

Five Year Review



Dear Friends,

The Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell Foundation is proud to celebrate its fifth year of serving our communities starting in our hometown of Denver and extending across the country and the world. The civil litigation firm of Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP established the WTO Foundation in September 2005 to provide firm lawyers, employees, and family and friends opportunities to give and to volunteer. We thought it was the smartest way for us to do the right thing in our community.

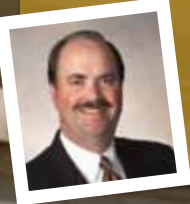
The Foundation primarily invests in service organizations in which our lawyers and employees are involved as donors or volunteers, since the majority of the Foundation's funds come from the Firm and its employees. The Foundation matches donations made by firm employees, supports board service, and provides funding and volunteer teams to qualified nonprofits which firm personnel personally support.

To date, the Foundation has donated almost \$600,000 and countless hours of volunteer time to various charities working in the areas of legal services, education, homelessness and poverty, hunger, animal protection, disease treatment and prevention, arts and culture, military veterans, and emergency relief.

From the beginning, the Foundation has made an impact on the lives of many, both inside and outside the firm. We are most pleased that our Foundation work has helped us to become a stronger and more collegial group. Our employees cite the Foundation as one of the reasons they have voted the firm among the top three best places to work in our size category from 2007 to 2010, including number one in 2008 and 2010, in an annual survey conducted by the *Denver Business Journal*.

We hope this review of the Foundation's first five years informs and inspires you as to how you and your organization might embrace the challenges and benefits of community service.

Kind regards,
Michael L. O'Donnell
President, Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell Foundation
Chairman, Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP



The Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell Foundation provides, through charitable activities and programs, opportunities for current and former Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell LLP lawyers, staff, and their families to build a caring community and to reach out to others.

Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell FOUNDATION



TIMELINE

From when the Foundation was founded in September 2005 until the end of that year, it had contributed \$53,000 to charitable causes, volunteered a day of service sorting donations of clothes and housewares for Hurricane Katrina evacuees living in Denver, and awarded a \$10,000 scholarship to a first-year law student through the **Minority Corporate Counsel Association's** diversity scholarship program.

Following are descriptions of some of the other highlights from the Foundation's first five years.

2006

The Foundation donated \$76,000 to more than 20 nonprofit organizations.

An executive action report titled, "Philanthropy at Mid-Market Firms," published by The Conference Board featured the Foundation as a corporate social responsibility best practice.

Volunteers organized and staffed monthly family night dinners, collected and presented holiday gifts, shoes, school supplies, and bicycles, and sponsored summer camp and Rockies baseball outings for near-homeless families served by Denver's **Colfax Community Network**.

Volunteers assembled life-saving kits for **Mile High United Way's** Project Homeless Connect.

2007

The Foundation donated \$106,000 to 38 charitable organizations.

WTO lawyers and staff responded to a call from the U.S. Attorney's Office for community involvement in protecting children from online dangers when they helped found the **Internet Safety Foundation** using seed money provided by the Foundation. Through the ISF, WTO volunteers assisted Denver-area high school students with the production of Internet safety podcasts and organized the first state-wide Internet safety summit for teens.

2008

The Foundation donated \$108,000 to 36 nonprofit organizations.

*The **Colorado Association of Leaders in Educational Technology** presented its 2008 Outstanding Friend of Technology Award to Habib Nasrullah for his service to youth through the Internet Safety Foundation.*

The Foundation collected dozens of eyeglasses that were distributed by the **Lyons Eyeglass Recycling Program** to those in need around the world.

2009

The Foundation donated \$112,000 to over 40 nonprofit organizations.

87% of firm personnel donated money, in-kind goods, or volunteered time.

After the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the Foundation raised \$11,000 in donations from inside and outside the firm, including \$750 from teenagers from around the world who were in Denver for an **Up With People** event. The Foundation matched \$10,000 and sent a total of \$21,000 to a Firm client and his Haitian wife who had set up a fund for disaster relief organizations operating in Haiti, including **Doctors Without Borders**, **Yèle Haiti Foundation**, **World Food Program**, **Catholic Relief Services**, and the **International Red Cross**.

