

# COMMUNITY BUILDING BEYOND STAPLETON



**GLOBEVILLE**

**ELYRIA SWANSEA**

**PARK HILL**

**CLAYTON**

**COLE**

**WHITTIER**

**SOUTHWEST COMMERCE CITY**

**STAPLETON**

**MONTBELLO**

**GREEN VALLEY RANCH**

**NORTHWEST AURORA**

**MONTCLAIR PARK**

**Stanley**

**WELCOME TO MONTBELLO CAMPUS**

**E. COLFAX**







*Sustainable development guarantees growth that provides communities with parks, open spaces, retail, employment, transit options and housing for all ages and incomes.*

Since 2001, the charge for The Foundation for Sustainable Urban Communities (formerly the Stapleton Foundation) has been to oversee and advance the vision for the redevelopment of the former Stapleton International Airport. This vision, outlined in what is known as the “Green Book”, continues to guide all redevelopment activity.

Today, the former airport is home to more than 26,000 residents enjoying neighborhood amenities like pools, parks and open space. The redevelopment has created several thousand new jobs in retail, construction and service industries; more than 40 small, women- and minority-owned retail shops, medical facilities, professional service companies, and restaurants are located at Stapleton.

And some of the best performing schools in the state call Stapleton home providing a high-quality education for children from Stapleton and neighboring communities of Park Hill, Montbello, Northwest Aurora and Commerce City.

*The Foundation believes that the ultimate success of the redevelopment will depend on the sustained commitment to the shared values expressed in the Green Book.*



Last year, The Foundation recognized that the challenge for the future is how to preserve housing affordability for all incomes, ages and lifestyles. The Foundation is working with the City of Denver, Forest City Stapleton (the master developer) and local non-profit organizations to develop a business model to address rising housing costs. It won't be easy. However, this is the work that truly is relevant if we want to sustain neighborhoods that are diverse, robust and livable.

*Maintaining excellence in neighborhood schools, preserving affordable housing and advancing health equity in the region will be The Foundation's most important work going forward.*

Landri Taylor

Tammi Holloway





# TRANSPORTATION



Northeast Transportation Connections (NETC) works to establish a culture of sustainability in our neighborhoods. We do this by reducing the number of single-occupant cars and trucks on the road, helping our neighbors live healthy, active lives.

In 2017, NETC supported Bike to Work Day by hosting our annual breakfast station at Founder's Green, 29th Avenue and Roslyn Street, and working with all other stations in the northeast Denver area. We promoted a Bike Corridor from Stapleton through Park Hill to downtown so that new bike commuters have a recommended, easy-to-navigate route. We also maintained our community bike library and participated in a project to open protected bike shelters at several stations along rail lines A (from Denver International Airport to downtown) and R (through Aurora along I-225). We have provided communities throughout our service area with easy and affordable access to a bicycle, for recreational activities or commuting to work, school or other personal needs.

We piloted an eTuk program, offering a three-wheeled, electric-powered shuttle service from the 29th Avenue Town Center for 2.2 miles to the Stanley Marketplace, 25th Avenue and Dallas Street. The shuttles are envisioned to help alleviate the "first mile-last mile" problem for people who need transportation to get to a train from home or work and then to a location upon arrival at a destination.



We helped increase ridership on bus Route 62 that runs north on Central Park Boulevard and west along 60th Avenue, providing much-needed transit connections to the northeast region.

One of our strongest partnerships has been with The Shops at Northfield. We hosted a quarterly Employee Outreach party, offering free food and information to Northfield employees about transportation barriers/solutions.

Our walking programs strive to address safe walking conditions. We do that by taking community members on walks through their neighborhoods with members of Denver City Council, Public Works, and local developers to further their understanding of how people actually traverse their neighborhoods.





