



# ANNUAL REPORT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2008-2009

- ▶ Awarded \$294,650 in grants for the 2009-2010 Rotary year.
- ▶ Received over \$86,500 from the Branch Rickey Award Dinner.
- ▶ Received almost \$8,719 proceeds to our Foundation from the Peach Sale. Another \$8,400 was donated to the Rotary International Foundation from the event.
- ▶ Members donated over \$49,000. Up 9% over last year.
- ▶ Received a wonderful grant from the Gower estate totaling \$62,921.
- ▶ 31 members became Fellows or multiple Fellows this year.
- ▶ For the second year, funded \$15,000 for a New Community Service Project managed by the incoming class of new members of Club 31 who joined in 2008.
- ▶ Extensive communication and discussion within the Club about impact of market decline on the Foundation.
- ▶ Worked closely with investment advisor to protect our corpus during the market decline and to stay invested during the recovery.



Global Health



## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Denver Rotary Club Foundation is to participate actively in the diverse life of our community through the grants it makes every year. The Foundation's grants emphasize our belief in the promise and value of youth and education, affirming our commitment to the humanitarian goals of Rotary.

## SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS



Sources Total: \$291,511



Uses Total: \$368,430

Denver Kids 40%



# GRANTS FOR 2009-2010

## **DENVER CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (DCIS)/INTERACT CLUB ~ \$15,000**

Provides our Centennial project adopt-a-school with resources, both financial and human, to the students and faculty/staff of the school with the objective of improving student performance and giving them access to international opportunities. DCIS is also home to our Club's Interact Club.

## **COLLEGE COUNSELING INITIATIVE ~ \$22,000**

Provides college selection and financial resource counseling to our Denver Kids, H.S. Scholarship recipients and DCIS students.

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCES, INC. (Youth Mentoring) ~ \$11,000**

Matches over 40 gifted at-risk students in grades 4-8 with accomplished community/Rotarian volunteers for a short-term academic/career project.

## **DENVER KIDS, INC. ~ \$145,000**

Helps supports the lives of 900 at-risk DPS students through DKI's mentoring and counseling program.

## **HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP & ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS ~ \$21,400**

Provides 39 economically disadvantaged high school juniors/seniors with financial assistance (\$60/mo) and Rotarian mentorship during the school year.

## **GLOBAL HEALTH CONNECTIONS ~ \$6,000**

An educational outreach program that brings middle school students in Colorado and other nations together to work on multi-cultural solutions to global health issues.

## **JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT ~ \$4,000**

A new program which will enable student members of the DCIS Interact Club and Rotarian mentors to team teach JA programs at a DPS elementary school.

## **NEW PROJECTS COMMITTEE (New Members Project) ~ \$7,500**

Provides grant dollars for our New Member Class to be used for a new Club service project.

## **ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD (RYLA) ~ \$5,400**

Allows 13 high school and middle school students to participate in a summer Rotary leadership camp in Estes Park.

## **THE SCHOLASTIC ART AWARD OF COLORADO ~ \$8,000**

Continued Rotary sponsorship of the annual Colorado art exhibit in which over 3,000 high school art students participate.

## **SHINING STARS FOUNDATION ~ \$5,000**

Provides activities for children and young adults with cancer at the Shining Stars Winter Games event in Aspen.

## **VOCATIONAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP ~ \$14,000**

Provides educational scholarships to students in vocational, trade and technical fields, as well as a Rotarian/student mentoring program.

## **WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE ~ \$30,000**

Provides funds for over 40 Rotarian recommended/driven humanitarian projects in over 20 countries around the world, most of which are leveraged on an over 3 to 1 basis.

## **YOUTH EXCHANGE ~ \$3,250**

Hosts incoming/outbound students throughout the world, providing year-long and summer international exchanges at the high school level.

## **TOTAL GRANTS ~ \$294,650**



## HIGHLIGHTS

### ***DENVER KIDS, INC. – “Our baby has grown up. What a beautiful thing!”***

Our Rotary Club takes great pride in being the founding organization of Denver Kids, Inc. We have great news about our “63 year-old baby”, but we all need to remember that this all is made possible by the continued support of our Club and its members and those who support our fundraising activities:

- Today DKI, with the support of your Foundation serves 945 students, an all-time high!
- The number of students served has doubled in the last 6 years.
- The high school graduation for DKI was 88% last year.
- 80% of our H.S. grads go on to post-secondary education. A remarkable increase from past years.
- 60% of our grads are the first in their family to graduate from H.S.
- DKI has 324 volunteer mentors connected with our students.
- Recognizing the need to create long-term stability for the program, DKI launched an Endowment Campaign that was very successful, meeting their initial goal of \$1 million.
- Successful President/CEO transition by Glenna Norvelle; additionally, she is an outstanding new member of Denver Rotary.



2009 Denver Kids Graduation Luncheon

# HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)



## BRANCH RICKEY AWARD

The Branch Rickey Award Dinner was held on November 15, 2008 honoring Trevor Hoffman, our 17th recipient. The event netted over \$86,500 to the Denver Rotary Club Foundation. We had a wonderful evening at the Marriott Downtown celebrating Baseball's Outstanding Humanitarian. This year's event, honoring Torii Hunter of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, is being held on November 14, 2009. In spite of a difficult economy the results are expected to be gratifying. We extend our thanks to our 2008 chair Mike Severns and our 2009 chair Donna Hultin and their outstanding Branch Rickey Committees for exceptional work.

## WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE – “Our Largest and Most Active Rotary Committee”

Our World Community Service Committee has operated for more than 16 years and involves nearly 50 of our members working on 41 projects of which 19 are led by Club 31. Our Club is one of the most active World Community Service organizations in the Rotary World. The leverage we get from our Foundation's \$30,000 Grant this past year is huge—estimated at well over a million dollars based on the final accounting of similar projects in years past.

## COLLEGE COUNSELING INITIATIVE



We have experienced a remarkable transition with greatly increased dollar effectiveness over the past half dozen years. With the help of Donna Hultin, then Executive Director of Denver Kids, we first engaged Brad Barnes to give our students professional coaching in both the process of selecting the right college, and then, once selected, in getting financial aid and schol-

arships. We transitioned over several years from direct scholarship aid to each student to a system where the money went to hire a professional like Brad Barnes. The improved dollar effectiveness of our program was immediate and profound. A second professional, Stephanie Sabga, was soon hired. Each of these people does their work for a fraction of what their services command in the marketplace.

The leverage this program brings to the Denver Rotary Club Foundation is remarkable. Previously, if we invested \$25,000 in scholarship aid (divided among 15 or 20 students), they each got about \$1,500. Last year, with about the same dollars we had previously, we worked with nearly 40 students who were awarded approximately \$608,000 in first year financial aid. We expect this aid will continue for their full four years of college, so in total these students should receive \$2.432 million or thereabouts. Contrast this to our



2008 Grant of \$22,000. This is a \$110 benefit for each \$1 spent.

But, let's be honest. These are great kids and even without professional coaching, many still would have gone to college, and some would have gotten financial aid on their own. So, maybe the payback on our investment is a bit less. But, regardless, the numbers and the leverage are still AWESOME!

And the benefits are much, much more than just scholarship dollars. This professional counseling program significantly increases the number and percentage of our students who go to college from three of our Grant Programs—Denver Kids, High School Scholarship, and Denver Center for International Studies (DCIS). Additionally, their college selection process is much more tailored to their abilities, so we believe it also enhances the probability they will be successful and happy in college. Finally, the kids are much smarter about the ins and outs of getting additional financial aid once they are at college.

We thank Brad Barnes and Stephanie Sabga from the bottom of our hearts for the outstanding work they do with our students, and for the “donation” they make to this program for the “below market” price they are paid to provide these services. Again, thank you!

## PEACH SALE

Our annual peach sale generated about \$8,700 to the Foundation in FYE 2009. It is a great fellowship opportunity as well as generating money to both foundations. Our thanks to Co-chairs Carol Duncan and Jay Yake (aka Peach & Pit) who engineered a very successful event in August, 2008 (and 2009) and to our “Peach King” Skip Ahern who was our sales champion both years.



## A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Board of Trustees extends a deep sense of gratitude to the Special Evaluation Committee who on short notice reviewed our investment situation in light of the declining economy and significantly lower stock prices. The Committee made concise and actionable recommendations for responding to our complex situation. In turn, these recommendations were unanimously adopted by the Board. Thank you to David Lee, Chairman, and to Alice Bullwinkle, Debbie DeMuth, Meghan Arnold, Peter Tedstrom and Chuck Thompson.

The Trustees this year served in a remarkably difficult and high stress environment. I thank each of you for your exceptional support and willingness to go the extra mile whenever asked. A special note of appreciation to my fellow Officers: David Lee, Deb DeMuth, Chuck Thompson and Don Best. Time and again you picked up the load, managed special projects and did your job in an extraordinary manner. Thank you for a job well done.

Finally, I want to thank our 2008-09 Club President, Sue Fox and our Executive Director, Darlene Mast, who are talented, hardworking, bright in every respect, and always seemed to have answers and help when I asked. Each of you in your different responsibilities provided excellent leadership during the year and wonderful support for the Foundation. Thank you.



# In Conclusion,

The market turmoil and losses this year were of historic proportions. Many judge this to be the worst stock market contraction since the depression. The Foundation Board took a strong response:

First, a task group of Rotarians, all of whom had strong finance or investment backgrounds, were called to review the economic environment and the DRCF annual funding formula. That group recommended, and the Board adopted, a more conservative (i.e. slightly lower) annual grant percentage.

Secondly, we appealed to Club 31 Rotarians to “dig a little deeper” even though we all were experiencing tough economic times. The response was outstanding! The number of members donating increased, the percentage donating was the highest in memory, and dollars increased 9%. The Branch Rickey Award Fundraiser was an outstanding success despite the pernicious gloom. The Peach Sale achieved record sales, with broader Club participation, much wider community support, and the most media recognition ever.

Finally, we communicated extensively with our Grantees notifying them early on of our situation and our commitment, but that we all were going to need to tighten our belts to weather the storm. Despite our portfolio being down approximately 35 percent, the Trustees granted \$294,650 which was only a 21 percent drop from the previous year.

Thank you my fellow Club 31 Rotarians and thank you fellow Trustees, you all have responded so admirably in the face of adversity and truly practiced “Service above Self”.



*Charles Everill*  
DRCF President, 2008-2009



**2008-2009**

**Board of Trustees**

- Charles H. Everill - President
- Charles I. Thompson - VP/PE
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High School Scholarship Program



Rotarian Brian Blankenburg shows off his Tetherball skills at Junior Achievement



Interact Club Car Wash