

# 2025 WHO'S WHO IN IMPACT INVESTING



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FINANCE CENTER

DENVER  
BUSINESS JOURNAL

# IMPACT

FINANCE CENTER

*Moving Money for Good*

## INVEST IN YOUR IMPACT TODAY

At Impact Finance Center, we guide individuals, organizations, and communities to unlock the power of capital to address the world's greatest challenges.

We train motivated individuals to become impact investors and connect them with community leaders, guiding them to make investments that create both social and environmental benefits, and financial returns.

Let us show you how to use capital for good.



[impactfinancecenter.org](https://impactfinancecenter.org)



# LETTER FROM THE TEAM

Welcome to the *Who's Who in Impact Investing*. This annual publication is more than a list—it's a celebration of the people mobilizing capital for good. It highlights what's possible when money aligns with values, and it signals that a new financial system is being built right now. A system that serves people, planet, and place.

Why does this matter? Because many of the challenges communities face—like affordable housing, childcare, or preserving local businesses—could be solved with less than 1% of local private wealth. The money is there; what's often lacking is the education, infrastructure, and opportunity to put it to work.

That's where Impact Finance Center (IFC) comes in. For more than 15 years, IFC has been activating new investors and developing the tools and networks that make community-focused investing possible. Its origins trace back to the University of Colorado, where Dr. Stephanie Gripne joined the faculty in finance and the CU Real Estate Center after she left her role as operations manager for the world's first \$100 million private equity funds dedicated to carbon, biodiversity, wetlands, and water credits. From that experience came a powerful lesson: transactions are good, funds are better, but access matters most.

Investing in Coke or Pepsi is easy. Investing in local gems like Olive & Finch Collective, Brent's Place, The Village Institute, or a workforce housing project in Dillon? Almost

impossible. Just as Colorado Gives Day created a thriving donor ecosystem, imagine a 'Colorado Invests Day' connecting investors with opportunities in a shared marketplace.

To test this idea, Impact Finance Center launched pilot initiatives like:

- **Impact Investing Institute** – a 100+ module curriculum with the largest impact investor database in the country.
- **Colorado Impact Days** – a “pop-up” marketplace for impact investing, now expanding to Alaska and Massachusetts.
- **Regional Directories** – *Who's Who* guides local impact investors, intermediaries, advisors, and capital providers.

It works. What began as a goal to mobilize \$100 million surpassed \$300 million in just two years. To date, IFC has helped educate stewards overseeing more than \$50 billion in assets and has catalyzed over \$1 billion in investment.

And it's spreading. Last year's CO Impact Days, Phase Two of the National Marketplace launched—bringing together teams from Alaska, the Central Valley, northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, Native communities, B Corps, and women-led networks. They didn't just attend a conference. They walked away with tools, knowledge, and a roadmap to build \$100 million investment ecosystems of their own.

The *Who's Who in Impact Investing* captures a movement on the rise. It spotlights the leaders driving it, celebrates communities mobilizing their own wealth, and challenges us to imagine how local investing can strengthen the places we call home.

Let's not just watch—let's join them. Your capital, your voice, and your choices can shape the future of Colorado and beyond.

With gratitude,

*Stephanie L. Gripne*



Stephanie Gripne, PhD

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**TRUSTWORTHY**  
IMPACT FOUNDATION

# WINNERS

## » ACCELERATORS & INCUBATORS



**ELISE BELUSA**  
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Over the eight years I've worked at Tara Health Foundation, I've learned, grown, developed, overseen and sourced impact investments across our asset classes. This has included thinking about our entire corpus and how to utilize all investing tools that movement work needs and that could put our full financial resources towards our mission. Ensuring we were 100% mission aligned through integrated capital and investing for true impact.



