



**The Women's
Foundation of Colorado**

Women Thriving. Colorado Rising.

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For Immediate Release

**Tickets, Tables, and Sponsorships On Sale for
The Women's Foundation of Colorado's Annual Luncheon
Featuring Allyson Felix**

DENVER (April 11, 2022) – The Women's Foundation of Colorado (WFCO) announces that tickets, tables, and sponsorships are now on sale for its Annual Luncheon “Faster, Stronger, Greater” on Oct. 14, 2022 featuring guest speaker, Allyson Felix, the most decorated track & field U.S. Olympian in history. Felix also is recognized as an advocate of women and mothers, using her voice to bring attention to systemic inequities such as discrimination against pregnant people, Black maternal health, and access to child care.

For more than 30 years, WFCO's Annual Luncheon has showcased diverse insights, ideas, and inspiration. It is the largest fundraising event in Colorado on behalf of women and their families and supports WFCO's strategic research, public policy advocacy, and grantmaking and investments. Like Felix, past special guests and keynote speakers have been strong advocates for gender, racial, and economic equity - including Maysoun Zayid, Noor Tagouri, Billie Jean King, Octavia Spencer, Geena Davis, Lisa Ling, and America Ferrera.

Since competing in her first Olympic Games in Athens in 2004, Allyson Felix's results on the track are unrivaled. Racing primarily in the 200-meter, 400-meter, and 4x400-meter relay, she captured 13 global titles, 11 Olympic medals, 10 U.S. Championships, and a world record. In 2019, just 10 months after the birth of her daughter, she broke Usain Bolt's record for holding the most world titles.

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OUR MISSION

Catalyzing community to advance and accelerate economic opportunities for Colorado women and their families.

WFCO.ORG

The Chambers Center for the Advancement of Women
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While she is most recognized for breaking records on the track, she advances and accelerates change for women by breaking gender norms off the track.

In 2019, she left her high-profile Nike sponsorship over what she felt were a lack of maternity protections. In an opinion piece she published in *The New York Times*, she stated, “I’ve been one of Nike’s most widely marketed athletes. If I can’t secure maternity protections, who can?” The op-ed led to the brand’s revision of contracts to include more protections for pregnant athletes.

With new sponsor Athleta and the Women’s Sports Foundation, she created a fund to help athletes pay for child care expenses while competing at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics.

Additionally, Felix uses her voice to bring attention to the health inequities that Black pregnant women experience. Felix was diagnosed with severe pre-eclampsia when she was 32 weeks pregnant and underwent an emergency c-section to deliver her daughter. Given her level of fitness, she never imagined she would experience pregnancy complications, but she later learned that Black women are three to four times more likely to die during delivery than white mothers.

Today, she is among the 17 percent of Black women who have started or are starting their own businesses. During the pandemic, she founded Saysh, a shoe company and lifestyle brand built for women by women. When she won a bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics, she was wearing spikes from her own line.

“Allyson Felix inspired a generation of runners to be faster, stronger, and greater,” said Lauren Y. Casteel, WFCO president and CEO. “But regardless of background, identity, or ability – all luncheon guests will find inspiration in her using her platform and position on the podium to bring all women across the finish line with her.”

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About The Women's Foundation of Colorado's 2022 Annual Luncheon

“Faster, Stronger, Greater”

Friday, Oct. 14, 2022

Mile High Ballroom, Colorado Convention Center

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Individual tickets are \$150, young professional tickets are \$75, tables are \$1,500, and sponsorships, which include tables, start at \$3,000. Please visit www.wfco.org to purchase. FirstBank is the 2022 presenting sponsor.

For additional questions, please contact Kaylyn Fern, development officer, at kaylynf@wfco.org.

About The Women's Foundation of Colorado

The Women's Foundation of Colorado is the only statewide community foundation dedicated to gender, racial, and economic equity. Since 1987, WFCO has funded more than 30 research reports that identify the systemic barriers that keep women from earning a livable wage, helped pass more than 50 pieces of legislation that have created economic opportunities, and granted more than \$21 million to nonprofits that work with women and families in urban and rural communities statewide.

The Women's Foundation hosts many communities of giving, including donor-advised funds, giving circles, the Power of Extended Philanthropy (PEP), Empowerment Council, Dads for Daughters / Men for Women, and more.

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