

**Estes Park Education Foundation
2020-2021 Annual Report**

Standard 16: BBB Standards for Charity Accountability

Estes Park Education Foundation	970-586-2361
PO Box 4444, Estes Park, CO 80517	1605 Brodie Avenue
epeducationfoundation.org	Estes Park, CO 80517
info@epeducationfoundation.org	

Mission: Inspiring community investment in exemplary student learning experiences today to develop our citizens of tomorrow.

Vision: With the support of our community and a high quality education, all Estes Park School District R3 students graduate as thriving, successful, responsible citizens.

Dear Friends,

2020-2021 was still significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the wildfire evacuations. Health directives restricted in-person settings and continued to present unique challenges to the school district, the community, and nonprofits. Schools began the year with Cloud School, were closed during evacuations, and gradually eased into in-person (with restrictions) by spring. Teachers, suddenly thrust into teaching online, were focused on adjusting instructional strategies and meeting the students' needs in such circumstances. Experiential learning, clubs, activities, etc. – anything in-person - were basically halted due to health directives. As a result, grant requests from the district were very few. Most district needs in relation to COVID were addressed with federal and state grants. With budgets uncertain for the 2021-2022 year, the district requested that EPEF reserve funds for that year, fearing that they won't have their usual funding to support clubs, activities, etc. Planned fundraising events were cancelled or radically modified to accommodate distance and masking restrictions. EPEF meetings continued online.

Some highlights of the year:

- Accreditation: Awarded GuideStar Gold level charity certification.
- Fundraising:
 - Events:
 - Pumpkins & Pilsners in October was usually a community-building event and EPEF's main fundraiser (netting \$28,000 in 2019). With no in-person events allowed due to the pandemic, the fundraiser was modified to a Pick-Up Party where people preordered glasses with vouchers and pumpkins, picking them up in a drive-by at the school parking lot. It netted \$8,000.
 - Polar Plunge, scheduled for February 2021, was cancelled. We arranged with Trout Haven (site of the plunge) to instead give us a portion of profits from any business generated by our promotions for patronizing

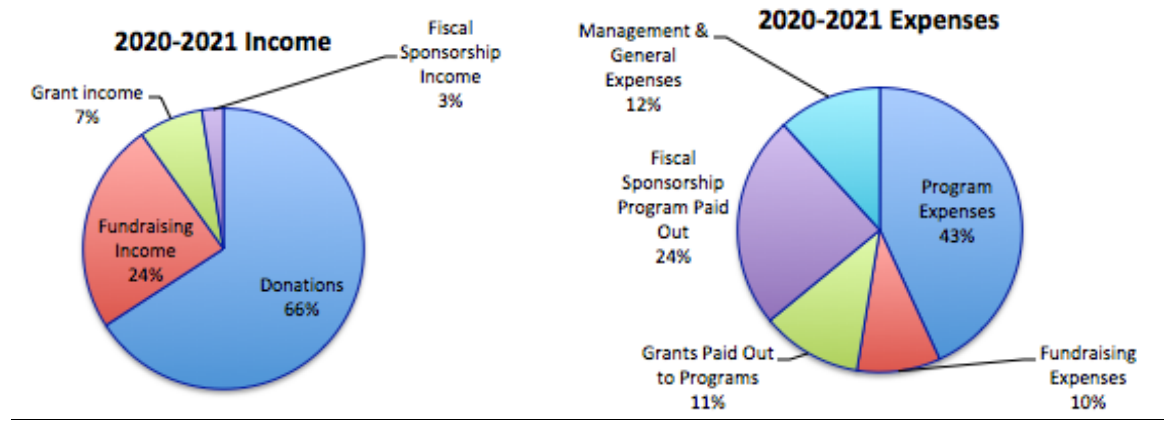
their business for ice skating, lodging, etc. Business was still down, and the project did not net any funds for us.

- Grants we received:
 - Town of Estes Park Community Initiative: \$1,000 to support the elementary school's additional responses to COVID.
 - Community Foundation of Northern Colorado: \$2,000 for the Foundant Online Scholarship Management Program for the high school.
 - Village Thrift Shop: \$2,000 for district support (returned when the teacher decided it was not needed this year).
 - Mueller, Pye, & Associates, CPA, matching grant: \$2,000 a year for 5 years to establish sustainable funding for the Advanced Foundant Program. This was postponed to 2021-2022 as the Online Scholarship Management program was pushed to 2021-2022 due to COVID and evacuations disrupting the training schedule too much.
- Donations:
 - Restricted funds for COVID-related expenses by the district and teacher training in bilingual-education training for teachers.
- Partnerships:
 - Estes Valley Library: EPEF contributed to the 100 Books program for 4 year olds.
- Programs funded by Pillars:
 - Experiential Learning Opportunities:
 - Suspended due to COVID restrictions.
 - Innovations in Learning:
 - Suspended due to COVID restrictions.
 - Building Community:
 - Suspended due to COVID restrictions.
- Support of District Teachers and Staff:
 - Provided \$1,000 to help replenish the elementary school's materials and supplies used by the Boys & Girls Club in providing on-site Cloud School access and support and after-school child care for parents who had to work in-person and/or could not get adequate Internet access (as in some mountain areas).
 - Provided a bilingual instruction resource book for ESL teacher.
 - Partnered with Village Thrift Shop to provide guitars for the high school music offering (was returned when the instructor requesting it communicated that it wasn't needed this year).
 - Partnered with local coffee businesses to give each staff member a \$10 gift card in appreciation for all that they were doing during our challenging times.
 - In the spring, we gave all 185 employees hand-written notes of appreciation.
- Student Support:
 - Provided fiscal sponsorship for Plant-a-Book, Grow-a-Child to assure that every child had a book from the book fair.

- Partnered with Estes Valley Library to provided \$1,500 for the United Thru Literacy program mailing 100 books over the year to each 4 year old in preparation for kindergarten.
- Using the NoCo grant and the Mueller matching grant, contracted with Foundant for their online scholarship Advanced Program for the high school, delaying launch till the 2021-2022 school year due to disruptions from COVID and evacuations.
- Provided \$250 from a restricted fund to the middle school summer school program to allow students to close some academic gaps exacerbated by COVID conditions.
- Wellness:
 - Provided \$500 to help offset registration costs of Girls on the Run at the elementary school to increase accessibility and participation.
- Increasing community awareness of EPEF: Used FaceBook, our website, and some media announcements to promote EPEF activities.

The following is an overview of EPEF’s income and expenses as of June 30, 2021:

INCOME:	
Donations	\$26,591
Fundraising Income:	\$9,816
Grant income	\$3,000
Fiscal Sponsorship Income:	\$1,000
Total Income	\$37,407
EXPENSES:	
Program Expenses:	\$11,282
Fundraising Expenses:	\$2,487
Grants Paid Out to Programs	\$3,000
Fiscal Sponsorship Program Paid Out: (\$5,320 was carried over)	\$6,320
Management & General Expenses:	\$3,090
Total Expenses:	\$23,179
Net Asset Balance:	\$39,139
Ratio: Fundraising costs/Fundraising income	25.3%



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John Guffey, Director
 Alyse Averdick, Director (July-Dec. 2020)
 Zach Zehr, Director
 Rachel Balduzzi, Director (Mar. 2021 to present)

Estes Park Education Foundation is tax-exempt under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.