

Economic Development Alliance Update: February 2021



NEXT INVESTOR MEETING IS 3.9.21



UPDATE FROM STAFF

Three Strategies for Next Three Years

The Alliance is headed into 2021 with a shift from reacting to strategizing in local recovery efforts and economic development moving forward. We spent a large part of 2020 going through several strategic planning sessions, resulting in an updated strategic plan with a focus on three major initiatives: supporting a housing authority/association and workforce housing efforts, increasing business capacity with a focus on La Posta road, and workforce recruitment and development through job postings for promotion. We will continue to update you frequently on these three main initiatives as we move forward throughout the next few years.

Housing data in January continued to a record breaking trend of sales and increased price (up 20%) pressure due to an all-time low in inventory (down 80%). A comprehensive view of 2020 data can be found [here](https://durangorealtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2020-Annual-Pkt.pdf). <https://durangorealtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2020-Annual-Pkt.pdf>

La Plata County Single Family Home Data for January 2021 compared to same time last year.

Single Family Key Metrics	January			Year to Date		
	2020	2021	Percent Change from Previous Year	Thru 01-2020	Thru 01-2021	Percent Change from Previous Year
New Listings	66	63	- 4.5%	66	63	- 4.5%
Sold Listings	38	53	+ 39.5%	38	53	+ 39.5%
Median Sales Price*	\$489,500	\$565,000	+ 15.4%	\$489,500	\$565,000	+ 15.4%
Average Sales Price*	\$543,860	\$655,694	+ 20.6%	\$543,860	\$655,694	+ 20.6%
Percent of List Price Received*	97.7%	98.2%	+ 0.5%	97.7%	98.2%	+ 0.5%
Days on Market Until Sale	135	88	- 34.8%	135	88	- 34.8%
Inventory of Homes for Sale	389	108	- 72.2%	--	--	--
Months Supply of Inventory	6.5	1.3	- 80.0%	--	--	--

Budget and Annual Report

More recently, we also approved an updated budget for 2021. This budget gets the Alliance back in the positive, assuming flat membership. Two draft budgets were created, one with an Economic Summit occurring in the fall, and one without. Finally, we have mailed out and released our 2020 **Annual Report**, which you can find [here](https://yeslpc.com/2020-annual-report/). <https://yeslpc.com/2020-annual-report/>

Current COVID-19 Response

Businesses were much more prepared to handle a second round of PPP loans and to capitalize on county relief funds the second time around, but the Alliance continued to provide support for businesses through this process. Most recently the Alliance has worked on the 5-star Certification Program, both in terms of getting the program running in La Plata County and helping businesses get certified. While we've seen the benefits of the program oscillate due to the prevalent changes in the state dial, we continue to see local businesses participate in the program and remain ambassadors for safe business practices during COVID times.

Next membership meeting is **March 9th at 8:00 AM.**



Municipalities

City of Durango

City accepts pro/con statements for vote on lodgers' tax
The city of Durango is accepting statements from citizens on whether they support or oppose the proposal to raise the lodgers' tax at the April 6 city election.

Councilors approved sending the proposal, question 1-A, to voters on Feb. 2. Ballot text is in the full news release. Statements can be emailed to Ballot@DurangoGov.org or mailed to Durango City Hall, 949 East 2nd Avenue, Durango, CO 81301. City Hall is open 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Statements must be submitted by noon, Friday Feb. 19 and be limited to fewer than 500 words. A summary of pro/con statements will be included on TABOR notices, which are required for ballot issues that raise taxes, and which are sent to voters before the election.

City offers utility relief credits for businesses and residents:

The City of Durango is offering up to three months of utility bill credits (water, sewer, trash and recycling) to businesses and residents financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Residents must meet income requirements to qualify. Applications will be accepted through Mar. 21, 2021. Funding is limited and credits will be offered until funding is exhausted. Full details: DurangoGov.org

The Durango Cares!

The Durango Cares! campaign promotes mask wearing as Durango's ticket to freedom, supporting community and economic health as the city continues to navigate COVID-19.

In the initial phase of the campaign, Durango Cares! ads will begin appearing on social media, Durango Transit vehicles, Durango Government Television (DGOV), advertisements, local businesses, sidewalks and more. In the coming months, the campaign will expand to include virtual and socially distanced in-person events.

