



2025

Impact Report

Build Capacity

Convene

Connect

FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

As the Chief Executive Officer of this incredible organization, I reflect on 2025 with deep gratitude for the partners and broader community who stepped forward throughout the year to support Community Resource Center (CRC) and the work we collectively advance across Colorado.

For more than 40 years, CRC has played an important role in strengthening Colorado's nonprofit and philanthropic landscape. In 2025, we took meaningful steps to honor that legacy while preparing for the future. We confronted the realities of both yesterday and today, making intentional and strategic investments in our infrastructure to ensure long-term organizational strength, flexibility, and resilience—while continuing to provide trainings, resources, convenings, and connections that support communities across the state.

This year also marked the completion of our five-year strategic plan and a thoughtful restructuring of the organization to align our work with both immediate and long-term fiscal sustainability. I would like to recognize the Community Foundation Serving Southwest Colorado, First Western Trust Bank, El Pomar Foundation, and The Colorado Health Foundation for their partnership, innovation, and collaboration during this important season.

2025 has been defined by deep connection, meaningful collaboration, and a shared commitment to building capacity for individuals and organizations across Colorado. This work strengthens CRC and the communities we are privileged to serve.



April-Dawn Knudsen
Chief Executive Officer



April-Dawn presenting at the San Luis Valley Regional Convening in Del Norte, CO. Regional convenings in all eight regions of our Rural Action Network[®] drove introspection and conversations across the state.

WHO WE ARE

Mission

Community Resource Center empowers nonprofits across Colorado to identify and address community needs through connections, convenings, and capacity building.

Vision

Colorado is a place where nonprofits, no matter their size or location, have the resources to enrich the communities they serve today and tomorrow.

Values

Belonging

- *We believe strong, stable communities center inclusion and belonging.*

Collaboration

- *We practice collaboration and cooperation.*

Community

- *We strive to provide opportunities for participants and partners to engage where they are, not where we are.*

Excellence

- *We accept as true that we are all better when we are all better.*

Transparency

- *We work to build a culture of trust and authenticity throughout our work.*

Stewardship

- *We model our values internally and externally to support one another and build strong communities.*



Alex McHenry and Jen Wells at the Southeast Regional Convening in Las Animas, CO. Staff embodied our statewide rural focus, traveling to convenings and trainings throughout Colorado.

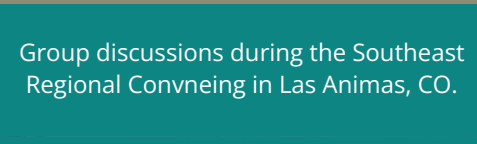
2025 AT A GLANCE

FOCUS, PRIORITIES, AND GOALS



Small group discussion at the San Luis Valley Regional Convening in Del Norte, CO.

“CRC is in touch with the nonprofits who they serve. The network feels more approachable than other spaces. The impacts of the relationships built in the network are felt by constituents.”
Civic Engagement Partner



Group discussions during the Southeast Regional Convening in Las Animas, CO.

Focus: Research, Stabilize , Plan

Dual tasks of 2025:

1. Conduct a deep dive into internal process and procedure through deep introspection, intentional outreach, increased transparency, and infrastructure investments to build a sustainable and scalable organizational structure.
2. Create a five-year strategic plan to guide 2026 - 2030 utilizing strategic engagement with partners and constituents, internal audits, historic reflection, and futurecasting.

Strategic Priorities:

- CRC empowers individuals and nonprofit organizations through training, knowledge sharing and access to resources so they may identify and address pressing issues in their communities.
- CRC strengthens the capacity of our partners so they can better actualize their missions through an equity lens.
- CRC convenes funders, organizations, and individuals across Colorado to meet communities where they are and catalyze community-centered change.
- CRC invests in our organizational well-being to provide a model for stability and nonprofit strength.

Goals:

- Conduct robust strategic planning process.
- Build a stronger, deeper network of community with partners.
- Conduct return on investment program assessment across all programs.
- Utilize Rural Philanthropy Days® pause to listen and collaborate leading to a sustainable Rural Action Network®.
- Build robust financial and human resources systems.
- Recruit diverse new board members.
- Execute upon all programming at the highest level.

OUR IMPACT

Programs

2025 was a year of looking inward while offering programming with intentional impact throughout Colorado. We offered more than 120 engagement opportunities across four program areas.