2010

The Foundation donated \$102,000 to over 60 nonprofit organizations.

80% of firm personnel donated money, in-kind goods, or volunteered time.

The **Tennysen Center for Children**, an organization that serves children who have been abused or neglected, made a presentation at WTO's annual Take Your Child to Work Day. It inspired the children and grandchildren who were present to raise \$256 in one month. The Foundation matched the children's collection to donate a total of \$512 to Tennysen Center for the prevention and treatment of child abuse.

*The **Denver Business Journal** presented the firm with the 2010 Partners in Philanthropy Award for "doing more than writing checks." [See insert.]*

The Foundation sent 29 used cell phones to the **911 Cell Phone Bank** which services and distributes the phones to victims' services organizations worldwide.

WTO associates won a trophy for the Firm as the top contributor in its size category in the annual Campaign for Justice to benefit the **Legal Aid Foundation**. Because his team lost the internal fundraising competition, **Drew Unthank** spent some time closing cases at the **Colorado Legal Services** office.





PARTNERSHIPS

Over the years, the Foundation has developed mutually satisfying partnerships with several nonprofit organizations which we have served almost every year the Foundation has been operating.

The Gathering Place

Denver's only daytime shelter for women and children who are experiencing homelessness and poverty, The Gathering Place provides a safe daytime refuge and resources to help its clients achieve self-sufficiency.

The Foundation began its relationship with TGP in 2007 by collecting and delivering hotel-sized toiletries on a regular basis. In 2008, the Firm commissioned art for its holiday card from TGP's Card Project. Since then, Foundation volunteers have baked cookies, donated gifts, and wrapped presents at the holidays. In conjunction with the nonprofit Paint Across America started by the daughter of a WTO lawyer, the Foundation organized a Paint Out on TGP's front lawn. The son of WTO's chairman, a Denver-based artist, oversaw the painting of a mural which graces TGP's building today.

One of the Foundation's favorite and most rewarding projects is cooking and waiting tables at a monthly hot breakfast for the women and children at TGP. An ever-changing mix of 15–20 lawyers and staff work as a team to prepare and serve quiche, bacon, and roasted potatoes to about 150 people. The women are immensely thankful for the opportunity to relax and socialize with volunteers in a restaurant-like setting, eat a nutritious and delicious hot meal, and enjoy a brief respite from their daily worries and cares.

Lawyer **Ramona Lampley** serves on TGP's board of directors where she is chairperson in 2011–2012. Office services manager **Liz Martinez** and the Foundation's executive director **Connie Proulx** oversee the monthly breakfasts and paralegal **Patrick Kunkler** serves as top chef.

TGP honored the Foundation as one of its 25 Heroes at its 25th anniversary gala.

Denver Kids, Inc.

As a one-to-one counseling and mentoring program, Denver Kids, Inc. helps at-risk K-12 students in Denver Public Schools overcome the personal challenges of high-risk environments to successfully complete high school, pursue a post-secondary option, and become contributing members of society.

In 2005, the Foundation introduced DKI to the firm and recruited mentors. Annually, volunteers send care packages and notes of encouragement to DKI graduates who are attending college, many of whom are the first in their families to do so. One recipient responded, "I received the care package and was overwhelmed with gratitude and excitement! Thank you for believing that I can succeed and accomplish college."

Lawyer **Mark Cloutre** has served on DKI's board of directors for years and became its chairperson in 2010.

Food Bank of the Rockies

Extending its reach across Northern Colorado and Wyoming, Food Bank of the Rockies provides food supplies to more than 1,100 hunger-relief programs and the children, seniors, and families in need that they serve.

WTO consistently tops the annual city-wide competitive law firm donation drive to restock the food bank. The Foundation has donated over \$35,000 in nonperishable food and funds over the last five years.

Susan G. Komen Foundation

Striving to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all, and energize science to find a cure for breast cancer, the Susan G. Komen Foundation has raised \$1.5 billion since its inception to become the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to fighting breast cancer.

