



2017

Fiscal Year Annual Report
July 2016-June 2017

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MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Dear Chinook Fund community,

A new generation of people are seeing and experiencing the importance and effectiveness of grassroots community mobilizing. The current political and social moment recalls why the Chinook Fund was established in 1987.

In 2016, the Chinook Fund established the Giving Project as an extraordinary opportunity for a diverse group of people of all income levels to come together and learn that social change happens best when it is constituent-led, community-wide, and designed to address root causes of oppression. In fiscal year 2017, we successfully completed our second and third Giving Project cycles. Each cycle was characterized by high energy and passion, increased fundraising capabilities, and fostered new commitment to social justice in Colorado.

The Chinook Fund experienced some important changes in 2017. After seven years as our Executive Director, Nora Bashir stepped down. The Board of Directors is grateful and appreciative of Nora's passion and commitment. A key strength of a strong leader is their ability to build up the leaders around them. Because of the groundwork laid by Chinook Fund's leaders we are confident about the future, aware of our challenges and opportunities, and ready to find our next powerful Executive Director.

In 2018, we plan to take Chinook Fund from the best kept secret in Colorado to the most visible leader and funder of grassroots social change! We invite you to join us in that vision by sharing information about the Giving Project with your networks and attending our upcoming events. As always, we are excited to start this new year with you.

Sincerely,



Nancy Hernandez
BOARD CHAIR



ABOUT CHINOOK FUND

MISSION

Chinook Fund supports grassroots organizations working on issues of social and economic justice; by pooling our collective resources, we seed groups making a positive, systemic impact to improve the quality of life for all Coloradans.



GIVEN



GRANTS



ORGANIZATIONS

HISTORY

Chinook Fund was established in 1987 by a group of thoughtful donors who built the organization around a grantmaking model that places funding decisions in the hands of community members.

For over 30 years, Chinook Fund has relied on this model of community-led grantmaking to provide financial support and organizational assistance to grassroots groups working toward social change. We prioritize community organizing as the core strategy to engage and empower these organizations to advance equality and overcome injustice.

OUR PEOPLE

STAFF



Nora Bashir
Executive Director
Sept. 2013-Nov. 2017



Deme Yuan
Giving Project Director
Oct. 2015-Dec. 2016



S. Juliette Lee
Program Director



Jessica Nelson
Operations &
Grants Manager



Chelsea Manley
Events & Communications
Coordinator

BOARD

Nancy Hernandez
Board Chair
Brenda Sears
May 2013-Aug. 2017

Anaya Robinson
Board Treasurer
Courtney Banayad

Ken Stern
Mac Liman

Sierra Fleenor

VOLUNTEERS

Amanda Rossow
Christa Apone
Jennifer Lee

Julian Degroot-Lutzner
Lucy Loomis
Marcela Onate-Trules

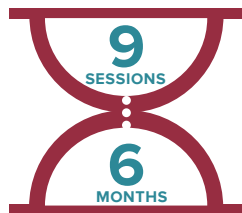
Nirvana Bhatia
Rebecca Saltman
Scott Lynch

Veronica Fernandez-Diaz

THE GIVING PROJECT

ABOUT

The Giving Project is an innovative model for funding social change, building community, and fostering leaders. It brings together a multi-racial, cross-class group of people to strengthen their skills in fundraising, grantmaking, and movement building. They develop a shared analysis of race, class, and power, then collectively raise and grant money to organizations working for systemic change in Colorado.



ANALYSIS

Build shared analysis of race and class.

Build a cross-class, cross-race social justice philanthropic community.

SKILL BUILDING

Learn and practice the ideas of grassroots fundraising.

Learn about the Chinook Fund grantmaking process & social justice philanthropy.

Call or email the Program Director, **Juliette Lee**, to set up an informational meeting:

303-455-6905 x2
sjlee@chinookfund.org



ACTION

Utilize a democratic grantmaking process to review, discuss and select grantees.

Raise funds for the grant pool.

OUR COHORTS

FALL 2016



Alyssa Valdez
Brea Zeise
Desirae Salazar-Sarabia
Emily Elsenbast
Erik Ortiz
Hana Dansky
Jason Barth

Kathleen Ferrick
LaRae Martinez
LeRita Cavness
Megan Garn
Meghan Carrier
Shay Gonzales
Shalelia Dillard



\$51,050
COLLECTIVELY RAISED
FOR GRANTS



10
ORGANIZATIONS
FUNDED

SPRING 2017



Angela Schreffler
Bailey Connor
Cassandra Cordova
Clarence Mills
David B. Weaver
Elizabeth Crowe
Elizabeth Sterling
Emily Treece
Erika Daggett
Heather Schreck
Jennifer Bell