Grant Services programming reached 1,115 individuals through trainings, Funder Connections, and Lunch and Learn events. The Colorado Grants Guide® served 347 subscribers.

93% of Grant Services participants reported feeling better prepared to help their organization be more effective and/or efficient towards meeting their goals.

Civic Engagement programming continued to support nonprofits to engage in local advocacy and offer nonpartisan voter engagement to their constituents. As one partner shared "CRC is not trying to shape the way nonprofits do advocacy but provides resources and shares models to help them integrate those resources in a way that makes sense with their programming." CRC's civic engagement programming focuses on building long-term capacity by supporting nonprofits every year, regardless of the election cycle.

62% of 2024 partners returned in 2025.

Education programming provided tailored trainings, one-on-one coaching, and resources to nonprofits across the state including **80 Community Resilience Initiative (CRI)** grantees in partnership with The Colorado Trust. These tailored supports provide vital relief and guidance to small nonprofits. As one grantee put it:

"Executive Director roles can be lonely and isolating. Having a coach provided me with a thought-partner and accountability to move key projects forward."

Rural Action Network programming looked different in 2025. We paused **Rural Philanthropy Days®** for a deep dive into building a sustainable, scalable program. We engaged leaders through 8 regional convenings to fuel regional collaboration while listening deeply to local experts.

Key themes: the need for stronger collaboration, sustainable funding, leadership pipelines, equity and inclusion, and shared infrastructure.

Organization

We conducted a thorough analysis of our organization, including our regional approach and outreach. We identified and leaned into what makes CRC unique: statewide organization that focuses on rural communities and organizations which serve them; focusing on nonprofit organizations with budgets smaller than \$1M and those which serve marginalized and under resourced populations. We recognized and embraced that our work is driven by community identified needs. We also leaned into our commitment to language justice, modeling for our partners in this work.

As we move forward, we will collect data that clearly demonstrates our commitments and reflects our annual success. This will include collection and reporting on both quantitative and qualitative data in our annual organizational and program reports.

OUR IMPACT

126 engagement opportunities (see below)

1000+ organizations

2797 attendees

8 Regional convenings

502 Hours of coaching

98% of counties reached

Engagement opportunities include:

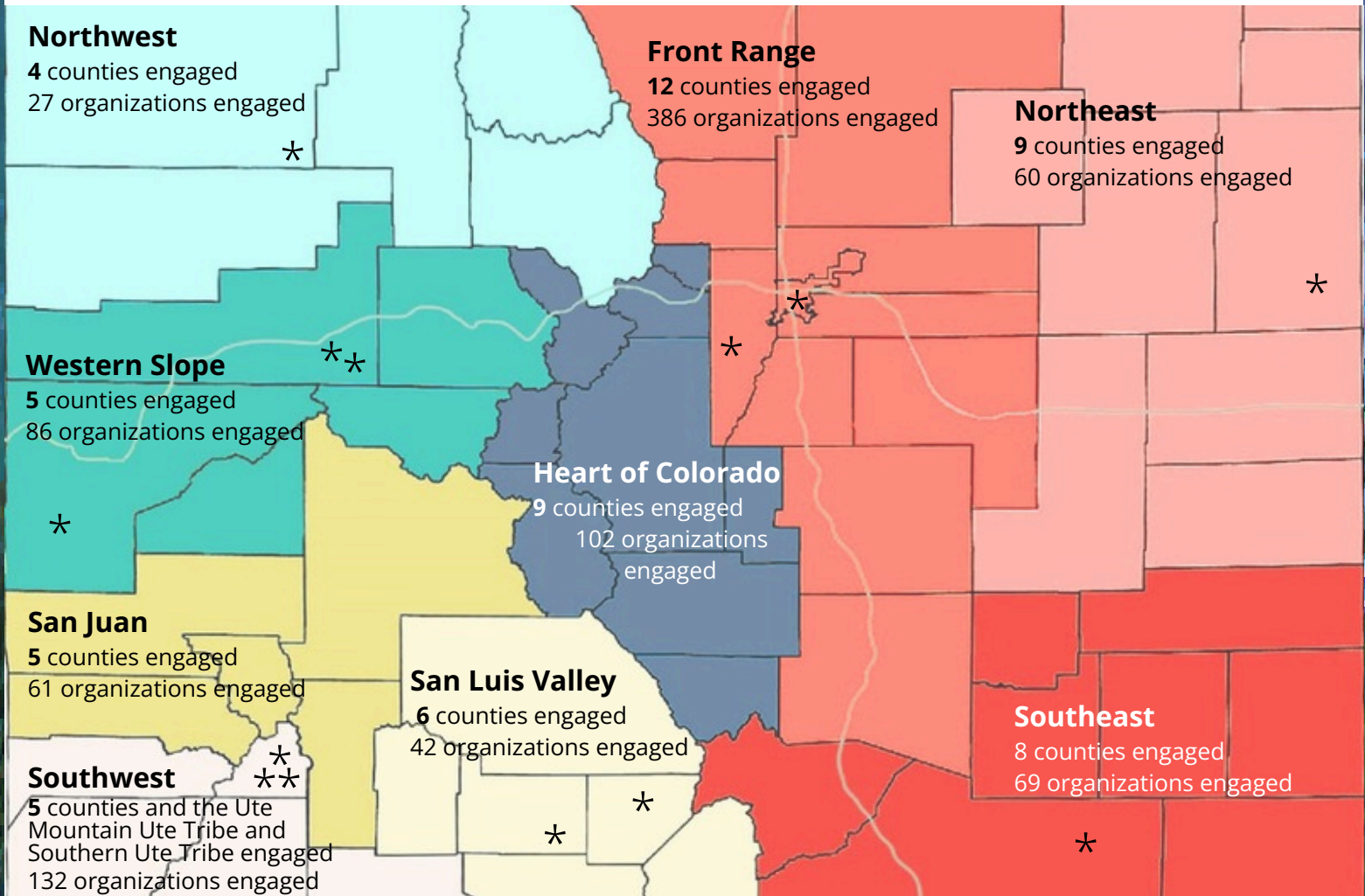
- Funder Connections
- Public trainings and events
- Custom trainings
- Virtual Funder Roundtables
- Program specific trainings and meetings
- Regional Convenings
- Lunch and Learns

