



Buena Vista Community Grants Trustee Recommendation Packet

For consideration and modification or approval at Board Meeting on April 13th, 2021

Mr. Mayor, Trustees, and staff,

It is with great excitement that I submit to you this recommendation packet for the 2021 Buena Vista Community Grants. This letter outlines the process we followed, then each application is summarized below along with our recommended funding amount. As you recall, we consolidated the application process for municipal community grants into a single application this year. This served primarily to lower the burden on nonprofits, while also increasing the efficiency of the review process. We learned many lessons and solicited feedback from both applicants and reviewers, which we will continue to build upon to improve future grant programs.

CCCF’s grants review committee did recommend for the Salida City Council to consider moving the City’s allocation of funding from a set dollar amount to 1% of its budget. This would bring parity with the Town of Buena Vista and allow for a more equitable distribution of funds.

I will be present during your meeting in order to answer any questions you have. These recommendations may be approved as is or approved with modifications as you may wish.

Thank you for this opportunity to partner with the Town – we take this responsibility seriously and are dedicated to serving the community alongside you.

Sincerely,

Joseph Teipel
Executive Director

joseph@chaffeecommunity.org

(719) 204-5071

Applications Overview

- 37 Community Grants (CG) applications
 - Total of \$175,378.25 requested vs \$80,000 budget
 - 32 organizations recommended for funding
 - No applications are recommended for full funding at request level. Mainly due to budget, not quality.

Grant Review Committee

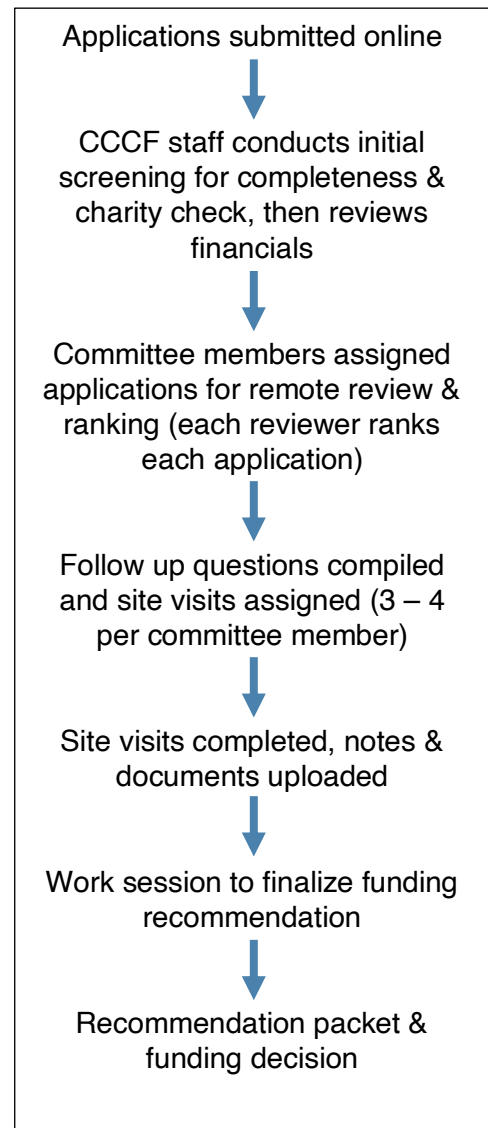
- 9 Reviewers + CCCF ED Facilitator
 - 1 active Salida Councilmember and 1 active Buena Vista Trustee
 - 2 CCCF Board & 1 CCCF staff
 - 4 At-large residents
- 3 organizational conflicts of interest for recusal
- 144+ hours of application review
- 30 follow-up applicant interactions
- Decisions made via majority vote

2021 Community Grants Budget – Town of Buena Vista

<i>Description</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Recommended</i>
Line-item Support - Boys & Girls Club - \$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Competitive Grants	\$40,000	\$40,000
CCCF Administrative Fee (2%)	\$900	\$900
Total	\$45,900	\$45,900





Timeline & Process

- 1) Initial committee meeting – Tuesday, Jan. 12th
 - a) Conflicts of Interest disclosed
 - b) Training on online portal
 - c) Timeline & review process agreed on
- 2) Applications assigned for review – Friday, February 19th
 - a) Conflicts of interest did not get assigned review
 - b) Alignment with rubric ranked
 - c) Site visit/follow-up questions gathered
 - d) Reviewers generate three metrics in addition to narrative comments/questions:
 - i) Overall score of the application (%)
 - ii) Whether or not they recommend funding (Y/N)
 - iii) If so, how much they recommend (\$)
- 3) Follow-ups conducted – March 11th thru March 23rd Via phone calls & emails.
- 4) Final work session conducted – Wednesday, March 24th
- 5) Follow-up Discussions – Thursday, March 25th-Monday, March 29th
- 6) Council decision – Tuesday, April 6th
- 7) CCCF to execute awards within 10 business days of executed grant agreements.
- 8) Grant reports due December 31st, 2021 and is a pre-requisite for applying for 2022 community grant support.



Factors in Funding Recommendations

The Grant Review committee strived to base all decisions on objective and defensible data. Inevitably tough decisions were made in order to meet the budget available and were based on a formula or an objective data source.

