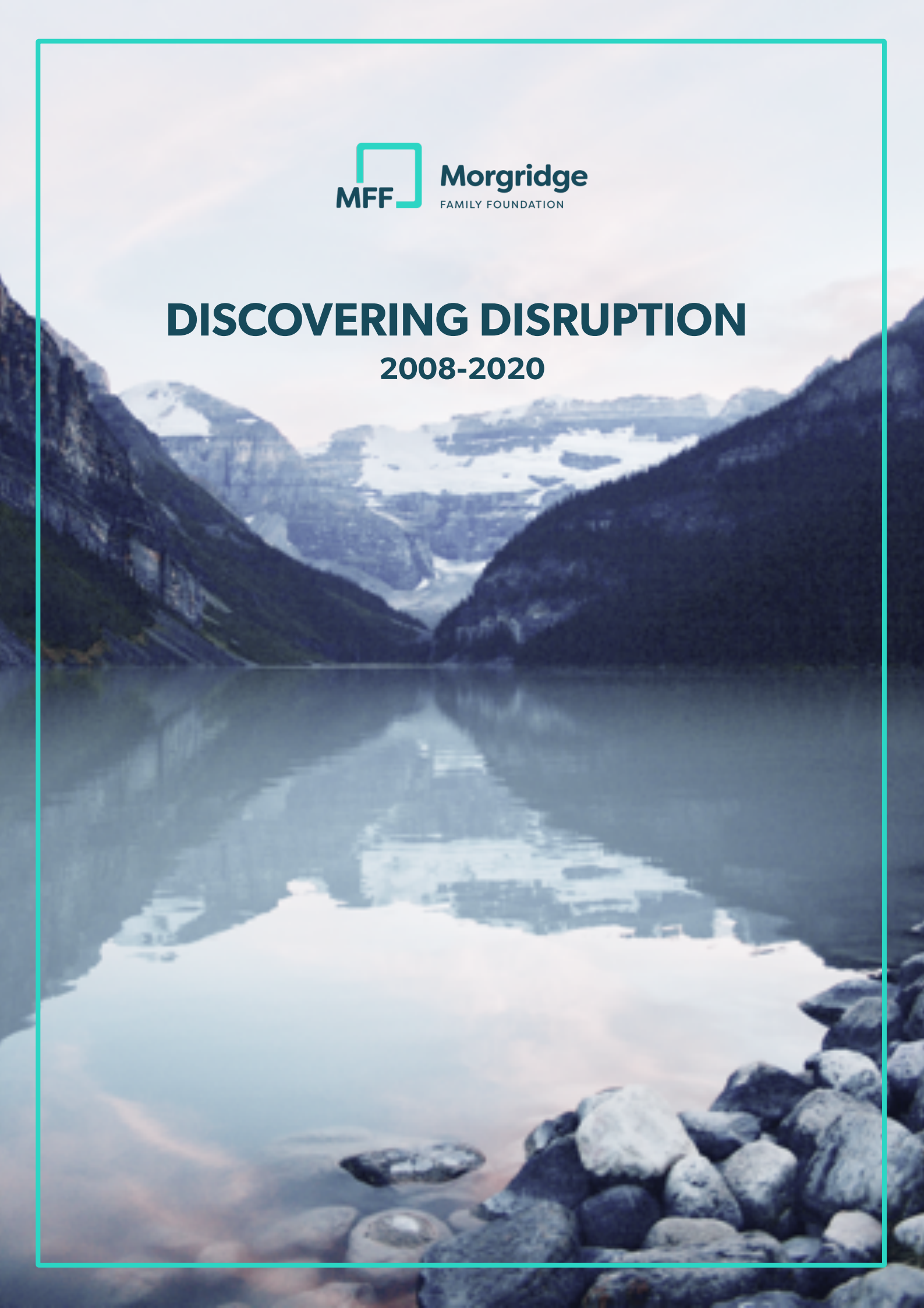
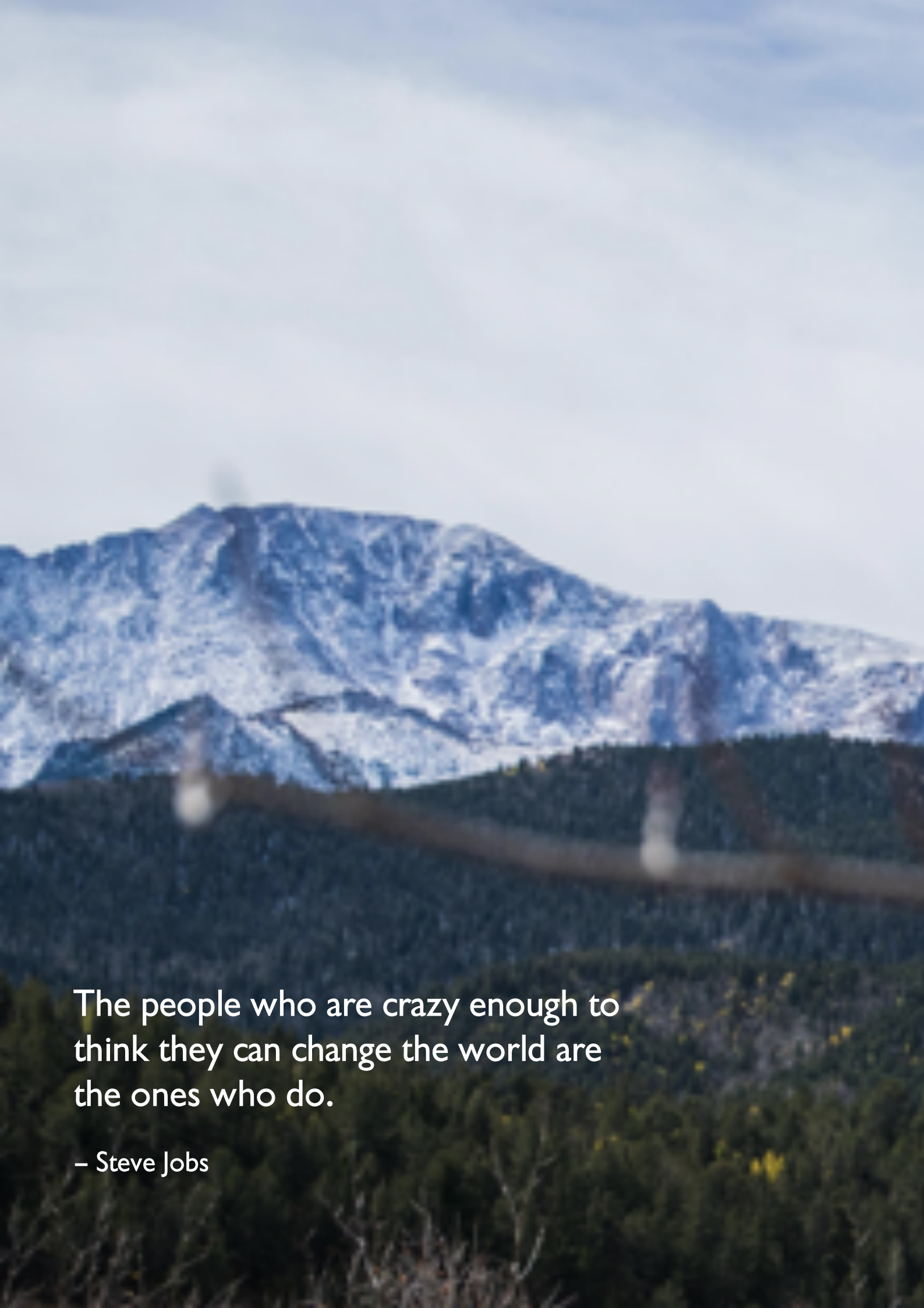




# **DISCOVERING DISRUPTION**

## **2008-2020**





The people who are crazy enough to  
think they can change the world are  
the ones who do.

– Steve Jobs



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 - 2	<b>Letter from the Founders</b>
3 - 4	<b>Network</b>
5 - 6	<b>People</b>
7 - 10	<b>Projects</b>
11 - 12	<b>Program Related Investments</b>
13 - 16	<b>International Grant Breakdown</b>
17 - 18	<b>Overall Data and Financials</b>
19 - 20	<b>Honorable Mentions</b>
21 - 22	<b>Portfolio Snapshot</b>
23 - 48	<b>Partner Spotlights</b>
49 - 50	<b>Education Ecosystem</b>
51 - 56	<b>2008-2020 MFF Grantees by Giving Category</b>
57 - 60	<b>Meet the Team</b>
61 - 62	<b>Covid-19 Response</b>
63 - 64	<b>The Future of Giving</b>

Growing up.

When we first started our giving journey as young philanthropists, we had a lot to learn. Over the years, we held funds at multiple Community Foundations through Donor-Advised Funds (DAF). We opened (and still have) a Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund. After 11 years of giving and serving on various nonprofit boards, in 2008 we took on the challenge to become our own 501(c)3: The Morgridge Family Foundation.

We wanted to go down a pathway of giving that was different from other foundations. We saw the opportunity to be nimble, flexible, and have the freedom to invent and create. With an entrepreneurial background, we rolled up our sleeves, let our values guide our giving, and went to work. Looking back to our first grants, our focus was based on community. We saw our community as an ecosystem, and our role was to strengthen its pillars: education, health, arts, and the environment. Every investment we made could directly impact, and often complement, other grants.

We sought knowledge from other nonprofit organizations; John sat on his parents' board and continues that service today. John serves on the Boards for MindSpark and the Fund for Wisconsin Scholars. Carrie served on the Aspen Community Foundation, Denver Public Schools Foundation, The University of Denver, MindSpark, Denver Museum of Nature & Science and Impact100 Global. The culmination of these experiences helped shape our foundation.

The opportunity given to our foundation from John and Tashia Morgridge was significant, and we work tirelessly to make sure that the greatest impact is achieved.

Our philanthropy is never about checking a box; it's about challenging conventional thinking and approaching problems creatively. To fund successful initiatives we seek out bold leaders, invest in big ideas, leverage the power of our network, and ask a lot of questions along the way. At MFF, we have the courage to take risks, and if we fail, we actively learn from our mistakes; we pivot, and never quit.

We've learned many lessons along the way. Our early investments taught us the importance of giving programs a three to five-year runway to make a difference.



When we invest in people with great vision and leadership, we find unexpected benefits such as lifelong respect and friendship. When our involvement runs deep and we create projects that solve a need organically, our entrepreneurial spirit sings.

In the following pages, you'll learn more about our network, our grantees, and what we believe makes a transformational gift. You'll see the programs we have invented and the ideas we have invested in. We created MindSpark, MFF Publishing, the Morgridge Accelerator Program (MAP), and the Student Support Foundation. You will learn about our international partners, leadership spotlights, and so much more.

This report is our way of sharing our knowledge, our growth, and our partners' admirable work. Unconventionally, this report is from 2008 to the end of 2020 - 13 years. From MFF's inception to today, we dig into the data and reflect on stories to compare our early, inexperienced days of giving to our current seasoned and strategic approach. To us it feels like a Then and Now report, but you decide.

While many aspects of our work continuously evolve, family remains a fundamental pillar. John and Tashia Morgridge continue to inspire, mentor, and fund Morgridge Family Foundation. John Farnam, Deputy Disruptor and Chief of Staff, is about to celebrate his 10th year at MFF. When our children graduated college, they both accepted an active role on our board.

We are constantly amazed by and grateful for the nonprofit partners, social entrepreneurs and other foundations we have come to know and trust throughout the years. The MFF staff brings us such pride through their innovations, their thought leadership, and their work in this report.

Enjoy the journey,  
John and Carrie Morgridge

# NETWORK

The relationships that make up our network are our most valued resource. We knew from the start that as philanthropists, we had to be careful not to fall in the trap of surrounding ourselves with “yes men” who would give false confidence to bad ideas. Our goal was to intentionally build a network that values discourse and honesty. We look for people who are willing to give time and honest feedback to build relationships that help amplify our work and theirs. Our network is an ecosystem where people from different backgrounds, perspectives, and skill sets come together to solve problems.

At MFF, being part of the network is an active experience. We ask our partners to recommend people and programs we should be aware of, and we feel honored when our network asks us to join on projects. Sharing resources and ideas with purposeful innovators is energizing for our team and exponentially productive for our initiatives. At its core, our network is as strong as the relationships we build within it, and as far-reaching as the opportunities will take us.

In addition to inviting individuals and organizations into our network, we partner with think tanks, giving circles, philanthropic organizations, and the like. The following page highlights a few of the outstanding members in our networks.





### **American Enterprise Institute**

AEI has advanced our understanding of poverty and policy, while simultaneously providing leadership opportunities to members of our network.

---



### **America Achieves**

Jon Shnur and America Achieves have introduced us to profound leaders in the education space and given us the opportunity to work alongside partners like the Gates Foundation and Bloomberg Philanthropies.

---



### **Aspen Institute**

Always a hub of ideas, the Aspen Institute is filled with energetic changemakers aligned with our mission. John Farnam's participation as an Ascend Fellow has brought our organizations closer in working on multi-generational poverty issues.

