# Feeding Families & Fueling Hope

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# TAKING CARE OF EACH OTHER

This past year FISH celebrated our 60th anniversary of serving Broomfield residents and, at the same time, we saw the **highest need ever** in our community. The numbers are staggering and can seem surprising given the current economy. Unemployment is low, the GDP grew by 3%, inflation is down, more jobs were created, and still we have tremendous need. Why? The answer is complicated, but boils down to three things: 1.) wages not keeping pace with the cost of living 2.) the high price of rent in our area—many people who come to FISH pay more than 70% of their monthly income on rent; and 3.) the severe shortage of income-aligned or "affordable" housing in Broomfield. In 2023, FISH helped more than 13,000 unduplicated residents with food, emergency financial assistance, and resource support. That is approximately 17% of the population, or one out of every six residents!



In tandem with unprecedented need, there are also fewer resources available. FISH had to dip into our reserves in FY2023 to cover the shortfall needed to make sure nobody went hungry. Fortunately, we had reserves to do this! Overall, we are seeing less foundation funding for basic needs post-pandemic, and individuals and businesses are tightening their belts due to economic uncertainty.

Through this time, FISH continues to be a beacon of hope for residents.

# HERE IS WHAT A FEW PARTICIPANTS HAVE TO SAY:

"I love coming to Broomfield FISH. Everyone is always warm, welcoming, and eager to help."

"I don't think there is another place that could make you feel so welcome. In a place where you may feel shame, they make sure you do not at all."

"Everyone is very helpful and friendly. I never feel judged or overlooked, and always receive the support I need."



"Growing up, there were times that we only had powdered milk in the cabinet and frozen waffles in the freezer. I remember that feeling of helplessness; it inspired me to join the Board at FISH and work to ensure those in my community never experience that feeling of scarcity."

- Stephanie Planchard, 2024 Board Chair

One of the hardest things to do is to ask for help when you need it. But, at some point in life, we all need help. This might be due to a financial struggle, a loss of a loved one, or a medical emergency. What is so beautiful about the Broomfield community is that we are deeply committed to taking care of each other. Both Stephanie and I grew up with significant instability, not knowing where we might sleep or what we might have to eat on any given day. Asking for help was a necessity. As we head into the coming year, we will be asking everyone to pitch in and help so neighbors don't go hungry or become unhoused.

### With deepest gratitude,

Dayna Scott, Executive Director and Stephanie Planchard, 2024 Board Chair

# FISH's mission is to meet our neighbors' basic human needs and provide them with the hope and tools to rise out of poverty.

# **BOARD & STAFF**



**Dayna Scott**Executive Director



**Sharin Oliver**Operations Manager



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Participant Programs
Manager



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Bilingual Participant
Programs Advocate



Sarah Dzioba
Participant Programs
Advocate



Markie Moore
Participant Programs
Advocate



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Programs Advocate



**Diana Ruiz**Bilingual Participant
Programs Advocate



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Coordinator



Audrey Johnson

Bilingual Project

Specialist



Mike Lutz
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**Bill Smith**Assistant Food
Operations Manager



Ryan Steele Food Operations Coordinator



Rufus Austin
Truck Driver and
Warehouse Assistant



Special Projects
(Volunteer)



Maggie Sava
Communications
and Media Relations
Manager



Jamie Osborne
Volunteer and Events
Coordinator



Stacey Schmuck

Donor Relations

Specialist



#### **2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

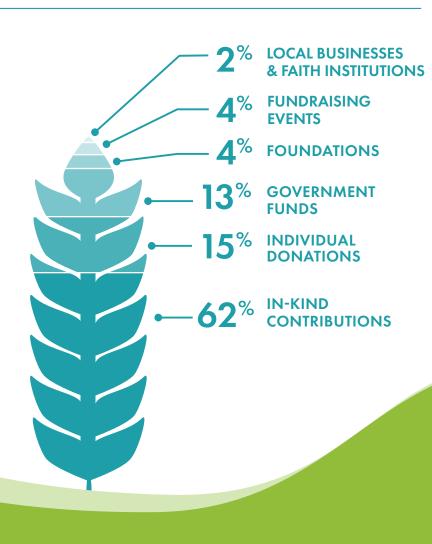
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Kristen Culliney Kelly Galloway Susan Haupt Kristen Kelly Mayra Martinez Elizabeth McDowell Stephanie Planchard Sary Portillo

