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Eastern Colorado Community Fund Created to Benefit the Eastern Plains

The Eastern Colorado Community Fund (ECCF) was recently created for the future benefit of Eastern Colorado. Community foundations inspire and facilitate local philanthropy, encouraging people to give back, dream big, and work together to make a difference. Community foundations collectively hold tens of billions of dollars nationwide and have experienced great success in rural areas.

The ECCF functions under the “umbrella” of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado, which provides an established infrastructure, proven expertise, and economies of scale. The ECCF will, however, have its own distinct identity and a full-time director in an Eastern Colorado office. The primary goal of the ECCF is to preserve wealth in Eastern Colorado by providing a mechanism for donors who wish to benefit regional institutions and causes.

A local ECCF board comprised of two members from each participating county is responsible for grantmaking from unrestricted funds established in Eastern Colorado. All funds established to benefit Eastern Colorado communities — whether Donor Advised, Scholarship, Designated, Field of Interest, or Unrestricted — will be part of the ECCF portfolio of funds.

“The Community Foundation of Northern Colorado provides an easy and effective way for Eastern Colorado individuals, families, organizations, nonprofits, and existing public and private foundations to establish their own funds,” explains Ray Caraway, President of the Community Foundation. “Donors can then focus on philanthropic pursuits and/or fundraising efforts rather than on administrative functions and legal and IRS regulations.”

The ECCF board has established the **Eastern Colorado Cornerstone Campaign** to fund expenses related to the creation of a local office and the hiring of a director. The goal is to raise \$1 million for the Cornerstone Campaign and set the stage for building charitable resources for the future of the region. Because Eastern Colorado is a large geographic area, this initial campaign will focus on Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, and Yuma counties. Over time, the geographic service area will expand to include all of Colorado’s Eastern Plains.

For more information about the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado or to learn more about the ECCF, visit www.NoCoFoundation.org. Questions can be directed to Rob Panos: 970-488-1977 or rob@NoCoFoundation.org.