---

### **Community Foundations**

The best way to serve a community is by listening to it's unique needs. Our network of community foundations allows for local impact.

### **Philanthropy Roundtable**

America has the strongest philanthropic community in the world. Organizations like Philanthropy Roundtable allow us to connect directly with other foundations and philanthropists ready to collaborate, learn from each other, and keep American philanthropy thriving.

---



### **sparks&honey**

Using tech-led cultural intelligence, sparks&honey created the Future of Giving report, allowing us to offer insight into the changes in philanthropy post-COVID. MFF's investment made the report free and accessible to all.

---



### **Stand Together Foundation**

Just as we try to connect organizations and resources in our own network, the Stand Together Foundation is always open to our referrals and helping our nonprofit partners to advance their organizations through entrepreneurial opportunities.

---



### **United Way**

Much like community foundations, United Way allows us to reach the heart of local issues, bring insightful leaders to the table, and find support for our nonprofit partners.

# PEOPLE

---

**We value exceptional leaders and make sure to build strong relationships with those we find.**

Below are some of the leaders we met early on and kept in our network.



In appearance from left to right, top to bottom:  
Michael Salem (National Jewish Health), Kellie Lauth (mindSpark Learning), Christine Benero (Mile High United Way), Dr. Karen Riley (Morgridge College of Education), George Sparks (Denver Museum of Nature & Science), Richard Barth (KIPP Foundation), Robert Doar (AEI), Norton Rainey (ACE Scholarship), Dr. David Bushman (Bridgewater College), Dr. Carrie Hauser (Colorado Mountain College), Enrique Puig (University of Central Florida), Charles Best (DonorsChoose.org), Scott Laband (Colorado Succeeds), Jennifer Morris (The Nature Conservancy), Kellie O'Keefe (Book Trust), Christoph Heinrich (Denver Art Museum)



# DISRUPTION NOW

---

**We're constantly on the lookout for people with big, bold ideas. These leaders and their organizations are a sample of impactful changemakers added to our network.**



In appearance from left to right, top to bottom:

Rebecca Taber-Staehelin (Merit America), Connor Diemand-Yauman (Merit America), James Kimmey (Stand Together Trust), David Hall (Rise of the Rest), Janine Davidson (Metropolitan State University of Denver), David Campbell (All Hands and Hearts), Chris Gdowski (Adams 12 Five Star School District), Jesse Ogas (Firefly Autism), Michael Crow (Arizona State University), Alex Amouyel (MIT Solve), Don Haddad (St. Vrain Valley Schools)

# | PROJECTS

When it comes to giving, we aren't looking to support band-aid solutions. We want to invest in the type of work that addresses an issue at its core and catapults over it. Our goal is to disrupt broken systems and transform lives. Often we find incredible leaders who have a roadmap for getting there, and much of this report is dedicated to those stories. But what happens when what we're looking for doesn't exist? We roll up our sleeves and create it.

“

The only thing worse than starting something and failing... is not starting something.

– Seth Godin







## How It Started

---

Our first creation started from an idea Carrie had on a morning run. She wanted to teach the next generation of philanthropists how to give. None of the programs out there truly fit the type of experiential learning that Carrie was looking for— so she went to Olympia High School in Orlando, Florida, brainstormed with a group of students, and the Student Support Foundation (SSF) was created. Seventeen years later and SSF is in sixteen high schools and colleges around the country.



## Getting Comfortable with Creating

---

When MFF invested in 21st Century Classrooms, there was a clear need for teacher training that connected technology and education. MFF created Share Fair Nation to address the need and create educator workshops to support teachers in utilizing classroom technology. Recognizing the potential to disrupt through educator training, MFF put Kellie Lauth at the helm and backed the rebranding of Share Fair Nation into MindSpark Learning in 2017.



## How It's Going

---

Today, MFF continues to create our own projects and programs when the need arises. MFF Publishing was created as a way for nonprofit leaders to share their stories through traditional book publishing and online storytelling. The Morgridge Acceleration Program (MAP) was launched to give emerging talent in the public sector an opportunity to work alongside industry leaders in solving real-world issues. MFF partnered with MIT Solve to launch the Reimagining Pathways to Employment in the US Challenge, and with sparks&honey to publish the Future of Giving Report.

At MFF, our entrepreneurial spirit energizes us to try new approaches when what exists isn't working. Our motto is, "If the solution doesn't exist, invent it!"

## The Morgridge Acceleration Program (MAP) Fellowship

MFF has long believed in the power of fresh perspectives and engaged networks to innovate stagnant systems.

In 2020, MFF launched the Morgridge Acceleration Program (MAP) Fellowship. The six-month program matches an emerging social sector leader (called a MAP Fellow) with a nonprofit executive (called a MAP Mentor) who has identified a unique challenge their organization faces. Working under a Mentor's guidance, each Fellow brings a fresh perspective and an individual skill set to chart a path forward for their partner organization. In 2021, Forbes called MAP a "powerful opportunity for collaboration and innovative thinking."

The MAP Fellowship's unique alchemy is its focus on experiential co-learning that provides tangible solutions for nonprofits while cultivating tomorrow's leaders through elite mentorship. In addition to one-on-one partnerships, Fellows and Mentors receive ongoing strategy consultations, leadership and networking opportunities, publication support, and membership into a tight-knit cohort of MAP peers. During their time with the program, Fellows have built sustainable solutions for nonprofit organizations driving progress in the fields of education, conservation, business, communications, outreach, and philanthropy.





## Student Support Foundation (SSF)

John and Carrie started the Student Support Foundation (SSF) in 2003 at Olympia High School in Orlando, FL. Their goal was to make philanthropy more accessible for the next generation of changemakers while empowering students to give back to their local communities.

The SSF model introduces students to philanthropy in action. Colleges and high schools admitted to the program are granted \$4,000 annually by the Morgridge Family Foundation for the students to learn about grantmaking through a hands-on approach. The projects are decided upon by each chapter's students. A sponsor — a professor or teacher from each school — must be associated with each club. Additionally, SSF Chapters are required to fundraise each year, and submit an annual report to the Morgridge Family Foundation describing the impact of their philanthropy.

Since 2003, SSF has reached thousands of students at high schools and colleges across the country and impacted hundreds of thousands of lives through SSF's grants within their communities. In addition to the \$4,000 grant from MFF, the clubs collectively raise tens of thousands of dollars every school year through their own fundraisers. Since 2003, SSF chapters have collectively given away over \$600,000.

# PROGRAM RELATED INVESTMENTS

One way MFF propels great ideas forward is through Program-Related Investments (PRIs). We use this approach when there is a proof of concept that needs early financial support to launch it into reality. MFF is able to accelerate the impact of viable nonprofits and social enterprises by providing a below-market interest loan with individualized timelines. Here are examples of PRIs we have funded in the past; some have been fully repaid (complete) and some are ongoing today (active). We are proud to call all of these organizations valued partners.

**Dolphin Productions, LLC** (United Way Worldwide partnership) creates quality entertainment for kids and young adult audiences. MFF's investment supported the production and distribution of an original series called "The Hero Next Door," an episodic reality series spotlighting individuals who make a difference by giving back to their community.

**Year Investment started:** 2015

**Total:** \$1,000,000

**Status:** Active

**WhiteBoard Advisors** is a strategy and consulting firm that helps entrepreneurs, investors, and donors navigate complex challenges to make an impact. WhiteBoard Advisors eventually became part of the Strada Education Network.

**Year Investment started:** 2017

**Total:** \$1,000,000

**Status:** Completed



**Impact100** is democratizing giving through its 100 women, 100 votes, \$100,000 transformative gift model. MFF invested in a five-year PRI with Wendy Steele to support Impact100 Global as they encourage collaboration and sharing of best practices among Impact100 chapters. Impact100 Global is the backbone of the Impact100 movement that is transforming communities with significant grants, while simultaneously empowering philanthropists to actively participate in changemaking.

**Year Investment started:** 2019

**Total:** \$350,000

**Status:** Active

**Merit America** partners with major employers to identify workforce needs, recruits hard-working, low-income adults, and operates learning programs to teach needed skills that directly lead to in-demand career pathways. MFF invested early in Merit America's journey to support their expansion goals.

**Year Investment started:** 2020

**Total:** \$5,000,000

**Status:** Active

**Unchartered** is a social impact accelerator that builds coordinated movements of people to tackle problems from all angles. Unlike other accelerators that solely focus on growing companies, Unchartered zeroes in on a big, persistent problem, and identifies what's fueling it. They then connect those working on the same problem and help them go to scale. MFF's investment supports programs making an impact in health, education, energy, empowerment, and environment.

**Year Investment started:** 2020

**Total:** \$248,000

**Status:** Active

# INTERNATIONAL GRANT BREAKDOWN

While MFF primarily makes grants in the United States, there are a few exceptions for international investments. Various MFF staff, founders, and board members have traveled abroad to foster connections, advance philanthropy, and champion nonprofit organizations.

## INDIA

MFF began work in India because of Amitabh Shah, founder of Yuva Unstoppable and a United Way Worldwide partner. His nonprofit organization serves underprivileged youth through education. Yuva Unstoppable presented a unique opportunity to create bathrooms for girls in government public schools, remodel the classrooms to high tech standards, and bring clean water to the school which benefited the community. These small grants impacted millions of lives.





Yuva Unstoppable introduced us to the Deshpande Foundation India's Hubballi Sandbox, an ecosystem that encourages entrepreneurial culture to problem-solving locally. While there, an eye-opening experience involving local animal needs and a coincidental encounter lead to MFF's investment in Humane Society International. (Read Carrie and Michelle's story on The Reach, MFF's blog.)

## SOUTH AFRICA

MFF's main objective in South Africa was a site visit to the Global Conservation Corps (GCC) in Kruger National Park. GCC develops the next generation of leaders who care about the planet and its wildlife. There, they experienced the potential of the Future Ranger program that empowers local youth to protect their wildlife and find pathways to conservation employment.



# AUSTRALIA

MFF traveled with Impact100 Founder Wendy Steele to visit the Australian Impact100 chapters. Our hunger to create more long-lasting relationships paired with the timing of the wildfires led us to a new partnership with the Taronga Zoo supporting conservation efforts.







## NEW ZEALAND

In New Zealand, MFF worked with local philanthropic efforts which are emerging in the country. Wendy Steele inspired the first Impact100 New Zealand chapter. Through The Nature Conservancy, we funded an integrated restoration program at Lake Hayes to improve water quality. MFF and MindSpark (a US education nonprofit) collaborated with local educators on best practices and the future of learning.



# OVERALL DATA AND FINANCIALS

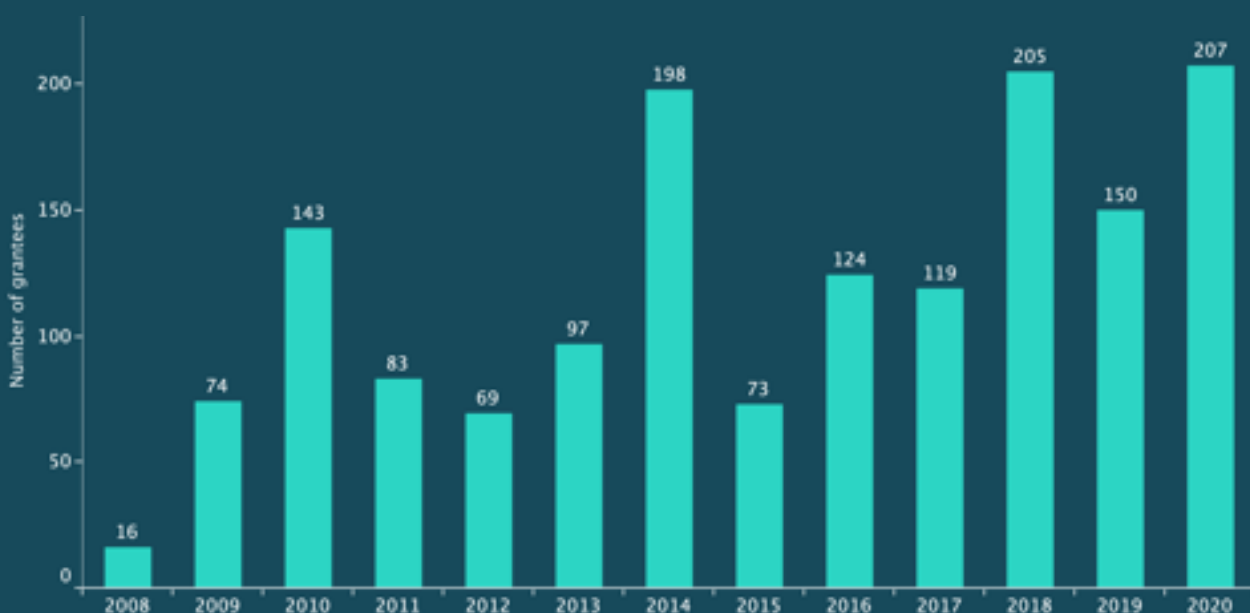
Total grant amount (2008-2020):

