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SUMMIT

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023

8:30AM - 4:30PM

BAMFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



 OTTERCARES



MindSpark™

## **Dear Partners in Igniting Philanthropy,**

Welcome to the inaugural Project Heart Summit and thank you for being here today. Your presence says a great deal about you as an educator and the difference you are making in the lives of your students and our community. The idea for this day was born out of our mission to create a movement of philanthropy and to ignite a generation of young people with the passion and resources to tackle the great needs of our world.

As an educator, you are a catalyst for positive change. You teach students the essential skills they need to succeed in school and life, and you create experiences that help them feel valuable. Your work has a profound impact on their minds and their hearts. If the last three years have shown us anything, it is that the work of educators is essential, and it is often thankless. But your efforts are not unnoticed. We see your impact on the next generation and are grateful for your dedication.

The Project Heart Summit is an opportunity for you to be inspired and recharged as you learn about the importance of teaching philanthropy to K-12 students, share ideas and collaborate with like-minded educators who share your passion. Today's goals are to:

- Highlight the value and impact of teaching philanthropy
- Foster connections to the nonprofit community
- Spotlight Project Heart users so you can learn from their work
- Offer support with creating a plan to implement Project Heart resources

When children learn about and engage in philanthropy, they learn to be empathic, kind, compassionate, and generous. They also learn about the importance of helping others and making a difference in the world around them. We believe that because we all have 3Ts – time, talent and treasure – we are all philanthropists who have the power and responsibility to make a difference where we are with what we have. That is what Project Heart teaches young people. They don't have to be wealthy, from a certain background, have a certain skillset or look a certain way to make a difference. The power to be world-changers is already inside of them. The resources available through Project Heart, when used by intentional educators like you, help to unleash every student's innate desire to give in a unique and powerful way.

I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to network with other educators, learn from experts in the field, and share your own experiences. Our goal is that you leave today feeling inspired, equipped and motivated to continue your important work.

With Gratitude,

The OtterCares Foundation

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# Schedule

<b>Wednesday, August 2, 2023</b> Bamford Elementary, 6055 Travers Stakes St., Loveland, CO 80538	
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Arrival and Check-in
8:30 AM – 8:35 AM	Welcome!
8:35 AM – 8:45 AM	Opening Speaker
8:45 AM – 9:35 AM	Activity
9:35 AM – 10:20 AM	Speakers
10:20 AM – 11:20 AM	Exemplar Showcase
11:20 AM – 12:20 PM	Content Sessions
12:20 PM – 1:50 PM	Lunch and Nonprofit Fair
1:50 PM -2:30 PM	Panel Discussion
2:30 PM – 3:25 PM	Work Time and Share Out
3:25 PM – 3:50 PM	Keynote
3:50 PM – 4:10 PM	What's Next?
4:10 PM – 4:20 PM	Closing

# Acknowledgements

The Project Heart Summit would not be possible without Project Heart itself. We would be remiss not to acknowledge the passion and hard work of those who made significant contributions of time, heart and effort to the program's foundation.

First, Nancy Richardson, whose personal experience with philanthropy inspired the OtterCares Foundation team to ask, "How can we create sustainable change in our society through our philanthropic efforts?" Asking this question led to the focus on education and the realization that our work can create a ripple effect that carries on for generations by teaching kids how to be philanthropists.

Next, to the students at Lopez Elementary who were part of the very first "Hearts for Respite Luncheon" and whose experience inspired the creation of Project Heart. The giving spirit and hard work of those students taught us that empathy and philanthropy are innate in the heart of children, and we can give them the tools to grow those values into positive impact.

To Susie Gunstream and Jill Brennan, who not only guided that initial group of students but many others in the years to come. Thank you for the countless hours spent developing a replicable program and library of resources for other educators to help kids engage with philanthropy.

To Alissa Poduska, Tressa Evans and the Bamford Elementary community, for integrating Project Heart into the culture of your building and becoming our first Project Heart School. Thank you for your passion and innovation in finding ways to use philanthropy as a vehicle for helping students grow.

To Kiki Huckaby, Kellie Lauth and the MindSpark Learning team for believing in Project Heart and its value for educators and students. Thank you for contributing your expertise to ensure that teachers who want to pursue this work are well-equipped to execute it.