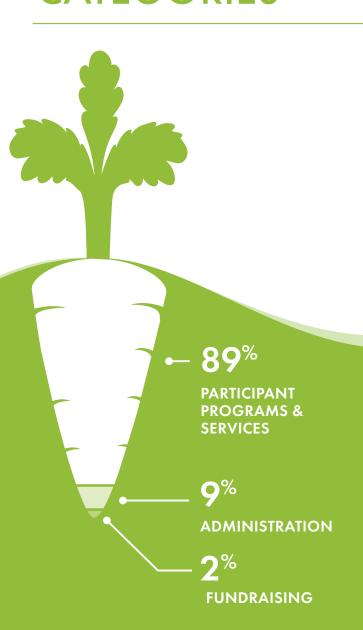
### 2023 CORPORATE ADVISORY BOARD

Nick Powell Amy Bockman Steve Reynolds Ron Lampo Tony Kassel Dr. Norris Golberg John Beirise

# 2023 INCOME **CATEGORIES**



# 2023 EXPENSE **CATEGORIES**



TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2023: \$4,841,920

Data taken from FISH's audited 2023 financial statements.



of every dollar went directly to support low-income Broomfield residents.



# CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SERVING BROOMFIELD

Women from six los

1963

Women from six local churches saw a need for a local support system and came together to help their neighbors as Church Women United - a group that would later become Broomfield FISH. We started out of our founders' homes and in our first year, we served 25 families.



1982

Shirley McGuinness became the Director and President of Broomfield FISH in 1982. She was the driving force behind providing food and financial assistance to Broomfield families in need until her passing in 2009. During her time at FISH, approximately 10,000 families were served.

The City, and later County, of Broomfield provided FISH with the #12 and #26 Garden Center locations. During this time, we distributed 823-4,210 food baskets each year.

1996-2017

FISH joined the Colorado Family Resource Center Association, allowing us to expand our services to help families thrive! 2018

FISH celebrated 60 years of feeding families and fueling hope! In 2023, six decades after our founding, we served over 13,000 unduplicated people and distributed over 1.5 million pounds of food.

2023



1969

Church Women United incorporated and became "FISH of Broomfield."

1977-1983



Cowboy Cleaners and Jim Van Buskirk's Grocery Store hosted the "FISH Cupboard," and we were able to distribute 60-75 food baskets each year.

1984-1995





**2017** 



Through a generous lease agreement with the City and County of Broomfield, #6 Garden Center became FISH's new home in May of 2017. The Lakin Family donated funds so that FISH could remodel the space to meet the growing needs of the Broomfield community and enable residents to select healthy food items in our self-shop marketplace.

These accomplishments would not be possible without our neighbors who generously give their time, food donations, and financial support to help us realize our mission.

"During the fall, I was hurt and unable to work. I even lost a great full-time job opportunity due to that injury. As a result, I was behind on everything financially and panicking about being evicted. FISH was there to help me with food, rent, and utilities until I could literally get back on my feet. FISH has been a saving grace in the most difficult of times. Thank you for all that you do."

- A 2023 FISH Participant

### HERE'S HOW WE HELP PEOPLE



# PREVENTING HUNGER

Food security is a critical issue in our community. In FY2023, FISH distributed 1,560,603 pounds of food to neighbors in need. FISH has a large, self-shop marketplace where participants can select food with dignity and respect. FISH also collaborates with Community Food Share to run a Mobile Pantry, and delivers food to those who have barriers to access. FISH works with residents to make sure they have access to fresh, healthy foods, which are essential to whole family wellness.



# STABILIZING HOUSING

FISH participants often spend more than 70% of their monthly income on housing costs. Our programs seek to stabilize families in existing housing and prevent homelessness. In FY2023, FISH provided housing stability to 734 Broomfield residents. FISH also worked collaboratively with the City and County of Broomfield on a hotel voucher program for residents facing emergencies and with Almost Home and the Refuge on the Severe Weather Activation Program (SWAP) for cold weather care.