Katie Terrazas Hoover
Kimiko Tanabe
Lindsay Fallon
Luis Ponce
Mahi Palanisami
Mary Miller
Melanie Archuleta
Neal Feldman
Sachi Ishida
Vikki Fininen
Zach Booz



\$73,700
COLLECTIVELY RAISED
FOR GRANTS



19
ORGANIZATIONS
FUNDED

OUR GRANTEES

ARTS, CULTURE & MEDIA

CAFÉ CULTURA \$5,500

ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

MOTUS THEATER \$5,500

ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

MINOR DISTURBANCE \$4,700

ESTABLISHED

THEATRE ESPRIT ASIA \$4,700

ESTABLISHED

CREATIVE STRATEGIES FOR CHANGE \$2,750

START-UP

YOUR COLFAX NEWS \$2,000

START-UP

PROJECT AVA \$1,000

START-UP

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

COLORADO CIRCLES FOR CHANGE \$5,500

FORMALLY KNOWN AS VORP; ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

DENVER JUSTICE PROJECT \$2,400

START-UP

ABOVE WATERS PROJECT

\$1,600

START-UP

DISABILITY RIGHTS

ATLANTIS ADAPT

\$5,500

ESTABLISHED

ECONOMIC JUSTICE/WORKER RIGHTS

EL CENTRO HUMANITARIO

\$7,300

ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & LAND RIGHTS

CONEJOS CLEAN WATER

\$7,300

ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

COLORADO JOBS WITH JUSTICE

\$5,500

ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

GREENLEAF

\$5,500

ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

WOODBINE ECOLOGY CENTER

\$2,400

START-UP

FALL 2016 & SPRING 2017

DENVER PERMACULTURE GUILD
START-UP

\$1,000

AURARIA CASA MAYAN HERITAGE
START-UP

\$1,600

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

COMPAÑEROS
ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

\$7,300

EL CENTRO AMISTAD
ESTABLISHED

\$6,300

HISPANIC AFFAIRS PROJECT
ESTABLISHED, MULTI-YEAR

\$5,500

LGBTQIA+ JUSTICE; ANTI-OPPRESSION

INTERFAITH ALLIANCE OF COLORADO
ESTABLISHED

\$6,300

DENVER HOMELESS OUT LOUD
ESTABLISHED

\$6,300

MONTBELLO ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
ESTABLISHED

\$4,000

SATYA YOGA
START-UP

\$2,000

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

PROJECT VOYCE
ESTABLISHED

\$5,500

AL FRENTE DE LUCHA
ESTABLISHED

\$4,700

YAASPA
START-UP

\$3,500

INSPIRE
START-UP

\$1,600

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING:

A process that brings together exploited or oppressed people to change systems or institutions that affect their lives and communities through grassroots mobilization and actions that demonstrate collective power.

30 PLUS CHANGE



We officially kicked off a new decade of social change with a historic community building effort on June 3rd. We're proud to have hosted 34 grantee agencies at our Anniversary Grantee Gathering before filling the Redline Art Gallery with more than 200 community leaders and activists, to commemorate Chinook Fund's 30 years of social justice feats. Together, we raised over \$25,000 and built ongoing support for our commitment to make Colorado a better place for everyone.

“

We are not just about the here and now, but a reflection of our past and future to listen, to witness and to recognize. To witness the fearless visionaries. To recognize the power of Chinook Fund, to help convert shared beliefs and progressive ideals to collective action through our front line investments in grassroots community organizing.

- Nora Bashir, Executive Director, 30 Plus Change



30 YEARS OF SOCIAL IMPACT

Measuring social change is much like doing the work – a multi-faceted, interdisciplinary approach is necessary to capture the full range of our efforts.

When looking at our impacts, we at Chinook Fund like to say that the who we fund is only half of the story; the other crucial half is how we fund. Over 30 years, we have deftly honed our criteria to reflect effective community organizing and advocacy as reflected by our philosophy and practice.

All of our grantees, including the groups highlighted in the following timeline snapshots, embody our guidelines of being *Constituent-Led*, *Community-Wide*, and creating a *Lasting Effect*.

The events and organizations highlighted in the following pages are just the beginning of a large undertaking here at Chinook Fund to categorize and display the long-term effect of our funding and community engagement. While we know as well as you that this work is far from over, we celebrate the great strides made over the last 30 years by our grantees and community.

To interact with the full timeline, visit: timeline.chinookfund.org

To contribute to the impact, visit: chinookfund.org/donate-now

CHINOOK FUND



Chinook Fund Founded

1987

Chinook Fund is created by people of wealth committed to changing power dynamics by putting grantmaking power in the hands of communities most impacted by oppression. Modeled after the Funding Exchange, Chinook Fund joins a network of sister funds across the country funding social justice community organizing.