**\$126,237,226.74**

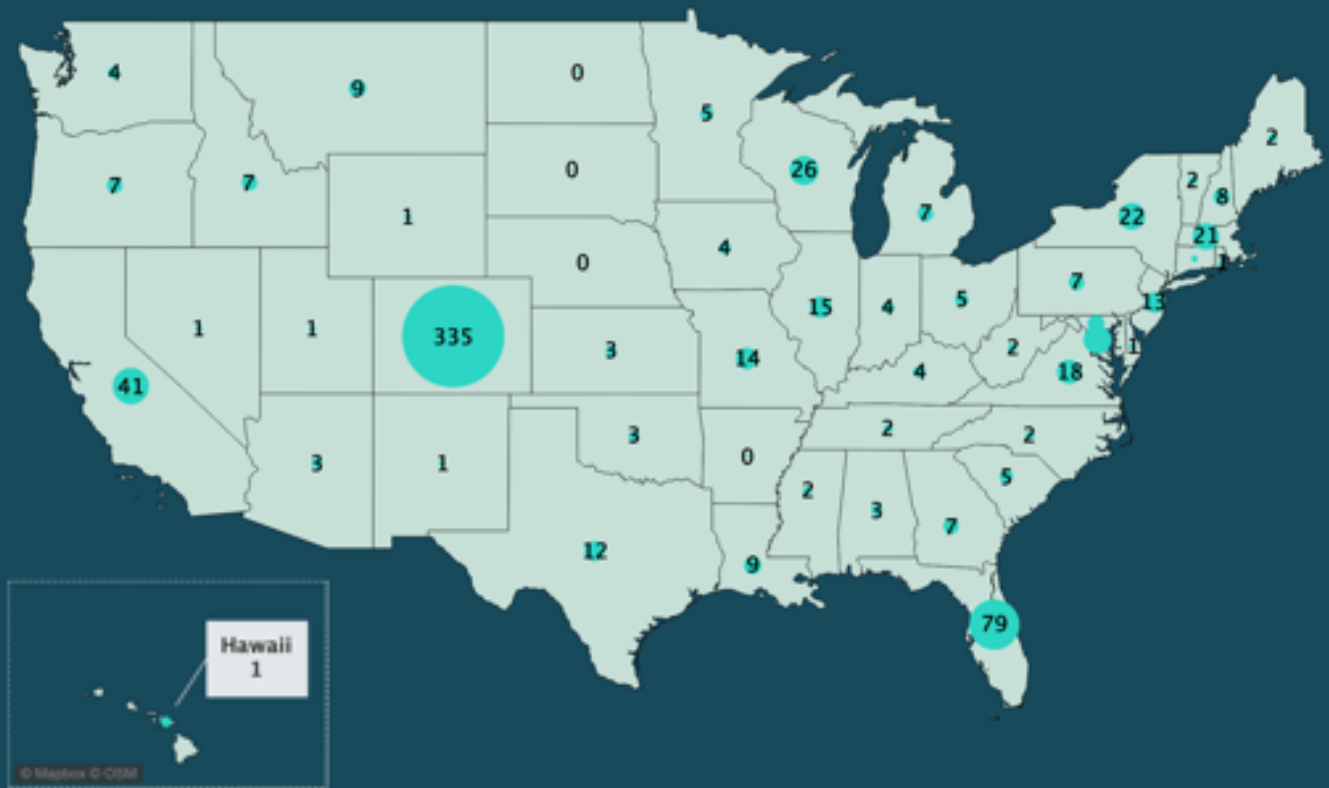
**\$27,036,900.00** additional funds given between 1997-2007

**767** individual grantees, 2008-2020

## Number of grantees by years

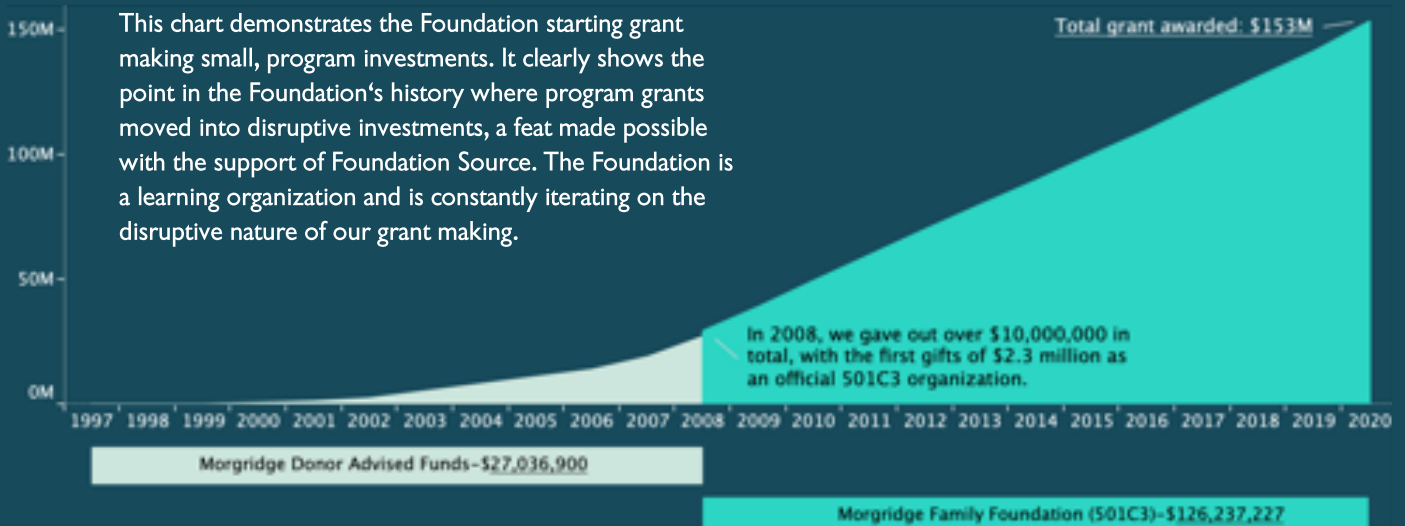


## Number of Grantees (States)



## Cumulative Giving

**\$153,274,126.74**  
(1997-2020)



# HONORABLE MENTIONS

---

Today, MFF grants over \$12 million annually. To best understand our giving pathway today, you have to go back to the beginning. Our learning journey to fund projects began in 1997 when we gave away \$100,000. We funded programs and buildings – creating spaces to collaborate, innovate, and build something new. We learned what it means to disrupt. These are a few of the partnerships and grants that taught us to identify and support transformation with every dollar:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2003 - current	Colorado Mountain College	\$1M +
2004 - 2010	Reading Recovery	\$10M +
2004	Aspen Rec Center (ARC)	\$2M
2004 - current	Denver School Science and Technology	\$4.5M
2004 - current	Plymouth State University	\$1M +
2005 - current	University of Central Florida	\$3.5M
2004 - 2008	Trinity Prep	\$1M
2005 - 2010	University of Denver, Ricks Center	\$1M
2005 - current	Guadalupe Center	\$1M
2006 - 2011	Childrens Hospital of Colorado	\$1M
2008 - 2014	21st CCC Classrooms and 1:1 Laptops	\$10M +
2008 - current	University of Denver	\$10M +
2008 - 2011	Denver's Road Home	\$500K +
2007 - 2019	RAFT	\$1M +
2008 - 2011	Reading Plus	\$3M +
2008 - 2010	Women's Foundation of Colorado	\$1M
2007 - current	Feeding America/Second Harvest - Orlando FL	\$1M +
2017 - current	Rocky Mountain Preparatory School	\$1M +