# SUPPORTING ECONOMIC SUCCESS

FISH offers emergency financial assistance and family development programs that provide low-income residents the support they need to achieve two-generational, whole-family success. The purpose of Family Resource Centers across the country is to foster healthy communities by focusing on individuals' selfdetermination and building upon participants' strengths. We work with our participants to plan programming that promotes overall self-sufficiency.



# THOUGHTFUL PARTNERSHIPS

FISH partners with more than 30 community organizations to ensure that we are a single, friendly point of contact to help neighbors in need. We strongly believe in community collaboration to achieve whole-family wellness and use referrals to partners to connect our participants to a wide variety of high quality support.







#### **SOME KEY PARTNERS INCLUDE:**

- Almost Home
- BackStory Theatre
- Benefits in Action
- Broomfield Community Foundation
- Broomfield Early Childhood Council
- Broomfield Department of Public Health and Department of Human Services
- Broomfield Housing Alliance
- Broomfield Workforce Center
- Center for People with Disabilities
- City and County of Broomfield
- Community Food Share
- Energy Outreach Colorado
- Hunger Free Colorado
- Kiwanis Club of Broomfield North Metro
- Mental Health Partners
- A Precious Child
- The Refuge
- Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence
- Senior Resources of Broomfield

Did you know that FISH works with local pig and chicken farmers to dispose of food that is no longer suitable for human consumption? These partnerships help FISH sustainably reduce waste and keep food out of landfills. Last year, Karthik Reddy (pictured above) built FISH a new shed from scratch for our pig bins as part of his Eagle Scout project to provide better storage and to keep animals out of the food!

# TRENDS AT BROOMFIELD FISH



# POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED TO THOSE IN NEED

NONE OF OUR NUMBERS INCLUDE SPOILAGE



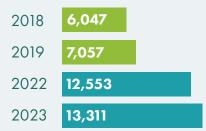


# NUMBER OF VISITS TO FISH'S MARKETPLACE





## NUMBER OF UNDUPLICATED PEOPLE SERVED



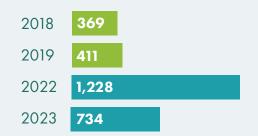


# NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



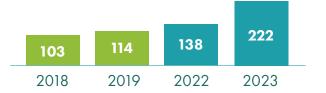


### NUMBER OF RESIDENTS RECEIVING HOUSING ASSISTANCE FROM FISH





# UNDUPLICATED FAMILIES RECEIVING UTILITY ASSISTANCE



# STEPHANIE'S STORY OF STRENGTH

Stephanie came to FISH for help after a life-altering accident that left her disabled. Unsure of how she would be able to provide for her family, she followed the advice of her neighbors and came to our marketplace to shop for groceries. She was then able to work with an advocate to identify other ways FISH could support her and her family, including gas cards that allowed her to get to and from medical appointments, and help finding energy assistance through the LEAP program. She describes that although the process of asking for help can be very intimidating, it is the first step to getting your family to a place where everyone can thrive:



"When you're the person that's been the one that gives and does...to be the person that is now disabled and the person that is needing help because they have to take care of their family and they don't know how, it's hard."

CLICK TO HEAR STEPHANIE TELL HER STORY OF STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE



# KAREN'S STORY OF STRENGTH



After both she and her husband received cancer diagnoses and faced significant medical bills, Karen tried to make her dollars stretch as far as they could at the grocery store. When it became harder and harder to afford food, she realized that they needed help. Despite feeling guilty about having to ask for assistance, Karen found that she and her husband were welcomed at FISH with open arms. "We found a place that was clean, bright, well-organized. The volunteers and staff were friendly and helpful and kind and well-meaning, and we were welcomed."

Hear Karen tell her story of how FISH has helped her and her husband through challenging times and how having a welcoming place for neighbors provides hope in the present and for the future!