Application	Committee Reviews	Site Visits	Final Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Complete ⇒ 501c3 or tax-exempt status ⇒ All required documents uploaded <div style="text-align: center;"></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Score (% to 100) ⇒ Direct benefit ⇒ Avg. \$\$ recommendation <div style="text-align: center;"></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Follow-up Questions ⇒ Additional documentation ⇒ New information or changes <div style="text-align: center;"></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Start with avg. \$\$ recommended ⇒ + or – based on site visit info ⇒ Final budget trim: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ≤ 70% cut 10% - Case-by-case discussion <div style="text-align: center;"></div>

Application Summaries

Due to the large number of applications, these summaries only include organizational mission statements, request purpose, and a summary of committee discussions and rationale. Full applications, individual evaluations, and other documentation are available on request.

Attached at the end is a summary spreadsheet showing all awards, average score, and the allocation of funding between the Town of Buena Vista and the City of Salida. You'll also see superscript "BV" and "Salida" next to each application to denote whether both municipalities, or just one, is recommended to fund the project.

Achieve Inc. (The Little Engine Eatery) – 2021 Special Needs Summer Employment ^(BV)

Achieve, Inc. is a Colorado 501(c)(3) with a mission to provide a sustainable lifetime community of excellence for teens and young adults with learning disabilities by providing social and cognitive skills training, job training and employment for this population learning disabilities.

This application requested support to help fund Achieve's 2021 Special Needs Employment Program and included payroll expenses for temporary, part-time job coaches for teens and young adults with learning disabilities.

The reviewers recognized that this program is unique in Chaffee County, providing opportunities for an under-served population in our community. After a virtual site visit was conducted, the benefits were clear that the program has a positive impact for not only the program participants, but also extended family, job coaches, mentors, teachers, and the community who is served at the food truck. There is the added benefit to the community, that only locally sourced food is used in the Achieve program.

Committee Review Rank:
82%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$3000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$2,556

Final Recommendation:
\$2250

The Alliance – Expanding Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (BV & Salida)

The Alliance empowers individuals beyond sexual and domestic violence through advocacy, education, and social change.

Since the beginning of COVID, there has seen a 40% increase in domestic and sexual violence nationwide. This application requested funding to expand virtual and mobile advocacy options via a text crisis line, virtual advocacy interactions, and capacity for mobile advocacy. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, The Alliance has seen opportunities for in-person services “dry up” and they recognized a need to offer additional avenues for health care providers and community members to connect. These virtual and mobile advocacy programs will help them provide tools to support survivors and refer them to services. The Alliance is also looking to expand their services to include more teens and members of the Latino community.

This application received a high average rating from the initial committee review with unanimous support for funding.

Committee Review Rank:
74%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$8,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$5,000

Final Recommendation:
\$3600

Chaffee Housing Trust – Matching funds for State Grant (BV & Salida)

The Chaffee Housing Trust is a local nonprofit created to develop homeownership and rental opportunities affordable for lower-income workers and residents who cannot afford market-rate housing.

This application is an annual request, for recurring funding, and seeks to leverage a state Department of Housing matching grant. All reviewers acknowledged that the program is well run, saw measurable outcomes in the application, and unanimously recommended funding.

While the committee desired to recommend full funding, the final award of \$11,600 was agreed upon to meet the overall budget.

Committee Review Rank:
85%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$15,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$13,778

Final Recommendation:
\$11,600

Full Circle Restorative Justice – Restorative Schools-Responsive Support (BV & Salida)

FCRJ seeks to increase the health and safety of the community through restorative prevention and intervention - this is the mission of Full Circle Restorative Justice.

This application seeks support for the restorative mediation program to continue in tier 1 schools (B.V. High School and Salida H.S.) and expand to Tier 2 schools (McGinnis Middle School and Chaffee County High School). This funding will allow for the tier 1 schools to have dedicated support from an FCRJ Restorative Schools Facilitator for 20 hours a week. Funds from this grant will ensure services for Chaffee County schools needing tier 2 support have increased capacity of the Restorative Facilitator for Schools by five hours a week. Reviewers saw strong advantages to the program, in which participants take responsibility for their actions and agree to a mediated response, with the goal of avoiding the “prison pipeline”.

Measurable outcomes were clearly stated and recommendation for funding was unanimous.

Committee Review Rank: 84% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$6,540 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$5,885 Final Recommendation: **\$4,500**

Guidestone Colorado – Farm to School Program (BV & Salida)

Guidestone grows a vibrant agricultural future through education, community building and partnerships. Meeting this mission via four key programs: The Farm to School Program, Farmhands Education Program, Hutchinson Homestead & Learning Center, and Colorado Land Link.

This program funding request focuses on the Farm to School Program, which fosters garden education at two school gardens and the Community & School Farm. This program also grows produce for Salida School District (SSD), ensuring access to local produce in school meals.

