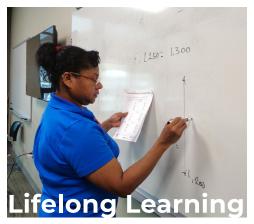


## Annual Report 2018

## listening, learning, growing













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# building community...



2018 was a challenging year for immigrant families across the country. The policy of family separation on the southern border was heartbreaking, particularly for those who have their own memories of being separated from loved ones while working to make a better life for their families. In times like these, we are reminded of the power of community. Strong communities support their smallest and most vulnerable members. Strong communities recognize the value that all members bring, and harness those strengths for the benefit of all. Strong communities embrace diversity.

Our work in the past year reminded us of the strength of our extended Roaring Fork Valley community. In August, after a wildfire ripped through the communities of El Jebel and Basalt, over 170 volunteers from Rifle to Aspen rallied together with Valley Settlement, Eagle County, The Colorado Health Foundation, KaBOOM! and Crawford Properties to build a playground in one day for the children of El Jebel. It was an exhausting, inspiring, uplifting experience, and its impact will be felt for years to come. Community-building events like this offer an opportunity for people from different cultures and backgrounds to socialize and work together.

We are constantly inspired by the dedication of our participants, staff, donors, and volunteers to building a stronger, more inclusive community in the Roaring Fork Valley. This community is being built at the grassroots level. People supporting people, coming together to work toward collective goals. Each individual in our Valley Settlement community strives to improve life for those around them. Our donors and partners support these efforts, sometimes reaching across states to help strengthen our valley. We are proud to engage with families and other organizations in this work, moving toward an inclusive community where everyone has an equitable opportunity to thrive.

### Remembering Nancy Rae Reinisch



Nancy Rae Reinisch was a powerhouse. The two-time breast cancer survivor competed in triathlons for more than half of her life. In 2018, she successfully completed her 100<sup>th</sup> Triathlon, and used the occasion to raise money for Valley Settlement's emergency response to the Lake Christine fire. Nancy lived a full and generous life. Her long, complex dance with cancer ended on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. We remember her with this conversation about her 100<sup>th</sup> Triathlon and her compassion for the more vulnerable members of our community.

"I realize that cancer is only one of a million different challenges and adversities that people have to endure in their lives. Our exact challenges may be different but our emotions are the same. We feel afraid, confused, mad, sad, desperate, discouraged. Those same

emotions were happening to all the folks affected by the Lake Christine Fire last fall. I hoped I could do something helpful for Valley Settlement while raising money and motivation to cross my 100th finish line.

My Roaring Fork Women's Tri Team were all there at the race and they made a huge finish line banner for me. All the yelling and whooping made me feel like a million bucks. I was so proud of myself and was hopeful that I might be a role model for others suffering adversity. The phrase, 'put one foot in front of the other' is truly the best mantra for getting through life's ups and downs.

Valley Settlement works from a community centered model where you 'see one, learn one and then teach one.' Your volunteers know best what their neighbors and community needs and they have stepped up to serve. I think that is wonderful! At this time in our country where there remains lots of negativity towards immigrants, Valley Settlement is a diamond in the rough program that promotes positivity." We miss you, Nancy

Alma....established 2018



In 2018, Alma, a peer-delivered, one-on-one support program for Latinas who are living with untreated perinatal depression, brought hope and solutions to 20 women.

"These moms are motivated, they want to continue moving forward, and they strive every day to do so. They inspire me...to me, wow—this program is magic."—Alma compañera

#### Family, Friends and Neighbors.....established 2017



Twenty informal, home-based child care providers received in-home coaching to increase their core childcare skills and improve safety, health, wellness, and developmental outcomes for the roughly 120 children they care for.

"I gained knowledge, I became a better person, and I can provide better care to the children."

#### Learning with Love.....established 2014



In this early childhood parent education and home visiting program, parents of 48 infants and toddlers reported feeling empowered, supported, and more involved in their child's education.

"I feel more confident in myself, more confident when helping my son with his development, and I am more sociable."

#### Lifelong Learning.....established 2013



Over 100 adult learners gained useful math, computer, and language skills, and showed increased parental self-esteem and parent involvement in their children's education.

"Taking these classes was really valuable, meeting new people, improving my English, and improving as a person."

#### Parent Mentor.....established 2012



Sixty adults volunteered in classrooms to support elementary school children. Parents gained increased confidence and engagement in their child's education, children saw academic gains, and 100% of teachers valued the program.

"I gained confidence and trust in the teachers and children and saw them learn."

#### El Busesito Preschool.....established 2012

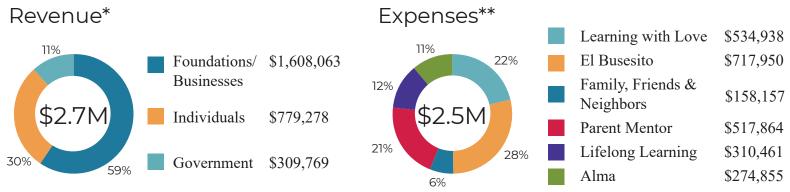


Ninety-six children attended preschool in mobile El Busesito Preschool classrooms. Children became ready for kindergarten and parents were highly satisfied with the program and increased their involvement in their child's education.

"My son knows the numbers, speaks English and Spanish, and is more kind."

## from the ground

### 2018 Financial Snapshot



<sup>\*</sup>Revenue represents all gifts & grants allocated for 2018, and not the booked revenue amount.

These numbers are based on year-end estimates before auditing. A complete audit of Valley Settlement's financials will be available in June of 2019, upon request.

### Thank you to our community of supporters

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\*An Advised Fund of the Aspen Community Foundation

<sup>\*\*</sup>Expenses represent the fully burdened cost of each program, which includes general & administrative and fundraising costs.