Businesses, organizations and community members are welcome and encouraged to utilize Durango Cares! materials to promote mask wearing and continued vigilance in preventing spread of COVID-19. Use hashtag #durangocares on social media!

Town of Bayfield

It's been a busy start to 2021. The revised Business License Renewal Form has been sent to all businesses registered in the Town of Bayfield. The renewal forms are due back to Town Hall by February 15th.

On January 21, the Town of Bayfield experienced a large water main break at Eight Corners resulting in a system-wide water pressure drop. Although Public Works operational staff were able to isolate the break within minutes, a sudden drop in pressure within the distribution system has the potential to create a syphon or backflow.

Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations Section 11.39 requires all public water systems to develop and implement a Backflow and Cross Connection control policy to protect the public water system in case of such an event. The Town of Bayfield developed and implemented its policy in 2016. All commercial, industrial, and multi-family water customers are required to install and annually test their backflow prevention assemblies. This is to ensure proper operation of the device and to protect the community's drinking water system.

I would like to thank our commercial, industrial and multi-family customers for their assistance in protecting the Town of Bayfield's drinking water.

Town of Ignacio

The Town of Ignacio has partnered with FastTrack Communications in Durango on a State grant through the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) that, if awarded, will provide fiber optics to residences and business in Town. Delivery of fiber optic service will greatly improve broadband internet access for work or school needs within your business or home. The proposed improved service will significantly enhance your internet speeds without significant increase to your current monthly expense.

WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE in providing public comments on the current level of broadband internet access in Ignacio. The link to the DORA website where you can provide comments is <https://broadbandfund.colorado.gov/get-involved>. Please take the time to access this webpage and

provide information on your current service. Once you click the link, look for Step 3 on the left side of the page and click the hyperlink to the comment form. This should only take approximately 5 minutes of your time and would be greatly appreciated.

The FastTrack Communications grant application is W-2021-16, which is information you will need to put in the Application/Grant Number line. It is important to explain your internet challenges.

Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to provide supportive comments on this grant!

La Plata County

Commissioners seek volunteers for county boards, commissions

The Board of County Commissioners is seeking La Plata County residents who wish to serve in an advisory role on any of the following volunteer boards and commissions:

Board of Adjustment This board hears requests for variances to the La Plata County Land Use Code.

Board of Review This board hears and considers appeals of any person aggrieved by his or her inability to obtain a building permit.

Citizens Review Panel for Child Welfare Grievances This panel hears grievances concerning the conduct of La Plata County Social Services Department personnel in the performance of their duties with regard to child welfare cases. The applicant must be a parent of a minor child and have demonstrable personal or professional knowledge and experience with children.

Durango Hills Road Improvement District Advisory Committee This committee provides the Board of County Commissioners with advice and recommendations of residents of the district with regard to the annual district budget, work plan and mill levy. The committee is also responsible for coordinating and overseeing road maintenance and improvement activities as well as snow removal for those roads within the district.

Multi-Event Center Commission This commission's purpose is to develop detailed recommendations and a plan to create and fund a new county multi-event center.

Southwest Region 9 Workforce Board This board acts in an advisory capacity to the governing bodies of the five counties served by the Southwest (Region 9) Workforce Board and prepare and submit a Regional Workforce Plan.

Undesirable Plant & Rodent Advisory Commission This commission advises the Board of County Commissioners on undesirable plant and rodent control programs in La Plata County.

Complete descriptions for each board and commissions as well as an online application are available at: https://www.co.laplata.co.us/how_do_i/apply_for/boards___commissions.php

Applications are due by February 22 at noon.



Real Estate

2020 Annual Statistical MLS Data Release

Overall, in the real estate industry, the unprecedented low interest rates and lack of inventory have kept the market a healthy one and the upward trend continues. The year started out strong. In mid-March however, the world came to a pivotal point which changed all of our lives in so many ways. In the real estate industry, we were unsure how it was going to affect our local market. For a time, physically entering listings was halted and we waited daily to see how new rules would unfold. Eventually, we were able to resume showings with the guidelines that we now consider the "New Normal".

Remarkably, the market remained strong and we saw increased sales throughout the rest of the year. The numbers below show a reflection of almost every segment of the local real estate market with a significant increase in both median price as well as number of units sold. The slight exception to this is shown in the In-Town Bayfield market. The number of units was up over 31%. However, some of the sales noted were lesser priced condos and downtown properties, thus bringing the median price down slightly.