Reviewers had some initial questions about how the numbers served were calculated and whether this program was competing with local for-profit farms, but these questions were answered fully by the applicant. All reviewers see measurable outcomes from this program and recommended funding

Committee Review Rank: 86% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$3,000 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$2,889 Final Recommendation: **\$2,000**

GARNA – Youth Program (BV & Salida)

The Greater Arkansas River Nature Association's (GARNA) Youth Ecological Literacy Program (YELP) inspires the next generation to take care of our local natural resources.

This application seeks support for the YELP project which addresses the need for youth to be empowered as decision makers and advocates for the natural resources and public lands that make up over 80% of our county. YELP provides engaging opportunities for learning, leadership, and service in our outdoor spaces. GARNA is prioritizing youth program Staff of Color to model for diverse Chaffee County youth that the outdoors is for everybody.

Committee Review Rank: 82% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount:
\$5,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$4,500

Final Recommendation:
\$4,050

elevateHER – empowerHER: Building Life Skills in the Wild ^(BV & Salida)

elevateHER is a nonprofit organization based in Chaffee County, Colorado, that uses a holistic approach to programming that lets us nurture each girl's mind, body, and soul.

This application requests funding to support the empowerHER Summer 2021 Programming Session, which will engage 36 girls (grades 6-12) in a 10-week guided series of outdoor adventure, mentoring and wellness programs to teach them the skills needed to be strong, thriving and resilient. elevateHER seeks to address the opportunity gap for young women in rural Chaffee County, Colorado. With significant local barriers to entry, including the lack of other low/no cost programs, many lower income young women are not participating in outdoor activities. elevateHER addresses these cost constraints, as well as other barriers to access by providing young women with the access, equipment, and mentorship to learn and enjoy the outdoors.

Reviewers concluded that the benefits to an underserved population outweighed any questions concerning the small number of participants in the program.

All reviewers recommended funding. Questions remain about how many actual Salida residents were served vs BV residents and this disparity was the primary justification for the award amount by the committee.

Committee Review Rank:
72%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$5,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$3,438

Final Recommendation:
\$2,250

Chaffee County Council for the Arts – Membership and Donations Modernization ^(BV)

Chaffee Arts' mission is to support local artists, promote their art, and learn from one another. We strive to create a visual arts community in Chaffee County through education, shows, and arts collaborations thus adding to the artistic and economic vitality of our region.

This application seeks support for purchase of a new software program which will modernize their membership and donation processes. These tasks have, historically, been handled manually, by volunteers. CCCA is hoping that, with the addition of a more modernized software process, they will have the ability to increase membership, volunteers, and donations to their programs. With these new members, volunteers, and donations, they will engage more of the community, offer more events, and offer more free to the public events.

There were significant concerns by reviewers concerning the amount the request vs. need and how the project would serve the community. After initial evaluation, only 2/3rds of the reviewers recommended funding this application. However, the site visit revealed that there is current collaboration planned with Salida (travelling art shows) and, if the grant request is not fully funded, there are plans in place to scale back the software purchase to match whatever funding is received.

Committee Review Rank:
62%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$4,500

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$2,214

Final Recommendation:
\$1,500

Neighbor to Neighbor Volunteers/The Chaffee Shuttle – Chaffee Matches (BV & Salida)

The Chaffee Shuttle is a shared ride and public transit service operating in Salida and Buena Vista, Colorado. Transportation is provided for medical appointments, work, shopping, and social activities throughout Chaffee County.

"Chaffee Matches" seeks a commitment and partnership from the City of Salida and the Town of Buena Vista, with a 2% match of the 2021 budgeted program expenses. The Chaffee Shuttle looks to have a limited fixed route fully operational in 2021 and plans to increase its marketing plan to let "neighbors" know of the various transit options available.

Recognizing the vital service that the Chaffee Shuttle provides to seniors, the disabled, economically challenged residents, and other underserved populations, reviewers unanimously recommended funding this request. However, due to their unstructured marketing plan and questions relating to the implementation of the proposed marketing plan, the recommendation for the amount of award was reduced.

Committee Review Rank:
76%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$6,030

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$5,258

Final Recommendation:
\$2,700

Articipate – Operating Support (Salida)

To foster awareness and teach the importance of the Arts in building communities and improving lives through workshops, performances, and educational programs for all ages.

This was a request for funds for general operating expenses to resume, continue, and expand their programming. This organization stated that they were impacted by COVID restrictions on indoor gatherings, a flooding of the space they share with Salida Community Center, and a cancellation of fundraisers typically used to fund programming.

Reviewers noted that the organization does provide an immeasurable benefit to the community and serves the youth population. However, the application was weak, in general, and lacked detail, with regard to programming outcomes. Also noted was the information that Articipate had received some prior COVID relief funds to off-set a portion of their fundraising losses.

Committee Review Rank:
69%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$5,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$3,438

Final Recommendation:
\$2,000

NAMI – Part-time Contracted Executive Director and Outreach (BV & Salida)

The mission of NAMI Chaffee County CO is to build a community of recovery and hope by educating, supporting and advocating for individuals and families affected by mental illness.