A Firm Stance

2006

Chinook Fund continues to be visibly radical as a funder and community organization, publicly taking a stand on immigration, marriage equality, and many other controversial issues in Colorado.

1987

1990-2002

2006

Beginning of Grantmaking

1990

Chinook Fund begins its legacy by funding community organizing groups across Colorado through an activist-led Grantmaking Committee (GMC). A trendsetter in Colorado, we are the only foundation at the time shifting power dynamics to ensure the committee holds full grantmaking power.



Resources to Expand

1995

Chinook fund support, resources, and community grow to such a level that we buy a house to create more intentional community space for our grantmaking.

Education as a Radical Act

2002

Chinook Fund's grantmaking program is so successful that volunteers and grantees ask for additional education from our staff and communities. Chinook Fund responds by piloting an anti-oppression education program.



From GMC to The Giving Project

2015

Grantmaking committee members, past and current volunteers, donors, and community members are brought in to large dialogue to gauge community support for implementation of a new model of grantmaking – The Giving Project. Board approves piloting of The Giving Project model for 2016 spring grantmaking cycle. This model brings in new volunteers and incorporates aspects of the Social Justice Institute and a model from Social Justice Fund, which Chinook Fund now partners with for guidance. Giving Project volunteers fundraise grant dollars and make grants through Chinook Fund's community process.

2013



Critical Funding

2013

Chinook Fund continues to take risks in funding start-up, grassroots organizations creating community-led solutions to injustice. We are first funders for the HIV/AIDS movement, LGBTQIA+ justice, homelessness activism, food justice, and many more.

2015

2017

30 Years of Change

2017

Chinook Fund celebrates 30 years as Colorado's premier local social justice funder – giving out 2.9 million to 333 organizations in the form of 888 grants.



LGBTQIA+ JUSTICE

Organizing to Educate around the HIV/AIDS Epidemic

1987

Grantee Changemakers: ACT-UP DENVER-AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, CGLTF- Colorado Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Walking Tall

Chinook Fund quickly recognized the need to support the LGBTQ movement in Denver. During the Reagan era, a time when Americans were witnessing a conservative shift in politics that closely resembled the closeted culture of the '50s, Chinook Fund began moving resources to grassroots organizations' addressing civil rights issues and responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Anti-Discrimination Act

2007

Grantee Changemakers: Speakers Project to End Discrimination, Transgender Rights Legal Defense & Education Project. Four Corners Safe School Coalition, Survivors Organizing for Liberation

Through their efforts and advocacy, grassroots organizations in Denver play a central role in passing Colorado's Anti-Discrimination Act and Employment Nondiscrimination Act, adding protections for sexual orientation and transgender identities in the workplace, areas of housing, and public accommodations.

1987

Amendment 2 Resistance

1992

Grantee Changemakers: Four Corners Action Coalition, Gender Identity Center, Le Gente Unida, Lambda Community Center, Pueblo After 2, Western Equality, GLBT Community Services Center of Denver, Equality Colorado, Black Mens XChange, Ground Zero

After 53% of Colorado voters approve Amendment 2, Chinook Fund provides more grants to LGBTQIA+ organizations across the state than all previous years combined.

1992-2006

Amendment 2 Unconstitutional

1996

Grantee Changemakers: Colorado Safe School Coalition, Inside/Out Youth Services

The U.S. Supreme Court hears the case for Amendment 2 and rules it unconstitutional. Our community gains some momentary relief, but continues planting seeds for justice and preparing for the battles ahead.

2007

Amendment 43 Resistance

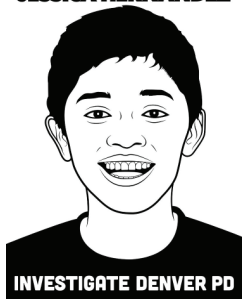
2006

Grantee Changemakers: Simple Justice, Two Spirit Society of Denver

Amendment 43 passes, adding a new section to the Colorado constitution banning same-sex marriage. Chinook Fund's roots within the LGBTQIA+ community begin to deepen as we support our grantees fighting on the front lines of civil rights obstruction.



JUSTICE FOR
JESSICA HERNANDEZ



Justice 4 Nate & Jessie Vive

2014

Grantee Changemakers: Survivors Organizing for Liberation
(formerly known as Colorado Anti-Violence Program)

On March 1st, 2014, Nate Mancha defended himself against a homophobic hate crime. Nate was arrested and remained in jail for almost 9 months until his trial. The jury came back with a guilty verdict for 1st degree Felony Assault charge. On Dec 12th, Nate was given the maximum sentence of 32 years. Nate's support campaign continues through 2017.

