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Things to Know About WFCO

APRIL 2023

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Mission: To catalyze community to advance and accelerate economic opportunities for Colorado women and their families.

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Vision: A future where women and girls of every background and identity prosper.

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Values: Promise, leadership, community, learning, equity and inclusion, stewardship and accountability.

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WFCO is a unique statewide community foundation built upon diverse individuals, insights, and investments to advance opportunity for women.

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Our overarching goal is gender, racial, and economic equity for all 2.85 million Colorado women and girls.

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Recent legislation and ballot measures we helped to pass through our advocacy include equal pay for equal work, paid family and medical leave, universal pre-kindergarten, and eliminating state sales tax on diaper, incontinence, and period products.



Colorado Gov. Jared Polis signs the Equal Pay for Equal Work Act at WFCO offices.

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Lauren Y. Casteel, the first person in Colorado to lead three foundations, has been president and CEO since 2015.



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Tania Zeigler is the 2023-2024 chair of the board of trustees. She is the owner of Burn Bright Coaching and Consulting, LLC.



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A visionary group of Colorado women founded WFCO in 1987 to fight the feminization of poverty. We have grown from their original 34 gifts to over 95,000 individual gifts to support our work.

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From April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 we granted over \$2.6 million to organizations. We have granted over \$26.2 million since 1987.

- 11 You can join many communities of giving including the Power of Extended Philanthropy, Empowerment Council, Dads for Daughters/Men for Women, Women Will, and giving circles – including the first giving circle at a community foundation to invest directly in women-led social ventures.
- 12 We hold nearly 80 donor-advised funds, allowing donors to make charitable contributions, receive immediate tax benefits, and recommend grants to their favorite nonprofit organizations.
- 13 All of The Foundation’s investable assets align with our gender-lens investment strategies. We are the only community foundation in the state with a 100% gender-lens investment portfolio.

14 Our Annual Luncheon is the largest fundraising and community-building event in the state on behalf of women and girls. Past guests included Allyson Felix, Maysoon Zayid, Billie Jean King, America Ferrera, and Lisa Ling. Our 2023 Annual Luncheon special guest is Wall Street trailblazer, Sallie Krawcheck.

15 We celebrated our 30th anniversary in 2017 at Ball Arena, featuring former First Lady Michelle Obama.

16 For statewide ballots, we issue our nonpartisan ballot guide with women in mind, *The Womanifesto*.

Former First Lady Michelle Obama and WFCO President & CEO Lauren Y. Casteel



The staff of Eagle Valley Community Foundation, a Women & Girls of Color Fund grantee partner, prepare to meet with families on MIRA, a 40-foot RV where they offer comprehensive health resources and services.

17 Our Women & Girls of Color Fund makes explicit and direct investments in women of color nonprofit leaders. We’ve funded 72 organizations in Front Range and rural communities.

18 Our WINcome (Women + Income = Women Thriving) grantmaking is built on transformational trust. Through 13 direct-service grantee partners, we offer flexible cash assistance and access to resources for women to meet basic needs and achieve economic security goals. With six public policy grantees, we build equitable systems so women and families can thrive now and into the future.

19 We connect individuals across the state to each other and our work with our Chat4Change community conversations, Community Action Network, and Advocating4Impact trainings.

20 National and regional foundations, including Caring for Colorado Foundation, The Colorado Health Foundation, Ford Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, Ms. Foundation, Rose Community Foundation, and more, fund our work to achieve gender, racial, and economic equity.

We can’t do our work alone! We need diverse voices, viewpoints, insights, and investments to maximize our impact for all Colorado women. Are you with us?