With this request, Nami Chaffee County is requesting general operating support to contract for a part-time Executive Director and Outreach Coordinator. Reviewers had some questions regarding the classification of these two positions within the organization. CCCF E.D., Joseph Teipel recommended that NAMI consult an HR consultant to verify they are not mis-classifying their contractors as independent contractors when they should be employees. This organization states that, according to the Mental Health Colorado Data Dashboard, 18.6% reported 8 or more days of poor mental health over a 30-day period in Chaffee County, while the state averaged 15.3%. The suicide rate in Chaffee County was 33.3 per 100,000 in 2018, compared to 21.7 in the state.

All reviewers saw measurable outcomes and critical benefit for the community. 7/10 reviewers recommended this request for funding.

Committee Review Rank:		Site Visit Conducted:
75%		Yes
Requested Amount:	Avg. Committee Recommendation:	Final Recommendation:
\$5,000	\$3,688	<u>\$2,700</u>

Salida Circus Outreach Foundation – After school Salida Circus Program (BV & Salida)

Salida Circus is a unique blend of physical activity, artistic expression, and fun.

Partnering with the Boys and Girls Club, Salida Ramps and Alleys, and Holman Avenue Aerial site, this applicant seeks funding to support the After School Salida Circus Program. This program will serve up to 100 Chaffee County youth per week through six weekly circus workshops in Salida and Buena Vista. All workshops at Boys and Girls club will be offered free of charge and the workshops at other sites will be offered for \$10 per participant, however, no one will be turned away due to inability to pay.

Reviewers commented that this organization did an amazing job of staying open during COVID and pivoted very quickly to offer safe programming. The afterschool circus demonstrates clear direct benefits to a large number of Chaffee County youth and 100% of the reviewers recommended funding.

Committee Review Rank:		Site Visit Conducted:
75%		Yes
Requested Amount:	Avg. Committee Recommendation:	Final Recommendation:
\$7,000	\$4,625	<u>\$4,000</u>

KHEN Community Radio – Replace/Upgrade Outdated Equipment (BV & Salida)

KHEN is a volunteer-supported community radio station and media platform committed to building community through programming, education and outreach.

This application seeks funding to replace and/or upgrade outdated equipment, including a back-up system for the Radio Tower, main broadcasting system, streaming system, and an office computer. This applicant has worked with local businesses and citizens to repurpose and re-use as much equipment as possible, but some of the equipment needed simply cannot be found used.

Reviewers acknowledged the vital service KHEN provides to the community, providing timely information about community events, COVID-19 updates, news, and alerts for the area. Several reviewers were inclined to tie the actual award to the cost of the Back-up equipment, which seemed to present as the most urgent need.

Committee Review Rank: 65% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$4,500 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$2,107 Final Recommendation: **\$1,400**

Salida Business Alliance – City of Salida – July 4th Celebration (Salida)

The Mission of the Salida Business Alliance is to work with businesses to attain a united approach in enhancing our business districts. This will strengthen our community and our economy.

This application seeks support for the city's 4th of July celebration event. Reviewers acknowledged that, while a celebration is important, this project doesn't really serve the needs of the community with the same weight as some of the other applications and is not on par with other needs of the community. **Several reviewers expressed the recommendation that the City of Salida fund this with line-item support.** In addition, they acknowledge the celebration would not happen without the SBA. This project received a rating of 64% and some of the reviewers recommended at least some nominal funding.

Committee Review Rank: 64% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$5,000 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$3,000 Final Recommendation: **\$450**

Starpoint – Salida Day Program – Food Nutrition and Education (BV & Salida)

*Our hope and goal is to fill in the gaps in funding in adult services and to stabilize funding for the early childhood programs in order to fulfill our **mission** of “enriching lives and realizing dreams.”*

This application seeks support for Starpoint Salida to initiate Food Nutrition & Education for a limited number of consumers and staff, when Covid restrictions are lifted, and they are permitted to resume Day Program activities. This request included funds to upgrade some outdated kitchen equipment and cooking utensils to meet basic educational requirements. Starpoint has partnered with Green Thumb for the food and a certified chef to provide a syllabus and instruction. This program is designed as “basic kitchen skills, for nutrition and safety” and not actual cooking classes.

Nearly 80% of the reviewers recommended funding at some level, recognizing that Starpoint serves a special needs population that does not have many opportunities for growth and education elsewhere in the county. The reduced funding amount was due, mainly, to the small number of participants directly benefitting from the proposed program.

Committee Review Rank:
73%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$5,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$3,617

Final Recommendation:
\$1,800

Mini Blessings – Mounting Ramp ^(BV)

As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, operating in Chaffee County, Mini-Blessings provides equine guided interactions and equine assisted learning to those within the Central Colorado region.

This application seeks support for Mini-Blessings to construct a mounting ramp. This project will meet the needs of Chaffee County community members with ambulation challenges, by enabling access to hippotherapy services and equine guided activities on the premises of the Mini-Blessings Farm. It allows persons with special needs to mount a full-size horse or interact with a full-size horse at eye level.

This project was supported unanimously by the reviewers, who noted the Mini Blessings strong proposal, the pledged commitment of labor supplied by volunteers, and the far-reaching benefits to the participants of the program. There were no questions or concerns and thus, no site visit. Requested amount was reduced simply for better fit to the overall budget.