Jessie Hernandez was a young queer Latina who was murdered by the Denver Police Department on January 26, 2015. The fight for justice for Jessie's family and community continues through 2017.

2013



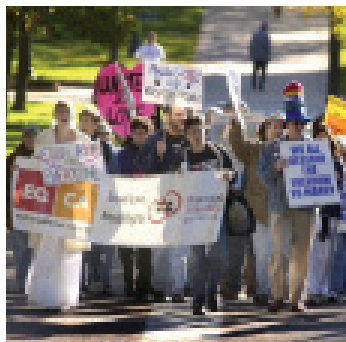
Civil Union Act

2013

Grantee Changemakers: Colorado Legal Initiatives Project, PFLAG Denver, Southern Colorado Equality Alliance

Recognition and respect for the LGBTQ community in Denver emerges prominently as Colorado adopts the Civil Union Act in 2013, establishing relationship recognition for same-sex couples.

2014



2017

Transgender Justice

2017

Changemakers: You

As we celebrate 30 years of social justice successes, we keep in mind the pervasive nature of systemic oppression. Now that transgender rights have become the focus of the latest struggle between federal and state lawmakers, Chinook Fund is determined to keep fighting the good fight for equality and remains dedicated to another 30 Plus years of progressive change across Colorado.

IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

Immigration Act of 1990

1990

Grantee Changemakers: Colorado Progressive Coalition, Colorado Refugee Coalition, Colorado Coalition Against English Only

Chinook Fund celebrated with the nation when Congress passed the Immigration Act of 1990, which increased available visas by 40 percent, retained family reunification as the major entry path, doubled employment-related immigration, and was the first immigration law to address intersectionality by removing homosexuality as a reason to disqualify foreigners from immigrating or even visiting the United States.

PATRIOT & DREAM Acts

2001

Grantee Changemakers: Pueblo Immigrante en Marcha, Colorado Progressive Coalition, Rights for All People, El Centro Amistad, El Centro Humanitario

The passing of the PATRIOT Act leaves immigrant communities susceptible to unjust targeting and treatment by law enforcement and government agencies. Chinook Fund continues to lead the resistance by funding local immigrant and refugee rights movements. With unwavering support and aid from grassroots organizations across the nation, the DREAM Act is first introduced in Congress.

1990

1996

2001



National Regression

1996

Grantee Changemakers: Rights for All People, Compañeros Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center

Three major bills pass that lay the framework for the modern deportation spikes we still see today. The Illegal Immigration Reform, Immigrant Responsibility Act, Anti-Terrorism Act and Effective Death Penalty Act increased the imprisonment of non-violent, non-criminal immigrants and allowed for the deportation of immigrants with minor crimes. These laws made it significantly easier to deport people and a lot harder for unauthorized immigrants to 'get legal,' ultimately resulting in the deportation of 200,000. This same year, Chinook Fund begins funding two organizations; Rights for All People and Companeros Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center. Twenty years later, these two organizations are still leading the fight for Immigrant rights across our state.

Raids in Colorado

2013

Chinook Fund Changemakers: AJUA, Burma Community Rangers, Global Refugee Center, Compañeros Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center, Somali American Community Center of Colorado, Hispanic Affairs Project

Raids continue throughout Colorado. Immigrants are deported and detained, but Chinook Fund grantees are leading the way advocating for changes in legislation and educating populations in cities and rural areas of Colorado with Know Your Rights trainings as part of their action.

Expansion of DACA

2014

Grantee Changemakers: Hispanic Affairs Project, Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition, Rights for All People, Compañeros, El Centro AMISTAD

The Executive Action creating Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and programs allowing undocumented immigrants to qualify for deferred action and apply for work permits is huge step for immigrant rights; this progress is directly linked to organizing work on a local level by Chinook Fund grantees and coalitions who worked tirelessly to inform lawmakers of their issues and community-driven solutions.

2006-2007



Comprehensive Immigration Reform

2006-2007

Grantee Changemakers: We are America Alliance, El Centro AMISTAD, El Centro Humanitario Para Los Trabajadores, Companeros Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center, Pueblo Immigrante

Demonstrations erupt nationwide as immigrants and allies rally for immigration reform. Chinook Fund visibly participates at the forefront of actions and rallies in support of the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act.

2013-2014

2017

Openly Hostile Administration

2017

Changemakers: *You*

As we celebrate 30 years of social justice successes and continued resistance, we cannot ignore the current climate regarding immigration in our country. It is imperative that Colorado continue to protect our most marginalized communities and fight unlawful and unjust legislation that directly targets these populations. Chinook Fund remains dedicated to another 30 Plus Years of immigrant justice across Colorado.