To the Project Heart users over the last decade who have adopted this program and mindset with open arms. Thank you for jumping in with both feet, for believing in the power of kids to create positive change, and for providing feedback to our team to continually make Project Heart better.

Because of each of you, Project Heart is a powerful hub of resources designed to equip and empower educators to inspire and ignite young people toward establishing the life-long habit of giving.

# Sponsor Organizations

## OtterCares Foundation

*We believe one young and inspired mind can change the world. The OtterCares Foundation inspires students to become entrepreneurs and philanthropists who create lasting and impactful change in their communities. Nancy Richardson founded OtterCares to invest in education and empower youth to create lasting change through philanthropy and entrepreneurship. Since 2009, we have equipped kids, classrooms and communities to recognize their true potential to make a difference by Igniting Tomorrow Today.*

### **Linda Crum**

Executive Director

[linda.crum@ottercares.org](mailto:linda.crum@ottercares.org)

### **Tricia Vincent**

Senior Program and Grants Director

[tricia.vincent@ottercares.org](mailto:tricia.vincent@ottercares.org)

### **Jessica Dieken**

Marketing and Community Relations  
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### **Sarah Weeks**

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### **Lucy Nuremberg**

Program and Grants Administrator

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## MindSpark Learning

*Education is the greatest and most foundational problem-solving mechanism that exists in society. MindSpark programs deliver extraordinary professional learning experiences for educators, the community, and industry partners who then take their new skills back to the classroom and beyond.*

### **Kellie Lauth**

Chief Executive Officer

[kellie@mindspark.org](mailto:kellie@mindspark.org)

### **Kiki Huckaby**

Chief Impact Officer

[kiki@mindspark.org](mailto:kiki@mindspark.org)



# What is Philanthropy?



**Speaker:** Janelle Joers, retired middle school teacher and Project Heart advocate

**About Speaker:** As a Middle School English Language Arts Teacher at High Plains School in Loveland, Janelle had a big idea to get her kids doing philanthropy instead of just learning about it. It started with a spark of an idea from her use of Project Heart, and after a few years, it became a school-wide day of service. As the project grew over time, so did Janelle's use of Project Heart. She began with microlearnings, using them for discussion and writing prompts. She then started using the first few lessons, finding great value in students crafting their own mission statements connected to personal passions and their 3Ts. While Janelle is now retired from

teaching, she continues to support Project Heart and its value for educators and students.

**Session Description:** In this session, explore your definition of philanthropy, learn how Project Heart defines the "3 T's" of philanthropy, and what philanthropy can look like for you and your students. Through a Project Heart exercise, participants will have their passion for philanthropy ignited and be inspired to empower their students to make a difference in the world.

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# Why Project Heart? An Administrator’s Perspective



**Speaker:** Alissa Poduska, Principal at Bamford Elementary

**About Speaker:** In 2003, Alissa began her teaching career, opening Bacon Elementary as a 3rd-grade teacher. She held several roles at the school including Assistant Principal, before becoming the Principal of Shepardson STEM Elementary in 2015. She brought Problem-Based Learning (PBL) to the school and established community partnerships to provide ongoing PBL opportunities for students. In early 2020, Alissa was offered her dream opportunity of opening the newest elementary school in Fort Collins, Bamford Elementary. With the support of

her leadership team and the goal of creating a positive impact for students and the community, Alissa partnered with OtterCares Foundation and MindSpark Learning to establish Bamford Elementary as the very first Project Heart School.

**Session Description:** With so many competing priorities in education, it might feel difficult to make time for something like Project Heart. Learn from an administrator's perspective why Project Heart is so impactful on students and how it can add value to your school community in a way that fills gaps and solves existing challenges.

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# Bamford Elementary School

6055 Travers Stakes Way, Loveland, CO 80538



## Who They Are:

Bamford Elementary, Poudre School District's newest elementary school, serves students in PK-5<sup>th</sup> grade and opened its doors in August 2021. Taking input from architects, district leaders and classroom teachers, the building itself was designed to intentionally foster collaboration between staff, students, families, and the community. Bamford Elementary's Purpose Statement is "Together, we inspire and empower the minds of today to make a difference in our world tomorrow." They promise to:

- Create an environment where everyone knows they belong, are accepted, and loved.
- Value, model and foster kindness and empathy
- Be a place where students can be curious and take risks as we search for solutions.
- Maintain high expectations while fostering independence, allowing students to take ownership and lead their learning.

