I know that technically, we are still in winter – but with all the warm weather we have had in Colorado, it’s hard not to look forward to the spring. There is really nothing like springtime in Colorado – we have the best of all worlds, in my opinion. Some days we’ll see snow and feel deep chills as we scrape sheets of ice off our windshields, reminding us that winter wasn’t all that long ago. Other days we’ll face rows of new flowers bursting through the soil, blooms headed straight for the sunshine as the promise of a warm spring breeze reminds us that summer is not that far away.

It is these moments that remind me why I love Colorado – there’s something for everyone. Whether you prefer to spend your days gliding through powder on the mountaintops, on a long hike with your favorite canine companion, or exploring our great city full of amazing cultural experiences and museums, Colorado somehow always seems to deliver.

That’s also why I love Community Shares. No matter what causes you are passionate about, you’ll find a match with one of our member agencies and multiple ways to increase your civic engagement through Community Shares and our partners. Personally, I am most passionate about our Promoting Animal Welfare cause area. I grew up always surrounded by animals – from a potbelly pig and ducks to more standard companion animals like dogs and cats – we loved welcoming new members into our family.

I work at Community Shares because I believe that everyone should have the opportunity to support the causes they are most passionate about. We love helping people find ways to have a positive impact in their community - either through incremental giving at their workplace, connecting to one of our member nonprofits to volunteer, or encouraging businesses to connect and give back to their community.

Community Shares exists today because we believe in the power of everyday philanthropists to create positive change in their community through incremental giving and civic engagement. Community Shares was founded on four guiding principles: choice in giving, local significance, membership diversity, and financial clarity. We continue to be committed to these principles today, because we believe now more than ever, that these principles bring our community together to work towards a more socially just and welcoming Colorado.

Today, I invite you to support Community Shares and our mission to connect Coloradans to the charities and causes they care about most. Help us continue to represent our more than 100 diverse and inclusive member nonprofits in worksites across the state, so Coloradans can see themselves reflected in their giving options – inspired by their personal passion. Help us inspire everyday philanthropists and continue to provide essential funding to our member nonprofits, who rely on our ongoing support.

Thank you for all the ways you support Community Shares – whether it’s by giving to the charity of your choice through your workplace giving campaign, connecting your colleagues to the charities and causes they care about most, joining us for our incredibly fun events, or giving to Community Shares directly – we are proud to be your chosen partner in philanthropy.

Lisa Borgmann – Director of Philanthropic Partnerships & Operations
As an individual who is passionate about giving back to the communities in which we live, work, and play, you may be wondering how you can leverage your role in pursuing the vision of a more mutually-beneficial Colorado for all; pondering how to captivate your own sense of social responsibility and participate in meaningful engagement.

Through your giving, you have already laid the foundation of your social impact and have become part of the solution to conquering some of society’s toughest challenges. You have voiced your passions and have committed to bettering our communities. As you continue to foster your own sense of social responsibility and role in creating a more sustainable Colorado, Community Shares stands beside you, eager to assist in shaping your philanthropic endeavors and continuing a shared dialogue of what it means to be an “everyday philanthropist”.

Together, we are creating a collective impact and we are redefining what it means to live in a thriving Colorado. Community Shares is proud to partner with individuals, nonprofits, and businesses across the state to democratize philanthropy and support everyday philanthropists. Through our collaboration and partnership with organizations such as B:CIVIC, we aim to elevate the role of social responsibility in our communities.

What could be some of your next steps for meaningful action? Su Hawk, President and CEO of B:CIVIC, presented at our Annual Member Business Meeting in December. Su believes in the power of the individual in collective impact.

Su says, “You are a key influencer for the organizations where you work, and your voice as an employee matters. You have the capability to empower your company, coworkers, neighborhood coffee shops, children’s schools, and everyone you encounter to become part of the solution. You can inspire them to build and grow their community engagement strategies through volunteer engagement, philanthropic impact, and community reputation efforts.”

“Social responsibility is the answer to what we can all do in the world, bringing together people and passion to create community-minded solutions,” states Su. Connecting your company and peers to organizations such as Community Shares and B:CIVIC is a simple step you can take to empower investment in our communities. By bringing together businesses, nonprofits, and individuals, we can collectively address our communities’ social, economic, and environmental needs. Through this ongoing work, you are paving the way to a community-first culture and because of individuals like you, we will increase the amount of philanthropy, employee engagement, and collective good of our community.

Thank you for your support of our mission to connect Coloradans to the charities and causes they care about most. We believe that together, we can make Colorado an even better place to live, work, and play.

Tito’s Handmade Vodka is a fantastic example of how businesses can do well by doing good. Tito’s Handmade Vodka uses their passion for vodka to create positive change in the world by supporting nonprofits through volunteerism, product donation, and financial support. Thank you to Tito’s for their generous support of Community Shares.

Learn more about how they are changing the world online at titosvodka.com/love

“We believe that we’re meant to make the world a better place, and Tito’s Handmade Vodka is our medium.”
Community Shares is thrilled to share that we have been selected to receive the inaugural Bill Daniels Ethical Leadership Award to be presented at Colorado Nonprofit Association’s annual Nonprofit Week Awards Luncheon on March 16th. We are honored to receive this award, and extend our deep gratitude to The Daniels Fund and Colorado Nonprofit Association, for demonstrating their commitment to ethical leadership in creating and presenting this award.

The Bills Daniels Ethical Leadership Award was designed to recognize organizations that embody the spirit of ethical leadership exhibited by Bill Daniels, who believed deeply in ethics, integrity, and the importance of absolute ethical principles.

“Colorado nonprofits are held to a very high standard and having ethical leadership and ethical business practices makes all the difference," said Renny Fagan, President and CEO of Colorado Nonprofit Association. “Community Shares is a nonprofit that is leading the sector in openly demonstrating an active commitment to those practices.”

Community Shares was founded on and continues to be committed to our Guiding Principles of choice in giving, local significance, membership diversity, and financial clarity. Honoring these principles means that in our everyday operations, we continually commit to organizational integrity and ethical decision making. Our donors, partners, and nonprofits rely on us to manage more than $5 million annually. At Community Shares, we do not take this trust extended to us lightly. Each day, our staff works to ensure that donor privacy and intention is honored as we work to support nonprofits working towards a more socially just, vital, and vibrant Colorado.

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR
Our monthly donors support the ongoing operations of Community Shares by providing us with consistent funding throughout the year. Every $1 makes a difference, and you can sign up today by visiting cshares.org and clicking the “Donate Today” button. Select the “Monthly” option under “Donation Frequency” to support Community Shares throughout the year.

INCREASE YOUR IMPACT AT WORK
Looking to increase community impact and employee engagement at your office? We can help you get started! Give us a call at 303.861.7507 or email giving@cshares.org to take the first step today.

JOIN US FOR OUR EVENTS
We love spending time with our supporters! You’ll find all of our upcoming events on our website at cshares.org. Join us for our upcoming Home Brew Tasting Party and Competition in March and our annual Summer Celebration in June.

Find us on Facebook to receive notifications of other happenings with Community Shares.
 SAVE THE DATE

Summer Celebration

June 6, 2018

JUNE 6, 2018 | EXDO EVENT CENTER | DENVER, CO

We hope you will join us for our annual celebration honoring our partners and supporters!