DISABILITY JUSTICE

Civil Disobedience

1987

Grantee Changemakers: Atlantis Community, Atlantis ADAPT

Over the course of seven years of direct action, ADAPT (Americans Disabled for Accessible Public Transit), rises in the national spotlight demanding access to public transit in Denver.



1987

Olmstead Supreme Court Case

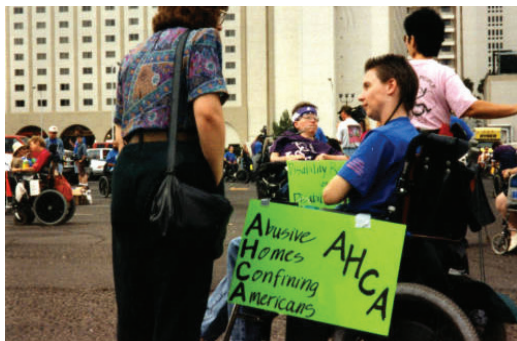
1999

Grantee Changemakers: Atlantis ADAPT, Capitol Hill Action & Recreation Group, Domestic Violence Initiative for Women with Disabilities, Sangre de Cristo Independent Living Center, Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition, DCRA @ Ctr for Community Development, Disability Careers, Inc., Denver Center For Independent Living, NAMI-Colorado

A United States Supreme Court case regarding discrimination held that under the Americans with Disability Act, individuals with mental disabilities have the right to live in the community rather than in institutions.

1990

1999



Americans with Disabilities Act

1990

Grantee Changemakers: Atlantis ADAPT, Domestic Violence Initiative for Women with Disabilities, People First, Capitol Hill Action & Recreation Group

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is Civil Rights legislation that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in employment, transportation, public accommodations, communications, and government activities. This milestone is directly attributable to direct action by Atlantis ADAPT.

Money Follows the Person

2005

Grantee Changemakers: DBA BrainStorm Career Services, ARC of Larimer County, Atlantis ADAPT, Family Voices Colorado, Domestic Violence Initiative for Women with Disabilities

Money Follows the Person (MFP) is integrated into healthcare funding. MFP is part of a comprehensive, coordinated strategy to assist U.S. states to make widespread changes to their long-term care support systems. This initiative will assist states in their efforts to reduce their reliance on institutional care, while developing community-based long-term care opportunities, thus enabling the elderly and people with disabilities to fully participate in their communities.

Community First Choice Option (CFCO)

2013

Grantee Changemakers: Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition, Atlantis ADAPT, Domestic Violence Initiative for Women with Disabilities, Family Voices Colorado

CFCO will move the Home and Community-Based Services waiver into the Medicaid state plan. These services include hands-on assistance, safety monitoring, queuing for assistance with activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living and health related functions based on functional needs, not diagnosis or age.

2005-2013

2017

Affordable Care Act

2017

Grantee Changemakers: Atlantis ADAPT, Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition

18 disability rights advocates were arrested protesting Colorado representative support of the repeal of the ACA. Due in a large part to the demonstrations of Chinook Fund grantee activists, the ACA lives on, ensuring that those who need care are still covered.



Healthcare is a Civil Right

2017

Changemakers: *You*

As we celebrate 30 years of fighting for what is right for our most vulnerable populations in Colorado, Chinook Fund is determined to keep fighting the good fight and remains dedicated to another 30 Plus years of progressive disability rights work for Coloradoans

WORKER JUSTICE

Jobs with Justice

1987

Grantee Changemakers: Proyecto de Poder Trabajador Agricola, Colorado Labor Forum, Colorado Jobs with Justice

In addition to Chinook Fund's creation in 1987, the national organization, Jobs with Justice, also formed with the goals of creating a sustainable, powerful network of grassroots coalitions to strengthening the movement for workers' rights, economic justice, and our democracy.



Making Change at Walmart & OUR Walmart

2005

Grantee Changemakers: 9 to 5 Colorado, Colorado ACORN, Elyria/Swansea/Globeville, People United for Families, Boulder Living Wage Campaign, Colorado Jobs with Justice, El Centro Humanitario Para Los Trabajadores)

Making Change at Walmart & OUR Walmart are created to create economic change in targeting this large organization for economic reform.

1987

Civil Rights Act Passed

1991

Grantee Changemakers: Coal Employment Project / Colorado Women Miners Support Group, Colorado Labor Forum, Greeley Comm. Study Group for Social Change, HOPE Alive, National Farmers Union, Proyecto de Poder Trabajador Agricola, San Luis Valley Christian Community Services, 9 to 5, Colorado Jobs with Justice

Civil Rights Act is passed which expands the rights of employees who sue their employers for discrimination.