### HOUSING IS THE NUMBER ONE DRIVER OF NEED

At FISH, we see the effects of the housing crisis every day in the lives of our neighbors in need who come to us for help. The housing crisis is truly an emergency-like a flood or a fire-with desperate families on the brink of eviction, or worse, already living in their cars or on the streets because of the lack of affordable units and rising costs of rent. FISH is part of a collaborative group of partners-Broomfield Housing Alliance, the City and County, other local nonprofits, and local churches and faith-based organizations-working on housing solutions for the future.

#### WHAT TO KNOW



The vast majority of low-income residents must rent housing. According to Roots Policy Research data, approximately 35% of all Broomfield households are renter-occupied.



Rents have risen dramatically, making it more challenging for people to make ends meet. The Roots study shows that rental costs in Broomfield have increased 75% and the average 2023 rent in Broomfield was approximately \$2,020 per month.

Eviction rates are skyrocketing and exacerbating an already devastating homelessness problem.

# İ

3,200
RENTER HOUSEHOLD

RENTER HOUSEHOLDS

IN BROOMFIELD

are cost-burdened and are at risk of becoming unhoused.



GLOSE TO

300

BROOMFIELD

RESIDENTS

experienced homelessness

in 2023.

#### SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD IN BROOMFIELD COUNTY

What It Really Takes for Families to Make Ends Meet



=\$10,072 PER MONTH

= 367% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES



# HOURLY WAGE TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT BY FAMILY TYPE IN BROOMFIELD



1 adult + 1 preschooler



1 adult r + 1 preschooler + 1 school age

\$44.02



2 adults + 1 preschooler + 1 school age

# HOUSING STABILIZATION PROGRAMS AT FISH

FISH recognizes that safe, stable housing is a fundamental basic need and critical social determinant of health. As such, we are committed to assisting low-income residents stay housed.



### WAYS THAT FISH HELPS NEIGHBORS WITH HOUSING

#### EMERGENCY RENT ASSISTANCE

FISH supports Broomfield neighbors earning less than 60% Area Median Income (AMI) with emergency rent assistance to prevent them from experiencing homelessness. Generally, participants must show that they have income and will be sustainable moving forward. Participants can only access this one time per year and the purpose is to help them through a difficult time.

#### KEEPING FAMILIES HOUSED

This program helps families with children under the age of 18 who earn less than 60% AMI. It is a multi-month, self-sufficiency program that provides rental subsidies while participants work toward targeted goals. FISH uses the CO Family Strengthening Assessment tool to help families move from "in crisis" to "thriving" on several different measures of self-sufficiency.

### EMERGENCY HOTEL VOUCHERS

FISH collaborates with the Broomfield Police Department to offer temporary shelter to residents who become unhoused during emergency situations like fires, floods, or domestic violence.

### GAP FUNDING FOR SENIORS

FISH has limited funding to help seniors over the age of 65 who are living on fixed incomes with rent assistance. This often means covering the "gap" in what they need to pay rent each month over a longer period of time.

### RESOURCE SUPPORT

FISH coordinates with several housing partners to help participants access housing choice vouchers and locate more income-aligned housing options as they become available in Broomfield.

FISH is fortunate to have widespread support from our generous community!

Special thanks to everyone who contributed their time, talents, and resources to FISH this past year.

### **GRANTS**

Albertsons/Safeway Foundation

Anschutz Family Foundation

Arista Community Foundation

**Broomfield Community Foundation** 

Broomfield Department of Human Services

Broomfield Rotary Club

City and County of Broomfield -

Housing Division

Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger

Colorado Community Health Alliance

Colorado Department of Early Childhood

Colorado Department of Human Services

Colorado Department of Public Health

and Environment

Colorado Health Institute

Colorado Housing and Finance Authority

Community Enterprise

Emergency Food and Shelter Program

Energy Outreach Colorado

Food Pantry Assistance Grant

Huntington Bank Foundation

Intermountain Health

Metro Denver Health Institute

Mile High United Way

Namaste Foundation

Rotary Club of Broomfield Crossing

Starbucks Foundation

The Idea Marketing, Inc.