Inspired by long-time Komen volunteer and legal secretary **Connie Purdy** and cancer survivors among firm employees, WTO volunteers walk as a team and raise money for Denver's Race for the Cure.

Denver Dumb Friends League

As the largest animal welfare organization in the Rocky Mountain region, The Denver Dumb Friends League is a national leader in providing humane care to lost and abandoned animals, rescuing ailing and abused animals, adopting out pets, and educating the public about the needs of companion animals.

Organized and led by paralegal **Kristina Sun**, animal-loving WTO volunteers and their pets walk as a team in the annual Furry Scurry and have raised almost \$25,000 for the animal shelter.

Denver Active 20–30 Children's Foundation

A philanthropic fundraising organization composed of young professionals, Denver Active 20–30 raises money to help at-risk and disadvantaged children in the Denver area and throughout Colorado. It grants over \$500,000 to over 50 children's charities every year.

The Foundation annually sponsors fundraising events and helps DA 20–30 members take disadvantaged children shopping to buy holiday presents for their families.

Inspired by WTO's **Jack Trigg**, lawyers **Mark Cloutre** and **John Streelman** have served on DA 20–30's board of directors for years.



GIVING

The Foundation has donated countless hours, in-kind gifts, and close to \$600,000 to organizations in which our lawyers and employees have a vested interest. Following is a representative list of the more than 100 nonprofit organizations the Foundation has supported.

Law

Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado • American Civil Liberties Union Foundation • Center for Legal Inclusiveness • Colorado Civil Justice League • Colorado Judicial Institute • Minority Corporate Counsel Association • Denver Police Foundation • Colorado Women's Bar Association Foundation • Conflict Prevention & Resolution Institute • Denver Bar Association Foundation • Sam Cary Scholarship Endowment Fund • National Center for Law and Economic Justice • Legal Services of New York City • Equal Justice Works • The Legal Center for Older People and People with Disabilities

Education

Denver Kids, Inc. [See page 3] • Denver Urban Debate League • Alliance for Choice in Education • KIPP Colorado Schools • Reach Out and Read • Denver School of Science & Technology • Jefferson Academy • Jennifer L. Matheson Resiliency Scholarship • Asha for Education • Family Star Montessori & Early Head Start • Latin American Educational Foundation • Arrupe Jesuit High School Tuition Assistance Fund • Friends of Manual High School • Great Education Colorado • Denver Public Schools Foundation

Homelessness and Poverty

The Gathering Place [See page 3] • Colorado Coalition for the Homeless • Colfax Community Network • World Neighbors • Catholic Charities of Denver • Denver's Road Home • Habitat for Humanity • Mile High United Way's Project Homeless Connect

Youth

Denver Active 20-30 Children's Foundation [See page 3] • Internet Safety Foundation • Tennyson Center for Children • Boys & Girls Clubs • Urban Peak • Denver Children's Advocacy Center • Boys Hope Girls Hope of Colorado • Underwearness, Inc. • SAFEChild • Court Appointed Special Advocates • CARA Charities

Hunger

Food Bank of the Rockies [See page 3] • St. Francis Food Pantry • Food Works Colorado • World Food Program

Animal Protection

Denver Dumb Friends League [See page 3] • Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies • Foothills Animal Foundation

Disease Treatment and Prevention

Susan G. Komen Foundation [See page 3] • American Cancer Society • Hemophilia Society of Denver • The Arthritis Foundation • Children's Diabetes Foundation • Karis Community • The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society • Colorado Prevention Center • Project Case • University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center • Muscular Dystrophy Association • National Multiple Sclerosis Society • Spina Bifida Association of Colorado • American Heart Association • Kids in Need of Dentistry • Epilepsy Foundation of Colorado • Ronald McDonald House

Military Veterans

Home Front Cares • Congressional Medal of Honor Society • Project Lumberjack Crossfit • UCLA Operation Mend

Arts and Culture

Paint Across America • Colorado Lawyers for the Arts • Denver's Botanic Gardens • Denver Film Society • Up With People • The Wildlife Experience • Apex Contemporary Dance Theater • Friends Foundation Denver Public Library • Denver Museum of Nature & Science

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