



TWENTY **20**

REPORT TO THE
COMMUNITY



Dear friends of the Daniels Fund,

While 2020 was a year defined by unprecedented challenge, it was also a year that reminded us of the power of generosity, resilience, legacy, and reflection. These key values, championed by Bill Daniels throughout his life, guided us as we rallied around our communities, scholars, and nonprofit partners during the pandemic.

As communities and individuals were impacted by the pandemic, we worked urgently with partners to disburse \$4 million in emergency grants to address the most pressing needs in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. Our funding areas were as relevant as ever as schools closed their doors and an alarming rise in homelessness, addiction, and mental health challenges for our aging and youth populations alike became apparent.

We approached this critical grantmaking work rooted in compassion, creativity, and dedication to community — just as Bill Daniels would have wanted. We are incredibly inspired by the dedication and hard work of our grantees, scholars, and partners this year in providing a highly tailored and time-sensitive response to our community. Thank you!

Heading into 2020, we anticipated the celebration of what would have been Bill Daniels' 100TH birthday along with the 20TH anniversary of the Daniels Fund. And while our celebrations certainly looked different than initially planned, these milestones, coupled with our pandemic response, brought forth a focused energy from our team and grantees that resulted in the community impact Bill Daniels envisioned for this foundation.

We moved into 2021 with further clarity around Bill's legacy and philosophy of giving and are excited to introduce new initiatives, scholars, and team members throughout the year.

Thank you for your partnership and trust as we do this critical work.

Jim Nicholson
Chairman of the Board
May 2017 – May 2021

Hanna Skandera
President & Chief Executive Officer

“ Although it's usually unpleasant, many people are forced to learn things the hard way. Before they can truly appreciate success, they have to experience failure. Especially in business. But a business or personal setback will often bring out the best in a person. And enable them to find courage and strength they never knew they possessed. In these uncertain times, you might find yourself in a similar situation. Nevertheless, if you genuinely believe in yourself, I'll bet you have what it takes to turn things around for the better.”

— Bill Daniels





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WITH GRATITUDE FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP We want to recognize the leadership of Senator Hank Brown, who stepped in as Interim President and CEO of the Daniels Fund during 2020. His steady hand, leadership, and understanding of our mission proved invaluable throughout the year. Thank you, Senator Brown, for your ongoing commitment to our community.

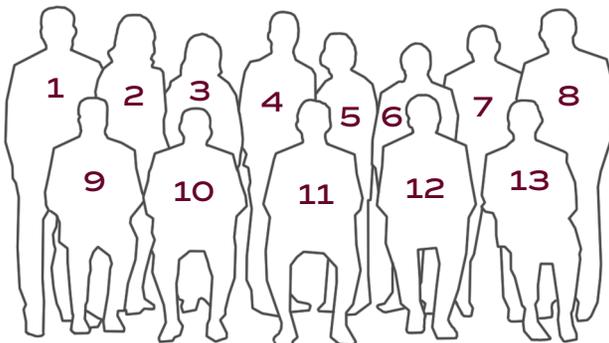


THE BOARD WELCOMES NEW DANIELS FUND PRESIDENT & CEO, HANNA SKANDERA



This past year presented a pivotal opportunity for the Daniels Fund. Following a nationwide search, we welcomed **Hanna Skandera** as our new President and CEO in December 2020. With extensive leadership experience in New Mexico and Colorado and a deep understanding and commitment to the values and vision of Bill Daniels, Hanna hit the ground running at the start of 2021. The board of directors is thrilled by the energy, talent, and focus she brings to this role.

Read more about Hanna's [impressive background](#)



- 1) Tom Marinkovich
- 2) Margaret Kelly
- 3) Hanna Skandera
- 4) Randy Wells
- 5) June Travis
- 6) John Suthers
- 7) Leroy Williams
- 8) Tony Acone
- 9) John Fitzgerald
- 10) Francisco Garcia
- 11) Jim Nicholson
- 12) Hank Brown
- 13) Brian Deevy

2020 REVIEW

A YEAR OF CHALLENGE, OPPORTUNITY, AND GIVING – BY THE NUMBERS

Watch our [YEAR IN REVIEW](#) video and learn more about our [IMPACT](#)