The Durango Mountain area saw a huge increase in sales. Inventory which had been on the market for longer periods of time were finally sold. It was as if everyone who had been contemplating buying in the past finally made the decision to do so. In a nutshell, buyers still outweigh the inventory. Supply and demand is what is driving the market. As long as the interest rates stay low, we anticipate a continued healthy market in our future.

For a more detailed explanation of the local market please visit www.durangorealtor.com or contact your local REALTOR for more information.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Average Sold Price	\$364,709	\$393,516	\$380,830	\$419,385	\$413,597	\$444,600	\$449,873	\$528,807	\$596,729
Median Sold Price	\$310,000	\$336,987	\$345,000	\$355,000	\$365,000	\$387,500	\$385,000	\$444,500	\$537,500
Average Days on Market	173	144	139	138	132	127	127	135	98
Median Days on Market	114	101	90	92	92	85	85	84	67

Economic Development



Durango Business Improvement District 2020 Report

2020 Report and Info- See all of the statistics that your Business Improvement District was able to do for you in the midst of “all this”. We’re here for our Downtown and North Main District. Review the report [Here. https://www.downtowndurango.org/covidresponse](https://www.downtowndurango.org/covidresponse)



Colorado’s 5 Star Certification Program encourages businesses to implement safety measures beyond what is already required by public health orders and guidelines. It allows participants to operate at the next-lower level of restrictions on Colorado’s COVID-19 dial. The program is completely voluntary and optional.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) developed the framework for the 5 Star Certification Program. La Plata County is providing tools and resources to launch the state’s program and ensure businesses have the option to become certified.

The 5 Star program was initiated and is operated by the Durango Chamber of Commerce, Durango Business Improvement District, Durango Restaurant Association, and our La Plata County Economic Development Alliance. The program has been made possible with the support of a state grant and donations from Purgatory Resort, Bank of Colorado, Bank of the San Juans, Vectra Bank, First Southwest Bank, and Alpine Bank.

The 5 Star Program is currently open to restaurants, gyms, fitness centers, and very soon, indoor events. Next, the program will begin accepting businesses categorized as personal services, as well. Businesses not yet certified are encouraged to apply at swcoda.org/5star-laplata. Certification involves submitting a cleaning schedule form with an application and an on-site inspection.

We have built a strong support system and are ready to guide your business through the state-regulated certification process if you choose to do so. Currently, La Plata County has certified 55 restaurants and 2 gyms. For more information, visit 5star-laplata — SWCODA.org

The City of Durango with Durango Business Improvement District, will bring back the Bump-Out program to downtown this spring. To support this program, the City and BID are offering matching grants - up to \$3,000 - to help offset business investment in the structures. Under new guidelines, the program will have enhanced design and safety standards, with aesthetic additions for an improved consumer experience. For more information on the program and to access the Bump-Out application and design guidelines visit: <https://www.durangogov.org/1364/Bump-outs-for-Businesses>

SBDC



While COVID has presented a lot of challenges for our business community, we have also seen many people follow their dreams and decide to start a business during this time. Do you want to start a business in Southwest Colorado? Our Leading Edge Course will help you get there.

Edge Course. The program includes:

1. 14 hours of workshop sessions and special bonus events
2. 5 hours of one-on-one consulting
3. Scheduled milestone and planning assignments

Join us on March 3rd for a free informational session about the 2021 Durango Leading Edge Course. [Register online. https://clients.coloradosbdc.org/reg.aspx?mode=event&event=170410025](https://clients.coloradosbdc.org/reg.aspx?mode=event&event=170410025)

Chamber of Commerce



LUNCH & LEARN: WAYS TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS! PRESENTED BY REGION 9

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM

Featured Speaker: Brian Rose, deputy director of Region 9

Topic: Get the latest updates on local Enterprise Zone Tax Credits & funding programs designed to help small businesses grow or pivot your business.

Region 9 is a non-profit community economic development corporation that promotes and coordinates economic development efforts throughout Southwest Colorado. Region 9 works cooperatively with the private & public sectors to enhance economic conditions & improve prosperity through its loan programs & other services. [Register here.](https://web.durangobusiness.org/events/Lunch-Learn-Ways-to-Grow-Your-Business-Presented-by-Region-9-4191/details)
<https://web.durangobusiness.org/events/Lunch-Learn-Ways-to-Grow-Your-Business-Presented-by-Region-9-4191/details>

The cost for the Virtual Lunch & Learn is complimentary thanks to the generosity of Purgatory Resort. We welcome you to attend for free.