Committee Review Rank:
81%

Site Visit Conducted:
No

Requested Amount:
\$2,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$1,875

Final Recommendation:
\$1,800

Energy Smart Colorado – Residential Energy Efficiency Program ^(BV)

In 2014, the program incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to make energy efficiency improvements simple and affordable for Colorado residents.

Energy Smart Colorado (ESC) requested funds to provide home energy assessments to Buena Vista's homeowners, to improve the health, safety, comfort and energy efficiency of their homes. In addition to identifying issues stated above, a certified building analyst would complete a blower door test and infrared photo analysis, to identify air leakage in the home, combustion safety check for risk of CO, and gas line leakage detection.

While this organization does have plans to scale up and expand to other parts of the county, the reviewers noted that, currently, the program only serves Buena Vista residents.

Committee Review Rank:
77%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$2,500

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$2,069

Final Recommendation:
\$1,800

Salida Senior Center/Community Center – General Operating Request (BV & Salida)

The Salida Community Center provides an opportunity to access and engage in recreational opportunities, stay active and socialize.

This applicant’s request focused on funding for basic operating expenses, due to increased needs for services in the community. This organization acknowledged receiving several grants recently which were restricted to food purchases. However, the Salida Senior Center has demonstrated a clear need for assistance with other expenses such as electric, gas, water, and fuel for vehicles to deliver the food.

Reviewers noted that the Salida Community Center serves also as a food bank and, as such, was impacted heavily by COVID restrictions for social distancing and gathering. These restrictions have affected normal food distribution and opportunities to serve meals. To pivot to the new needs of the community, during COVID, and still offer safe practices, the Center added volunteer drivers to deliver food to those in need, in lieu of serving meals at the facility.

Although reviewers felt the proposal was not strongly written, and overall ranking was only 70%, 100% of the reviewers felt funding was recommended.

Committee Review Rank:
71%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$10,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$5,459

Final Recommendation:
\$1,500

Chaffee County Hospitality – Housing the Difficult to House (BV & Salida)

Providing hospitality to our neighbors experiencing homelessness and walking alongside people as they work to exit homelessness.

This application seeks support for Chaffee County Hospitality to help house individuals whose personal situation makes staying in either the men’s or women’s shelter impossible. Chaffee County Hospitality stepped in immediately when the Caring and Sharing Shelter closed suddenly, further straining the resources of this organization. CC Hospitality is serving the most vulnerable of the Chaffee County population, for whom resources are scarce. The cost to house someone in a local hotel presently ranges between \$2000 and \$3000/month, depending on the motel. And, as there is currently no women’s shelter, making motel rooms are the only temporary option.

Reviewers were concerned about the unsustainability of such a costly solution to this pressing issue but noted that other resources for this specific population are in short supply. Recommendations for funding this request were unanimous, with reviewers adding that this organization is “operating on a shoestring but doing very important work” for the community”.

Committee Review Rank:
71%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$4,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$2,438

Final Recommendation:
\$2,250

BV High School – Central Colorado Unmanned Aircraft System (BV)

The purpose of Buena Vista High School is to provide a nurturing, safe school environment in which individualized teaching and counseling approaches help students experience academic success while becoming responsible citizens and life-long learners. Our goal is to make high school relevant and rigorous for all students so that they will graduate college and career ready, in order to meet life's challenges.

This application seeks support for BVHS to pay a one-time fee of \$3000 to qualify a candidate teacher for UAS classes with the nationally recognized certification from Unmanned Safety Institute (USI). The USI certification will give the UAS program teacher the credentials to - in turn - certify students in accordance with the FAA's Small UAS Rule (Part 107). The Part 107 license allows students to legally and safely operate small UAS or drones.

Reviewers initially had some concerns surrounding funding what is, in essence, continuing education and wondered what would happen if the certified instructor left the BVHS program. Site visit questions allayed those concerns, as the teacher in question is committed to the HS, these classes, and the community. He was willing to sign a Letter of Intent for 3 years and strong ties to the community, including children enrolled in the BV school system.

Committee Review Rank: 71% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$2.500 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$1,417 Final Recommendation: **\$1,000**

Colorado Farm to Table – Free Local Produce for Chaffee Food Insecure (BV & Salida)

Colorado Farm to Table's mission directs us to provide hunger relief for the needy and underprivileged men, women and families in crisis. Our fresh produce, grown specifically for this in need, provides the help and respect that our fellow Coloradans needs to make ends meet and begin to stand on their own.

This funding request seeks support for Colorado Farm to Table to resume its mission of distributing produce at no cost to 14 Chaffee County recipient and distribution partners. This organization provides an unparalleled service that will help to ensure that our community partners, including the Grainery, Salida Community Center, and Ark Valley Christian Mission, are able to meet the unprecedented nutritional needs of food insecure individuals in Chaffee County.

The site visit determined that this group has been dormant over the last year, due to COVID. They have a new farmer who is committed to moving away from herbicides and pesticides over the next few years to produce more organic crops. Reviewers noted that, while Colorado Farm to Table is focused on producing upwards of 100,00 pounds of food over the next year, only 10% will stay in Chaffee County. There is no place for storage of excess produce, and, to prevent spoilage, it will likely be distributed through Care and Share beyond our county. Reviewers also noted that there is little, if any, collaboration between Colorado Farm to Table and Guidestone and other nonprofits producing food for the community.