## How They Use Project Heart:

Using a problem-based learning (PBL) model, Bamford Elementary encourages students to learn by solving real-world challenges. A robust network of community partners from business, nonprofit and local government support the school by sharing challenges for students to tackle. At the end of each PBL unit, students present their ideas to a panel of community partners for feedback, input and sometimes even implementation. Bamford is incorporating giving back into their PBL model through a pilot program with OtterCares to become the first Project Heart School.

## Who We Will Hear From:

Alissa Poduska, Bamford Elementary Principal

## Additional Resources:

- Learn more about Project Heart: <https://myprojectheart.org/>
- Learn more about Problem-Based Learning: <https://www.educationcorner.com/problem-based-learning-guide.html>
- Watch Bamford's Project Heart story





# Lopez Elementary School

4424 Innovation Dr, Fort Collins, CO 80525



## **Who They Are:**

Lopez Elementary School is Northern Colorado's first Leader in Me school and earned Lighthouse recognition in Spring 2014. Their building is a PK-5 facility that serves approximately 400 students and is a neighborhood school of choice. Lopez was again named as a recipient of the Colorado Governor's Distinguished Improvement award for 2013. Their school is committed to developing and delivering a well-rounded educational program for all its students using the Leader in Me model. Lopez believes this includes rigorous academics, varied co-curricular programs, and an effective partnership between home and school.

## **How They Use Project Heart:**

Every February, fourth graders at Lopez Elementary open a pop-up restaurant in our school commons to raise funds to send children with special needs to summer camp. The Lopez Loves Respite Care Benefit Luncheon develops students' individual and collective leadership by involving students directly in each step of the process from researching Respite Care, to soliciting donations, inviting guests, setting-up and staffing the restaurant, and reflecting on and presenting about the project's impact. Mission driven and student directed service is a key aspect of Lopez's "Leader in Me" model, and this project has been integrated with Project Heart for well over a decade. Through this experience we seek to develop children's vision and individual talents, as well as their confidence in the power of community to create positive change in our world.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Hollie Johnson, 4th Grade Teacher, Lopez Elementary, A Leader-in-Me School, Lopez Loves Respite Care Benefit Luncheon, [hjohnson@psdschools.org](mailto:hjohnson@psdschools.org)

## **Additional Resources:**

Watch their annual Hearts for Respite story.





# The Gardens on Spring Creek

2145 Centre Ave, Fort Collins, CO 80526



## **Who They Are:**

The Gardens on Spring Creek is the community botanic garden of Fort Collins, Colorado. Our 18-acre site opened in 2004 as part of an important partnership between the City of Fort Collins and the Friends of the Gardens on Spring Creek. The Gardens is City of Fort Collins Facility. Following a two-year, \$6 million expansion project, The Gardens offers an expanded Visitor's Center and gift shop, Butterfly House, Everitt Pavilion and Great Lawn, along with five acres of new gardens to explore.

## **How They Use Project Heart**

Project Hort, short for horticulture, is a full summer stewardship and volunteer program for teens entering sixth through 12th grade who are passionate about gardening, plants, animals or the environment. We molded the Project Heart curriculum to fit in an informal, summer, garden-based learning environment. Teens learn about philanthropy through designing their own conservation projects, first job skills through volunteering and build lifelong relationships with the support of our Teen mentor.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Ashley Krueger, Education Coordinator for the Gardens on Spring Creek, will share her journey of ideating the Project Hort program and how she used the Project Heart materials to bring the program to life for students. She will also share success stories of students who have been impacted by participating.

## **Additional Resources:**

<https://www.fcgov.com/gardens/teens>



# Liberty Common High School

2745 Minnesota Dr, Fort Collins, CO 80525



## **Who They Are:**

Liberty Common High School is a public, tuition-free, college-preparatory, charter high school. We are chartered by the Poudre School District (PSD). LCHS delivers a classical, liberal-arts curriculum accentuating math, science and engineering. Liberty consistently achieves the highest statewide standardized test scores in northern Colorado.