1991-1993

Family and Medical Leave Act

1993

Grantee Changemakers: Coal Employment Project / Colorado Women Miners Support Group, Colorado Labor Forum, Greeley Comm. Study Group for Social Change, HOPE Alive, National Farmers Union, Proyecto de Poder Trabajador Agricola, San Luis Valley Christian Community Services, 9 to 5, Colorado Jobs with Justice

The FMLA federally requires employers to provide employees with job-protected and unpaid leave for qualified medical and family reasons. Coalitions built amongst many grantee partners ensured this bill was passed.

2005



Surge in Grassroots Organizing 2012

Grantee Changemakers: Colorado Jobs with Justice, 9 to 5

Fight for 15 is created to push for \$15 minimum wage across the U.S. The Debt- Free Future Campaign begins campaigning for mechanisms to reduce student debt. 'Ban the Box' campaign is signed by Gov. Hickenlooper, and coalition of worker rights organizations and civic engagement efforts reach 250,000 Colorado voters.

Amendment 70 2016

Grantee Changemakers: Colorado Jobs with Justice, Colorado People's Alliance, Interfaith Alliance of Colorado

Passage of Amendment 70 institutes a plan to reach a \$12 minimum wage by 2020, Supreme Court rejects home care exclusion of caregivers from minimum wage and overtime protections.

2009-2010

2012-2016

2017



POWER Act Introduced 2009-2010

Grantee Changemakers: 9 to 5 Colorado, Colorado Jobs with Justice Colorado ACORN, El Centro Humanitario Para Los Trabajadores

Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act is signed into law by President Obama, it rolled back severe restrictions on the time-period for filing complaints of employment discrimination concerning compensation, Protect Our Workers from Exploitation and Retaliation Act (POWER Act) is first introduced to congress.

Protecting the Working Class 2017

Changemakers: You

A plan to reach a minimum wage of \$12 is a good start for Colorado workers but we know there are many other issues that must be addressed to protect and support our working class identities – particularly around the intersectionality of race, gender, sexual orientation, and undocumented status. Chinook Fund grantees are hard at work canvassing, educating, organizing, and demanding change from legislators and fellow Coloradans.

ARTS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Meaningful Legacy

1987-1990

Grantee Changemakers: Su Teatro, Colorado Black Arts Festival, Terra Infirma, Chicano Humanities & Arts Council, Ya Basta, Eulipilons

Chinook Fund values artistic movements as large cultural connectors of different social movements and begins funding key players in the growing Chicano and Black Arts Movements in Denver and across Colorado.

Beyond Performance

1987-1990

Grantee Changemakers: Montelibre Monthly, Nuclear Arsenal Project, Radical Information Project Bookstore, KGNU, KRZA, Social Issues Forum

In addition to creating a legacy of funding performance-based arts organizations working for social change, Chinook Fund intentionally supports publications and amplifiers of anti-oppressive rhetoric.

Resisting the Anti-Immigrant Climate

2000-2006

Grantee Changemakers: Barrio Warriors de Aztlan, Asistencia Para Latinos, Andy Zanca Youth Empowerment Program, Su Teatro

The Chicano arts movement builds momentum as a powerful force to demonstrate change, merging with the Immigrant Justice movement; coalition and community-building reaches a new height during the immigration reform marches.

1987-1990



1991-1993

Native Expression

1991-1993

Grantee Changemakers: Native Monthly Reader, Aztlan Visions, Four Winds Survival Project, Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council, Adobe de Oro-Concilio de Artes

Native organizing and arts collaboration rises in funding precedence as Chinook Fund grants funds to multiple start-up organizations based in indigenous communities.

2000-2006





Focus on Youth

2008-2017

Grantee Changemakers: Café Cultura, Slam Nuba, Creative Strategies for Change, Andy Zanch Youth Empowerment Program, Represent! Represent!, Youth on Record, Flobots, Art-N-Motion Art Collective, Celebrate Possibility, Move Mountains Projects, Project VOYCE, Big Hair, Bigger Dreams

Chinook Fund's Grantmaking Committee (GMC) notices a shift in applicants and grantees to create more youth centered arts and engagement programming that serves exclusively oppressed identities.



Asian American Theatre

2012

Grantee Changemakers: Theatre Esprit Asia, Boulder Asian Pacific Alliance

The Southwest's first Asian American focused Theatre company is formed, Theatre Esprit Asia.

2009-2010

2008-2017

2015-2017



Emerging Media

2015-2017

Grantee Changemakers: Your Colfax News, Community Resources for Action, Volunteerism, and Education, The Institute for Media and Education Justice

As we become more immersed in new forms of media and methods of communication, community organizing opportunities are capitalized by innovative new organizations who are reaching more constituents and opening up possibilities to partner organizations to grow their reach and impact.