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**DANIELS
SCHOLARS**

graduated from
college



years of
giving as a
foundation

\$4 million
in
COVID
response
giving

\$48,085,359
IN GRANTS

\$16,834,696
in scholarships for
students at **185**
different universities



72 K-12 schools impacted by
Daniels Fund COVID giving

\$4 MILLION

dedicated to advancing
ethical decision making

\$200,000 in giving
to help Coloradans
impacted by the
wildfires

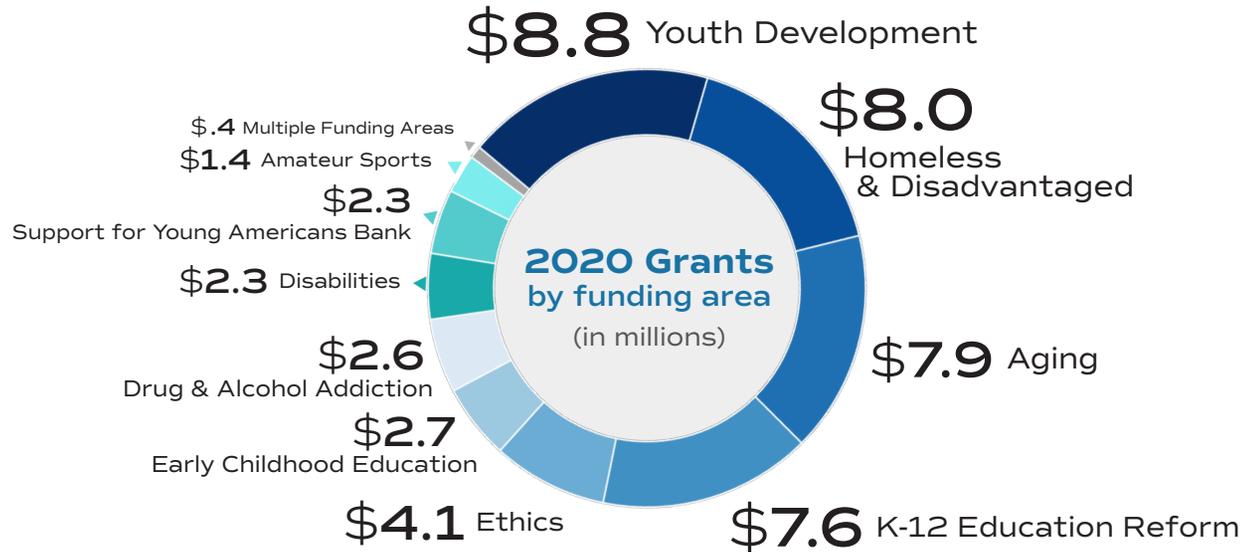




GRANTS

CARRYING ON THE LEGACY OF BILL DANIELS Our grantmaking areas were personally defined by Bill Daniels more than 20 years ago, but remain as relevant to our community as ever. We continue to be inspired by our grantee partners in each of the funding areas.

Learn more about our [GRANTMAKING](#)



A GRANT THAT HONORS BILL'S PAST AND HIS PASSIONS

Bill Daniels' passion for education and free enterprise, as well as his personal background, came together in a significant investment in the Career Technical Education Center in Hobbs, New Mexico. The Daniels Fund granted \$1.6 million to the center to better prepare students for high-paying jobs in the region through innovative certificate programs. Bill lived in Hobbs as a teenager and returned often to visit family, so this was a perfect alignment of the people, places, and priorities of [Bill Daniels' life](#).

Students at the topping-off ceremony for the Career Technical Education Center



RESPONDING IN TIMES OF NEED

Learn more about our [SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS](#)

SUPPORT FOR DANIELS SCHOLARS

Our Daniels Scholars faced unanticipated challenges as campuses across the country shut down, classes moved online, in-person celebrations and graduations were canceled and those exposed were asked to quarantine. Despite the moving target 2020 presented for students, we welcomed a new class of scholars and graduates who received added support from our Daniels Scholarship Program.

Congratulations to our 2020 scholars and those who graduated this past year!