96% of survey respondents across all CRC trainings stated they had a better understanding of the topic presented after attending

89% of survey respondents reported feeling better prepared to support their organization in achieving their mission

Our programming served individuals and organizations in 63 of 64 Colorado Counties in 2025. Of the 52 rural counties, CRC reached individuals and organizations in 51.




(*) Shows host location of in-person convening or event



OUR IMPACT

Impact Framework:

CRCs work in capacity building, connecting, and convening is defined through a unique focus on rural communities, intentional cross-sector outreach, community building, and creating spaces to deepen local impact and opportunities. The following outlines program alignment within this framework. While many offerings cross more than one area, they are listed within the primary impact area.

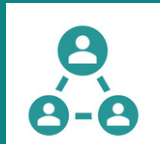
	Connection 	Convening 	Capacity Building 
RURAL ACTION NETWORK® Collection of statewide programming that hosts events in every corner of Colorado, traditionally in a four year cycle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Virtual Funder Roundtables (VFRT)</i> facilitated 809 meaningful connections between 145 grant seekers and 20 grant makers over four events to gain a deeper understanding of alignment and opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regional Convenings (RPD pause programming)</i> brought together 435 individuals across 8 convenings to identify and discuss common issues and challenges, means to collaborate, resource share and build solutions. • Conducted 2 <i>RPD Steering Committee meetings</i> to guide the work of the 2026 NE RPD. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>VFRT pre-trainings</i> provided 182 nonprofit staff with guidance and resources to support identifying funders and sharing meaningful introductions to maximize impact of VFRT events.
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY Nonpartisan voter engagement and capacity building through education, resources and training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Root Causes Network (RCN)</i> hosted 6 Network meetings and 6 Leadership Advisory meetings. 100% of Root Causes Network members reported connection to other members and policy groups as primary reason for joining the network. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Root Causes Network</i> hosted a networking meeting for nonprofit members to meet with 10 statewide policy partners to explore opportunities to collaborate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Civic Engagement</i> offered 39 trainings for organizations to learn how to engage their communities in public dialogue and advocacy. • <i>Participation Project</i> provided tailored resources and support to 28 nonprofits on nonpartisan voter engagement. • <i>Tax Credit Outreach</i> provided support and resources to 33 nonprofits on community tax credits and tax filing options.

“This work has strengthened trust, built leadership within our community, and amplified the voices of those most impacted by policy decisions.”