## Description

Technology and arts

First-grade reading programs

Lead donor for community building

Start up and middle school

Endowment for Pell Eligible students

Morgridge International Reading Center

New library

Capital campaign

Morgridge Family Early Childhood Education Campus

Endowment for school teacher, in house

Classroom technology, matching grants

Morgridge College of Education at DU, ECE Endowed Chairs

Youth transitional housing

Teacher resources

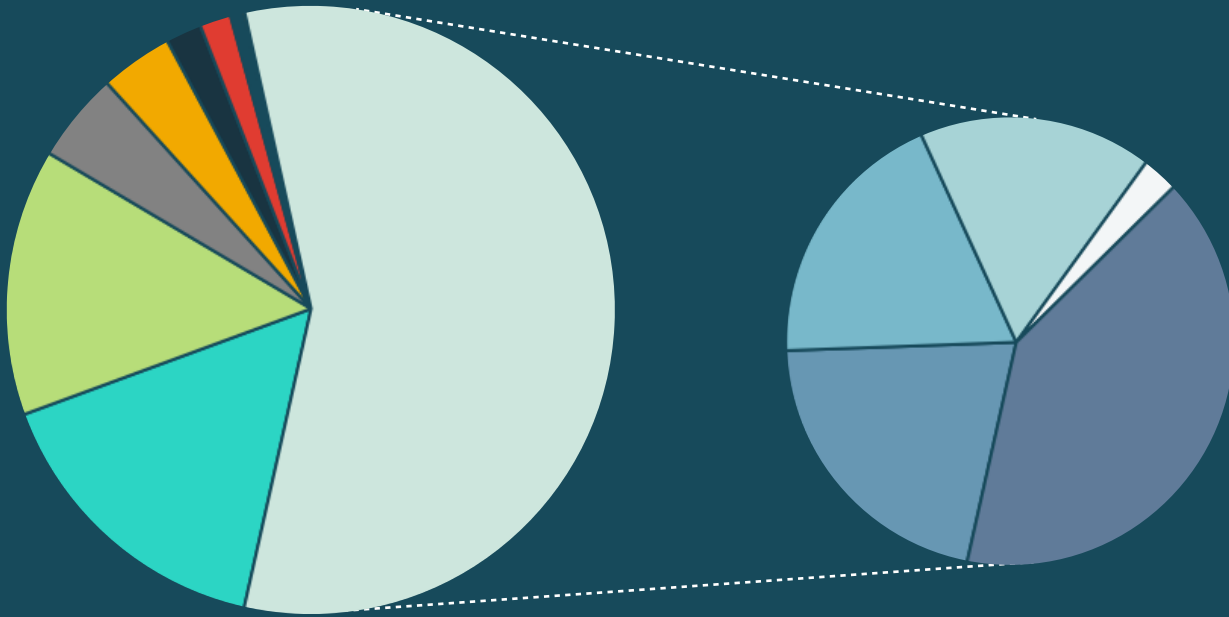
Literacy, K-12 education and prison

Women's empowerment

Food access and security

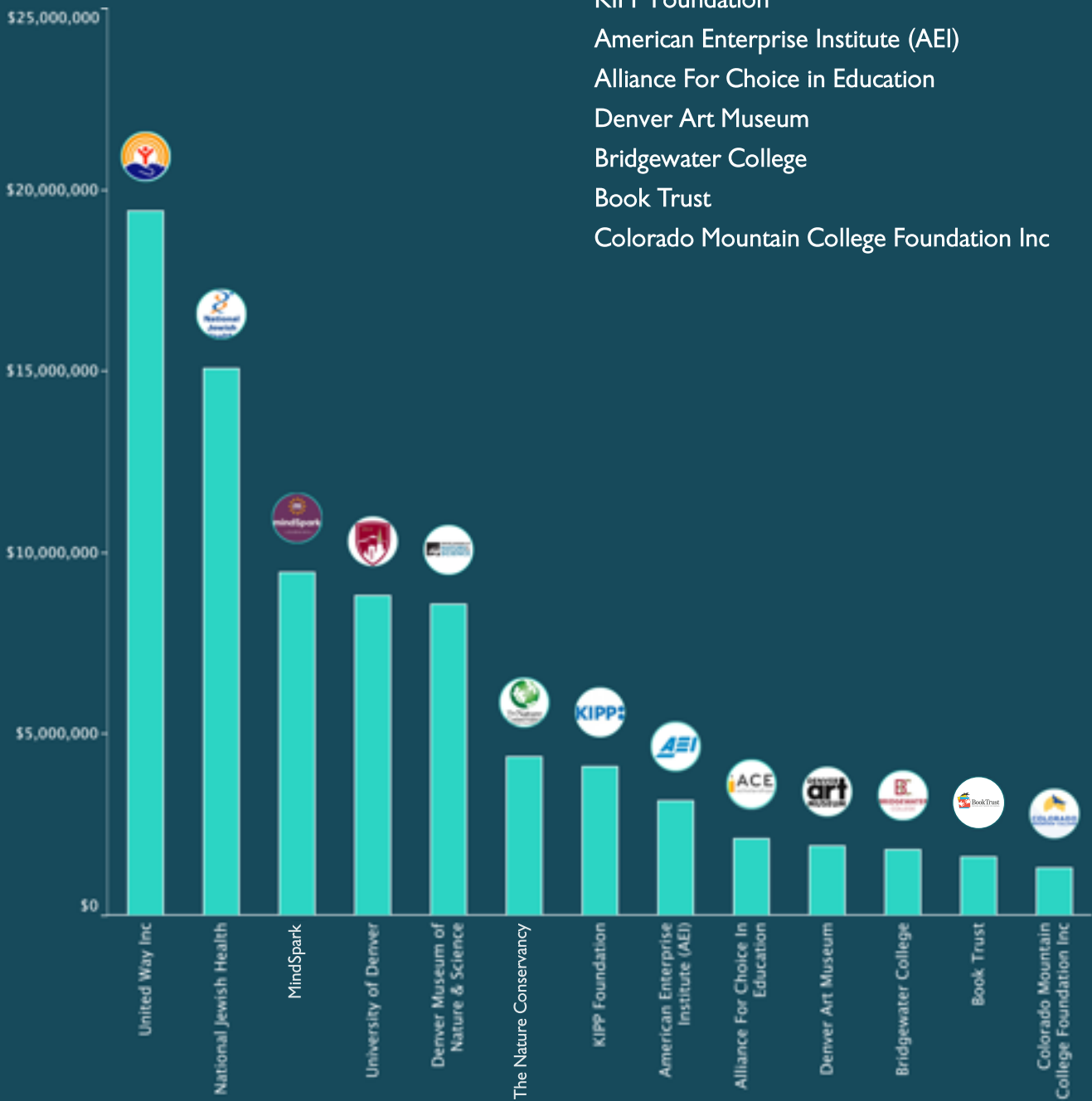
Inclusive and equitable K-12 education

## Giving Categories



- Education, 57.0%
  - Community Empowerment, 15.9%
  - Health & Wellness, 14.1%
  - Workforce Development, 4.8%
  - Conservation, Environment, & Animals, 3.9%
  - Disaster Relief, 1.9%
  - Arts & Culture, 1.7%
  - Student Support Foundation, 0.6%
  - Other, 0.2%
- K-12 Education, 23.3%
  - 21st Century Classrooms, 11.9%
  - Higher Education, 10.7%
  - Education Professional Development, 9.6%
  - Early Childhood Education, 1.5%

# Top 13 Grantees



- United Way Worldwide
- National Jewish Health
- MindSpark
- University of Denver
- Denver Museum of Nature & Science
- The Nature Conservancy
- KIPP Foundation
- American Enterprise Institute (AEI)
- Alliance For Choice in Education
- Denver Art Museum
- Bridgewater College
- Book Trust
- Colorado Mountain College Foundation Inc

# UNITED WAY WORLDWIDE



**\$19.4M**

Given

**5**

States

**11**

United Way  
partners

**165+**

Grassroot nonprofit  
organizations



Montana



Wisconsin



New Mexico



Colorado



Florida



## IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



### POVERTY ALLEVIATION

**22,816**

Individuals in 8,836 households received a total of over 200,000 meals from Racine County Food Bank's Emergency food pantry network.

*MFF Covid-19 response- United Way Racine County*

**44**

People have participated in the employment and training program Porchlight Products, which has created nearly 17 tons of jams, pickles and baking mixes for sale.

*United Way of Dane County*



### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

**161,377**

Nonprofits and corporate partners have hosted trainings, conferences and meetings at the Morgridge Center for Community Change in Denver. Thanks to the center, nearly \$450,000 dollars has been directly offset for nonprofits to reinvest into the community.

*Mile High United Way*

**20**

Pet therapy teams from Canine Assisted Therapy, Inc took their decorated vehicles and therapy dogs to the senior living community John Knox Village in Pompano Beach, helping them to combat senior isolation during Covid-19.

*United Way Broward County*



### CHILDREN AND EDUCATION

**55**

Families homeschooling children with Down Syndrome during the Covid19 pandemic continued to receive resources and a support network from D.R.E.A.M Bozeman.

*Greater Gallatin United Way*

**1<sup>ST</sup>**

Mobile preschool built in the Denver neighborhoods of Globeville and Elyria-Swansea, considered a childcare desert. Using a fully-renovated airport shuttle, the mobile preschool serves up to 8 students at a time through 2 sessions per day.

*Mile High United Way*

**36,000**

Books will reach children in need of age-appropriate reading materials in the 2020-2021 school year through Libros for Kids.

*United Way of Central New Mexico*

**55**

Pathways scholarships given to African American students in Metro Denver to help them obtain a college degree.

*Mile High United Way*

# NATIONAL JEWISH HEALTH



## INSPIRED BY

At its core, our partnership with National Jewish Health is about providing world-class healthcare to more people who previously didn't have access. Our investment is intended to reach rural communities, provide education opportunities to children with chronic health issues, and improve health around the country.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION


National Jewish Health was founded on a belief that they can make a profound difference for their patients and communities. Through their tireless work and innovation, they have become the leading respiratory hospital in the nation. Since 2013, MFF has partnered with National Jewish Health to establish and grow The Morgridge Educational Campus and the Morgridge Academy.

The Morgridge Educational Campus is a sweeping, multipurpose center that advances the hospital's clinical and research capacities. A key component is the Morgridge Fellowship Program, which brings 60 post-doctoral students to National Jewish Health each year to learn the unique model of respiratory care and bring better treatment to underserved populations.

The Morgridge Academy is a Colorado Department of Education facility school serving K-8 children living with chronic illnesses. The Academy is the only one of its kind on a medical campus in the country. The Academy's support grew during the COVID-19 pandemic. Morgridge Academy staff partnered with the Denver nonprofit Food for Thought to personally deliver meals to students' homes, along with toilet paper, cleaning products and school supplies. To maintain the 1:1 technology platform students

### OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 15,069,629

People impacted:

 Over 1 million


Website:

 [nationaljewish.org](https://nationaljewish.org)

Sectors invested in:

 Community Empowerment

 Disaster Relief

 Education

- Inclusion and Equity
- K-12 Education

 Health & Wellness

# MORGRIDGE ACADEMY



received Chromebooks, hotspots, and support from the National Jewish Health Information Technology Department to ensure all children could continue their education online.

## IMPACT

Today, there are more than 700 Morgridge Fellowship alumni practicing around the world, including hard-to-reach rural areas. Every year, dozens of Denver metro-area children with chronic illnesses and their families receive an educational experience at the Morgridge Academy that enables them to achieve academic success while improving physical health as well as social and emotional wellbeing.

## QUOTE

“Thanks to the generosity and leadership of the Morgridge Family Foundation, our institution has been elevated to a place of greater prominence as the leading respiratory hospital in the nation in

medicine, research, and education. The Foundation’s multifaceted approach to simultaneously provide funding and valuable guidance is unparalleled, and it will help move our institution into its next historic era.” – Michael Salem, MD, FACS, President and CEO, National Jewish Health

# MINDSPARK



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 **9,446,643**

People impacted:


 **Over 1 million**

Website:

 **[mymindsparklearning.org](http://mymindsparklearning.org)**

Sectors invested in:

 **Community Empowerment**

 **Education**

- Inclusion & Equity
- 21st Century Classrooms
- Education Professional Development

 **Youth Voice**

## INSPIRED BY

MindSpark is MFF’s first spin off organization that began with the mission of providing world-class training for educators in the classroom. The “train the trainer” model allows teachers to reimagine their approach with support, inspiration, and professional development to ensure success for their students and schools.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

MindSpark began as Share Fair Nation, a nonprofit organization with the mission to teach and inspire educators in emerging practices for a 21st century workforce. In 2017, Kellie Lauth became CEO adding new programs, including a problem-based learning model. MindSpark remains a close partner of MFF but has expanded in so many ways, from their mission to their capabilities to their geographic reach– which is international.

Today the guiding principles for MindSpark are to directly connect industry with education, introduce students to real-world authentic problems, and better teach the critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, leadership, communication skills, and emotional intelligence necessary to thrive in the modern workforce.

## IMPACT

Since 2017, MindSpark has served 31,168 educators and industry professionals in 59 countries and all 50 US states. The organization has partnered with 4,701 organizations, including 1,229 districts and 3,472 individual schools, impacting 976,226 students. They have delivered over 2,100 hours of professional development, saving educators over \$1 million in professional development costs. MindSpark





participants make connections with seven new industry partners, on average, helping to shrink the opportunity gap and resulting in a 83% decrease in the achievement gap among students.

Professional development delivered by MindSpark proves to be beneficial for educators at every level of their career and boosts educator retention rates at schools around the world. Educators in the first five years of their career who participate are three times more likely to continue teaching in the next school year. 98% of educators with more than 18 years in their profession report that MindSpark is among the most valuable professional development they have ever experienced.

## QUOTE


“MindSpark is so proud to work alongside the Morgridge Family Foundation to uphold the limitless potential in education. Scaling human talent to create better communities and systems takes courage, wisdom, and intentionality and nobody does this better than MFF.” – Kellie Lauth, CEO & President, MindSpark

# UNIVERSITY OF DENVER



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 **8,820,717**  
(pre-mFF: \$4,000,000)

People impacted:


 **Over 1 million**

Website:

 **du.edu**

Sectors invested in:

 **Disaster Relief**

 **Education**

- Inclusion & Equity
- Education Professional Development
- Higher Education

 **Youth Voice**

- Student Support Foundation

## INSPIRED BY

When Marc Holtzman invited Carrie to be on the board of the University of Denver, it began the Morgridges' prolific journey into higher education investments. The gift continues to provide incredible returns for students and educators alike, with over a decade worth of impact data.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

The University of Denver received MFF's first ever \$10 million dollar gift. The College of Education was in need of a new building. It became a state-of-the-art building on campus that elevated everything education, from capturing national faculty attention to supporting the staff. This gift also endowed two chairs in early childhood education, doubling down on the investment at the University.

After establishing the Morgridge College of Education in 2008, MFF has continued our investments by providing seed money for novel programs in early childhood, creating the Morgridge Fellows Program which links exceptional graduate students with cutting edge community partners, and supporting professional development through ECHO-DU.

Project ECHO is a global model for providing virtual professional learning opportunities to professionals. ECHO-DU is the first of its kind to apply the model to the P-20 education system instead of health care. Participants collaborate with other educators and learn and develop advanced skills related to mental health, school health-wellness and school leadership.

## IMPACT

The Morgridge College of Education continues to thrive. DU rose 37 spots in the annual U.S. News &



World Report ranking in 2020 and two programs ranked in the top 25 (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and Teacher Education.) MCE currently serves 975 students annually with 63 faculty members.

## QUOTE

“MFF is instrumental in supporting innovative programs for students and faculty, while amplifying our ability to effectively engage with the community. From providing seed money for novel programs in early childhood, to creating the Morgridge Fellows Program which links exceptional graduate students with cutting edge community partners, to supporting professional development through ECHO-DU, MFF serves as a valued partner in advancing our mission of improving the lives of others through education.”  
– Dr. Karen Riley, President, Morgridge College of Education

# DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 8,593,165

People impacted:

 Over 1 million


Website:

 [dmns.org](https://dmns.org)

Sectors invested in:

 Arts & Culture

 Conservation, Environment, & Animals

 Education

- Inclusion and Equity
- K-12 Education

 Youth Voice

## INSPIRED BY

Investing in the Denver Museum of Nature & Science was a family decision. On a site visit with their children, the Morgridges agreed that a mega gift to the museum would be transformational.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

In 2010, MFF invested \$8 million to the Denver Museum of Nature & Science for an expansion to the museum known as the Morgridge Family Exploration Center. The Center, which contains labs, high-tech educational spaces, an exhibition gallery and a Discovery Zone for young visitors, opened in 2014 and transformed the way students and children learn about scientific concepts.

In 2012, MFF funded scientific research and science education in Snowmass, CO as part of the “Snowmastodon Project.” The project successfully preserved thousands of bones and fossil samples, delivered unique educational programming to thousands of K-12 Colorado students, and contributed to media outreach and scholarly publications on the work.

In 2018, MFF provided a six-figure grant to support the launch of two new programs focused on science education: Wonder Workshops, an immersive classroom experience facilitated by a museum educator, and Curiosity Kits, science discovery kits delivered to classrooms. Designed for pre-K through middle school, the programs challenge students to imagine possibilities, take risks together, and learn how STEAM concepts (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) connect to their everyday lives and interests.

## IMPACT

Between 2014 and 2019, the Morgridge Family Exploration Center served over 1.3 million young





science discoverers and over 42,000 educators. Of those served, over 500,000 were free day guests and over 160,000 attended through school-facilitated field trips.

The Snowmastodon Project resulted in an unparalleled collection of fossil plants and animals including roughly 5,426 large mammal bones from extinct animals such as American Mastodons, Jefferson's Ground Sloths, and Ice Age species of bison, horse, deer, and camels. Over 50 scientists from 18 institutions collected fossil plants and animals to understand the ecosystems of the high Rockies and climate change. The project developed and delivered engaging educational programs to 12,000 local elementary students and 400 local middle and high school students and created additional free education programs for K-12 students available online. Between October 2010 and May 2012, there were more than 630 newspaper, television, or radio stories developed about the Snowmastodon Project and 20 papers about the project were authored for *Quaternary Research*, considered the flagship journal on Pleistocene science.