**MICK FREEMAN**  
CEO & Executive Director, Bridge Entrepreneurs Network (BEN Colorado Inc.)  
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30-year business veteran with extensive social enterprise leadership and impact. Serve as CEO & Executive Director of BEN Colorado, the leading volunteer advisory program for growth stage entrepreneurs, including underserved female, minority, and urban founders. Secured \$1.1 million grant to help 300+ underrepresented tech founders in Denver become capital ready.



**BRITTANY ROMANO**  
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Brittany is designing and implementing inclusive investment strategies that unlock capital for underserved rural entrepreneurs. Through accelerators, pitch competitions, and the Rural Angel Investor Network, she is improving equitable capital access, fostered community-led economic growth, and created replicable models that reframe entrepreneurship as a tool for systems change and belonging.

## » ATTORNEYS



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As a consultant, connector and committee member, my experience in

impact investing has been a privilege and an opportunity to blend impact and capital returns.



**JOHN LEEMHUIS**  
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John Leemhuis, Jr. is the founder and owner of Leemhuis Legal, PLLC. His practice is focused on helping impact-driven businesses grow and prosper. John has developed technical expertise in the area of securities law, including public offerings, ongoing reporting under Section 16, private placements and early stage financing through angel funds and venture capital investment.

## » COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS



**MABEL ALVAREZ**  
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Mabel serves as the Director of Investor Relations and Impact Investment Services at NFF, where she builds and manages partnerships with mission-driven investors that are dedicated to advancing community wealth and well-being. In her role, she oversees the development, implementation, and management of over \$100MM in community-centered funds, working alongside nonprofit and philanthropic partners to help move financial resources where they can make the greatest impact. This includes: Bridge Loan Funds, Working Capital Funds, COVID-19 Response Funds, SSBCI Funds, Environmental/Climate Funds, and other impact investments.



**BETTY FRANCISCO**  
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Betty Francisco is CEO of Boston Impact Initiative, an impact investment fund and CDFI focused on advancing economic justice. A longtime impact investor, she began with Pipeline Angels and champions catalytic investment in diverse founders and the regenerative economy. She serves on investment committees at the Boston Foundation and Nellie Mae Education Foundation.



**JILLIAN GERSTLEY**  
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Jillian Gerstley invests in and supports a national network of fund managers focused on community development and deploying capital to create jobs and economic opportunity in underserved, low-income, and rural areas. Previously, she led Investors' Circle, an impact focused angel network, and helped scale several SaaS startups.



**JOEL SMITH**  
President of Community Development, Native American Bank  
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Joel has been working as an advocate for the work of mission-oriented and minority-owned banks and Community Development Financial Institutions for over 12 years. He spearheaded the development of social impact bank deposits at Native American Bank and oversees its participation in the New Markets Tax Credit Program.



**ALEXANDRIA WISE**  
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Expert impact investor with 15 years facilitating \$40M+ in mission-aligned investments in emerging markets & US underserved communities. Leads CEDS Finance (CDFI) that's deployed \$16.7M; 90% to BIPOC & 80% to low-income entrepreneurs. More than a decade of Islamic-compliant finance expertise. Named Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Business (2025, CWCC).

## » COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS



**SHAUN FLOERKE**  
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We are moving our community foundation's assets to fully implemented, mission aligned. We are fully committed to investing locally and putting all our dollars to work in our service area.



**JAY KIM**  
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As the Executive Director of the Community Foundation for MetroWest, Jay Kim drives data-informed collaborations and catalytic philanthropy, partnering with donors, regional nonprofits, and public entities to invest in equity-focused workforce development, housing and homelessness prevention, and education across the Greater Boston MetroWest area, delivering depth, intentionality, and community-informed impact.



**STRATTON LLOYD**  
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As CEO, lead a systems approach to regional place-based impact investing with a strategy to educate, connect and invest in our community resulting in millions of new capital deployed in our social sector.



**ERIN LUSINS**  
Chief Financial Officer, Community Foundation of Jackson Hole  
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Leading the development of the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole's Impact Investing Program, with \$1M invested in our community to date.