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DANIELS FUND

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Daniels Scholars named in 2020

Daniels Scholars graduated
with their bachelor's degrees

\$16,834,696
in scholarships for students at
185 universities



RESPONDING IN TIMES OF NEED

COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE In 2020, COVID-19 descended into our communities, closing schools and businesses, isolating older adults, intensifying addiction challenges, and increasing homelessness. As the pandemic unfolded, we swiftly identified opportunities for alignment with our giving areas, streamlined and sped up our approval process, and partnered with 87 nonprofits to provide \$4 million to COVID-specific needs.

COVID RESPONSE ► COLORADO RESTAURANT RESPONSE

We helped to keep Coloradans employed and fed by supporting an initiative to re-employ service workers to prepare and deliver meals to those experiencing food insecurity.



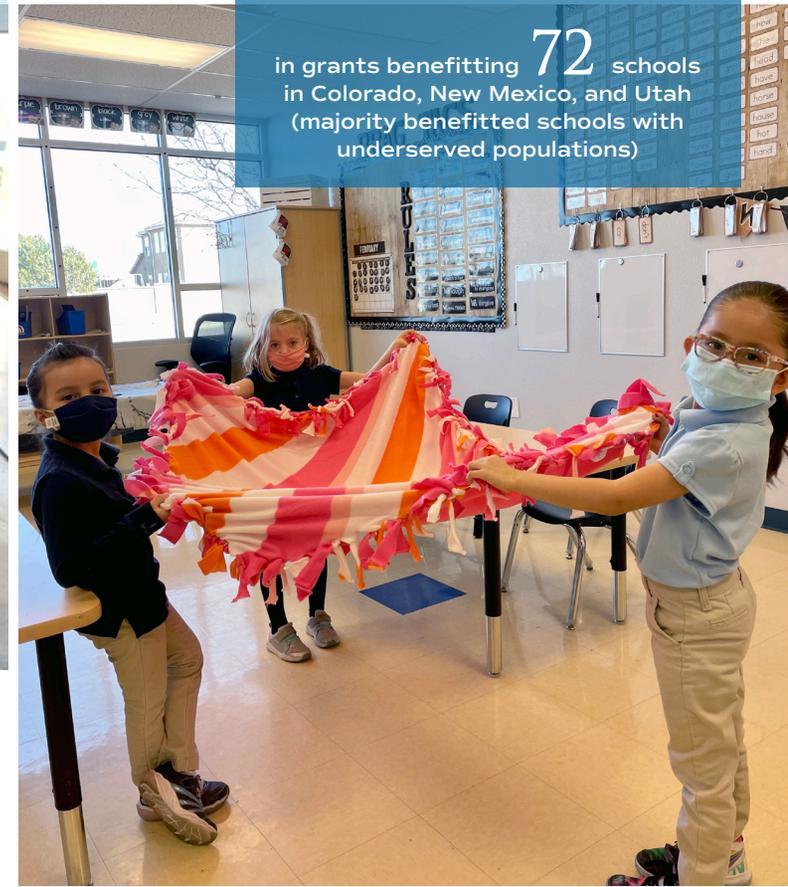
325,000
 meals delivered

90%
 delivered to diverse populations

50%
 delivered to households with seniors

\$300,000

in grants benefitting **72** schools
 in Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah
 (majority benefitted schools with
 underserved populations)



COVID RESPONSE ► CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING

We kept kids learning by helping to procure protective equipment, online learning technology, and cleaning supplies for charter schools.

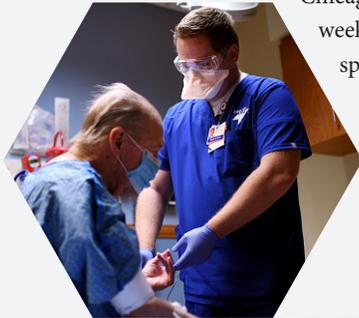


RESPONDING IN TIMES OF NEED

COVID RESPONSE ▼ DANIELS SCHOLARS IN ACTION

2004 Daniels Scholar, Colorado State Representative **Kyle Mullica**, supported COVID relief efforts in his role as an emergency room trauma nurse, treating COVID patients at Cook County Jail in

Chicago for five weeks in the spring of 2020.