Wonder Workshops and Curiosity Kits reached 20,846 students and 13,319 students, respectively, in 2018. The programs continue to grow; Wonder Workshops saw a 25% increase in participation as of spring 2019.

Curiosity Kits proved very successful in extending DMNS's reach into rural Colorado, reaching more than 25 school districts across the state. Teacher feedback indicates that the programs fit their needs, make science approachable, and effectively engage, challenge, and motivate students. 93% of teachers state their students did something memorable that they wouldn't normally do in school.

## QUOTE

"We are so grateful for the support of the Morgridge family and the Morgridge Family Foundation. While the Morgridge Family Foundation has supported the Museum with multiple monetary gifts, including one of its largest, the Foundation's support goes far beyond dollars. They invest wholesale in the organizations they support, helping inform strategy, facilitating the cultivation of relationships with other supporters and diverting the spotlight onto their beneficiaries. The ripple effects of the Morgridge Family Foundation's support are seemingly endless. Their philanthropic approach is truly transformative for the communities they invest in." – George Sparks, President and CEO, Denver Museum of Nature & Science

# DENVER ART MUSEUM



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 1,906,260

People impacted:

 100,000+

Website:

 [denverartmuseum.org](https://denverartmuseum.org)

Sectors invested in:

 Arts & Culture

 Education

- Inclusion and Equity
- K-12 Education
- Education Professional Development

## INSPIRED BY

MFF has always believed that art is the heart of a city. Denver Art Museum's engaging and creative approach to community spaces aligned with MFF's mission of bringing people together in authentic ways. DAM mixes education, community building, and an environment that encourages thinking in new ways.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

MFF has partnered with the Denver Art Museum (DAM) on transformational work for more than ten years. MFF grants have supported development of Creativity Resource, a free online creativity platform for teachers; acquisition of interactive smart boards and other tools to support programs and professional development for teachers; and the creation of the new Morgridge Family Foundation Creative Hub, a 5,000 square foot multipurpose space in the DAM's newly renovated Martin Building.

The Creativity Resource has served as a platform to inspire teachers, students, and families to explore art and be more creative. The free resource features more than 350 lesson plans tailored to various audiences and draws from more than 100 art objects in the DAM's collection. The interactive smart boards and other educational equipment helped the museum's learning and engagement department staff to enhance both the interactivity and content of programs for adults, students, teachers, and museum volunteers.

More recently, MFF supported the DAM's transformational Vision 2021 campaign to develop the new Creative Hub. Scheduled to open at the end of 2021, the Creative Hub celebrates local creatives and their work and provides hands-on, self-directed learning opportunities for visitors. The space will



Photo by Eric Stephenson, Denver Art Museum

support school field trips, the Creative-in-Residence program, and quarterly collaborations with local artists and creatives on events, performances, and other unique experiences.

## IMPACT

The Creativity Resource website, and the resources it contains, reaches about 84,000 visitors each year. Of the teachers who reviewed the site in its first year, 75% to 80% indicated they learned something new about creativity from the website and were thinking about creativity in a new way.

Positive feedback from teachers regarding the website included responses such as, “I enjoy all of the new ideas and lessons I can take from this website. I do think it provides valuable information and ways to connect the museum and art and culture to the curriculum and lesson plan.”

Once the museum is able to fully reopen to the public post-COVID, the Morgridge Creative Hub will serve museum visitors daily in unique ways. It will serve as a “home base” for school field trips and programs like the Creative-in-Residence and host events, performances, experimentation, and one-of-a-kind experiences. Various installed activities, designed by local creatives and focused on the artistic process, will be available daily to encourage all visitors to explore their creativity.

## QUOTE

“For more than a decade, the Morgridge Family Foundation has generously supported the vision of the Denver Art Museum to be an educational resource for the community. We are thrilled for the new Morgridge Creative Hub in the heart of the completed museum campus. It will be a welcoming space for gathering, connection, and creative exchange, a platform for community-driven programming.” – Christoph Heinrich, Frederick and Jan Mayer Director, Denver Art Museum

# THE NATURE CONSERVANCY



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 **4,381,098**

People impacted:

 **Over 8.5 million**

Website:

 **nature.org**

Sectors invested in:

 **Conservation, Environment, & Animals**

 **Education**

- Inclusion and Equity
- K-12 Education
- Education Professional Development

 **Youth Voice**

## INSPIRED BY

Nature is an important part of life at MFF. From John and Carrie’s love of exploring the outdoors to Michelle and Nate’s passion for conservation, to John and Hillary’s quest to visit every National Park, there is a deep respect and appreciation for taking care of natural resources. The Morgridges were inspired to work with The Nature Conservancy because of deep, long-term family involvement. MFF wanted to do something different and, together with The Nature Conservancy team, created programs to educate the next generation and to help students learn the science behind nature.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

Our first project Nature Works Everywhere, rebranded as Nature Lab in 2020, is The Nature Conservancy’s youth engagement platform. Nature Lab was created by The Nature Conservancy and its 550 scientists to show students how the science behind nature works for us and how we can help keep it running strong. The Nature Conservancy made the content more accessible during the pandemic to help families who were adjusting to remote, home-based learning.

Our second project, Florida Freshwater is a crucially important conservation initiative that protects water at its source by conserving and restoring forests, wetlands and other habitats; transforming the way cities think about urban water management; and inspiring action among governments, corporations and communities to invest in natural solutions. The project also includes initiatives such as protecting the Floridan Aquifer and expanding Manatee monitoring programs across the state.

Our third project, the partnership between The





Nature Conservancy Aotearoa located in Queenstown, New Zealand, funded by MFF, investigates erosion and sediment control, provides regulations and best practices for urban development, and identifies effective approaches to minimize the impacts of future land development on lake water quality.

## IMPACT

Nature Lab content has been accessed by over 8 million students and educators in over 60 countries. Nature Lab continues to grow, with two new Virtual Field Trips and a bilingual Spanish and English series on water security. Nature Lab plans to reach 5 million young people annually by 2025. The Florida Freshwater project has assisted with restoration of almost 17,000 acres of wetlands and provided studies to show the full economic and community benefits of nature-based solutions to freshwater challenges.

## QUOTE

“At The Nature Conservancy, we aim to create a world where people and nature thrive. With the Morgridge Family Foundation’s generous support across a variety of programs, TNC is taking on the planet’s biggest challenges by leveraging strong science and deep partnerships to effect lasting change.” – Jennifer Morris, CEO, The Nature Conservancy

# KIPP FOUNDATION



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 4,105,752

People impacted:

 50,000+

Website:

 [kipp.org/kipp-foundation/](http://kipp.org/kipp-foundation/)

Sectors invested in:

 **Community Empowerment**

 **Education**

- Inclusion & Equity
- 21st Century Classrooms
- Education Professional Development
- K-12 Education

## INSPIRED BY

Investing in the KIPP Foundation was a natural choice for MFF because of their innovative approach to high-quality K-12 public education. The partnership brought emerging teaching and educational technology practices to schools across the country.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

From 2012 to 2014, MFF partnered with the KIPP Foundation by providing \$3.5 million in funding to transform education through the power of technology. The series of grants helped to bring technology into their classrooms, often for the first time, and establish a culture of innovation in KIPP schools. The first round of funding supported school-based technology adoption and usage, by funding internet connectivity, interactive white boards and supporting tools, teacher computers, 1:1 laptops, and educator professional development through Share Fair Nation.

The second round provided 21st Century Classrooms funding for 23 additional schools to provide instructional technology that would impact student achievement and accelerate student growth. The funds helped to purchase student devices including laptops, Chromebooks, iPads, and tech accessories like software licenses, headphones and external keyboards. Both rounds of grants sent KIPP teachers from grantee schools to Share Fair Nation conferences which offered professional development, networking opportunities with other STEM-focused educators, and access to innovative curriculum resources.

In 2014, MFF funds were used for instructional technology to support personalized learning.

In 2015 and 2016, MFF funded the Shark Tank



competition at KIPP School Summit (KSS). The Shark Tank competition encouraged entrepreneurial thinking among KIPP regions by inviting them to share their innovative, creative, and scalable solutions to enhance and strengthen college persistence among KIPP’s college-age alumni. The competition’s finalists pitched their proposals to a panel of judges and thousands of KSS attendees, ultimately receiving funds to support their transformational ideas.

## IMPACT

The partnership between MFF and KIPP Foundation ultimately impacted almost 50 KIPP schools across the country, leading to widespread adoption of the station rotation model, which leverages technology to enable small group instruction, increases opportunities for differentiation, tracks student data, and makes teacher workload more efficient and sustainable. Years later, the technology grants have been particularly beneficial to school responses to

COVID-19. KIPP schools that received tools, infrastructure, and learnings from MFF’s funding have had a smoother transition to virtual and distance learning.

## QUOTE

“The Morgridge Family Foundation has been an invaluable partner to KIPP over the years. Early on, the Foundation helped us make some of our earliest investments in instructional technology, with an eye toward personalized learning and student engagement. Later, the Foundation sparked a wave of innovation across KIPP, seeding new programming aimed at supporting KIPP alumni in college. Throughout, the Morgridge’s passionate approach, dedication, and enthusiasm encouraged us to think big, create connections, and pioneer new ideas.” – Richard Barth, CEO, KIPP Foundation

# AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 3,772,000

People impacted:

 Over 1 million

Website:

 [aei.org](https://www.aei.org)

Sectors invested in:

 **Community Empowerment**

 **Education**  
• Inclusion and Equity

 **Workforce Development**

## INSPIRED BY

Discovering disruption taught MFF that great policy coupled with great programs leads to sustainability and change. When the Morgridges were looking for solutions to America's poverty issues, AEI emerged as a leading institution in the field with shared values and the opportunity for major impact.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

The American Enterprise Institute (AEI) is a public policy Think Tank with a focus on advancing human dignity and potential through democracy, free enterprise, and an entrepreneurial spirit.

MFF has worked with AEI since 2013, helping to fund research and programs for poverty alleviation. A significant part of those efforts was the creation of the Morgridge Fellow in Poverty Studies, a position awarded to a full-time scholar at AEI that focuses on free enterprise and better public policies. The inaugural Morgridge Fellow in Poverty Studies, Robert Doar, went on to become President of AEI in July 2019. As President and as a Morgridge Scholar, his research helped to shape the national discussion on poverty, promote policies that support struggling Americans, and strengthen the safety net.

Robert Doar and the entire AEI Poverty Studies program serve as national leaders in promoting policies that lift up the most disadvantaged while promoting prosperity for all. MFF learned how important it is to fund good policy alongside good programs. This learning is key to scale.

## IMPACT

AEI's efforts have actively contributed to the development and preservation of policies that have





lifted millions of Americans out of poverty. AEI research shows that fewer American children live in poverty today, in both relative and absolute terms, than 40 years ago. In an even more impressive example, between 2013 and 2019 alone the child poverty rate dropped from 17.2% to 13.6%, or roughly 2.6 million fewer children living in poverty. There are many factors contributing to the decline but AEI undoubtedly played a key role in advocating for and implementing the kinds of programs that positively impact the lives of millions of Americans.

## QUOTE

“All of us at AEI are deeply grateful for the transformational investments the Morgridge Family Foundation has made in our poverty studies work. It is an honor to serve as AEI’s Morgridge Scholar and help promote policies that have helped millions of Americans move into employment and out of poverty.” - Robert Doar, inaugural Morgridge Fellow in Poverty Studies, AEI

# ALLIANCE FOR CHOICE IN EDUCATION



## INSPIRED BY

A core belief at MFF is that every student and parent should have a choice in the education that is best suited for their needs. ACE turns that idea into practice by creating educational opportunities for families who otherwise would not have access to the schools of their dreams.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

Alliance for Choice in Education (ACE) gives low-income students access to a quality education, positively impacting children, families, communities, the economy, and the nation as a whole. ACE provides K-12 partial scholarships \$2,500 per scholar, per year, on average.

The positive impact of an ACE scholarship is not limited to students. Once on scholarship, ACE families become more likely to volunteer at school, read to their children often, and eat dinner together as a family. ACE parents are more likely to earn higher wages and pursue higher education for themselves. There is also an impact on society. The 90+% high school graduation rate of ACE scholarship students increases the likelihood students will obtain a college degree and go on to live independently as positively contributing members of society. Since parental education is often identified as the single strongest correlate of children's success in school, the impact of an ACE scholarship is felt for generations, promoting a cycle of opportunity and encouraging social and economic upward mobility. In providing just one child with a scholarship, ACE helps to eradicate the cycle of poverty.

Through MFF's work with the American Enterprise Institute, we learned the importance of policy. If you're going to scale a great program, there has to be

### OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 2,092,400

People impacted:

 100,000+

Website:

 [acescholarships.org](https://acescholarships.org)

Sectors invested in:

 **Community Empowerment**

 **Education**

- Inclusion and Equity
- K-12 Education

 **Youth Voice**



good policy. MFF funded ACE's policy work to supplement the scholarships they provide. Their Policy and Government Affairs Department conducts initiatives, such as the Morgridge Initiative for Educational Freedom, that expand grassroots outreach and education efforts, defend and expand parental choice programs, and engage in data and evaluation work with partner schools and families.