March 4th Eggs and Issues: Meet the City Council Candidates

March 4, 2021, 8:30am-10:30am Candidate Forum – Meet City Council Candidates & Learn about their Views on the Issues. Thanks to the generosity of Purgatory Resort, this is a free event. [Register here.](https://web.durangobusiness.org/events/EGGS-AND-ISSUES-CITY-COUNCIL-CANDIDATES-FORUM-4194/details)
<https://web.durangobusiness.org/events/EGGS-AND-ISSUES-CITY-COUNCIL-CANDIDATES-FORUM-4194/details>

SCAPE



SCAPE had over 50 applications for our 2021 program, including many from our new service area in northern New Mexico! Thank you so much to everyone who applied and help spread the word, we are thoughtfully reviewing all the proposals and will be in touch soon.

Hawk Tank Business Plan Competition

Presented by Fort Lewis College & San Juan College

Three competitions to include Fort Lewis College students and recent alumni, San Juan College students, and regional high school students. Information on registration and Workshops can be found here:

<https://www.fortlewis.edu/about-flc/initiatives/hawk-tank/events-workshops>

Local First



Join Local First La Plata and Durango's independent business community for a facilitated panel discussion with Durango's City Council Candidates. This forum will focus specifically on issues pertaining to the vitality of our independent business and local economy – highlighting our member-identified priorities of post-COVID economic rehabilitation, commitment to clean energy, local tax reform to support small business, and access to affordable housing and healthcare. We also encourage representatives & employees of local business to submit questions for the City Council Candidates here. Please submit your **questions by 5pm on March 1.**

Unable to attend the forum? Register anyway to receive the recording after the event! We will also be livestreaming the event through Local First's Facebook Page.

REGION 9



Colorado Export Resources and Opportunities Program Review

Southwest CO – Join the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, the U.S. Export Assistance Center, and the U.S. SBA Denver Office, and Region 9 Economic Development District on Thursday, February 25th at 10 am to learn more about the export resources available for small businesses and the opportunity to take advantage of export grant funding to support your international business development. We will review the State Trade Expansion Program, the U.S. Commercial Service Programs, and the SBA International Loan Programs. Register Today at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/colorado-export-resources-and-opportunities-tickets-137889269517>

Laura Marchino Lewis, Region 9 Executive Director, to serve as EDCC State Board Chair

The Economic Development Council of Colorado (EDCC) Board of Directors is made up of members and officers that represent communities across our state, state agency and private sector economic development stakeholders. They include members from five state regions, five discretionary, executive, and ex-officio members. This year Laura Lewis Marchino, Region 9 Economic Development District, will be the Board Chair and has served on the EDCC Board since 2015.

Their purpose is to provide oversight, governance, direction, advice, and to assist in leadership and awareness of EDCC's mission by positioning EDCC as the premier statewide organization for strengthening Colorado's economy by promoting the highest standards of knowledge and skill for Economic Development professionals, educating local and state leaders about the realities of economic growth, and advocating public policies that enhance economic opportunity for all of Colorado. For more information on the EDCC, please go to <https://edconline.org/>.

Region 9 Welcomes new Board members and Officers.

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado (Region 9) announces new Board Officers and members for 2021. William Tookey, San Juan County Administrator was elected to his fourth year as Chair; Dan Fernandez, Dolores at-large member, Secretary; and Collen O'Brien, La Plata at-large was elected Treasurer. Three Board members were also re-elected to the Executive Committee including Dewayne Findley, Montezuma at-large; Clyde Church, La Plata; and Mary Jo Coulehan, Archuleta at-large.

Two new board members were also approved at the January Board meeting. Rachel Marchbanks is the Economic Development Coordinator for the Town of Mancos and will represent the Town. Paul Zimmerman is a long-time Silverton business owner and will serve in the at-large position for San Juan County. The Region 9 Board meets quarterly and for more information, please call 970-247-9621 or go to www.scan.org.

Education

Durango 9R



Virtual Job Fair

Durango 9-R is hosting a virtual job fair on March 6, 2021 from 8-5pm. Appointment is required to be pre-scheduled for an interview.

APPOINTMENT REQUIRED TO BE PRE-SCHEDULED for an INTERVIEW.