Arts & Disruption

2017

Changemakers: You

No medium has the capacity to engage the hearts and minds of the public like that of a well-told story. Chinook Fund provides a space for grantees to share their stories each year at our Grantee Celebration, Seeding Change. We all must continue to create avenues for traditionally silenced voices to share their truth.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM



The New Jim Crow

1990

Prison population doubles over the span of 5 years because of the Mielke Bill (which doubled prison sentences for felony offenses) and the privatization of prisons in the 70s and 80s. Criminal Justice reform is in its early stages in Colorado.

Ban the Box

2012

Grantee Changemakers: Colorado People's Alliance, Interfaith Alliance of Colorado, Second Chance Center

Signed by Gov. Hickenlooper, 'Ban the Box' is an initiative aimed at persuading employers to remove from their hiring applications the check box that asks if applicants have a criminal record.

1990

Hiatus on Prison Building

1999

Grantee Changemakers: Victim Offender Reconciliation Program of Denver, Friends and Family of the Imprisoned

A bill calling for a three year hiatus on prison building in Colorado is proposed but fails in Congress.

1999-2009

Reform Efforts Increase

2003

Grantee Changemakers: Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice Center, Epimethian Press, The Color of Justice, Sensible Colorado

Parole reform bill passed, but over \$100 million in tax payer money was funneled into construction of another state penitentiary. Chinook Fund grantees lobby and educate extensively around reform efforts. Plans to build private prisons in Lamar and Pueblo are defeated because of coalition building across the state.

2012

Progress: Years 2007-2009

2007-2009

Grantee Changemakers: Victim Offender Reconciliation Program of Denver, Sensible Colorado

Reform in the system is achieved, including changes so youth at the age of 19 are sentenced through the Youthful Offender System in lieu of Adult prison. By 2009, five Colorado prisons have closed since 1989. Additionally, the End Racial Profiling Act is introduced to Congress.



Racial Justice

2015-2016

Grantee Changers: Survivors Organizing for Liberation, Victim Offender Reconciliation Program of Denver, Project VOYCE

Police brutality, particularly involving communities of color, is at the forefront of the media. In Denver, the murders of Jesse Hernandez and Paul Castaway spark community-wide outrage and organizing at the intersection of mental illness, youth, queer, native, and latinx identities.

Decriminalizing Homelessness

2016-2017

Grantee Changers: Denver Homeless Out Loud, Interfaith Alliance

Homelessness advocacy group, Denver Homeless Out Loud, leads the fight to change the system that criminalizes the growing homeless-identified community in Denver. They introduce the 'Right to Rest' bill to the state legislature and build coalitions with faith-based and racial justice organizing groups to build power. The group gains Class Action Suit status for their fight against unlawful, targeted 'Homeless Sweeps' from the City of Denver.

2014

HB1355 portion of CDOC's Reentry

2014

Grantee Changers: Second Chance Center, Victim Offender Reconciliation Program of Denver

HB1355 is passed ensuring that a significant portion of CDOC's reentry budget is allocated to community organizations (including Chinook Fund grantee, Second Chance Center). Communities Against Mass Incarceration is formed to push the Ban the Box campaign.

2015-2017

A New Approach to Crime and Justice

2017

Changers: You

The Justice Reinvestment Crime Prevention Initiative bill moves funds spent on imprisoning offenders to productive community based initiatives, like the Second Chance Center, that are designed to tackle the underlying problems that give rise to criminal behavior. This new approach to criminal justice gives local rather than central government the power to decide how money will be best spent to produce safer, more productive local communities.

2017

ENVIRONMENTAL & FOOD JUSTICE

Rural Environmentalism

1990-2000

Grantee Changemakers: Western Colorado Congress, People's Alternative Energy Services, San Juan Citizens Alliance, Terra Infirma, Environmental Information Network, High Country Citizens' Alliance, Southwest Earth First!

Organizers in the Western Slope of Colorado stand strong in the face of corporations threatening to destroy ecosystems and dump toxic waste into the air and water. Aspen clearcutting is limited to ensure public lands are protected and low-elevation canyon country is elevated to wilderness status ensuring that rural areas are protected.



Food Deserts

2009

Grantee Changemakers: Greenleaf, Eastside Growers Collective, The Growing Project

Food Justice coalesces in social justice landscapes in Denver as food deserts emerge due to gentrification, displacement, and generations of systemic racism.

