higher education opportunities, our investment will enable even more students to pursue higher education and enrich their lives.”

“To me, school has always been extremely important, and having to leave before obtaining my degree eight years ago has been weighing on my mind constantly. Through the help of this scholarship I am now able to return to school and prove to myself that I can do this.”

— Stone Family Foundation Scholarship Recipient

Rotary Honors Veterans and Their Spouses

The Rotary Club of Denver Southeast has long considered the well-being of Colorado military veterans a priority and has found many opportunities to recognize and support the individuals who have served our country. Last year, the Denver Southeast Rotary Club Foundation (DSEF) developed and funded a scholarship program for veterans and their spouses studying at Colorado’s community colleges.

Through a gift of $15,000, which was matched by generous donors, DSEF made 15 scholarships of $2,000 available to students at seven colleges.

“When the Veteran Serves, the Family Serves” said Captain Donald F. Oatley, USNR (Ret.), DSEF representative and a veteran. “Growing up, my father’s military career often took him away from home, and, in his absence, my mother ran the household, worked, and looked after us children. It was not easy for her, and she gave up a lot, including her education, to support our family. These scholarships are a small way of showing our gratitude for sacrifices made by service members and their spouses.”
Thank you for making our 2015-2016 fiscal year a huge success! Colorado’s community colleges transform lives, with graduates equipped to launch rewarding careers, advance in the workplace, and/or pursue further educational opportunities. Your support offers students an accessible education and ensures that they continue to benefit from Colorado Community College System’s abundant, affordable, and high value learning opportunities.

By 2020, 74 percent of Colorado jobs will require postsecondary training. Two-thirds of those jobs will require less than a four-year degree.