To be considered for an interview at the recruitment fair, applicants must be fully credentialed in their content area(s) by August 2021. Please click on the Careers link at durangoschools.org to register your application online using the "2021 Virtual Spring Educator Recruitment Fair" link.

Update for in person learning.

Many families are wondering what our next steps will be for increasing in-person learning for students as we continue to see a reduction in local transmission rates and move through the state dial on COVID risk. Next Monday is a scheduled holiday in recognition of President's Day, and next week we will continue to have Wednesday as a remote learning day. So in-person students will attend Tuesday, Thursday and Friday the week of the 15th. Wednesday continues to be a critical day to support extra disinfecting in schools, as well as slowing contact tracing in the community.

We look forward to continuing to increase in-person learning for all students, and want to increase that time in a methodical manner to ensure stability in staffing and ability to keep schools open. When we move on the dial as a community, we will work to collect data over the following 14 days to ensure that we will remain consistent as a community on the dial as well as consistency of availability of staff resources in our schools to support students.

The Return to Learn Task Force meets again next week to evaluate the new data and make recommendations on next steps. Please watch for updates on returning to in-person learning as well as our Return to Learn Plan in our Friday Community Update.

You can find the latest Return to In-Person Learning Matrix on our website at durangoschools.org in the "For Families" section under COVID-19 Supports.

Ignacio School District 11 JT



Vaccination clinic at the Ignacio Middle School. All eligible applicants (65+) must be registered using the below link. The clinic will be on Saturday, February 13th and vaccination appointments will be confirmed after registrations are complete. <https://t.co/SwCd1iH4hL>

House Bill 08-1021 created the opportunity for Colorado administrative units to accelerate highly advanced gifted children under age 5 for kindergarten and/or under age 6 for first grade. San Juan BOCES and the Ignacio School District will offer early access to kindergarten or first grade in school year 2021-22 to support students who are evaluated to be exceptional in aptitude/cognitive reasoning, academics, school readiness and motivation. Early Access is not an acceleration pattern recommended for the majority of age 4 or age 5 gifted children.

Details about the application process are available by contacting Deb Nielsen, San Juan BOCES Gifted Education Coordinator, at dnielsen@sjboces.org or 970-946-3448. Applications are due by April 1st, 2021 and will take some time for families and teachers to complete. Applications will be reviewed by a San Juan BOCES team, and families will be notified of the decision on early access by June 1st, 2021.

Bayfield School District



Bayfield Schools Accepting Out-of-District Students

We are pleased to be accepting out-of-district enrollment applications in Bayfield School District for the 2021-2022 school year. This open enrollment process is for students and families who reside outside our

district. Families and students who reside within the boundaries of the Bayfield School District may also submit applications at this time, for example, kindergarten.

Highlights of the Process:

Open enrollment window is February 8, through March 26, 2021.

Completed enrollments submitted during this window will be given acceptance priority.

Open enrollment is based on space availability in each grade level, and is subject to verification of information in the completed enrollment packet.

Open enrollment acceptance is only guaranteed for each academic year, and may require an annual application.

Return completed packets to any Bayfield school.

The principal/school will notify the family of acceptance or waitlist status after March 26, 2021. All prospective students and families must accept the invite to attend by Friday, April 9, or be moved to the waitlist. To continue as a student in the district as an out-of-district student, please fill out the Intent to Continue Enrollment form in the side menu.

Fort Lewis College



The Center for Innovation is excited to announce its co-working space is now open. If you are looking for a productive environment with hot coffee, speedy internet, and safely distanced desk space, then the Center is right for you! Daily or monthly desk rental is available with contactless door entry. Reserve your desk or schedule a tour today at www.innovation.fortlewis.edu



Officially open for co-working!



Schedule a tour or reserve your desk today at innovation.fortlewis.edu

Pueblo Community College



The full Agribusiness program is set to launch Fall 2021.

For more information,

Perry.Pepper@pueblocc.edu

970.564.6205.

For high school enrollment,

Jennifer.Reynolds@pueblocc.edu

970.564.6223.

Energy



LPEA

La Plata Electric Association, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

LPEA Assists Community with \$65,000 for bill relief

Two bill-assistance efforts lead by LPEA – the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund and the Giving Tree Program – have disbursed nearly \$65,000 in funds to support more than 860 LPEA members in need.