Committee Review Rank: 81% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$10,000 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$7,500 Final Recommendation: **\$4,000**

Grainery – Maintain and expand our open shelf food pantry (BV & Salida)

The Grainery Ministries relies on the loving generosity of this community for the resources to continue to serve our brothers and sisters in need.

This request for funding will be used to provide food items not available from the Care and Share Food Bank. Applicant states that many of the items available at the food bank do not meet the needs of our community and the lack of availability necessitates that they purchase them locally.

Reviewers noted that the Grainery is experienced in serving a very unique population who are not addressed elsewhere in the county. This population of community members includes those with no permanent address, super low-income individuals who are unhoused (or living in cars, motels, or camps), and individuals who are undocumented. The Grainery serves more than 400 Salida families and 80 Buena Vista families per week. The site visit documented that The Grainery is in full collaboration and partnership with other nonprofit entities, to ensure that none of the donated or purchased food goes to waste. The Grainery has effective ways to measure outcomes with visitor registers which ultimately are sent to Care & Share.

Final award recommendation was reduced, not because of questions of program benefits or viability, but due to the quality and clarity of the application itself.

Committee Review Rank: 61% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$3,000 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$1,900 Final Recommendation: **\$1,000**

Chaffee County Search and Rescue – South- Financial Assistance (BV & Salida)

Chaffee County Search and Rescue is a non-profit, all volunteer organization operating under the direction of the Chaffee County Sheriff's Office. Our mission is to provide search and rescue services, as well as outdoor safety education, at no cost to the public.

This applicant request seeks to fund the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle to be used in rescues and evacuations in the backcountry. They currently have one ATV that needs to be replaced.

Recognizing that Chaffee County Search and Rescue provides an invaluable service to county both residents and tourists alike, this request was highly recommended for funding. And, although there appears to be some collaboration between CC SARS South and CC SARS North (approximately 10% of the calls require participation of both units), this request would mostly serve Salida and surrounding area residents, as the boundary line for dispatch of the two groups is Brown's Creek.

Committee Review Rank: 64% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$2,500 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$1,357 Final Recommendation: **\$1,000**

Buena Vista Heritage – Open Air Exhibits and Landscaping ^(BV)

Buena Vista Heritage is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit organization that exists to preserve and share the history of Buena Vista and Chaffee County for the education and enjoyment of the public. Our goal is to preserve, protect and restore any historical site, building, and artifact pertaining to the Town of Buena Vista, Chaffee County, as well as areas in central and/or western Colorado. We want to recreate and share the special stories unique to our area.

This request seeks to fund the creation of a free outdoor exhibit and improve walkways, signage, and beautification outside of the Historic County Courthouse building. The new exhibit, through which guests would learn about local history and artifacts, would offer a safe environment for guests during COVID 19.

Many of the reviewers felt that the proposal for the outdoor exhibits was not fully fleshed out or well organized. Also of concern was the information that there are excessive maintenance issues which need attention within the building itself. Reviewers expressed that perhaps this was not the year for new outdoor venue creation when there are more pressing issues to be addressed on site.

Committee Review Rank: 69% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$5,200.25 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$2,957 Final Recommendation: **\$850**

Chaffee County Childcare Initiative – The Schoolhouse ^(BV & Salida)

Our purpose is to establish childcare options in our community. We strive to help find solutions to the childcare needs of parents and guardians of the youngest members of the Arkansas River Valley, Colorado. We empower parents & caregivers by helping establish options for nurturing their children through high quality, diverse childcare options. Chaffee County Childcare Initiative is a Nonprofit 501(c)3 organization created by parents and community members in Salida, Colorado in 2019.

Chaffee Childcare Initiative (CCI) is requesting general operating support to expand childcare services by expanding the programming to five days a week, establishing a professional development program for the staff to ensure sustained high-quality instruction, and create an employee retention program to recruit and retain high quality educators.

Reviewers had some concerns regarding the gap between the budget and the programming needs of the facility. The applicant explained, during the site visit, that the facility will be hiring a director who is also a lead teacher, thereby streamlining staffing with one individual who can float between two positions. The current director be certified as a large center director, allowing the facility to accept more children into their programs. Some reviewers also expressed concern that the cost of the program (\$70/day) excludes lower income families from utilizing the Schoolhouse’s services.

Committee Review Rank: 67% Site Visit Conducted: Yes

Requested Amount: \$7,500 Avg. Committee Recommendation: \$3,313 Final Recommendation: **\$2,750**

Southwest Conservation Corps – Chaffee County Youth Conservation Crew (BV & Salida)

SCC focuses on local impact—engaging youth, young adults and veterans in conservation and service programs from 15 locations nationwide. We are embedded in our communities to meet the on-the-ground conservation needs. Our programs are a part of and supported by the larger national organization, Conservation Legacy.