## Community Connections

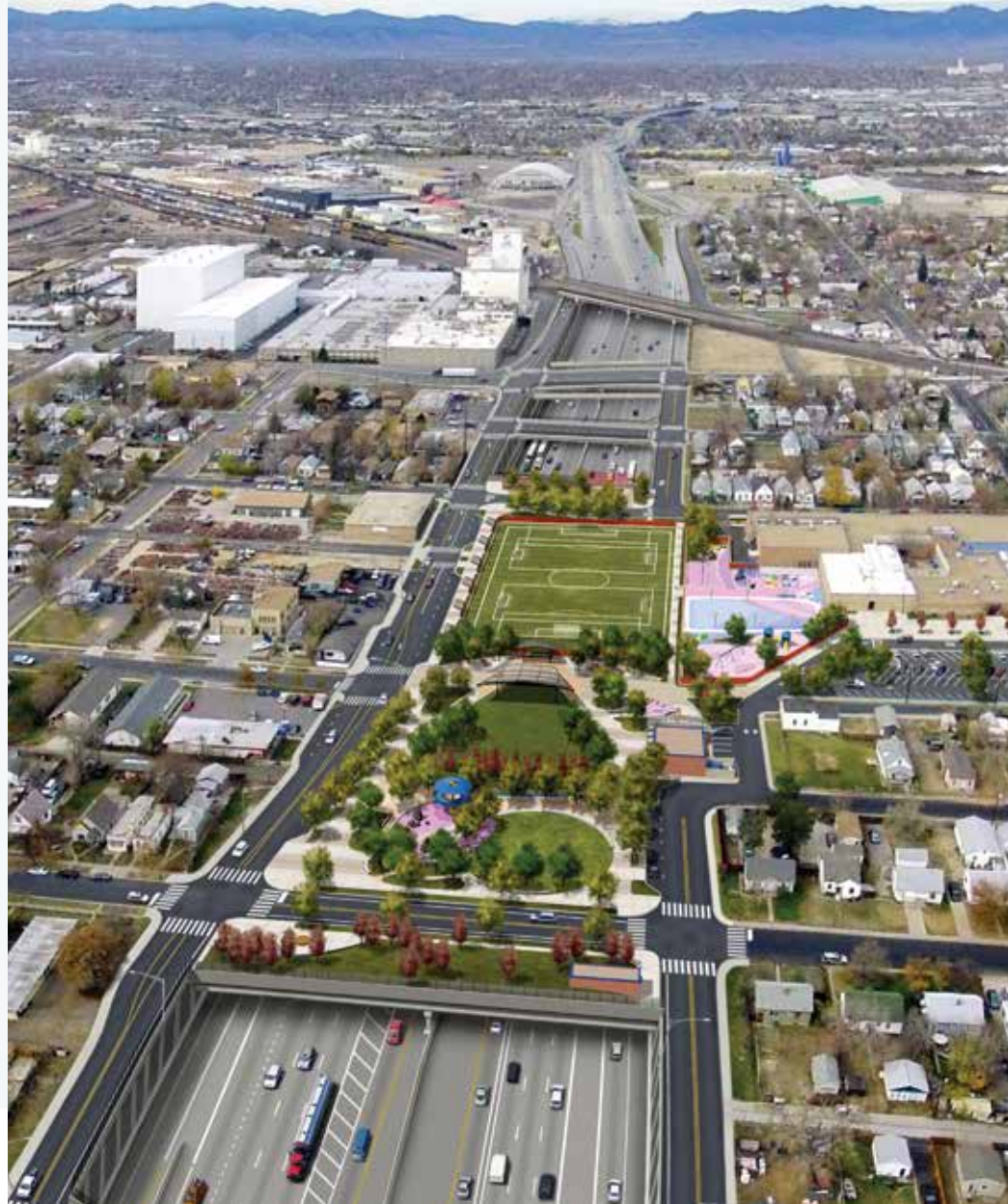
NETC was awarded a \$2.5 million contract by the Colorado Department of Transportation to execute the transportation demand management (TDM) component for the Central 70 construction project; TDM involves activities that help people use the transportation system more efficiently, while reducing traffic congestion, vehicle emissions and fuel consumption.

Central Interstate 70, between I-25 and Chambers Road, is one of Colorado's economic backbones: home to 1,200 businesses, providing the regional connection to DIA and carrying upwards of 200,000 vehicles per day, according to CDOT.

The Central 70 Project will reconstruct a 10-mile stretch of I-70 between Brighton Boulevard and Chambers Road, add one Express Lane in each direction, remove the 54-year old viaduct near the National Western Stock Show complex to the west, lower the interstate between Brighton and Colorado boulevards and place a 4-acre park over a portion of the lowered interstate.

NETC is conducting the neighborhood TDM for the duration of the construction, working with community members in Globeville, Elyria Swansea, NE Park Hill, Stapleton and Montbello to provide programming and encourage alternative transportation to make movement through and around neighborhoods workable during construction.

We are developing relationships to understand current barriers and programming needed in each neighborhood. So far, programs include a free grocery shuttle, a free activity shuttle for families, a bike library and a program that offers free RTD passes to residents and commuters.