**LAWRENCE MILLER**  
Senior Advisor for Mission Investments, The Vermont Community Foundation  
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Lawrence manages the Vermont Community Foundation's Vermont Portfolio, a place-based initiative begun in 2001. Mission investments put charitable dollars at work alongside grantmaking for greater impact—with a return that is far more than just financial. VCF works through intermediaries as well as direct lending with non-profits and purpose driven enterprises, with significant experience in disaster response work. [vermontcf.org/giving-tools/mission-investing/](http://vermontcf.org/giving-tools/mission-investing/).

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# Women's Bank 2.0: Trustworthy Impact

In 1974, a group of visionary women changed Colorado forever. With just 50 investors, they launched the state's first women's bank—at a time when many women still needed a husband's signature just to borrow money. This bank wasn't merely about opening accounts; it was about opening doors. A bold declaration of independence, it gave women the power to shape their own economic futures.

Nearly fifty years later, Colorado women are once again leading the charge in financial innovation. The stakes have changed, but the urgency remains. Over the coming decades, an estimated \$100 trillion will change hands in what's being called the Great Wealth Transfer. Much of this capital will flow to women and young people, not directly into pockets, but into trusts that will steward resources for generations.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The question is whether this massive transfer of wealth will simply grow portfolios, or whether it will grow a better world.

That's where **Trustworthy Impact** comes in. It is the first trust company fully dedicated to impact investing. Rather than relying on conventional strategies, it exists for one purpose: to align financial returns



with measurable social and environmental good. Every service, every decision, every investment is designed to put capital to work for people, planet, and place.

The need is clear. Traditional trust companies often view impact investing as an afterthought. Trustworthy Impact makes it the center of the mission. It offers values-aligned wealth holders a way to see exactly where their money is invested and what it is changing. It focuses on long-term sustainability, ensuring that wealth isn't just preserved, but mobilized for the benefit of

generations to come.

Fifty years ago, women in Colorado redefined what banking could mean. Today, we have the chance to redefine what it means to steward wealth. Trustworthy Impact is not just a company; it is a movement. By joining, you are part of a growing community determined to prove that finance can be more than numbers on a balance sheet. It can be a force for equity, resilience, and renewal.

The Great Wealth Transfer is already underway. The decisions we make now will shape the future for decades. Will

this moment be remembered as business as usual, or as the moment when women and young leaders rewrote the rules of money?

The time has come to bring balance to ensure that the greatest transfer of wealth in history also becomes the greatest transfer of opportunity.

As former U.S. Treasurer Rosie Rios put it, *"Every time you spend money, you're casting a vote for the kind of world you want."* This is our chance to make those votes count at scale.

The women who built the first bank in 1974 left us a legacy of courage. Now it is our turn. By stepping into Trustworthy Impact, by joining this movement, we can ensure that history repeats itself, not as a struggle for access, but as a victory for impact.

Your name is more than a signature. It is a pledge to help build a future where wealth serves not just the fortunate few, but all of us.



## Main Street 2.0: How Financial Innovation Can Help Us Bet on Chefs, Entrepreneurs—and Each Other

By Dr. Stephanie Gripne, Founder and CEO, Impact Finance Center

Do you know that feeling when you meet someone who is beautiful, fierce, and a force for good?

That's what it feels like to sit across from Chef Mary Nguyen, the founder of Olive & Finch Collective. More than a successful restaurateur, she's a systems thinker—an entrepreneur whose model nourishes not only her customers but also her employees, farmers, suppliers, and the broader local economy.

These are the kinds of leaders who should be at the center of our capital strategies. And yet, too often, they're left out.

Financial innovation and impact investing can—and should—be used to support people like Mary. People

who are creating ripple effects of good, building wealth and well-being far beyond their own businesses.