## **How They Use Project Heart:**

How can Project Heart ideas be applied in STEM or STEAM education? Philanthropy concepts from Project Heart were used as a starting point to launch a "Projects with a Purpose" unit in our high school Introduction to Engineering course. Students received instruction in computer-aided design, 3D printing, and the engineering design process at the beginning of the semester. Once the students had learned the technical basics, they were asked to use their time, talents, and treasure to complete a small but meaningful design project that makes a difference in the lives of others. In this presentation, I will share some of the project results from our students and describe some of the lessons that we learned as educators applying philanthropy in an engineering class. Although we worked primarily with 10th-grade students, the "Projects with a Purpose" idea could also be adapted and applied to grades 5-12 if desired.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Kay Lannen, math and engineering teacher at Liberty Commons High School. Kay will share more about the creation and implementation of Projects with a Purpose in her Introduction to Engineering class.

## **Additional Resources:**

Projects with a Purpose

<https://myprojectheart.org/blog/projects-with-a-purpose-hs-engineering>





# High Plains School EC-8<sup>th</sup> Grade

4255 Buffalo Mountain Dr., Loveland, CO 80538



## **Who They Are:**

High Plains is an Early Childhood through eighth grade STEAM school fueled by innovative and authentic learning opportunities where all members feel safe, valued, and empowered. Students are immersed in the inquiry process while taking risks and engaging in issues facing our community in order to have a positive impact on our world today, tomorrow, and in years to come.

## **How They Use Project Heart:**

The Middle School Day of Service at High Plains is a day where the middle school students and staff go out into the community and partner with local nonprofit organizations. These organizations provide students with opportunities to help with a variety of tasks. A few examples include cleaning and maintaining a local park trail, packing food, performing at nursing homes, and building Little Free Libraries. Leading up to Day of Service, students worked through various lessons of the Project Heart program, learning about 3Ts, writing their own mission statements, and researching various nonprofits. The project helped students develop a deep sense of empathy and compassion for others, while also giving them the impact to make a positive difference in the community.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Janelle Joers, retired middle school English teacher from High Plains.

## **Additional Resources:**

Watch the High Plains Day of Service story.





# Truscott Elementary School

211 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Loveland, CO 80537



## **Who They Are:**

Truscott Elementary is a dual language immersion school in the Thompson School District.

## **How They Used Project Heart:**

Truscott Elementary in Loveland, Colorado is a dual language immersion school that hosts a Multicultural Festival at the end of the school year. Third grade teacher, Julia Halualani, saw this event as an end-in-mind for her students to shine through a self-directed project.

Julia adapted the upper elementary lessons and incorporated some elements from the clubs version of Project Heart to take a problem-based learning approach to a service learning project. She taught what it means to be a philanthropist while meeting literacy and research standards. She enhanced Project Heart lessons by adding in Google Forms for student engagement through voting. Communication and collaboration skills were also a focal point when it came to persuading classmates to get on board with causes they were passionate about. The cherry on top was collaboration with a local library, the art teacher and community as a whole, and of course when her students were awarded money from their grant application.

Through Project Heart, students executed their fundraising project for The Wild Animal Sanctuary during the school's annual Multicultural Event! They used their persuasive speaking and then gave away 3D printed objects in return for donations for their cause.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Julia Halualani is no longer living in Colorado. While she wishes she could be here to share her experience, Lucy Nuremberg, Programs and Grants Administrator for the OtterCares Foundation, will be filling in to help share Julia's journey and experience using Project Heart.

## **Additional Resources:**

Third grade Project Heart experience

<https://myprojectheart.org/blog/22-23-plan-to-engage-students-6>



# Olander Elementary School

3401 Auntie Stone St., Fort Collins, CO 80526



## **Who They Are:**

Our classrooms offer a comprehensive K-5 curriculum based on the Colorado Academic Standards. We focus our lesson development on best practices to promote high levels of academic growth, achievement and engagement. Each grade level has three project-based learning (PBL) units they complete throughout the school year. When students are working on a project, they occur during a specific time of day dedicated for project-based learning. We utilize this approach to deepen conceptual learning and to enhance the 21st century skills students learn throughout the school day.