We are also working with local schools to develop traffic plans to minimize the disruption of construction to make moving about safer for students. Community members promote our programs through word of mouth and distribute our materials. Our information materials were translated from English into seven other languages common in the area.

We saved Globeville / Elyria Swansea (GES) residents \$8,008 with our free local-fare RTD pass program. Fifty-nine people signed up for passes, and we gave out 153 passes in the last quarter of 2017. During that same period, we saved 10,944 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by keeping single-occupant vehicles off the road.

More than one hundred people used our free activity shuttle the last months of 2017 to take family trips to destinations like the Denver Zoo, the Museum of Nature & Science, and the Butterfly Pavilion. In 2018, we will begin to implement a local day pass program.



We targeted 20-25 percent of the companies we contacted to run an employee commuter survey to better understand patterns of travel through the corridor and to help identify programs and incentives for the community. Our outreach to businesses was substantial. We contacted 2,703 businesses of all sizes in Globeville, Elyria Swansea and Montbello. We met with 390 businesses in person.

As part of the Central 70 contract, NETC is also working to create and implement TDM programs with employers along the I-70 corridor. Our objective is to encourage commuters to drive less to reduce the number of VMT. Our programs include reduced or free monthly RTD passes, incentivizing carpool/vanpool formation, producing detailed plans with employers to reduce VMT and encouraging employers to hire from a pool of local laborers.



# HEALTHY LIVING



## Health Equity

**be well** is The Foundation's Health and Wellness Initiative. It is a grassroots movement of communities coming together to take charge of their health and wellness. The mission of **be well** is to effect programs, policies and practices to advance health equity.

As a result, **be well** has created a power base of residents and stakeholders in Northeast Denver and Northwest Aurora that organizes and advocates for the tools, resources and environments that allow all people to achieve the health that they desire. **be well** has established a reputation for delivering benefits that have a significant impact with far-reaching implications through local neighborhood ingenuity.

The **be well** Health and Wellness Initiative works through six programs.

