



CONNECT

An update on the work you make possible • Fall 2017

FEATURE

GIVE NEXT KICKOFF DAY

OCTOBER 4, 2017

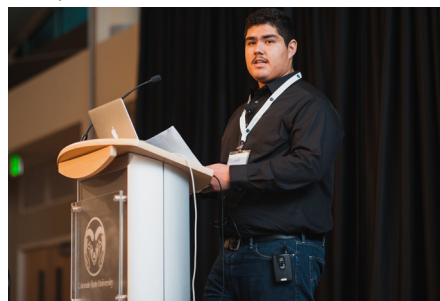


“The most inspirational thing I learned today is that our actions DO matter and that we CAN and SHOULD make a difference in our world.” - Give Next Student

This year's Give Next Kickoff Day (formerly called Philanthropy Day) was a great success. Students from 15 middle and high schools in Thompson and Poudre School Districts came together to meet with nonprofit representatives serving Larimer County and hear inspirational stories of making a difference. Approximately 35 organizations participated in the nonprofit fair and workshops, where they showcased their services. This was the second year the event was held at Colorado State University.

Highlights from the day included:

- Youth Voice speaker, Fernando Castro, shared his story about turning a family tragedy into the Safety While Driving campaign (raising awareness for seat belt and helmet use in the Latino community). Fernando wrapped up with a call to action to challenge his peers to make a difference.
- We welcomed Dusti Sanger, teacher at Preston Middle School, as our new emcee.
- Afternoon keynote speaker, Julie Dubin, shared her journey of making a difference and co-founding No Barriers USA.
- The Biking Vikings: Leshler Middle School students rode their bikes to campus.



Fernando Castro, sophomore student at Poudre High School and 2016 Family Leadership Training Institute graduate

2017-2018 GIVE NEXT SCHOOLS

Thompson School District:

Berthoud High School
High Plains School
Lucile Erwin Middle School
Thompson Valley High School

Poudre School District:

Boltz Middle School
Cache La Poudre Middle School
Fort Collins High School
Kinard Core Knowledge School
Leshler Middle School
Lincoln Middle School
Poudre Community Academy
Poudre High School
Preston Middle School
Rocky Mountain High School
Wellington Middle School

“I am 100% sure that we all are born with a purpose in life and you just have to believe in yourself and wake up that power that lies in you.”
- Fernando Castro

2017 - 2018 COMMUNITY IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

Building off the energy of Give Next Kickoff Day, the students returned to their schools to poll their student bodies on issues important to them. Using the results from the student body surveys and learnings from Kickoff Day, each Give Next classroom developed a mission statement to guide their grantmaking. Each classroom also set a fundraising goal to raise additional dollars beyond the \$5,000 they receive from Give Next classroom donors.

Students are currently researching nonprofits in Larimer County that align with their respective missions, conducting interviews, hosting classroom speakers, and conducting site visits. Students will announce grant decisions in late Spring 2018.

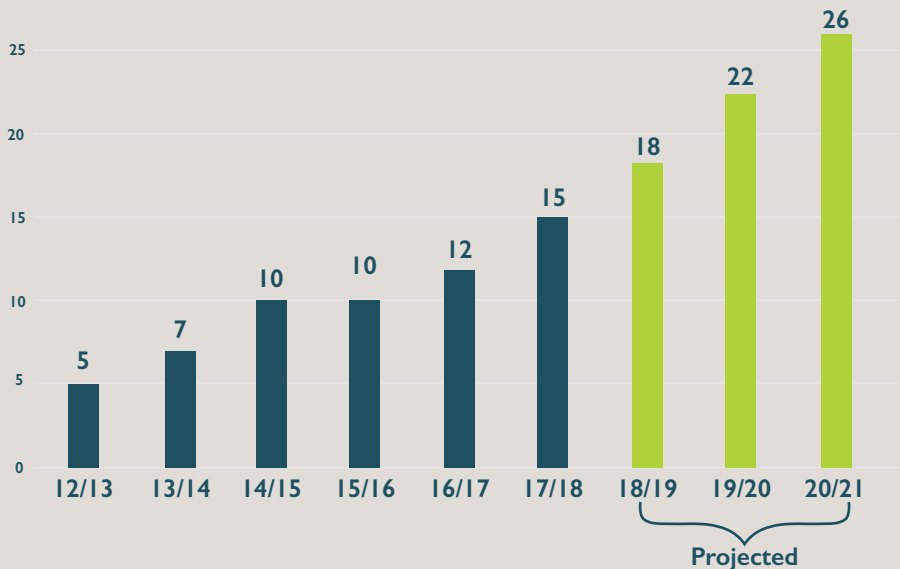


= \$96,000
to nonprofits supporting the
following community issues



GIVE NEXT IS GROWING!

Give Next began as a community discussion to create a philanthropic movement, inspire giving, and foster youth community engagement. Started in 2012 as a pilot-initiative, the program welcomed its first five schools from Poudre School District. Five years later, the program has reached 15 middle and high schools in Poudre and Thompson School Districts. Our goal, by the 2020-2021 school year, is to be in all 26 middle and high schools across both districts.



FOSTERING CONNECTIONS

During the 2016-2017 school year, one of our participating schools identified domestic violence as a priority issue of their grantmaking. Throughout the process, the Give Next classroom learned about Crossroads Safehouse and the support it provides to victims of domestic violence and their families. Crossroads was selected as a grant recipient and prior to the award ceremony, a student asked if she could tell her story at the event. Before a room full of students, community members, donors, and nonprofits, the student talked about the abuse that her mother suffered, her father's ultimate incarceration, and the time she, her mom, and siblings spent at Crossroads. That quiet, shy student found her voice that day and has gone on to speak and inspire others at a Crossroads event.

WHAT'S UP NEXT?

The Give Next grant application will be available online November 15, 2017 - December 6, 2017. Please help us spread the word.

To apply for a grant visit: www.givenextnoco.org/how-to-apply



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