T7P Cares Foundation

Weld Food Bank



When Hadley was assigned a project at school to be a "good citizen" and help her community, she and her family thought of FISH! Kerri McGill, a teacher at St. Louis Catholic School in Louisville, heard that Hadley was making baking kits for FISH, so she helped collect the needed supplies, including frosting, baking mix, cooking oil, and more. With the support of Kerri and City Councilmember Jean Lim, Hadley made over 200 pounds worth of kits for our participants to take home for the holiday season.

FISH's Adopt A Shelf program is an opportunity for families, groups, neighborhoods, or businesses to choose a shelf of food or personal care items and keep it stocked on a monthly basis. It helps us ensure we can provide a variety of high need items for all our families, keeping our marketplace full of healthy, nutritious food and necessities like toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, and more. As part of this program, donors can support our fresh produce section by becoming a Fresh Food Hero and helping us purchase fruits and vegetables each month. Thank you to our Adopt A Shelf donors and our Fresh Food Heroes for helping our neighbors access the food and supplies they need to thrive!

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING AN ADOPT A SHELF DONOR





FISH appreciates everyone who donated in 2023, including those who are not named here or donated anonymously

# **2023**MAJOR GIFT DONORS

Ron & Janan Alford Thomas Alford

Allen Lund Company

Fred & Kathy Ambrusch

American Legion & Auxilary Broomfield

Milton Anderson

Animal Care Equipment & Services

Anthem Highlands

Anthem Ranch Community & Clubs

Apple Tree Christian Preschool & Kindergarten

Pamela Archer

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Robert & Lynn Bowles

Boy Scouts of America

Terry & Vicki Brandt

Lisa Bressler

Broomfield High School

**Broomfield Rotary Club** 

**Broomfield United Methodist** 

Church & Fellowship Groups

Diane Buckalew

Sarah Buckman

Cynthia Burchell

**Burnside Family** 

Elaine Butler

Tom & Boni Callaway

Colleen Callies

Calvary Evangelical Free Church

Jeffrey Campbell

Paul Carau

George Cavanagh

Michael & Kimberly Cavanagh

Justin Chalfant

Chick-fil-A

Christian Church of Broomfield

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Cigna

Cimarron Village

Cintas

Mary Cirbo

City & County of Broomfield

Terry & Nicci Clark

Clifford Family

Code Blue Computing

Dennis & Julie Collins

Colorado Department of Public

Health & Environment

Colorado Dog Academy

Colorado Housing and

Finance Authority

Karen Connolly

Conscious Alliance

Cooper Family

Czarnecki Family

Davis-Siggs Family in Honor of Gus

Carol Day

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FischerJordan

Carla Fisher

Stephen Fisher & Lucia Berte

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FlapJacked

Flatirons Pro Media

SCA Health

Joe & Ann Foley

Richard & Linda Freund

Friends of Jan

Fries Family

Front Range Barracuda

Swim Club

Gary & Gina Gallagher

Ted & Mary Garten

Gate N' Green

Travis Gearhart

Mary Kay Gondrezick

Google



In honor of Samiyah Sandwich McScruff, the sweet and well-loved FISH support dog, we have created a section in our marketplace where individuals can donate pet food and treats for our participants to take home for their furry friends.



Gordon Family Goss Family Chyla Graham Geary & Jan Grantham Patricia Greene Greenlite

Dr. Nancy Greer Groves Family John & Carol Grudis Gryzmala Family

Susan Gutches Guys Who Give

Thomas Halloran & Sara Rivenburgh

Craig & Ranae Hamilton Charles & Colleen Hamm Gregory & Debbie Hammons

Bradley & Janet Hanson

Brandon Harper - Edward Jones

Harper Family
Haupt Family
Joseph Hayes

Gary & Dianne Henry

Aaron & Audrey Heun

Higgins Family

Adam Hill

Aaron & Sara Hoffman

Jennifer Hoffman Dave & Kathy Holland Holy Comforter Episcopal Church & Farmers Market Hormel Humana Robbie Hunter **Hunter Douglas** Johanna Hurley Verenne Hyde Glenn & Donna Issacson Ivanov Family Lawrence & Elizabeth Janowski Jefferson Academy Carvo John Wayne & Diane Johnson Jesse Johnson Carmencita Jones Jeff & Kim Jones Bob & Mary Juszynski Keen Family Keller Williams Realty Kelly Family Douglas & Diane Kerner Keystone Place at Legacy Ridge