1990-2000



1994-2002

Irresponsible Mining

1994

Grantee Changemakers: Alamosa Riverkeepers

Irresponsible mining practices at the Summitville mine contaminates the Alamosa River with cyanide and toxic metals. The extent of the pollution was so dire that the river was designated a Superfund site. The Alamosa Riverkeepers is formed shortly after to improve the water quality and the ecological functionality of the Alamosa River.

2009

Land Rights

2002

Grantee Changemakers: Land Rights Council

After 21 years of fighting, the original settlers of the Sangre de Cristo Land Grant retained grazing, firewood gathering, and timber harvesting rights in a supreme court decision.

Rural Organizing in Antonito

2016

Grantee Changemakers: Conejos Clean Water

Conejos Clean Water organizes their rural constituency to educate and engage around significant issues: Illegal dumping, youth engagement, land grant advocacy, and fracking.



DENVER NEEDS A 21ST CENTURY SOLUTION.
NOT ANOTHER HIGHWAY.

Ditch the Ditch Campaign

2016

Grantee Changemakers: Project VOYCE

Coalitions of community organizers, environmentalists, and youth advocates coalesce to fight proposed changes to I-70 that will drastically change Swansea, Elyria, and Globeville.

2013



Alamosa River Thrives

2013

Grantee Changemakers: Alamosa Riverkeepers, COPEEN, San Juan Citizen's Alliance, High Country Conservation Advocates, Grand Valley Citizens Alliance, Western Colorado Congress

Fish return to the Alamosa River after the entire ecosystem was decimated in the early 90s.

2016

Environmental Racism

2017

Changemakers: *You*

The impact of systemic racism intersects with access to healthy & nourishing food, green space, and disturbingly enough – clean air and clean water. Many Chinook Fund grantees listed in other areas of this program are working within their communities around issues of food and environmental justice. We all must work together to protect our earth to ensure another 30 Plus years of positive change.

2017

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

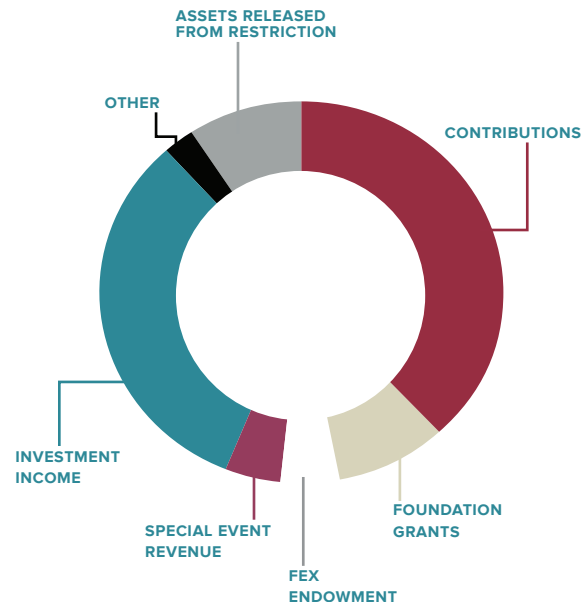
INCOME

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$216,319
FOUNDATION GRANTS	50,700
FEX ENDOWMENT	26,672
SPECIAL EVENT REVENUE	25,570
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	180,935
OTHER	14,187
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTION	
SATISFACTION OF PROGRAM RESTRICTION	51,796

TOTAL ASSETS

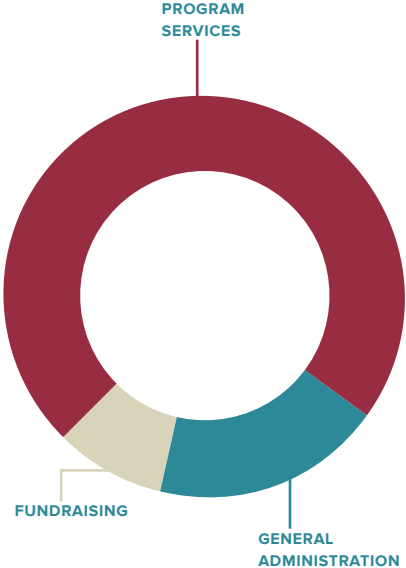
\$560,383



EXPENSES

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES:	
SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE	\$282,029
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	282,029
SUPPORTING SERVICES:	
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	73,184
FUNDRAISING	33,790
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	106,974
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$389,003
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	171,380
NET ASSETS: BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,403,390
NET ASSETS: END OF THE YEAR	\$1,574,770



SUPPORTERS AND SPONSORS

Abby Eurich
Adrian Mintzmyer
Akilan Palanisami
Alan Greenberg & Liane Morrison
Aleia Metzler
Alex Welch
Alexandra Buchanan & Zach Writer
Alice Galmeyer
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Allison Blakeney
Allison Brown & Gardner Humphreys
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