SCC is requesting \$7500 to use as match for county funding This funding will provide two weeks of work to BV Singletrack Coalition. This coalition will build a new trail in Buena Vista’s popular Fourmile Recreation Area and provide an additional three miles of non-motorized recreation for hikers, runners, bikers and horseback riders. This funding will also complete support a five (5) week local youth crew based in Chaffee County. For this crew, SCC will employ 6 local youth (14-18) and 2 crew leaders to work on this project and funds awarded from the CCCF grant will be used to pay youth minimum wage.

This application had unanimous support from the reviewers who noted that the actual numbers of the many people directly benefitting from SCC programs and trail building is nearly impossible to calculate.

Committee Review Rank
80%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$7,500

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$5,250

Final Recommendation:
\$4,500

Chaffee County Early Childhood Council – Chaffee Conscious Discipline (BV & Salida)

Our Mission. Provide a caring collaborative system of affordable, quality services for all children prenatal to age 8 and their families.

Conscious Discipline (CD) is a comprehensive social emotional skills development system that integrates all domains of learning: social, emotional, physical, cultural, and cognitive. Four preschools have completed the CD 10 session training and have seen its positive impact. This application request will fund additional training of a “Master Trainer” who will provide additional coaching to these schools which are utilizing the program.

The reviewers noted that helping children to self-regulate and moderate their own behavior is always a good thing. And using a “trainer of trainer” method is an effective way to spread these systems to other schools in an affordable way.

Committee Review Rank
78%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$7,250

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$4,688

Final Recommendation:
\$3,600

Truth Has A Voice Foundation (THAV) – Internship Program (BV & Salida)

The Mission of the Truth Has A Voice Foundation is to Support Quality, Objective, Fact-based Journalism in the Upper Arkansas Valley.

There was concern from some of the reviewers that both BV Pregnancy Center and Salida Pregnancy Center (below) were requesting funding for the same program, posing the question that perhaps these two entities might collaborate on curriculum purchases in the future?

Committee Review Rank
64%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$3,783

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$2,183

Final Recommendation:
\$750

Boys & Girls Club of Chaffee County – LINE ITEM SUPPORTED (BV & Salida)

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Chaffee County/BGCCC implements evidence-based, youth development programming for school-aged youth in Chaffee County, Colorado, reinforcing Priority Outcomes of: Increased academic success; improved good character and citizenship; and increased healthy lifestyles.

In 2020 there were 880 Club members at both Clubs in Chaffee County. 36% of school-aged children in Chaffee County were supported by BGCCC (2,470 youth between ages of 5 – 17, 2020 KIDS COUNT in Colorado!). Due to COVID, outreach programming was curtailed at Salida Middle School, Chaffee County High School and Darren Patterson Academy. We served 243 youth safely this summer in compliance with Chaffee County Public Health directives. Current emphasis for operations is on safety and protecting our community's vulnerable youth to ensure a safe learning environment. As example, the 2020 Safer Learning Project partnership supports the most vulnerable students when schools are shuttered due to COVID.

All committee members felt there are measurable outcomes and recommended full funding and continued line-item support from the City.

Committee Review Rank:
83%

Site Visit Conducted:
No

Requested Amount:
\$17,500

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$12,250

Final Recommendation:
\$12,500

Colorado Foodshed Alliance – LINE ITEM SUPPORTED (Salida)

Foodshed Alliance requests operational funding to support their Farmers Markets in Chaffee County. They facilitate a thriving local food economy by organizing and promoting Farmers Markets and vendors in Salida and Buena Vista. Their vision is to connect, develop and promote a healthy community by strengthening relationships between local producers and consumers.

Committee Review Rank:
58%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$5,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$3,312

Final Recommendation:
\$5,000

Salida-area Parks, Open-space & Trails (SPOT) – LINE ITEM SUPPORTED (Salida)

This project involves the development of a social trail along the north side of Poncha Blvd. in Salida into a safe, non-motorized, public corridor. The trail will be an extension of the CR120 Trail, running from Holman Ave. easterly 1,150' to Adams Ave. It will be a 10' wide, asphalt trail positioned between Poncha Blvd. and the south fence of the Salida Golf Course. Several professional contractors have helped with cost estimates and Salida and SPOT will provide planning, funding, building and future maintenance. This trail will be a valuable addition to the Salida Trail System and greatly enhance safe transportation and recreational opportunities in the community.

This project is supported by the Salida Community Development, Public Works and Park & Recreation Departments and the Parks & Recreation, Open-space & Trails PROST Advisory Board to the Salida City Council. The Poncha Path was identified as a high priority in SPOT's Connectivity Project completed earlier this year.