Kimley-Horn Foundation

Josh Kirkpatrick

Klose Training & Consulting Knights of Columbus 10961 Kohl Elementary School **Kovach Family** Kroger/King Soopers Michael & Julie Kuhn Madison Kuptz **Kusel Family** Lakin Family Foundation Dayna Scott & Ken Langford Hilary Langston Jessica Larson Steve & Vicki Larson Kevin Lavarnway Randy & Mary Law Legacy High School Warren & Barbara Leggate Timothy Lewan Lumen Technologies Lutheran Church of Hope Rick Lutz LuxePak Magnolia Road Steve & Lori Majors Dennis Mallaney Marine Corps League Mark LeBlanc Dr. Bill & Jean Markel

Ken Martin Len & Kathleen Martinez Joanne Masica Robert & Tracie Mathisen Matthews Family Brandon & Sarah Mauch **Eleanor McKinley** Jennifer McManus -Keller Williams McMath-Weadley Family Scott & Judy McNary McWhinney Real Estate Development Michael Mennerich Meridian Elementary School Charles & Mutsumi Metzler Joseph Michalsky Mile High Transportation Services Alex Moghadam Janice Moore Mountain Aerospace Mountain View Elementary School Mowery-Evans Family Wayne Munson National Charity League Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church & School NetApp Northern Medical Associates





Nothing Bundt Cakes





Ken Nowak Family Robert & Kathy Nowak Brandi Ohlson

Oliver Family Tyler Olsen

Erdal & Mary Oskay

O'Toole Family

Ottem Family Our Broomfield

**Outside Analytics** 

Claude & Cheryl Overstreet

Ovintiv Canada

David Painter

Pallas Family

**April Paris** 

llene Pascale

**Pearsall Family** 

Peter Keilman

**Pigott Family** 

Plante Moran

**PNC Bank** 

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Premier Members Credit Union

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Presbyterian Church

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Reynolds Family

Greg & Katie Richards

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Riggin Family

Jett Rink

Ripple Effect Martial Arts

Risen Savior Lutheran Church

Scott & Amy Ritger

Joe & Chris Roarty

Rocky Mountain Rattlers Lacrosse

Rotary Club of Broomfield

Crossing

RunSignUp

S&S Safety Consulting

Sacred Heart of Mary Parish

Safeway/Albertsons

Salesforce

Gerald & Ann Saul

Richard & Karyn Schad

Schafer Thomas Maez PC

Gary & Renee Schwark

Clark & Diane Scriven

Marian Seder & Bob Rudland

Thomas Seibel

Tim Seibert

Sill-TerHar Motors

Sally Simerson

Sister Carmen Community Center

Skyestone Community

Sonata Aesthetics

Sonoco

Sprouts

Scott Spuler

Stamp Out Hunger -

Eagle View, Main,

& Northglenn Post Offices

Standard Process

Joan Steele

Karen & Todd Steele

Steiner Family

Stonehocker Family Foundation

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John Terhar

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The Cleaning Authority

The Flourishers

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Trailhead Institute

John Turner

Tuttle Family

United Church of Broomfield

United Healthcare Group

Vagher Family

Chris & Deborah van den Honert

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Kim Vaughn

Angela Vera

Todd Vickers

Viega

Patrick Vigil

Visa

von Rosenberg Family

Wag N' Wash

Jim & Lori Walcutt

Christian & Evelyn Walter

Scott & Carol Ward

Karen Webber

Randy Weber

Weecycle

Norman Welch

Kelly Wells

Whole Foods

Wildgrass Community

Ellen Williams

Jeff & Cindy Williams

Lynn Winterboer

Katie Wolfram

Trudy Wood

Steve & Terry Woods

**Xcel Energy** 

Mike & Janice Young

Martin & Pam Zadigian

Zevia Soda











Fellowship in Serving Humanity

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