

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Continuing Traditions and Championing New Programs

Prepared May 2021 by Evan Daly, 7th Grade



RISE Day

On April 29, we helped fund the first ever [McAuliffe International School](#) Seventh Grade RISE Day. This non-traditional academic day was created to bolster the well-being of students and staff by bringing a little fun back into the school day – a challenging feat this school year!

Students participated in a variety of activities, including designing catapults that launched a peep marshmallow through the air, discovering where students hold joy and anger in their body, creating a budget, decorating the fence with yarn art, creating a social justice water bottle sticker, and writing positive messages around the school grounds with sidewalk chalk. Some remote-only students (who had not been to the school grounds all year) joined their in-person classmates to participate in the activities, making RISE Day a success for all!



Upcoming Events

Our second annual **Team Helping Hands** event supports the [Morgan Adams Foundation Petri Dash](#) 5K Walk/Run Saturday, June 5 in person at Denver Sloan's Lake Park or virtually the weekend of June 4-6.

For five years, we have supported CLOVES research and the [CLOVES Syndrome Community](#) through creative fundraisers, conferences, and grants. This year, we continue support through the [Million Dollar Bike Ride](#) team **CLOVES Riders for Research** on Saturday, June 12.

As one of our first non-profit partners, this is our tenth year supporting [Brothers Redevelopment, Inc's](#) safe, affordable, accessible housing and housing services for tens of thousands of Colorado's low-income, elderly and disabled residents. We will celebrate **Brother Redevelopment, Inc's 50th Anniversary Local Social** on Friday evening, September 10.

Hayes Family Foundation Mental Health Award

During a zoom presentation on May 11, we awarded the fourth recipient of the [Hayes Family Foundation Mental Health Award](#). Established in 2018 in partnership with [Rotarians for Mental Health](#), we support a District 5450 Rotary Club with their new project addressing depression, anxiety and/or addiction.

During the first 72 hours after release, prisoners are most susceptible to drug relapse, criminal behavior, and self-harm. In partnership with [Focus Reentry](#), the **2021 recipient Boulder Valley Rotary Club** will provide backpacks with clothing, shoes, hygiene items, bus passes, and a smartphone with one-month service to prisoners. Clients who use the phone to find work, access mental and physical health services, and attend required meetings are eventually given the phones to keep. Staff and volunteers also mentor prisoners pre- and post-release to connect them with mental health, housing, and employment resources. These connections build self-sufficiency and support for success in the reentry process, thus, reducing depression, anxiety and/or substance abuse relapse.

The **2019 recipient** was the [Rotary Club of Summit County](#) for its partnership with a grass-roots mental health initiative called [Building Hope](#) Summit County. A new-member class of eight led the way, producing brochures providing education on mental health, aiming to reduce the stigma.

The **2020 recipient** was the [Boulder Rotary Club](#) and their Behavioral Wellness Committee's commitment to [Natural High's](#) mission and advocacy, specifically the first-ever 12-week summer online program to continue the needed connection and support to teens during the pandemic.

The **2018 recipient** was the [Commerce City Rotary Club's – Mental Health Initiative](#) new program "Just for Veterans and Their Families: Embracing Needs and Removing Barriers," which brought awareness and connect veterans with education courses, resources, mental health events, and celebrations.