Committee Review Rank:
67%

Site Visit Conducted:
Yes

Requested Amount:
\$5,000

Avg. Committee Recommendation:
\$3,017

Final Recommendation:
\$3,000

Organization Name	Project Name	Amount Requested	Average Score	Recommended for Funding	Average Recommended Funding	Final Recommendation	Final BV	Final Salida
The Grainery Ministry	Maintain and expand our open shelf food pantry	\$ 3,000	61%	56%	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,000	\$ 250.00	\$ 750.00
Central Colorado SURJ	CCSURJ Education Series	\$ 2,500	61%	78%	\$ 1,583	\$ 1,000	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Chaffee County Council for the Arts	Membership and Donations Process Modernization	\$ 4,500	62%	67%	\$ 2,214	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Salida Pregnancy Resource Center	Bright Course Lessons	\$ 3,783	64%	89%	\$ 2,183	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 750.00
Chaffee County Search and Rescue South	Financial assistance/essential equipment	\$ 2,500	64%	89%	\$ 1,357	\$ 1,000	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Salida Business Alliance	City of Salida July 4th Celebration	\$ 5,000	64%	100%	\$ 3,000	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ 450.00
Buena Vista Pregnancy Center	Bright Course/Hope Sync Program aka (EWYL)	\$ 2,700	65%	78%	\$ 1,325	\$ 750	\$ 750.00	\$ -
KHEN 106.9fm Community Radio	Replace/Upgrade Outdated Equipment	\$ 4,500	65%	89%	\$ 2,107	\$ 1,400	\$ 350.00	\$ 1,050.00
Ramps and Alleys Clubhouse	Ramps & Alleys Clubhouse	\$ 3,000	66%	100%	\$ 1,188	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 750.00
Chaffee County Childcare Initiative	Chaffee Childcare Initiative - The Schoolhouse	\$ 7,500	67%	100%	\$ 3,313	\$ 2,750	\$ 687.50	\$ 2,062.50
Buena Vista Heritage	Open Air Exhibit/Landscaping	\$ 5,200	69%	89%	\$ 2,957	\$ 850	\$ 850.00	\$ -
Articipate	Articipate Operating Support	\$ 5,000	69%	100%	\$ 3,438	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Salida Senior Citizen, Inc. dba Salida Community Center	General Operating	\$ 10,000	70%	100%	\$ 5,429	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Chaffee County Hospitality INC.	Housing the Difficult to House	\$ 4,000	71%	100%	\$ 2,438	\$ 2,250	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 1,125.00
Central Colorado Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Club	BVHS Drone Program Teacher Certification	\$ 2,500	71%	89%	\$ 1,417	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
elevateHER	empowerHER: Building Life Skills in the Wild	\$ 5,000	72%	100%	\$ 3,438	\$ 2,250	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,500.00
Truth Has A Voice Foundation	Truth Has A Voice Foundation Internship Program	\$ 1,875	73%	78%	\$ 1,577	\$ 900	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
Starpoint	Salida Day Program Food Nutrition & Education	\$ 5,000	73%	78%	\$ 3,617	\$ 1,800	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,350.00
The Alliance	Expanding Domestic and Sexual Violence Services	\$ 8,000	74%	100%	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,600	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 900.00
NAMI Chaffee County	Contract Executive Director and Outreach Coord.	\$ 5,000	75%	100%	\$ 3,688	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350.00
Salida Circus Outreach Foundation	After school Salida Circus program Chaffee County	\$ 7,000	75%	100%	\$ 4,625	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Neighbor to Neighbor Volunteers/The Chaffee Shuttle	Chaffee Matches	\$ 6,030	76%	100%	\$ 5,258	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,350.00
Energy Smart Colorado	Residential Energy Efficiency program	\$ 2,500	77%	100%	\$ 2,069	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -
Chaffee County Early Childhood Council	Chaffee Conscious Discipline	\$ 7,250	78%	100%	\$ 4,688	\$ 3,600	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00
Southwest Conservation Corps	Chaffee County Youth Conservation Crew	\$ 7,500	80%	100%	\$ 5,250	\$ 4,500	\$ 2,712.50	\$ 1,787.50
Mini-Blessings	Mounting Ramp	\$ 2,000	81%	100%	\$ 1,875	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -
Colorado Farm To Table Inc	Free Local Produce for Chaffee Food-Insecure	\$ 10,000	81%	78%	\$ 7,500	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Greater Arkansas River Nature Association	GARNA Youth Program	\$ 5,000	82%	100%	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,050	\$ 2,025.00	\$ 2,025.00
Achieve, Inc.	2021 Special Needs Summer Employment Program	\$ 3,000	82%	100%	\$ 2,556	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250.00	\$ -
Full Circle Restorative Justice	Restorative Schools - Responsive Support: Tier 2	\$ 6,540	84%	100%	\$ 5,885	\$ 4,500	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 2,250.00
Chaffee Housing Trust	Matching Funds for State Operating Grant	\$ 15,000	85%	100%	\$ 13,778	\$ 11,600	\$ 5,800.00	\$ 5,800.00
Guidestone Colorado	Farm to School Program	\$ 3,000	86%	100%	\$ 2,889	\$ 2,000	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,500.00
		\$ 165,378			\$ 114,037	\$ 80,000	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Line-item Support								
Boys & Girls Clubs of Chaffee County	Boys & Girls Clubs of Chaffee County	\$ 17,500	85%	100%	\$ 12,250	\$ 12,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,500
Salida-area Parks, Open-space & Trails (SPOT)	Poncha Path	\$ 5,000	74%	89%	\$ 3,071	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000
Foodshed Alliance	Foodshed Alliance Farmers Markets	\$ 5,000	75%	100%	\$ 3,313	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000