To Promote the Health and Well-Being of the People of Colorado
As The Colorado Trust marks its tenth anniversary, we are taking a look at the past to see where we have been and how we have grown as we have worked to promote and enhance the health and well-being of the people of Colorado. This publication highlights our history and describes our vision for the future. We are proud to be part of the fabric of Colorado. We are proud of our role in helping to shape a positive future for our state. Most of all, we are proud to be partners with the people of Colorado, working together to make our state a healthier place to live, work and play. We hope that you will enjoy these highlights of the Colorado Trust’s first 10 years.

The Board of Trustees & Staff of The Colorado Trust
The Colorado Trust, originally called the Colorado Community Foundation, is established as a private foundation and endowed by the proceeds of the sale of Presbyterian/St. Luke’s Medical Center. Nine Trustees, representing business, finance, religion and medicine, are appointed. Trustees pledge that the foundation will honor its heritage by an annual distribution to the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado and the Presbytery of Denver. Grantmaking will be guided by an initial mission statement established by the Trustees: To promote and enhance the health and well-being of all people, particularly the people of Colorado, regardless of sex, age, race or religion. The Trust opens offices with four employees in what is now the Denver Post Building at 1560 Broadway. Initial grantmaking focuses on four areas: Health and Wellness, Medical Care and Research, Health Policy, and Human Services.
The Colorado Community Foundation name is changed to The Colorado Trust.

The Trustees establish the foundation’s first goals: The Trust will serve as a catalyst by funding innovative projects to conduct studies, develop services or provide education that will bring long-lasting benefits to the people of Colorado.

Grantmaking emphasizes Health Care Services, Health Promotion, Health Policy, and Human Services. The Trust expresses concern about the lack of health care for people in rural areas and for those who are medically indigent. Focus on these areas and on the needs of families and children will continue throughout the foundation’s first decade.

The Trust seeks to educate Coloradans about health promotion through grants to Colorado Action for Healthy People and to the Hall of Life at the Denver Museum of Natural History.
The Trust establishes six areas of highest grantmaking priority: Rural Health, Indigent Health Policy, Health Promotion, Children’s Issues, Elderly Issues, and Indian Health Care. Six additional second-tier areas of grantmaking are also established: Health Education, Direct Medical and Dental Care, Medical Screening and Early Detection, Domestic Violence, Mental Health, and the Homeless. The Rural Healthcare Initiative is created. Over the life of the initiative, 10 grants are awarded through a request-for-proposals process to help rural communities facing shortages of health professionals, hospital closures and struggling emergency medical services systems. Focus on the prevention of domestic violence will ultimately include publications and training for health care workers, police and judges; treatment programs for abusers; and support for numerous advocacy organizations and safehouses across Colorado. Efforts to prevent teen pregnancy, initiated this year, will continue over the years, as will emphasis on health education and on health promotion and disease prevention. The Trust seeks to improve the health of Native American people by supporting health promotion programs on the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute reservations of Colorado; a diabetes prevention, exercise and wellness program on the Zuni Reservation in New Mexico; and a medical clinic in Denver.
To address the state's nursing shortage, Nursing is added as a funding priority. The Trust supports the work of the statewide Task Force Office on Nursing.

Three studies are commissioned to evaluate the needs of elderly Coloradans.

Results of a statewide survey conducted by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc. for The Trust reveal that thousands of Coloradans are uninsured, do not receive health care and lack preventive care. These and other findings will be used by the foundation for its future grantmaking decisions.

The Trust seeks to improve communications with grantees, community leaders, policy-makers, other foundations and the general public by initiating a newsletter, The Colorado Trust Quarterly.
The Trust funds a hospitalized elderly project, an information and referral project and a caregivers’ initiative. Support to establish Total Longterm Care, a program that provides community-based acute and long-term care to frail elders, will be added the following year. Concern that many Colorado women lack prenatal care leads The Trust to announce a Prenatal, Labor and Delivery Care Initiative. The initiative will reach women in 12 counties before it is concluded. Emphasizing family self-sufficiency, The Trust supports the Denver Family Opportunity Program, which helps families find alternatives to welfare. Following a report from the Task Force Office on Nursing, The Trust supports development of what will become the nationally recognized Colorado Nursing Articulation Model.
The Trust unveils its innovative E/911 Interest-Free Loan Program to help rural communities install enhanced emergency telephone services. The program will serve citizens in more than 20 Colorado counties before it concludes in 1995. The foundation supports the "Baby Your Baby" information hotline and five maternity projects under the Prenatal, Labor and Delivery Care Initiative. The Trust initiates a statewide study of the trends expected to impact Colorado in the next five to 10 years; results will be revealed early in 1992.
The Colorado Trust moves to its historic new home at 1600 Sherman Street.

In recognition of its commitment to carry out medical research and education through the P/SL Healthcare System, The Trust makes a major one-time grant to the institution and invests in bonds to enable the System to re-established as a nonprofit health care provider. The Trust is discharged from all prior obligations to the System.

Louis Sullivan, M.D., secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, visits The Trust and meets with Board and staff members.

The foundation begins to administer the Homeless Prevention Activities Program, the state income tax check-off program designed to stabilize families and prevent homelessness.

