



Give Next Students from Thompson Valley High School | Photo Courtesy of Joel Blocker / BizWest

FEATURE

Making Funding Decisions

Since December, Give Next students have been busy evaluating grant applications local nonprofits submitted. Students are conducting interviews, making site visits, and asking questions of the applicants. They are looking to see how strongly each application aligns with their classroom mission and how much impact their funding would make. Students are also analyzing applications to ensure that the proposed work inspires change, encourages potential and provides services to help individuals in Larimer County.

The tough and important work of evaluating grant application not only helps the students more fully understand each nonprofits' work, but also helps students develop important life skills such as critical thinking, public speaking, decision-making, teamwork, and becoming comfortable making actual phone calls to set up interviews!

Students have until end of March to evaluate grant applications and will make their funding decisions in April. Students are responsible for notifying nonprofits whether an application received an award or was declined. Each nonprofit receiving a grant will be required to attend a year-end award ceremony to accept its grant.

"Give Next has taught me to value others... I have been inspired by all the people who have decided to dedicate their lives to serve others. I have enjoyed working with and learning about the nonprofit I am [researching]. This program has also taught me some important life skills. For example, I learned how to sign an electronic signature and learned how to make a professional phone call and send a professional email."

— Give Next Student

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
Leshar Middle School
Lincoln Middle School
Poudre Community Academy
Poudre High School
Preston Middle School
Rocky Mountain High School
Wellington Middle School

2017 -2018 GIVE NEXT APPLICATION SNAPSHOT:

71 applications received from **54** nonprofits for a total of **\$289,941** requested

Give Next Students in Action!

In February, Berthoud High School Give Next students braved the snow and cold to spend a day visiting three of the nonprofits that applied for grants related to their classroom's mission, to provide both immediate relief and long-term solutions for families experiencing homelessness in Larimer County. Students traveled from Berthoud to Fort Collins using the FLEX and MAX public transport systems to build their understanding of getting around on public transportation. Students met with representatives from the Food Bank for Larimer County, KidSpak and FoCo Café. They brought scarves made in the school's Compassionate Makerspace to FoCo Café's Warm Wishes Project. Students also met with representatives from the City of Fort Collins about homelessness and toured the CSU Office of Student Leadership, Involvement and Community Engagement. By the end the day they had learned more about the issue and were thinking of ways to continue their lives as engaged, community philanthropists.



Give Next Students from Berthoud High School | Photo Courtesy of Carin Barrett

Other highlights:

- Students have many creative fundraising ideas to raise additional grantmaking dollars. At Cache La Poudre Middle School, a quick end-of-day donut sale that raised a few hundred dollars was a huge hit with the kids! At High Plains, students made and sold Christmas tree ornaments with important messages about giving.
- Students at Poudre Community Academy made and donated 220 handmade bowls to the recent Food Bank for Larimer County's Empty Bowls fundraiser as another way to support an important cause.
- One middle school student turned his grief into action after losing an uncle to suicide. Since joining Give Next, he has become a champion for raising awareness about suicide prevention.

GIVE NEXT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A dedicated volunteer team that is responsible for fundraising for classroom donations.

Kris Cord, *Community Volunteer*

Tara Deeney, *Community Volunteer*

Stephanie Dohn-Augusto, *Dohn Construction, Inc.*

Paula Edwards, *Community Volunteer*

Mary Jackson (Chair), *Community Volunteer*

Denise Juliana, *Eide Bailly, LLP*

Leslie Kulbeck, *The Group, Inc.*

Dawn Paepke, *Kaiser Permanente*

Nancy Patton, *Public Service Credit Union*

Sheila Pottorff, *Poudre School District*

Lauren Roesener, *Ninja, LLC*

Cheryl Zimlich, *Bohemian Foundation*

We are recruiting for new advisory committee members! For more information about joining the committee please contact us:

Jodie Riesenberger
jodie@bohemianfoundation.org
970-221-2636

CLASSROOM DONOR PROFILE:

SERIMUS
FOUNDATION • WE SOW SEEDS

Since becoming a classroom donor in 2014, Serimus Foundation has provided \$26,000 to Give Next classrooms. Those classrooms have raised an additional \$4,000 to use towards their grantmaking. With the support and trust of Serimus Foundation, the total funds have supported organizations working on mental health, drug abuse prevention, suicide prevention, youth mentorship, and homelessness.

"As a donor, the reward of getting to really watch students light up about a cause is amazing. And to see them at the end of the year give out the grant checks and take pride in the extra money that they raised to further their grantmaking is exciting."

– Kirsten Bump, Program Director,
Serimus Foundation

IN THE NEWS

BizWest showcased two articles about Give Next in their 2018 Giving Guide.

To read the articles, visit:

https://bizwest.com/category/special_publications/publications-giving_guide/



WHAT'S NEXT?

Give Next classrooms will host award ceremonies late April through early May. If you are a current Give Next donor, please keep an eye out for an invitation. If you are thinking about becoming a donor and would like to attend a ceremony, please contact us at givenext@bohemianfoundation.org.



262 E. Mountain Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80524
970-221-2636 • www.givenextnoco.org



Follow us on Facebook for more updates and highlights: www.facebook.com/givenextnoco