## IMPACT

In the 2019-2020 school year alone, they provided 7,000+ students with scholarships and established partnerships with 642 private schools in eight states. ACE scholars have a high school graduation rate of over 90% and graduate college at twice the rate of their public-school peers. For over 21 years, ACE Scholarships have provided \$119 million to families across the country.

## QUOTE

“The Morgridge Family Foundation’s investment in our policy efforts is the reason our efforts have exploded in 2020 and 2021. As a result, the lives of thousands of children have been radically impacted. Their early investments have made all the difference.” - Norton Rainey, President, Alliance for Choice in Education

# BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 1,819,755

People impacted:


 100,000+

Website:


 [bridgewater.edu](https://bridgewater.edu)

Sectors invested in:

 **Disaster Relief**

 **Education**

- Inclusion & Equity
- Higher Education

 **Youth Voice**

- Student Support Foundation

## INSPIRED BY

Disruption happens when there's a strong leader at the helm. When the MFF team met Dr. David Bushman, President of Bridgewater College, there was a shared sense of excitement about reimagining what higher education could look like.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

MFF first partnered with Bridgewater College in 2014 when the College hosted a Share Fair Nation event—the first of its kind in a rural region. The event facilitated the introduction of new teaching styles to local educators, provided educational play opportunities for children, and offered valuable networking opportunities for Bridgewater College staff, students, and attendees from across the state of Virginia.

Additionally, MFF funded Bridgewater College to fully renovate three traditional classrooms into engaged learning classrooms—active spaces equipped with mobile furnishings to enhance in-class experiences for students on campus. The new classrooms educate hundreds of students each year and serve as a model to transform all classrooms across campus.

After years of building a strong relationship, MFF funded \$4 million to create the Morgridge Center for Collaborative Learning. It is located in the center of the library and is 100% focused on student success through workforce placement.





## IMPACT

Hundreds of Bridgewater College students participated in the 2014 Share Fair Nation event either as hosts or exhibitors, and many faculty members presented, exhibited, hosted, and recruited student volunteers, thus incorporating Share Fair Nation pedagogy into their curriculum. Over 1,500 rural families and 175 K-12 teachers traveled to campus to explore, learn, and play.

Bridgewater College estimates a minimum of 15,000 visits per month, up from 8,000–10,000 visits in the old library. The new services in the Morgridge Center for Collaborative Learning will become fully integrated into student life and academic programs.

## QUOTE

“The Morgridge Family Foundation has long recognized the power of education at all levels, and they take BIG steps toward strengthening our communities. As strong partners, they share with BC a commitment to changing lives. And while we may approach the same challenges from different perspectives, we embrace these differences to push each other—“to disrupt,” as Carrie and John like to say—so we can think differently and explore new and even more impactful solutions.” – Dr. David W. Bushman, President, Bridgewater College

# BOOK TRUST



### OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 1,627,051

People impacted:

 250,000+

Website:

 [booktrust.org](https://booktrust.org)

Sectors invested in:

 **Community Empowerment**

 **Education**

- Inclusion & Equity
- K-12 Education

## INSPIRED BY

MFF's giving to Book Trust was inspired by the simple belief that all children deserve a chance to fall in love with reading. By providing students with choice and ownership over their book selection, Book Trust invites Title I students to have the same opportunity to embrace reading as their peers.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

Book Trust is a national organization that empowers students in Title I schools to choose, own and love books. During each month of the school year, Book Trust students are provided the Scholastic Book Clubs book flyer and are empowered to select 2-3 books at no cost to them. Over the course of the year, students become the proud owners of up to 25 books. Every book a child receives creates home libraries that can be shared and loved by other family members.

For the last five years, Book Trust's annual program evaluation of school leaders, program representatives, teachers, and students, has consistently found that Book Trust teachers report more student growth in reading and more student at-home reading than teachers in other reading programs. The evaluation found that Book Trust students report more enjoyment of reading and more motivation to read than their peers in other reading programs.

## IMPACT

With MFF's funding and partnership, Book Trust has served 250,000+ students since 2008. In that time, Book Trust has delivered more than 8 million books. In the 2019-2020 school year alone, they provided 765,164 books to 57,557 students. Demand for the program continues to grow.



A 2012 College Station, Texas, study demonstrated that students who participated in Book Trust for three years showed significant gains in reading compared to their peers who did not. The study recognized book choice and a strong classroom culture of reading as a result of Book Trust, and as the primary causes for the gains in reading.

In the 2019-2020 school year, 95% of Book Trust teachers say they have increased the number of students reading at grade level.

## QUOTE


“We’re grateful for the important role the Morgridge Family Foundation has played in support of our mission, students and teachers. As students and educators grapple with distance learning and school closures, the equity divide in our nation’s education system continues to grow. With MFF’s support, Book Trust addresses this disparity by ensuring students have the access and agency to choose books of interest each month of the school year in order to create a culture of literacy both in the classroom and at home.” – Kellie O’Keefe, President and CEO, Book Trust

# COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE



## OUR PARTNERSHIP AT A GLANCE

MFF Cumulative Giving:

 **1,309,462**  
(pre-MFF: \$2,309,462)

People impacted:


 **100,000+**

Website:

 [coloradomtn.edu](https://coloradomtn.edu)

Sectors invested in:

 **Community Empowerment**

 **Education**

- Inclusion & Equity
- Higher Education

 **Workforce Development**

 **Youth Voice**

## INSPIRED BY

The Morgridges were investing in their own backyard, and subsequently Colorado Mountain College, before MFF was established. The inspiration for giving to CMC began with enriching the student experience in the Roaring Fork Valley by linking all their campuses through technology.

MFF's relationship began in 1998, when Carrie and John Morgridge lived near the Aspen, Colorado campus. The Morgridge's first million-dollar gift went toward improving technology for the college, building the Morgridge Family Academic Center on the Aspen Campus and endowing the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet as Artists in Residence for 25 years.

## DISRUPTION & TRANSFORMATION

From there, the relationship continued to grow and flourish. MFF has partnered with Colorado Mountain College on projects benefiting students as well as communities across the state. MFF helped to fund the First Ascent Academy, for example, which gave local middle-school students the opportunity to study leadership in depth and put those skills to use in monthly workshops.

In 2017, MFF funded an additional \$1 million+ gift to build the Morgridge Commons at Glenwood Springs Conference Center. Completed in 2019, the Morgridge Commons is a meeting and learning space with state-of-the-art technology that serves local businesses and nonprofits. The space features rooms that can accommodate meetings of 20-60 people up to groups of almost 400. Murals by Colorado artist John Fielder and an onsite art gallery further support the community by spotlighting local talent.





## IMPACT

With Colorado Mountain College's 12,000 square-mile geographic footprint (the size of the state of Maryland), digital connectivity was an early strategic priority. The Morgridge Family Foundation's 1998 investment in CMC's digital libraries helped create a seamless and equitable experience for students spread across the college's eleven mountain campuses. This priority continues today and was further enhanced with the creation of CMC's Morgridge Commons in 2017, connecting communities through compatible digital systems and services within and outside of the Colorado Mountain College system.

CMC supported over 15,000 students and 2,000 faculty during COVID-19 and will graduate their largest class of students in May 2021.

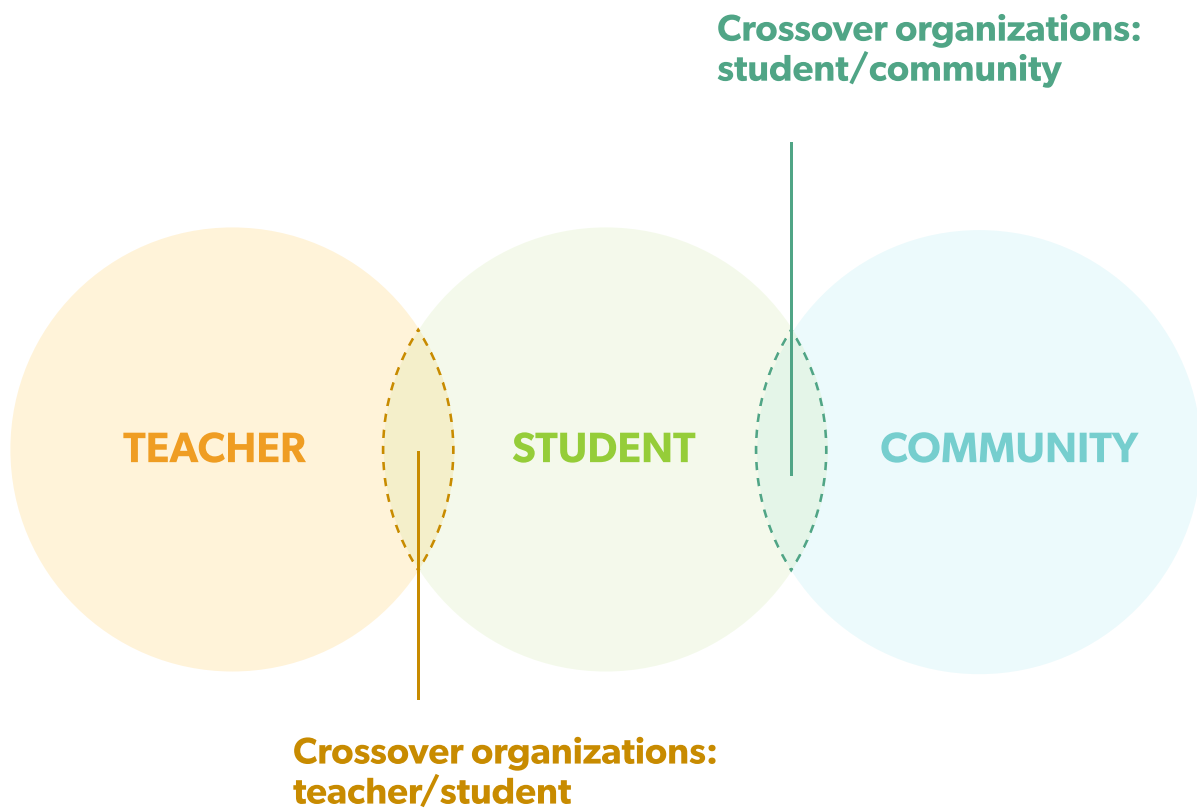
## QUOTE

"The Morgridge Family Foundation thoughtfully and masterfully questions dated ways of thinking, convenes the very best innovators to shape its work and grantmaking, and models the premise that 'there is no box' or confinement to improving how we teach, operate, partner, activate, and shape the future of classrooms, communities, and conversations." - Dr. Carrie Besnette Hauser, President & CEO, Colorado Mountain College

# EDUCATION ECOSYSTEM

Education accounts for 57% of MFF's giving. Our vibrant education ecosystem is comprised of organizations that disrupt the old model of rote memorization and instead offer engaged, solution-oriented, career-minded learning.

There are three critical populations at the heart of MFF's education approach: teachers, students, and the community.



# TEACHER

## **Teacher Focus:**

Investing in teachers is a keystone of MFF giving. Whether it is a “train the trainer” model, providing better technology and resources, or offering inspiration for teaching techniques, an investment in educators raises the quality of the learning experience for all.

# STUDENT

## **Student Focus:**

Many of MFF’s education initiatives invest directly in the student experience to ensure equitable learning for all. These programs provide resources to underserved students, offer students inclusive opportunities to step into new leadership roles, and invite learners of all ages to find the path that best matches their individual goal.

# COMMUNITY

## **Community Focus:**

At MFF, an end goal of education is to empower capable minds to solve real-world issues surrounding them. This perspective ties all of our education funding to the community it serves in one way or another. From training doctors to serve rural neighborhoods to inspiring a love of nature that fuels local conservation efforts, everyone wins when community is a central focus of education.