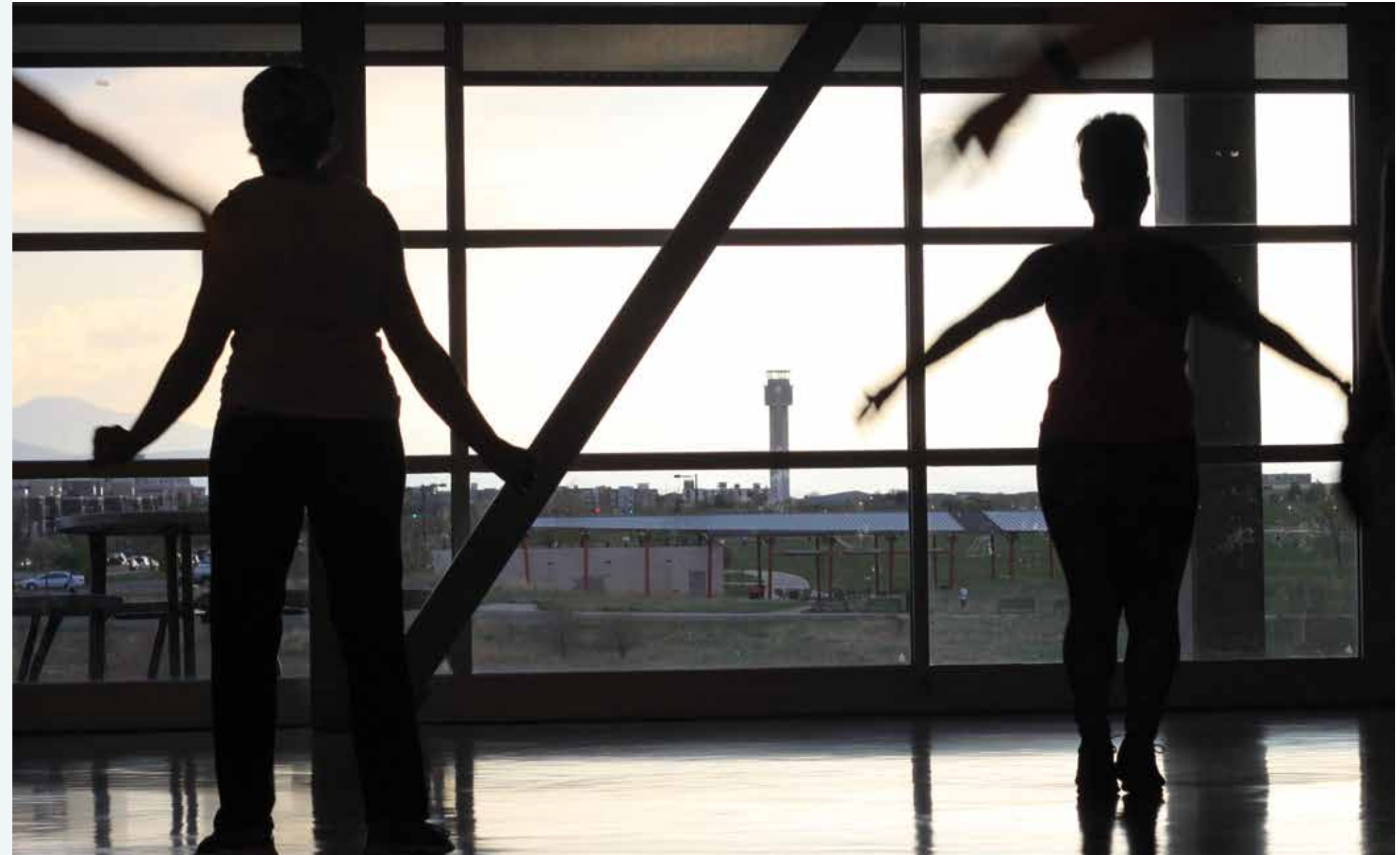


## be well Block captains

**be well** depends on a unique volunteer base of Block Captains who are residents and stakeholders who advocate for health equity. **be well** facilitated four Block Captain trainings in 2017 for 85 participants. Block Captains reach approximately 750 people through their individual outreach efforts and community events. Because of the **be well** Block Captain program residents are influencing the social determinants of health and making changes to impact their quality of life. The cohort hosted four affordable housing forums to express to decision-makers the need for affordable rents and for-sale options in Northeast Denver. In transit, **be well** Block Captains successfully advocated to keep or reroute bus routes to ensure that underserved residents can access the new commuter rail line. Block Captains also led efforts to increase access to health and wellness services at four rec centers in Northeast Denver and Northwest Aurora.

**be well** also established individual Block Captain Networks in each neighborhood allowing residents to tailor projects to their neighborhood needs. Planning for six projects (1 per neighborhood) began in the fall of 2017; projects range from neighborhood safety to economic development.

A new era of the **be well** Block Captain program was formalized in 2017. It allows **be well** to officially market and replicate the **be well** training program. **be well** has developed a track record as a key community engagement organization that can mobilize stakeholders and partners.







### **be well Youth Council (Block Captains)**

Youth Block Captains design, implement and assess projects to promote healthy lives and communities. **be well** Youth Council members provided outreach, education and resources about health and wellness to 544 individuals. The **be well** Youth Council hosted a six-week training to promote healthy living habits; 40 young people completed the training.

Nearly 250 youth participated in a family carnival hosted by the **be well** Youth Council in partnership with the Colorado Black Health Collaboratives 2nd Annual Family Fun Block Party at the Dahlia Campus for Health and Well-Being. Many young people reported that they increased their knowledge of nutritious meals and the need for physical activity.

“Lights, Camera, be well: A **be well** Youth Production” showcased the two films that the **be well** Youth Council produced in 2016 – Cooking: the **be well** Way, and Stop Bullying: the **be well** Way. More than 70 people attended the screening; 50 attendees reported increasing their knowledge of how to eat a more nutritious diet and being more physically active.

The **be well** Youth Council began a partnership with KerboomKidz to perform three entertainment segments that promoted physical activity through dance routines and interactive crowd participation.

### **be well Healthy Schools**

The **be well** Healthy Schools Program collaborates with the Denver and Aurora school districts to support the creation and evaluation of school health policies.

In 2017, sixteen schools across Northeast Denver and Northwest Aurora participated in the program. This partnership resulted in nearly 20 successful health initiatives in 2017 that included increased nutrition education programs, before-and-after school fitness classes, bicycle racks and picnic tables and healthier food in vending machines.

Mobilization of school wellness teams and multi-sector partners to create healthier school environments was presented at the 2017 Public Health in the Rockies at a state conference. Additionally, four **be well** schools were named 2017 Healthy School Champions by the Colorado Education Initiative for embedding health and wellness in their culture, showing the link between health and academic achievement.