Building on previous grants, The Trust supports development of the Differentiated Practice Model for Nursing; the model is designed to improve patient care and the retention of nurses.
The Trust releases *Choices for Colorado’s Future*, which reports the results of a statewide study begun in 1990 that involved citizens and experts from across the state to examine the social, economic, political and technological trends likely to shape Colorado’s future throughout the next decade. The Board of Trustees revises its mission, commitment and goals statements.

**MISSION:** The mission of The Colorado Trust is to promote and enhance the health and well-being of the people of Colorado.

**COMMITMENT:** To fulfill its mission, the foundation supports innovative projects, conducts studies, develops services and provides education to produce long-lasting benefits for all Coloradans.

**GOALS:** Within the framework of human development, The Colorado Trust advances accessible and affordable health care programs and the strengthening of families.

A strategic planning process and the revised mission, commitment and goals statements lead to development of statewide initiatives utilizing a request-for-proposals process as The Trust’s primary funding strategy.

The five-year Colorado Healthy Communities Initiative is launched. Twenty-eight communities ultimately will be helped to develop and implement healthy community projects to meet local health needs.

The foundation supports the initial study of ColoradoCare to explore universal health coverage for all Coloradans.

The Trust co-hosts an “Ethics in Grantmaking” seminar and sponsors a session on creative grantmaking for foundations.

Accompanied by Colorado First Lady Bea Romer, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and Betty Bumpers meet at The Colorado Trust to discuss their national campaign to immunize children before the age of two.
The Trustees establish Vision 2000 to articulate the values of the foundation and guide grantmaking. Future initiatives will focus on prevention. The five-year Teen Pregnancy Prevention 2000 Initiative targets activities in five Colorado communities. The Trust announces the Preconception Health Promotion Initiative, a three-year program to help ensure that women are healthy before they become pregnant. The five-year Home Visitation 2000 Initiative is developed to provide preventive services to 750 Denver families at risk for maternal and child health problems. The initiative will study the effectiveness of two models of home visitation for families with newborns. The three-year Interconception Health Promotion Initiative is created to help ensure the birth of healthy babies to women who have previously had a baby born with low birthweight or birth defects. Under the Colorado Health Professions Initiative, The Trust joins with the Pew Health Professions Commission to support the Colorado Health Professions Panel to improve the development and distribution of health professionals across the state. A year later, additional support is awarded to the Colorado Rural Health Resource Center, which coordinates rural health care resources, and to a project to implement the Colorado Differentiated Practice Model for Nursing in Colorado health care facilities. The Trust hosts a communications workshop for board and staff members of Colorado foundations, and it invites foundations to hear Ron Pollack, executive director of Families USA, discuss the role of philanthropy in health care reform.
The five-year Colorado School Health Education Initiative is launched to help local school districts adopt and sustain effective health education programs and to enhance the effectiveness of existing programs. The Trust brings together communities involved in the Colorado Healthy Communities Initiative and the Teen Pregnancy Prevention 2000 Initiative for separate networking and recognition events and sponsors a communications workshop for its grantees. The Trust hosts a luncheon for Colorado foundations at which Steven Schroeder, M.D., president of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, speaks about the role of grant-makers in supporting health issues. Late in the year, the foundation begins major renovation of its historic building. The six-month project will ensure that The Colorado Trust Building is accessible to persons with disabilities, will create more efficient office space and will restore the building to much of its original architecture and design. The Trust unveils the five-year Community Action for Health Promotion Initiative. Fifty or more Colorado communities will receive support for health prevention and disease promotion projects that address local health needs.
Since its founding in 1985, The Colorado Trust has worked in partnership with its grantees, other foundations, organizations, state and community leaders and policy-makers to enhance the health and well-being of the people of Colorado. During that time, it has provided more than $90 million in support to communities throughout the state. As it enters its second decade, The Trust is committed to the philosophy established by its Trustees and given voice in The Colorado Trust Vision 2000, which articulates how The Trust would like to be viewed by the people of Colorado by the year 2000.

The mission of The Colorado Trust is to promote and enhance the health and well-being of the people of Colorado. To fulfill its mission, the foundation supports innovative projects, conducts studies, develops services and provides education to produce long-lasting benefits for all Coloradans. Within the framework of human development, The Colorado Trust advances accessible and affordable health care programs and the strengthening of families. The Trust exemplifies the highest ethics and values of a good society. With creative programs and the careful stewardship of its assets, The Trust focuses on long-term and sustainable improvements in health and well-being for the entire state. It also addresses needs and new opportunities as they arise. The Trust is a learning organization that listens, thinks, evaluates its actions and shares knowledge with others. It affects systems change by targeting root causes rather than symptoms of problems. Through its programs, the foundation also fosters appropriate public policy.

The Trust works in partnership with its grantees, building on their strengths, spirit, efforts, talents and convictions to achieve goals. The Trust also collaborates with other foundations, organizations and state leaders to promote mutual interests, yet retains its unique identity and purpose. The Colorado Trust believes in the intrinsic capacity of local communities to solve their own problems. This principle is reflected in the foundation’s support of the family as the basic strength of our society. It also maintains that individuals are responsible for decisions that affect personal and community life. The Board of Trustees, the president and the staff maintain a work environment that nurtures both institutional and personal growth. This environment allows for open communication through which all opinions are heard and respected. Board and staff members have the skills, resources and time to acquire knowledge and increase their understanding to carry out the programs of The Colorado Trust. Internal relationships among Board and staff are based on a covenant of shared values. Steadfast commitment to the principles embodied in Vision 2000 is fundamental to the achievement of The Colorado Trust mission.