In the fall of 2009, Olander Elementary officially became Olander School for Project Based Learning! The roots of PBL lie in the long-standing education philosophy that students learn best through experiential, hands-on, and student directed learning experiences. Utilization of PBL has exploded over the last ten years for many reasons. One reason is that the current research indicates that students need to construct knowledge through engaging and rich learning experiences. Another reason is that educators are becoming increasingly aware that high school graduates will be entering a global economy in which both knowledge and integrated skills are required to succeed. In other words, students will need to be able to plan, collaborate, think critically, solve problems, and communicate effectively to be successful. These 21st Century Skills are central to project-based learning and reflect the world in which children now live.

## **How They Use Project Heart:**

Fourth grade students were introduced to nonprofit organizations from ColoradoGives.org to identify (or confirm) what they are passionate about. Through research and communication with organizations, students prioritized what each nonprofit needed and planned how to address the groups' needs using their time, talent, and treasures. To give back to Animal Friends Alliance, Children's Hospital, and W.O.L.F. Sanctuary, students wrote grants, organized cookie dough sales, coin and donation drives, and assembled a variety of items. Students had remarkable reflections on how this project personally touched them.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Krislyn Molander & Kris Odenbaugh, 4th grade teachers at Olander Elementary.

## **Additional Resources:**

Project Based Learning at Olander

<https://ola.psdschools.org/ola/project-based-learning-0>



# PSD Options

703 E. Prospect Rd., Fort Collins, CO 80525



## **Who They Are:**

Poudre School District offers opportunities for home school families to participate in partner programs. The Options program is open to home school students in grades K-8. Parents remain the primary instructional provider, with the school supplementing and complementing their efforts in a campus-based enrichment program.

## **How They Use Project Heart:**

For the 2022-23 school year, Erin Gilmore offered a class titled "Project Heart" at PSD Options. This class was specifically for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Options program who had an interest in learning about philanthropy. The class met for one hour per week on Fridays and utilized the first eight lessons of the elementary Project Heart program. They brought in guest speakers to highlight various examples of personal philanthropy and then interviewed nonprofits to learn about their work. At the end of the lessons, students voted on two organizations that were meaningful for them as a group and executed two impact projects to support those organizations.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Erin Gilmore, Teacher at PSD Options

## **Additional Resources:**

Learn more about the PSD Options program

<https://options.psdschools.org/>





# AlphaBEST

Before and after-school enrichment program serving schools in PSD, Weld RE-4 and Resurrection Christian.



## **Who They Are:**

AlphaBEST Education has been providing before and after school programs since 2005. We currently serve approximately 30,000 students in 16 states. Family is important to us. We are a family-owned business, and we take pride in the relationships we build with students, their parents, district staff, our staff, and the local communities that we become part of.

## **How They Use Project Heart:**

AlphaBEST offered the Clubs Version of Project Heart as an optional enrichment opportunity to its sites during the Spring 2023 semester. Each Site Director utilized content from Project Heart to teach students about philanthropy and giving back. Students then brainstormed nonprofits they wanted to impact and projects they wanted to execute. Sites had different projects such as writing letters to senior citizens, an art contest, pickle sales, a clothing drive, and a carnival. These projects impacted numerous Northern Colorado nonprofits and AlphaBEST plans to implement Project Heart again for the 2023-24 school year at all of their Northern Colorado sites.

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Amy McQuiston, AlphaBEST Site Director at Bacon Elementary

## **Additional Resources:**

Learn more about AlphaBEST

<https://www.alphabest.org/>



## **Who They Are:**

Girl Scouts create the world they want to live in and strive to make it better every single day. They explore their strengths, take on new challenges, and can always be themselves, regardless of background or ability. Supported by adult volunteers and mentors right here in our community, as well as millions of alums around the globe, Girl Scouts lead the way as they discover who they are and how they can make the future a brighter place.