Originally approved by the LPEA Board of Directors in March 2020, the \$50,000 LPEA COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund was fully exhausted this month. The fund helped 438 residential members and 24 small business members struggling to pay their LPEA bill due to pandemic-related economic hardship.

LPEA's annual Giving Tree Program also helped members in need, collecting a record \$14,500 to help more than 400 members struggling to pay their LPEA bill – \$3,500 more than last year. This annual program allows LPEA members to donate to other members who need a little extra help during the holiday season.

“It’s been really heartening to see the outpouring of support within our community during recent times of need,” said LPEA Member Service Manager Aubrey Gillespie. “These have been difficult times for so many people, and it’s been our absolute pleasure and honor to help them with the funds allocated by our board and donated by our members. We are really blessed to live in this community.”

For LPEA members still struggling to pay their bill, there are assistance funds remaining through other agencies. Call LPEA for details, or visit <https://lpea.coop/late-payments-and-bill-pay-assistance>

Durango School District 9-R wins competitive grant for district’s first electric school bus

Durango School District 9-R has been awarded up to \$328,803 to purchase and install a fully electric school bus and related charging infrastructure, thanks to a joint grant application by the school district and La Plata Electric Association (LPEA).

The grant, funded through the Regional Air Quality Council’s (RAQC) ALT Fuels Colorado program, aims to improve Colorado’s air quality by incentivizing the replacement of pre-2009 vehicles with fully electric and Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) fleet vehicles. LPEA will contribute an additional \$120,000 to cover electric charging infrastructure and bus costs. Durango School District 9-R was one of only eight grant awardees out of 38 total applicants. The 81-seat bus is expected to be operational by the fall of 2021.

The bus will also be the first vehicle-to-grid installation in LPEA’s service territory. Also known as bi-directional charging, this will allow the bus to pull electricity from the grid to charge during inexpensive off-peak hours. It will also allow LPEA to pull electricity from the vehicle onto the grid during critical times. “This is a really cutting-edge project, not just for this area but for the whole state,” said LPEA CEO Jessica Matlock. “Vehicle-to-grid installations are the future because they enable our grid to operate with a higher degree of flexibility. This will equate to big cost savings by allowing LPEA to avoid the purchase of expensive on-peak power, while aligning the charging of the bus with times of less expensive renewable generation. This project delivers financial, social, and environmental benefits to our community, and we’re grateful to Durango School District 9-R for their interest and collaboration.”



NONPROFIT

The Ballantine Family Fund awards \$332,590 in grants to nonprofits in Southwest Colorado in 2020

In 2020, the Trustees of the Ballantine Family Fund awarded \$115,000 in Core Value grants in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Southwest Colorado. These unsolicited Core Value grants are designated annually for a significant impact in a particular area of need, as identified by the Trustees. Last year, that area of need was food security, necessitated by public health safety measures that restricted employment income for thousands of people across the region, resulting in increased demand at area food pantries.

Food security organizations across Southwest Colorado received food purchased with Ballantine funds and coordinated through the Community Foundation's Community Emergency Relief Fund. The infusion of Ballantine funds, leveraged with other CERF donations from across the region, increased the scale of the Community Foundation's group purchasing options, allowing more food to be dispersed to more organizations.

"The Ballantine Trustees understood the depth of the hunger issues across Southwest Colorado and wanted to make an impactful difference," says Briggen Wrinkle, Executive Director of the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado and Grants Manager for the Ballantine Family Fund.

"Leveraging the Ballantine Core Value grants with the donations of individuals and governmental agencies across the region allowed us to purchase more food collaboratively than each pantry could have purchased on their own. The end result is fewer hungry people, and that is certainly the goal of this type of responsive philanthropy."

In addition to Core Value grants, the Trustees awarded \$217,590 through quarterly grant applications in 2020 to 97 nonprofit organizations in Southwest Colorado. The average grant size was \$2,243.

By sector, the Ballantine Family Fund awarded:

\$8,000 to Animal Protection (4% of total grants)

\$51,500 to Arts and Culture (24% of total grants)

\$36,720 to Education (17% of total grants)

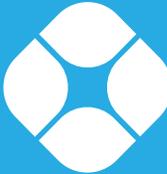
\$20,000 to Environment (9% of total grants)

\$70,170 to Human Services (32% of total grants)

\$18,500 to Youth (9% of total grants)

\$12,700 to Other (6% of total grants)

NEXT INVESTOR MEETING 3.9.21



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ALLIANCE