-Civic Engagement Partner

OUR IMPACT

Connection



- *Funder Connections* provided connection opportunities for 719 attendees over 10 events to learn about the funding priorities and process of the featured funding partner.
- *GrantCorps* offered regular peer learning spaces for 19 GrantCorps organizations over two cohorts.

Convening



- Partnered with public library *CGG subscribers* to host watch parties to convene local nonprofit leaders to engage in Funder Connection events.
- *Lunch and Learns* provided 54 individuals across 3 programs with grant research information and how to effectively use the Colorado Grants Guide® (CGG).

Capacity Building



- 2 *Pen to Paper* trainings provided attendees with custom grant trainings.
- *Grant Services* provided 156 hours of one-on-one coaching to nonprofits to build grant development skills.
- 347 *CGG subscribers* gained access to Colorado's premier online grants research tool.
- 4 *AmeriCorps VISTA* members provided valuable program and organizational support to GrantCorps while building their own individual grant writing capacity.

GRANT SERVICES AND COLORADO GRANTS GUIDE®


"CRC has been an incredible light in our community for nonprofit leaders. I have been blessed to participate in several of CRC's programs, including their GrantCorps Program, which was instrumental—and truly the reason I am now able to do this work full-time. In addition, their resources, such as the Colorado Grants Guide, have been invaluable. I actively use it to identify funding opportunities, along with their grant trainings and other workshops that continue to strengthen my skills and our organization's impact."

- GrantCorps Participant

"CRC is a bridge and a connector to rural communities and rural nonprofit organizations. Whenever I can attend a CRC event, particularly events like Rural Philanthropy Days, it's an opportunity for me to make connections I wouldn't otherwise be able to make. By partnering with CRC, I often find new professional opportunities, programmatic partnerships and awareness building channels that we can leverage."

Frequent RPD Attendee

OUR IMPACT

	Connection 	Convening 	Capacity Building 
EDUCATION & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE INITIATIVE (CRI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly engaged in peer spaces with <i>CRI grantees</i> to support peer to peer learning and resource sharing. Created <i>digital resource page</i> to connect Colorado nonprofits with information and tools to navigate changes in national policies that impact their organizations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported a <i>CRI grantee Convening</i> in partnership with The Colorado Trust facilitating peer-to-peer connection across 80 grantees. Co-hosted <i>AI Jam Event</i> in partnership with Open AI, Colorado Nonprofit Association, and Philanthropy Colorado convening 122 nonprofit leaders to build their AI skills and knowledge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided 346 hours of <i>one-on-one coaching support</i> for nonprofits on topics from nonprofit finance, to grant writing, to board development and more. 3 <i>Ask an Expert</i> sessions, in partnership with Consultants4Good provided 38 attendees with skill based training on specific topics. 10 <i>custom and public trainings</i> reached 451 individuals on topics including grant writing, accessible communications, and nonprofit finance.
ORGANIZATION-WIDE ACTIVITIES Events and/or programs in the service of our mission but not tied to a program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted 2 <i>town halls</i> with 61 consultants from across the state to discuss the role of consultants in our work and how to mutually serve our community of nonprofits while supporting consultants located within and in service to rural Colorado. Through a focus on <i>language justice</i> CRC ensured over 50% of program offerings included live Spanish interpretation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>Strategic Action Committee</i> engaged external voices to drive the creation of our Five-Year Strategic Plan. <i>Rural Philanthropy Days AdHoc Committee</i> convened to provide state-wide perspectives on RPD and RAN. Hosted <i>State of the Sector</i> in partnership with Colorado Nonprofit Association and Philanthropy Colorado engaging 195 nonprofit leaders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Volunteers</i> donated more than 1,447 hours to support CRC across committee members, interns, CGG volunteers, VISTAs, and board members. In partnership with El Pomar Foundation supported the creation of the 2025 <i>Foundation Giving in Colorado</i> report providing transparency around statewide giving trends.