# 2008-2020 MFF GRANTEES BY CATEGORY/CODE



## ARTS & CULTURE

Adams 12 Five Star Schools Foundation  
American Private Radio  
Aspen Santa Fe Ballet  
Denver Art Museum  
Denver Center for the Performing Arts  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
Ford's Theatre Society  
Jazz at Aspen-Snowmass



## COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Academy of United States Veterans Foundation  
Adventure Cycling Association  
All Hands and Hearts Smart Response  
Alliance for Choice in Education  
Alta Vista Center for Autism (Dba Firefly Autism House)  
American Cancer Society - Greeley Office  
American Enterprise Institute (AEI)  
Amp The Cause  
Aspen Valley Ski-Snowboard Club  
Bicycle Colorado  
Big Sky Youth Empowerment Project  
Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver  
Briarpatch Youth Services  
Brink Literacy Project  
Cafe Momentum  
Casa of the Seventh Judicial District  
Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth  
Central Florida YMCA Foundation  
Childrens Services Council of Florida  
Colorado Association of Black Professional Engineers and Scientists  
Colorado Mountain College Foundation  
Colorado Nonprofit Association  
Colorado Succeeds  
Community Foundation of South Lake County  
Denver Foundation

Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
Denver Police Foundation  
DonorsChoose.org  
Dream Catcher Therapy Center  
Englewood Rotary Foundation  
Equal Justice Initiative  
Excelsior Youth Centers  
Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund  
Forward Paths Foundation  
Gateway Technical College Foundation  
Global Conservation Corps  
Habitat for Humanity International  
Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison  
Humane Society International  
Impact100  
Institute for American Values  
Jeffco Action Center  
Keystone Policy Center  
LYDIA Home Association  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Metro Caring  
MindSpark  
Montrose Rotary Club Youth Foundation  
National Council for Adoption  
Paypal Charitable Giving Fund  
Philanthropy Roundtable  
Plymouth State University  
Porchlight  
Project Helping  
Project Lift  
Purposity Foundation  
Racine Community Outpost 6th St  
Rangeview Library Friends Foundation  
Rollins College  
Sailfish Point Foundation  
Science Health and Access to Resources and Education  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida  
Team Rubicon  
Tennyson Center for Children



The Aspen Institute  
 The Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation  
 The Growhaus  
 The Seminar Network - Stand Together Trust  
 Tiger Woods Foundation  
 Tony La Russas Animal Rescue Foundation  
 Two State Young Mens Christian Association  
 United States Sailing Center of Martin County  
 United Way  
 University of Colorado Foundation- Denver Campus  
 Urban Peak Denver  
 Wakatipu Community Foundation  
 Weld Food Bank  
 Wildlife Experience  
 Women Moving Millions  
 Women's Foundation of Colorado  
 Wounded Warrior Project  
 Yellowstone Club Community Foundation  
 YMCA of the Treasure Coast of Florida  
 YouthPower365  
 Yuva Unstoppable USA  
 YWCA Madison  
 Zebra Coalition

Alta Vista Center for Autism (Dba Firefly Autism House)  
 Aspen Community Foundation  
 Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth  
 Cherry Creek Schools Foundation  
 Community Foundation Martin St Lucie  
 Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque  
 Community Foundation of South Lake County  
 Gertrude Walden Child Care Center  
 Guadalupe Center  
 Jefferson Foundation  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 Mercy Corps  
 Metro Caring  
 Metropolitan State University of Denver  
 Montrose Rotary Club Youth Foundation  
 National Jewish Health  
 Rocky Mountain Preparatory School  
 Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida  
 Tony La Russas Animal Rescue Foundation  
 United Against Poverty  
 United Way  
 University of Denver  
 Word Keepers  
 Yellowstone Club Community Foundation  
 Yuva Unstoppable USA  
 YWCA Madison



## CONSERVATION, ENVIRONMENT, & ANIMALS

50 in 52 Journey  
 Conservation International Foundation  
 Denver Botanic Garden  
 Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
 Florida Oceanographic Society  
 Global Conservation Corps  
 Greater Good Charities  
 Humane Society International  
 Jane Goodall Institute for Wildlife Research Education & Conservation  
 National Parks Conservation Association  
 Shedd Aquarium Society  
 The Nature Conservancy



## DISASTER RELIEF

A Precious Child  
 Adams 12 Five Star Schools Foundation  
 All Hands and Hearts Smart Response



## EDUCATION

Ability Connection Colorado  
 Academy at High Point  
 Academy of Charter Schools  
 Academy School District 20  
 Adams 12 Five Star Schools Foundation  
 Adams City Middle School  
 Adams County School District No. 50  
 Advocates for Arts Based Education (Dba Lusher Charter School)  
 Alliance for Choice in Education (ACE)  
 Alliance for Excellent Education  
 Alta Vista Center for Autism (Dba Firefly Autism House)  
 Americans for Prosperity Foundation  
 Amp The Cause  
 Anatomy in Clay Centers  
 Angevine Middle School  
 Animas High School

Annunciation Elementary School  
 Arapahoe Community College Foundation  
 Aspen Prep Academy  
 Aspen Santa Fe Ballet  
 Atlas Preparatory School  
 Aurora Education Foundation - Hinkley High School  
 Aurora Public Schools Foundation  
 Aurora West College Preparatory Academy  
 Avery Parsons Elementary School  
 Axl Charter School  
 Ballentine Elementary School  
 Bayfield School District  
 Beacon Development Center  
 Bennett High School  
 Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
 Big Green  
 Big Sky Youth Empowerment Project  
 Bishop Machebeuf High School  
 Blessed Sacrament Catholic School  
 Book Trust  
 Boulder Valley School District  
 Bridgewater College  
 Brink Literacy Project  
 Bromley East Charter School  
 Brush School District Re 2J  
 Canon City Schools Fremont Re-1  
 Cardinal Community Academy  
 Center Consolidated School District 26Jt  
 Center of Applied Technology South  
 Chappelow Arts and Literacy Magnet School  
 Charles M. Russell Middle School  
 Cherry Creek Schools Foundation  
 Cherry Hills Educational Fund  
 Chiefs For Change  
 Childrens Hospital Colorado  
 City Year - Denver  
 Clayton Early Learning  
 Clayton Family Futures  
 Colorado Academy  
 Colorado Bioscience Institute  
 Colorado Department of Higher Education  
 Colorado Education Initiative  
 Colorado League of Charter Schools  
 Colorado Lutheran High School Association  
 Colorado Meth Project (Dba Rise Above Colorado)  
 Colorado Mountain College Foundation  
 Colorado Open Voting  
 Colorado Springs Christian Schools  
 Colorado Springs School District 11, El Paso City  
 Colorado Succeeds  
 Colorado Technology Community Foundation  
 Community College of Aurora Foundation  
 Community First Foundation  
 Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque  
 Community Leadership Academy  
 Consortium for School Networking  
 Cottonwood Institute  
 Coyote Ridge Elementary School  
 Creighton Middle School  
 Crested Butte Community School  
 Cypress Park Elementary School  
 Dayspring Christian Academy  
 Denver Academy  
 Denver Academy of Torah  
 Denver Art Museum  
 Denver Biennial of the Americas  
 Denver Christian Schools  
 Denver Inner City Parish  
 Montessori School of Denver  
 Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
 Denver Public Schools Foundation  
 Denver Scholarship Foundation  
 Denver School of Science and Technology  
 Denver Venture School  
 Destination Imagination  
 District 5 Foundation for Educational Excellence  
 DonorsChoose.org  
 Douglas County Educational Foundation  
 Douglas County School District  
 Eagle County Charter Academy Education Foundation  
 East Central BOCES  
 Edison School District  
 Emily Griffith Foundation  
 Englewood Schools  
 Envision Schools Colorado - Envision Leadership Prep  
 Escuela Tlatelolco - Centro De Estudios  
 Eureka Mcconnell Science Museum  
 Evergreen Country Day School  
 Excelsior Youth Centers  
 Expeditionary Learning School Board of Cooperative Educational  
 Falcon School District 49  
 Florida Virtual School

Ford's Theatre Society  
 Foundation for Excellence in Education  
 Foundation for New Education Initiatives  
 Free Horizon Montessori  
 Freemont Elementary School  
 Fremont Re-3 - Cotopaxi Schools  
 Friends of the Denver Fire Dept  
 Front Range Christian Ministries  
 Generation One  
 Generation Schools Network  
 George Washington University  
 Gertrude Walden Child Care Center  
 Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
 Gilpin County School District Re-1  
 Good Shepherd Catholic School  
 Good Shepherd Nativity Mission School  
 Graland Country Day  
 Green Chimneys School for Little Folk  
 Guadalupe Center  
 Guardian Angels  
 Hanover School District No 28  
 Harrison School District 2  
 Harrison School K-8  
 Harvard College  
 Harvard Graduate School of Education  
 Harvard Graduate School of Education Tolerance Research Consortium  
 Havern Center  
 Hayden School District No. Re-1  
 Healthy Child Care Colorado  
 High Desert Middle School  
 High Hopes Colorado  
 Highline Academy  
 Hillside Learning Center  
 Holyoke School District Re-1J  
 Horizon Middle School  
 Imani School  
 Immanuel Lutheran Church  
 Inter-Lakes School District  
 Ischool Initiative Corp  
 J K Mullen High School  
 Jane Goodall Institute for Wildlife Research Education & Conservation  
 Jefferson Academy Charter School  
 Jefferson County Public School District  
 Jefferson Junior/Senior High School  
 JLF Colorado  
 Joshua  
 Junior Achievement USA - Rocky Mountain  
 Kenmore Middle School  
 Kent Denver Country Day School  
 Khan Academy  
 KIPP Foundation  
 Lesley University  
 Lighthouse on a Hill - STEM Academy  
 Littleton Public Schools  
 Logan School for Creative Learning  
 Louisville Middle School  
 Lowell Whiteman School  
 Making Progress  
 Mapleton Public Schools  
 Marquette High School  
 Mary G. Carson Elementary  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 Meeker School District  
 Mesa County Valley School District 51  
 Metropolitan State University of Denver Foundation  
 Mind Research Institute  
 MindSpark  
 Monument Academy  
 MyCollege Foundation  
 National Center For Research In Advanced Information & Digital Technology  
 National Jewish Health  
 New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning  
 North Pembroke Elementary School  
 Northwest Colorado BOCES  
 Notre Dame Catholic School  
 Olympia High School  
 Openworld Learning  
 Palm Bay Magnet High School  
 Palmetto Project  
 Parents Advisory Council of Broomfield Academy  
 Partnership for Los Angeles Schools  
 Peyton School District 23Jt  
 Pikes Peak Board of Cooperative Educational Services  
 Pinnacle School  
 Plymouth State University  
 Poudre School District Foundation  
 Poudre School District R-1  
 Power My Learning  
 Public Education & Business Coalition  
 Pueblo School District No. 60  
 Purdue University

RAFT - Colorado  
RAFT - California  
Re-1 Valley School District  
University of Colorado  
Regis University  
Resurrection Christian School  
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory  
Rocky Mountain District  
Rocky Mountain Preparatory School  
Rollins College  
Roycemore School  
Sacred Heart of Jesus School  
Sailfish Point Foundation  
Saint Benedict School  
Saint Marks Lutheran Church  
Saint Vincent De Paul School  
Saints Peter and Paul School  
School Board of Orange County, Florida  
School District 27J  
Sewall Child Development Center  
Shedd Aquarium Society  
Shorecrest Preparatory School  
Sky - Skilled Knowledgeable Youth  
Skyview Elementary School  
Soar Charter School  
Southeast Denver Christian Church  
Southern Colorado Community Foundation  
Space Science Institute  
Spring Hill High School  
St Marys Academy for the Sisters of Loretto  
St. Bernadette Catholic School  
St. James Catholic School  
St. John the Evangelist Catholic School  
St. Louis Catholic School  
St. Pius X Catholic School  
St. Rose of Lima School  
St. Therese Catholic School  
St. Vrain Valley School District  
Steamboat Springs School District No Re-2  
Stem Launch Elementary School  
Stem School and Academy Charter School  
Stoddard School District  
Strasburg School District 31J  
Strive Preparatory Schools  
Superior Elementary School

Swallow Hill Music Association  
Take Note Colorado  
Taylor Elementary  
Teach A Class  
Teach For America - Denver  
Teach For America  
Tek4Teachers  
Tennyson Center For Children  
The Aspen Institute  
The Crest Academy  
The Denver Health and Hospitals Foundation  
The Learning Alliance  
The New America School  
The Odyssey School  
The Reynolds Center for Teaching Learning and Creativity  
Thompson R2-J Education Foundation  
Thompson School District  
Tiger Woods Foundation  
Tony La Russas Animal Rescue Foundation  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Trustees of The Smith College  
Turnaround for Children  
Tuslaw High School  
Twin Peaks Charter Academy  
United Way  
Universal Orlando Foundation  
University High School  
University of Central Florida Foundation  
University of Colorado Foundation  
University of Denver  
University of Northern Colorado Foundation  
University of Southern California  
University Schools  
University System of New Hampshire  
Warren Tech Central School  
Washington County Public Schools  
Wasson High School  
Weld County School District Re-1  
Weld County School District Re-8  
Weld Re 5J School District  
Weld Re-4 School District  
West Denver Prep: Harvey Park  
West Elementary School  
Westgate Community School  
Widefield School District 3  
Wildlife Experience



Wings Over The Rockies Air & Space Museum  
Wish for Wheels  
Women's Foundation of Colorado  
Woodland Park High School  
Wyatt Academy



## HEALTH & WELLNESS

Aurora Public Schools Foundation  
Blessings in a Backpack  
Cancer Research Institute  
Colorado Meth Project (Dba Rise Above Colorado)  
DonorsChoose.org  
Dream Catcher Therapy Center  
Foundation for Metrowest  
Groundwork Denver Incorporated  
Health Central Foundation  
Hibiscus Childrens Center Foundation  
Kent Denver Country Day School  
Livlyme Foundation  
Martin Memorial Foundation  
Metro Caring  
Montrose Rotary Club Youth Foundation  
National Jewish Health  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida  
Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club  
The Chanda Plan Foundation  
Turnaround for Children  
Two State Young Mens Christian Association  
United Way  
Universal Orlando Foundation  
Wounded Warrior Project



## STUDENT SUPPORT FOUNDATION

Bridgewater College  
Dunnellon High School  
East High School  
Foundation for Dubuque Public Schools  
James Madison Memorial High School  
La Follette High School  
Madison West High School  
Miami Beach Senior High School  
Northeast Iowa Community College Foundation

Northglenn High School  
Olympia High School  
Plymouth State University  
Rollins College  
School District 12 Education Foundation  
Shabazz-City High School  
Stetson University  
Strive Preparatory Schools  
Student Support Foundation  
University of Central Florida Foundation  
University of Denver  
University System of New Hampshire



## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Adams County Education Consortium  
Arizou (Dba Basta)  
Brink Literacy Project  
Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth  
Colorado Mountain College Foundation  
Colorado Succeeds  
Commit Foundation  
Communities Foundation of Texas  
Emily Griffith Foundation  
Entrepreneurship for All  
Gateway Technical College Foundation  
Give2Asia  
Habitat for Humanity International  
Jesus House of Hope  
Jewish Family Service of Colorado  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Mi Casa Resource Center  
New Profit  
Philanthropy Roundtable  
Porchlight  
Project LIFT  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida  
The Aspen Institute  
The Seminar Network - Stand Together Trust  
United Way  
Urban Peak Denver  
Young Americans Center for Financial Education



# **MEET THE TEAM**



## CARRIE MORGRIDGE

Vice President and Chief Disruptor

### Fun Fact

I'm a 10-time Ironman finisher, once mountain biked across the country, and in 2020 became a first time Grandma!