## **How They Use Project Heart:**

The OtterCares Foundation partnered with Girl Scouts of Colorado in the winter of 2021 to create a Project Heart Patch Program. This program provides troop leaders with tools and resources to help Girl Scouts experience philanthropy and volunteerism by creating unique service projects that each Scout must participate in to be eligible to receive the Project Heart Patch. Since the Project Heart Patch Program launched in December of 2022, over 400 3rd-5th grade Girl Scouts in Northern Colorado have earned their Project Heart Patch. One participant shared, “[I] learned there are many different things you can do to help people. It doesn’t always have to be food, shelter and clothing. You can use music, acting or humor to make people feel better or have a night of performance to raise money for people in need.”

## **Who We Will Hear From:**

Kaitie LoDolce

## **Additional Resources:**

<https://myprojectheart.org/gsco>



# Shepardson STEM Elementary School's STAR Squad

1501 Springwood Dr, Fort Collins, CO 80525



## Who They Are:

STAR Squad Student Leaders is the student leadership organization at Shepardson STEM Elementary. The STAR Squad serves as role models for their peers and participates in a variety of tasks to make our school stronger. STAR Squad is offered to students in Third through Fifth grade. Students are selected through an application process. STAR Squad meets monthly, and members participate in activities such as being greeters at Family STEM Night, leading tours for dignitary visits, planning school spirit days, service projects, and other activities that bring our school community together.

## How They Used Project Heart:

Each year Becky Woodcox, STEM Elementary PBL and STEM Coordinator at Shepardson Elementary, leads 30-40 amazing third through fifth grade students to "...work together to find ways to serve our school, our community, to be examples of good, and to learn leadership skills." During COVID, Becky wanted to keep students engaged in STAR Squad, even if it meant moving the club to a virtual setting. Becky realized that the virtual setting gave her a unique opportunity to integrate Project Heart into the work the club was already doing. Working with Sarah Weeks, the Impact and Education Director for OtterCares, Becky drew on the school's already established PBL model and focus on design thinking to develop a modified version of Project Heart that would work for STAR Squad in a virtual setting.

## Who We Will Hear From:

Caden Wallace, former student at Shepardson Elementary and leader in STAR Squad.

## Additional Resources:

<https://myprojectheart.org/blog/extra-project-heart>

Watch the Shepardson STAR Squad story.













# Nonprofit Fair

## The Food Bank for Larimer County



Point of Contact: Morgan Vinllnave [mvinllnave@foodbanklarimer.org](mailto:mvinllnave@foodbanklarimer.org)

At the Food Bank for Larimer County, we believe no one should be hungry. Our dream is to deliver health, hope and humanity to stabilize the lives of our clients and build a vibrant community. We are a private non-profit organization and the only Feeding America clearinghouse for donated food in our county. Each year, we provide food to more than 33,000 people in need through our programs and community partners.

**Notes:**

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## Respite Care

Point of Contact: Kristi Briles [kristi@respitcareinc.org](mailto:kristi@respitcareinc.org)

Respite Care, Inc. is a nonprofit organization in Northern Colorado that provides short-term, quality care for children with developmental disabilities and respite to their families, enabling them to enhance their quality of life.



**Notes:**

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## Hearts & Horses



Point of Contact: Kathryn Yuma [kathryn@heartsandhorses.org](mailto:kathryn@heartsandhorses.org)

Hearts & Horses, a nonprofit therapeutic riding facility nestled in the foothills of Northern Colorado, has been changing lives for people with disabilities since 1997. Our instructors are rigorously trained and certified by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl).

### Notes:

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## Colorado Youth Outdoors

Point of Contact: Courtney Strouse [cstrouse@coloradoyo.org](mailto:cstrouse@coloradoyo.org)

Colorado Youth Outdoors is a 501(c)3 nonprofit bringing kids and parents closer through outdoor recreation.



### Notes:

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## Gardens on Spring Creek



Point of Contact: Ashley Kruger [akrueger@fcgov.com](mailto:akrueger@fcgov.com)

The Gardens on Spring Creek is the community botanic garden of Fort Collins, Colorado. Our 18-acre site opened in 2004 as part of an important partnership between the City of Fort Collins and the Friends of the Gardens on Spring Creek. The Gardens is City of Fort Collins Facility. Following a two-year, \$6 million expansion project, The Gardens offers an expanded Visitor's Center and gift shop, Butterfly House, Everitt Pavilion and Great Lawn, along with five acres of new gardens to explore.