### **be well Centers**

**be well** Centers are one stop shops for healthy living. Located in rec centers, **be well** Centers add free health and wellness programming into center offerings to increase access to healthy living options. In 2017, 732 people registered for **be well** sessions, a 50 percent increase from 2016. Forty one percent of participants reported that their health had improved through their participation in the **be well** Centers.

### **be well be EPIC**

**be well** be EPIC increases access to health and fitness opportunities for underserved residents.

Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) will use in 2018 their existing partnership with **be well** as a model for a new, city-wide partnership policy. **be well**, be EPIC successfully engaged the community and worked with DPR to create a more equitable distribution of physical activity programming. Constituents formed an official **be well** recreation stakeholder group to contribute to the proposed partnership policy.

be EPIC organized a Photovoice Community Walk Day to document inadequate infrastructure. The data collected was shared with Denver city planners and will be considered for the 2018 Denver Neighborhood Plan.

be EPIC hosted several outreach efforts in 2017 to engage the community in conversations about health equity, healthy living and city planning. Block Captains played a vital role in mobilizing the community to attend meetings with government entities to ensure that the community’s voice is included in policy decisions.

### **be well Health Policy**

The **be well** Health Policy Program helps community members recognize their power to advocate for policies that can improve their social, economic and environmental conditions. **be well’s** Health Policy Program developed a curriculum to give community members the knowledge and skills to increase their influence over government decisions.

In 2017, several dozen adults and youth participated in the civic engagement and policy learning sessions to build relationships with government officials, and advocate for policy changes.





# LIFELONG LEARNING

The Foundation is guided on lifelong learning by the mission outlined in the Stapleton Education Master Plan published in the early 2000s:

*To make Stapleton a national model of lifelong learning where infants to seniors can find innovative educational opportunities to meet their personal, professional and recreational needs and desires. Openness to the best practices in teaching and learning will drive educational development at Stapleton.*

In recent years, The Foundation has focused its education work on advocating for high quality school choices. In 2017, The Foundation took an even more active role in the advancement of area schools.

A key initiative was developing a School Grant Program (SGP) to bring a more formal process to The Foundation's financial support of schools. The Foundation awards grants of up to

\$5,000 twice a year (fall and spring) to support projects that advance academic achievement, parent engagement or provide enrichment activities.

The SGP was open to 17 schools in October 2017; 14 schools submitted proposals. The Foundation awarded nearly \$70,000 in the 2017 fall cycle.

The Foundation seeks projects for the classroom, school readiness, after-school and summer activities to enhance learning and parent involvement in student learning.

Primarily, we support projects that align with a school's education program and will supplement, not supplant, what is being taught in classrooms. We support projects that are not funded in a school's regular budget or those that are typically not considered the responsibility of the school or district.

The SGP is bolstering The Foundation's relationships with the schools and their communities. It is making a tangible impact on their efforts and helping improve student learning. It also improves The Foundation's relationship and influence with DPS.



We helped several schools craft their ideas and proposals. Some schools used the grant for before/after school tutoring in math, reading and art and other enrichment classes. Three schools used the money for on-site teacher professional development/training designed to boost student learning.

One of our goals is to better connect area schools by sharing ideas and help them craft projects with the potential to be adapted for other schools. Some examples from 2017:



**DSST Stapleton Middle School** is using Google Read/Write program for special education and English Language Learners and teacher training in reading. The Google program gives students individualized help and the DSST network will likely employ it in its other schools.



**Inspire Elementary** is paying for a "specials" class using Legos for reasoning, collaborative learning, critical thinking, "maker" and problem-solving skills. Legos are interlocking plastic bricks that come in a variety of colors and sizes that can be put together to form structures and objects propelled by small motors. Inspire is the only area school using the Legos approach.



**Rocky Mountain (charter) Prep Fletcher** is taking over an autism center in Fletcher (a traditional Aurora Public Schools school transitioning to a charter) – a significant effort since few charters have taken on special needs centers. This is especially important for the overall charter movement to show schools can offer the same services as district schools. The grant paid for teacher training and substitute time to free up regular teachers to collaborate with the current APS staff.



Northfield High School



# NHS

**Northfield High School** contracted with a test-prep firm to offer eight classes after school for 50 juniors to prepare to take the SAT test in April. This is NHS' first year taking the SAT. It's critical for the school's public status that this first group of test takers score well.