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

Give me a nail gun, anyday - I especially love being an All Hands And Hearts Volunteer.



## JOHN MORGRIDGE

President

### Fun Fact

I'm a licensed helicopter pilot, seaplane pilot, and I love skiing the Rocky Mountains.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I love reading to kids. I really enjoyed volunteering with Book Trust on "give out a book" day with students.



## JOHN C. MORGRIDGE

Executive Board Member

### Fun Fact

My team placed second globally in the Aspen Institute International Sustainability Case Competition.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I loved being prince charming in the Give Kids the World Village Christmas parade.



## MICHELLE MORGRIDGE

Executive Board Member

### Fun Fact

Michelle Obama hugged me twice because we have the same first name!

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

Any volunteering with animals, people, nature, or kids is my favorite!



## NINA MORGRIDGE

Paws-itivity Advisor

### Fun Fact

Ball! Stick!

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

Greeting hoomans at MindSpark.

## MEET THE TEAM



### JOHN FARNAM

Chief of Staff

#### Fun Fact

Paul, my husband, and I grow and donate 2,000 pounds of produce to Metro Caring each summer. I don't eat veggies.

#### Favorite Volunteer Experience

One of our favorite volunteer experiences is making and serving 150 lunches to homeless senior citizens each month.



### TONY COHN

Director of Strategy

#### Fun Fact

I completed the trans-Mongolian Railway from Beijing to Moscow.

#### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I once dressed up as Prince Charming at the Smithsonian Castle as part of a fairytale themed Make-a-Wish Foundation event.



### MEREDITH DREMAN

Director of Publishing

#### Fun Fact

I have traveled to 51 countries and wrote 19 city guides for cities in South America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

#### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I spent a year as an AmeriCorp volunteer in Compton, Los Angeles, where I taught creative writing, incorporated mental health programming, and once caught a renegade chicken eating the organic garden.



### EMMA SPOFFORD

Director of Administrative Services

#### Fun Fact

I am British so I drink tea all day long, with milk.

#### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I used to volunteer for the Park County 4H and teach English horse riding lessons.





## ASH GALLEGOS

Program Manager

### Fun Fact

To help reduce our ecological footprint, every piece of furniture in our home is secondhand.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

Cincinnati's Ronald McDonald House will always be home to my favorite volunteer memories, especially cooking dinners for families.



## SABRINA KRONICK

Office Manager

### Fun Fact

I was named after Sabrina The Teenage Witch (from the Archie Comic books).

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I volunteered at a local animal shelter helping take care of the dogs, cats, and bunnies. The following day, I adopted my first dog.



## LINH ANH LE

Impact Analyst

### Fun Fact

Cooking is my stress reliever and love language.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I used to teach English to visually impaired students, where I first learned how to work with blind and visually impaired people.



## KELSEY THOMPSON

Communications Manager

### Fun Fact

Growing up I had miniature donkeys as pets.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

Anytime I get to volunteer at animal shelters- there's nothing better than interacting and playing with dogs (or any animal) who needs the love!



## NATE ANGELL

Senior Advisor

### Fun Fact

I won a radio contest the day I was born.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

Serving the patrons at Metro Caring.



## PAUL HEITZENRATER

Senior Advisor

### Fun Fact

I've swum with 30 foot whale sharks.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

I love working with Metro Caring, from working in the gardens, to helping participants in the market place, to preparing food boxes for those affected by COVID.



## HILLARY MORGRIDGE

Senior Advisor

### Fun Fact

I am halfway through my goal of hiking in every National Park across the United States.

### Favorite Volunteer Experience

One of my favorites is the Amp the Cause - Holidays for Kids event every year. It is so fun to see all the smiling kids spend a day that is all about having fun.

# COVID-19 RESPONSE

Throughout the first months of 2020, the world was changed by the spread of the novel coronavirus. Hundreds, and then millions, of people fell ill; businesses closed; and many organizations and families struggled to make ends meet. We didn't know it yet, but the coronavirus would change the way our world works, with no concrete "end date" as of this report.

By March 2020, the pandemic caused the MFF team to pause and reflect on our priorities and commitment to our communities. While MFF is known for championing disruption, it was clear that COVID-19 and its effects required us to play a different role. We called an immediate board meeting and decided to add extra funding from our endowment into our 2020 budget. We sought out critical conversations with philanthropists and nonprofit leaders, signed the national CV19 Philanthropist Pledge, joined Colorado Governor Polis's COVID Relief Leadership Committee; and then, we got to work.

We made our first COVID-19 emergency response grant to Mile High United Way in Denver, through Governor Polis' COVID Relief Fund. The COVID Relief Fund was Colorado's coordinated response to the pandemic, launching joint efforts to raise funds and recruit volunteers to support communities and organizations. The fund ultimately raised and distributed over \$23 million through seven rounds of grants.

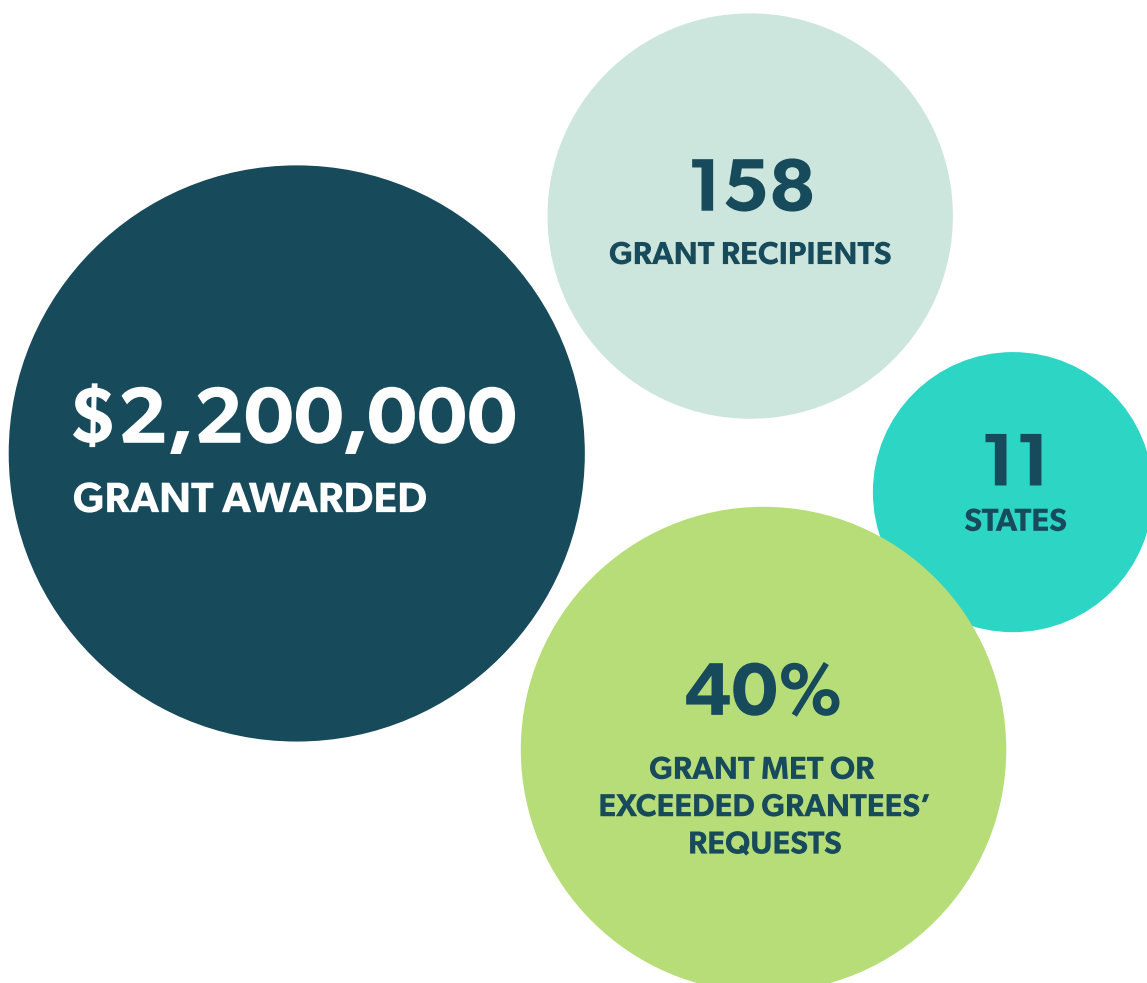
The first round of COVID funding, totaling \$1 million, was distributed to 46 organizations through long-term, trusted partners. The amount received by each organization varied. Grants of \$100,000, the largest amount awarded, went to three organizations: Second Harvest Food Bank in Orlando, Florida; Boys and Girls Club of St. Lucie County, Florida; and Adams 12 Five Star Schools in Thornton, Colorado. While food insecurity was obvious with the food bank support, the Boys and Girls clubs and the Adams 12 school district all pivoted and became hubs in their communities for food and education.

Just a few weeks after our first round of grants, it became clear there was more we needed to do. The emails and the calls were desperate. It was during this same time that we were working on a new report called *The Future of Giving*, in collaboration with sparks&honey. The report explores five seismic cultural shifts, how each is shaping our future, and what the impact will be on charitable organizations and giving. Using data sets and insights into technology, giving habits, changes in human behavior, and new consumer expectations, *The Future of Giving* report reconsiders how individuals, for-profit corporations and nonprofit organizations can better work together to solve some of the biggest challenges our world faces today. Arguably the biggest challenge of 2020 was COVID-19, and we used the report to guide our giving strategy.

It was from The Future of Giving report that we learned 65% of all nonprofits operate on a budget of \$500,000 or less. On May 5, 2020, we made a second round of grants totaling \$1 million for nonprofits falling into that 65% category. The second round distributed funds to nonprofits through 14 Community Foundations and United Way partners around the country.

Every nonprofit we funded was selected because of their ability to maximize our investment and use sound judgment to impact as many people as possible. During a time of dire need, our role as philanthropists was to act quickly and get support to those most affected by COVID-19. We continue to evaluate our role and priorities and use The Future of Giving report to guide our decisions, and we hope others will rely on its rich insights and predictions too. [Visit our website to read the full report.](#)

MFF's COVID-19 emergency relief grants in 2020, by the numbers:



# THE FUTURE OF GIVING

# FUTURE OF GIVING 2020





**YOU CAN'T REALLY  
KNOW WHERE YOU  
ARE GOING UNTIL YOU  
KNOW WHERE YOU  
HAVE BEEN.**

**- Maya Angelou**

The list of where we have been is long. But we're just getting started.

In 2021, MFF will grow our publishing department, launch a new challenge alongside our partner MIT Solve, launch the second cohort of MAP Fellows, reimagine higher education, work to eradicate hunger, and stay on the forefront of cultural trends and shifts impacting the future of philanthropy. And that's just a taste of what's in the works.

At the same time, we will continue to commit to our mission of finding and supporting the leaders and organizations disrupting the status quo and solving the world's biggest challenges. Here's to another decade of discovering disruption, in all its forms.

Stay up to date with all things MFF by visiting our blog, subscribing to our newsletter, and following along on social media. With no plans to slow down any time soon, we can promise it will always be exciting around here.