**Notes:**

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**Serve 6.8**

Points of Contact: Stephanie Russell and Emily Van Pelt  
[SRussell@serve68.org](mailto:SRussell@serve68.org) and [evanpelt@serve68.org](mailto:evanpelt@serve68.org)



SERVE 6.8 is a Christian nonprofit organization that specializes in mobilizing, resourcing, and connecting the local church to care for people in Northern Colorado. We partner with 42 churches to offer ministries to meet physical needs while pointing people back Christ and a church community. Our programs offer assistance in establishing and maintaining sustainability in areas such as food, clothing, employment, and housing.

**Notes:**

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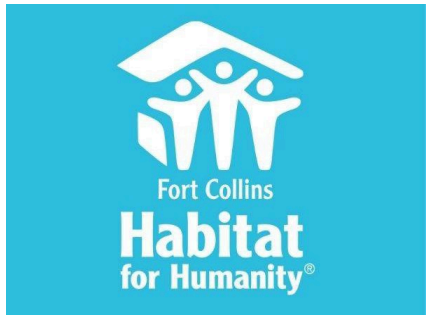
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**Habitat for Humanity**



Point of Contact: Abby Krstulic [akrstulic@fortcollinshabitat.org](mailto:akrstulic@fortcollinshabitat.org)

Habitat for Humanity partners with people in your community, and all over the world, to help them build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. With your support, Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and for their families.

**Notes:**

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**Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County**



Point of Contact: Hannah Dittburner and Andy Te Slaa  
[hdittburner@bgclarimer.org](mailto:hdittburner@bgclarimer.org) and [ateslaa@bgclarimer.org](mailto:ateslaa@bgclarimer.org)

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County (BGCLC) has a vision to provide a world-class Club Experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters our doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living healthy lifestyles.

**Notes:**

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## Larimer Humane Society



LARIMERHUMANESOCIETY

Point of Contact: Clara Taylor [ctaylor@larimerhumane.org](mailto:ctaylor@larimerhumane.org)

Larimer Humane Society is an independent nonprofit working to further the compassionate, safe, and responsible relationship between animals and people.

### Notes:

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## United Way

Point of Contact: Christina Cooper  
[ccooper@uwaylc.org](mailto:ccooper@uwaylc.org)

United Way  
of Larimer County



United Way of Larimer County leads philanthropy in our community, ensuring that gifts of time, talent and treasure address today's greatest needs – and reduce tomorrow's.

### Notes:

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## A Little Help



Point of Contact: Colleen Meyer [colleen@alittlehelp.org](mailto:colleen@alittlehelp.org)

A Little Help connects older adults to volunteers of all ages and the help they provide as well as a variety of programs, educational, and social activities. This gives our older adults increased interaction with neighbors to prevent isolation and loneliness. The list of services provided by our volunteers is long and continues to grow.

### Notes:

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## Global Leaders

Point of Contact: Skyler Halopoff [skyler@globalleadersinc.org](mailto:skyler@globalleadersinc.org)

Founded in 1997, Global Leaders (GL) is a service-learning organization empowering students to make positive change. GL offers a 9-month leadership and service-learning program to youth interested in taking action to improve our world, with additional opportunities to serve internationally with our sister community in Guatemala. Students can expect to participate in weekly service projects and monthly leadership and service learning seminars throughout the school year! And most importantly: students have opportunities to create and implement their own projects with an experienced and supportive staff.



### Notes:

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# Appendix



# The 3 T's of Philanthropy

TIME \* TALENT \* TREASURE

# The 3Ts

~ Time ~ Talent ~ Treasure ~

**Philanthropy:** The act of donating money, goods, services, time or effort to support a beneficial cause and create a lasting impact. At OtterCares, we believe that anyone can use their 3Ts (time, talent, or treasure) to make a difference. Philanthropy is intended to increase the well-being of mankind, or the greater good.

Which T of Philanthropy will I use? Why?