In addition, as far as we can determine this is the first time a DPS school has offered prep classes for multiple students for college entrance tests. We expect other DPS schools to follow NHS' lead and offer classes.



**DSST Conservancy Green HS**, in its first year in 2017-18, is using its grant to pay for guitars and keyboards to form the foundation of its new music program – as a class and as an after-school activity. They'd have no program without the grant; costs prohibit most other schools from having a music program

# M

**McAuliffe International (middle) School** is using \$2,000 to fund grant requests from student teams for community service projects needed for their International Baccalaureate classes. The Foundation awarded grants to eight of the 14 teams that applied. The school used the grant process as a "real world" learning exercise about persuasive writing and presentation.



The Foundation supplied technical assistance and other support for area nonprofits and schools. One especially rewarding effort was consulting with Northeast Denver Housing on starting an after-school care/homework support program at its Northfield Apartments project. Nearly 20 elementary age students signed up for the program. The Foundation is also giving NEDH a grant to help pay for tutors.

We also created marketing materials and supported outreach for two area charters: Rocky Mountain Prep (RMP) Fletcher and Roots Elementary. Homes located south of 26th Avenue and east of Dayton Street are in Aurora, which makes RMP that area's neighborhood school. We want to ensure that new residents are well-informed about RMP, a high-performing school. We also want to assist RMP to gain necessary enrollment. Roots is an innovative school located a mile west of Stapleton. Both Roots and RMP offer an opportunity to increase economic integration in the area.

The Foundation also participated in the selection process for a new principal for Denver Discovery School. To increase public awareness of The Foundation, we worked to update/expand our social media presence through Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.





# AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Foundation believes that special attention must be given toward encouraging **“housing for all”** that produces a diverse resident population that reflects the demographics in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Northeast Denver has a rich landscape of affordable housing that has created the backdrop of socio-economic diversity that many urban communities are challenged to provide. And, homeownership is the first rung in the ladder toward creating sustainable wealth for families.

Hence, in 2017 The Foundation began framing the affordable housing conversation to broaden the inclusion of all types of housing – senior rental, for-sale condos, apartments and single-family. The overall objective is to include diversity in resident incomes, races, ages and family types.

At build out at least 20 percent of rental and 10 percent of for-sale housing at Stapleton must be affordable for households within 60 and 80 percent of the area medium income. That amounts to about 1,600 homes. By the end of 2017, more than half were done – 864 affordable units (rental and for-sale); nearly 20 percent of all homes sold in 2017 qualified as affordable.

Development of an additional 250 affordable rental homes will begin after the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority awards necessary tax credits (70 senior and 180 family apartments). Master developer Forest City donates the land or offers cash subsidies to local builders that specialize in building these homes.

The Foundation hopes to launch several programs in 2018 to help Stapleton communities create more **“housing for all”** and preserve the first-entry inventory of affordable housing for the foreseeable future.





**BALANCE SHEET**As of December 31, 2017  
(Unaudited)

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>Current Assets</b>	Checking/Savings	\$	1,028,312.00
		Accounts Receivable		32,089.00
	<b>Total Current Assets</b>			<b>1,070,663.00</b>
	<b>Fixed Assets</b>	Furniture & Equipment		41,893.00
		Accumulated Depreciation		(31,795.00)
	<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>			<b>10,098.00</b>
	<b>Other Assets</b>	Investments		1,090,092.00
	<b>Total Other Assets</b>			<b>1,090,092.00</b>
		<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,170,853.00</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$	11,547.00
		Accrued Vacation Payable		21,097.00
		Deferred Revenue		95,569.00
	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>			<b>128,213.00</b>
	<b>Net Assets</b>	Unrestricted		2,042,640.00
	Restricted		-	
	<b>Total Net Assets</b>			<b>2,042,640.00</b>
		<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,170,853.00</b>

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

for the year ended December 31, 2017

<b>REVENUES</b>	2016 Balance Forward	\$	1,236,462.00
	Community Investment Fee		1,090,092.00
	Grants		1,328,270.15
	SF Program Match		200,000.00
	Other income		4,885.40
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>3,859,709.55</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	Administration	\$	764,099.98
	Program Services		1,181,025.56
	Supporting Services		162,347.28
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>2,107,472.82</b>
	<b>NET FUNDS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,752,236.73</b>

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*be well* Health and Wellness Initiative**Angie Rivera-Malpiede**  
Vice President  
Northeast Transportation Connections**Brian Weber**  
Vice President  
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