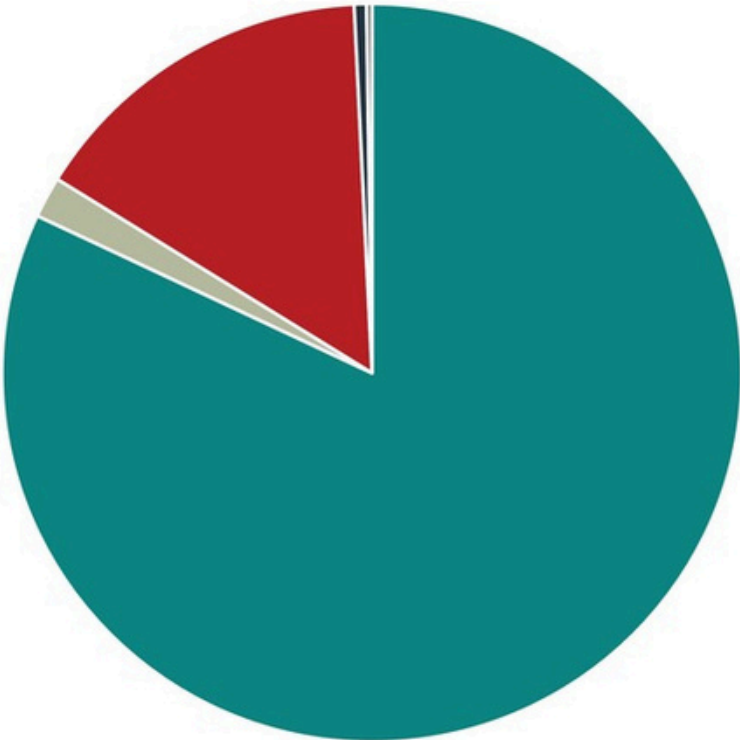
"I believe RPD provides an unmatched opportunity for nonprofits, funders, and government entities to build understanding, empathy, and durable relationships that lead to innovative and sustained collaboration. RPD is a critical bridge between the concentrated resource and political wealth of front range cities and the rest of the state, where challenges are often compounded by isolation."

-CRC Rural Action Network Partner

SOURCES OF INCOME

In 2025 CRC began a thoughtful and deliberate effort to diversify sources of income, looking to secure long-term investment in the mission and vision outside of increasingly limited and competitive grant dollars. This included expanding sponsorships, individual donations, and decreasing debt obligations. The graphs below reflect the start of this shift from 2024 to 2025.

Total Income



- Funder contributions and grants \$1,426,287 - 82%
- Individual contributions \$31,369- 2%
- Program Income \$268,264 - 15%
- Donated Goods and Services -\$9,306 - 1%
- Investments \$4,147 - 0%

Funder Contributions and Grants Breakdown



OUR TEAM

Collaboration is essential to our impact throughout Colorado.

In 2025, our partners and funders stepped up and ensured we were able to meet the moment. Their support enabled us to meet our goals and stabilize, right-size, and plan for the future with purpose. We owe special thanks to El Pomar, Caring for Colorado and Community Foundation Serving SW CO for their thought partnership and strategic funding to ensure the strength and fortitude of CRC.

Please visit our website and read our program specific impact reports to learn more about our partnerships.

Supporters

Adams State University/LOR Foundation
Adolph Coors Foundation
AmeriCorps VISTA
Anschutz Family Foundation
A.V. Hunter Trust
Bamboo Fund
Boettcher Foundation
Brett Family Foundation
Bright Mountain Foundation
Buell Foundation
Caring for Colorado
Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
Colorado Housing and Finance Authority
Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley
Community Foundation Serving Southwest Colorado
The Colorado Health Foundation
The Colorado Trust
The Denver Foundation
El Pomar Foundation
Gates Family Foundation
Kenneth King Foundation
National Center for Civic Innovation
Next50®
Pitkin County Department of Human Services
ReDirect
Robert Hoag Rawlings Foundation
Rose Community Foundation
University of Colorado - Boulder

Key Collaborators

Colorado Nonprofit Association
Philanthropy Colorado
Consultants for Good

Board of Directors

Leslie Baldwin - Board President
Michelle Little - Treasurer
Morgan Turner - Secretary
Lee Wheeler - Berliner
Louise Contino
Gena Dellett
Katie Kleinhesselink
Tim Stahley

Thank you to Aaron Miltenberger who completed his term in 2025.

Staff

April-Dawn Knudsen - CEO
Alexandra Cruz
Monica DeWitt
Alex McHenry
Marcy Mitchell
Jennifer Wells

Interns:
Brody Furline

VISTAs:
Ariel Chuckwuma Avery Saenz
Tanisha Medina Steve Williams

Additional Staff contributing to our 2025 work:
Silas Babilonia
Story Elder
TC McCracken
Katy Pepinsky
Katy Sawyer
Tayah Wheeland