TIME

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TALENT

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TREASURE

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TIME 	TALENT 	TREASURE 
You alone can give:	You alone can give:	You alone can give:
50 like-minded people can give:	50 like-minded people can give:	50 like-minded people can give:
Who could that help? How?	Who could that help? How?	Who could that help? How?
_____	_____	_____
-	-	-
_____	_____	_____
-	-	-



**Philanthropy**

**Kindness**

Course Information	
Grade/Subject:	Unit:
Periods/Times:	Timeframe:
Intended Standards:	Special Populations/Differentiations:
Project Development	
Source of Project Idea:	Compelling Context (Research):
Non-Profit Partners:	How will you incorporate the 3 T's into your plan?
Root Causes:	Stakeholders:
<p>The Design Thinking Process</p> <p>Empathize</p> <p>Define</p> <p>Ideate</p> <p>Prototype</p> <p>Test</p> <p>projectheart</p>	Empathy Activities:  Define the need:  Ideate solutions:  Prototype:  Test:
Logistics	
Resources (Articles, Video, etc.):	Potential Experts, Guest Speakers, or Field Experiences:

**KIDS POSSESS THE POTENTIAL TO TRANSFORM THE WORLD AND EDUCATORS PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN MAKING IT A REALITY!**



Introducing the Project Heart Education Accelerator (EA) powered by MindSpark Learning, a program aimed at assisting schools and districts in devising an implementation plan to utilize Project Heart resources effectively.

The Project Heart EA focuses on fostering impactful philanthropic experiences for students, leading to heightened empathy and engagement, a more meaningful and relevant learning purpose, and a greater desire among students to become changemakers in their schools and communities. This Accelerator is designed for educators who are enthusiastic about reimagining traditional education models.

## **DATES AND TIMELINE**

- October 5th (kick-off full day, in person)
- November (full day, in person)
- December (1 hr. virtual check in)
- January (full day, in person)
- February (1 hr. virtual check in)
- March (full day, in person)
- April (2 hr. culmination in person)

## **COST**

Contributions from OtterCares have reduced the price of EA from \$10,000 to \$1,000 per school/team.

## **LOGISTICS**

The EA requires a team of 3-8 people. This group needs to include at least one decision maker (Principal, AP, District Personnel, etc.) and can include others such as Academic Coaches, teachers, etc.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

Each school/district team will implement a philanthropic project that has a transformational impact in their community.

**REGISTER FOR THE PROJECT HEART EA TODAY!**





projectheart



## Illumination Fund

We believe that our Project Heart philanthropy program has the power to unleash the maker, doer and giver inside of every student and we want to invest in their ideas that have the power to transform their communities. That's why the Illumination Fund was designed specifically to support student-led projects that arise from their Project Heart experience.

**Must be an  
active user of  
Project Heart**

**Grant only  
available for  
schools or  
registered  
nonprofits**

**Materials grant  
or matching  
donation up to  
\$500**

Learn more at [www.myprojectheart.org](http://www.myprojectheart.org)



# Impact Fund



We are on a mission to Ignite Tomorrow Today by inspiring students to become entrepreneurs and philanthropists who create real and tangible change in their communities. This comes to life through partnerships with schools and nonprofits that share our vision for igniting the maker, doer and giver inside every kid. We proudly support programs and projects that are intentionally teaching students to develop and hone an entrepreneurial mindset and philanthropic spirit.

**Must be a school or nonprofit in Larimer or Weld County**

**Program or project must be directly and intentionally teach entrepreneurship and/or philanthropy**

**Application deadlines are June 15 and November 15 each year**

Learn more at [www.ottercares.org](http://www.ottercares.org)



An Innovation Station is a unique, hands-on space where kids can learn by doing, making and creating. A place where FAIL is an acronym for “First Attempt In Learning” and creators aren’t afraid to go back to the drawing board. You might call yours a makerspace, a fab lab, a creation station, or something else. Whatever you call it, your space is all about helping kids learn by doing and we’d love to help you bring your dream Innovation Station to life!

**Must be a school or nonprofit in Larimer or Weld County**

**Create a hands-on learning space that fosters creativity, innovation and an entrepreneurial mindset**

**The Innovation Station will be accessible to a large population within your school or organization**

Learn more at [www.ottercares.org](http://www.ottercares.org)