2010 Daniels Scholar **Darling Garcia** is an ER nurse who has been on the front lines treating people with COVID in Las Cruces, New Mexico.



WILDFIRE EMERGENCY SUPPORT

COVID-19 wasn't the only unforeseen challenge the Daniels Fund responded to in 2020. The summer months brought extreme heat and a lack of moisture that unfortunately presented ideal conditions for wildfires in Colorado. By the end of the year, communities were devastated by three of the largest wildfires in the state's history, two that burned a combined 400,000 acres.

The Daniels Fund was proud to support the **Larimer Fires Long Term Recovery Fund** and the **Grand County Wildfire Emergency Fund** in providing medical supplies, property clean up, housing assistance, and other aid to help people meet urgent needs and begin to rebuild their lives and communities.

REMEMBERING TONY ACONE

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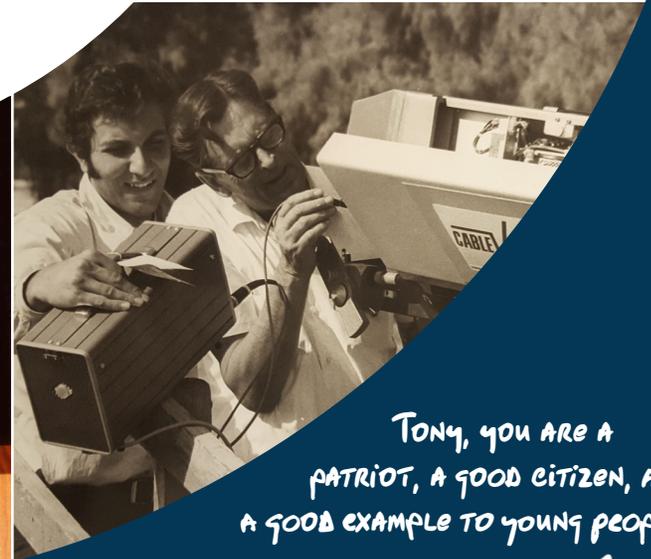
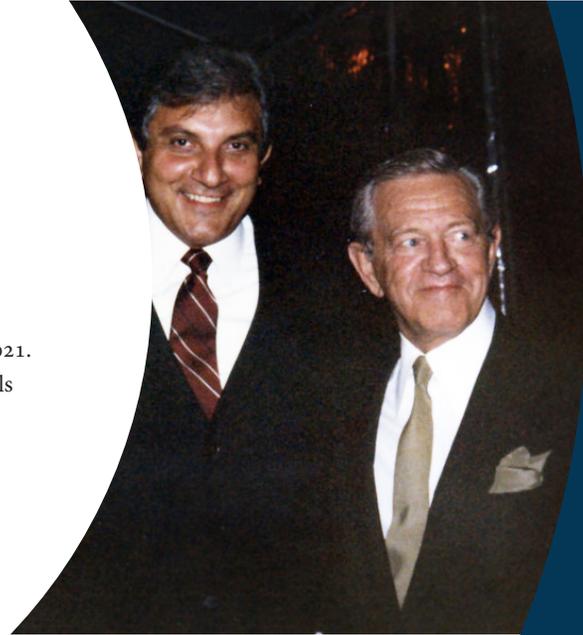
DANIELS FUND



TONY ACONE | 1943 - 2021

We were saddened to lose our friend, **Tony Acone**, early in 2021. Tony served as a loyal and contributing member of the Daniels Fund board of directors since 2008. Prior to his retirement, Tony worked with Bill Daniels for nearly three decades managing numerous cable systems as well as leading the launch of Bill's regional sports network, Prime Ticket.

Tony, you are greatly missed.



TONY, YOU ARE A
PATRIOT, A GOOD CITIZEN, AND
A GOOD EXAMPLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

Bill

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at DanielsFund.org

Engage with us:



[@Daniels_Fund](https://twitter.com/Daniels_Fund)



facebook.com/danielsfund



linkedin.com/company/daniels-fund

Founded by cable pioneer and entrepreneur [Bill Daniels](#), the Daniels Fund remains one of the largest foundations in the Rocky Mountain region with more than \$1.6 billion in assets at the end of 2020.

See our [2020 FINANCIAL SUMMARY](#)