Mary and Impact Finance Center share a commitment to unlocking "founder friendly" full spectrum capital for Colorado women and diverse entrepreneurs. Through our pilot work with the Women's Foundation of Colorado and International Women's Forum, we've invested over a half million. Why not scale this to \$100M that allows communities to invest in their own leaders?

Imagine a future where cosigning for a business loan isn't seen as risky—but as a powerful act of solidarity. Where putting home equity behind a community business is as normalized as giving to a local nonprofit. Where shared trust, not institutional gatekeeping,

defines who gets access to capital.

Would you cosign for your favorite community leader? Many of us would. Because when we invest in leaders who center community, we're investing in a stronger, more equitable economy for everyone.

This is the moment to think differently. To design financial systems that reflect our values. To shift from extraction to regeneration. From scarcity to abundance. From me to we.

**Let's start co-signing for one another.**

**Let's bet on each other.**

**Let's build the capital ecosystem women—and all entrepreneurs working for the common good—deserve.**

**Contact [women@impactfinancecenter.org](mailto:women@impactfinancecenter.org)**

***"This is the moment to think differently. To design financial systems that reflect our values. To shift from extraction to regeneration. From scarcity to abundance. From me to we."***

## WINNERS



**ERICA SNOW**  
CEO, Aspen Community Foundation  
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Aspen Community Foundation Spearheaded the addition of impact investing to the Aspen Community Foundation's (ACF) toolkit via a dedicated task force. Today, ACF is piloting an "impact first" investment strategy, its inaugural placement being with Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) First Southwest Community Fund, to deepen donor engagement and amplify local impact.



**JAVIER SOTO**  
President & CEO,  
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Soto increased our investments to our impact investments from \$1M to \$5M with a goal to double that in the next two years. We have the largest impact investment portfolio of any community foundation in Colorado, and we hope to make it one of the biggest in the country.

## » CONSULTANTS



**UMADEVI GOPALDASS**  
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Uma is an experienced independent board director with sitting on several corporate boardrooms, including CoPeace PBC and chairing committees since 2020. With a career spanning over three decades, she possesses extensive global expertise in Corporate Risk Governance, Capital Impact Investments, Revenue Strategy, and Nomination and Compensation Planning.



**JENSYN HALLETT**  
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I specialize in gender-lens investing and capital strategy, advising on both the supply and demand sides of impact capital. I work with organizations such as Invest for Better and Southern Capital Project to align wealth with values and build inclusive, purpose-driven economies.



**GLORIA PRIOLEAU NEAL**  
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My consulting has amplified impact investing by helping to align capital with the needs of community, guiding potential clients to prioritize equity and measurable outcomes. GloKnows accomplishes this through strategic advising helping to shape inclusive investment strategies that target underserved communities. GloKnows is the bridge connecting purpose and profit with intention.



**GRETA SCHETTLER**  
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As a global strategist with two decades at the intersection of investing and economic development across 77 countries, Greta advises family offices, foundations, and the public sector on high-impact investment strategies. This includes recent collaborations with the Ford Foundation, Prosper Africa, and CIFF. Her expertise include: values-aligned investment strategy development, mobilizing catalytic capital, cultivating partnerships, and developing investor-ready materials.



**ASTRID SCHOLZ**  
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At the heart of so much systemic injustice in the US and elsewhere lie the persistent wealth inequities, and I have developed an advisory practice around imagining, designing, structuring and developing bold strategies for hacking legacy financial systems. Examples include the Inclusive Capital Collective in the US, and the (international) Wealth Hacker Initiative.



**BILL STODDART**  
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I have worked in a number of capacities in impact investing including client advisory, fund construction and management, business strategy and product development.



**HARRIS ROLLINGER**  
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I partner with the KeHE Cares Foundation Impact Investing team to identify impact investing opportunities.

## » DONOR ADVISED FUND PROVIDERS



**CARLOS PEÑA**  
Director, Impact Assets Capital Partners  
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Carlos is an impact investor with experience across classes, risk/return profiles, and impact themes. He has worked with UHNW family offices, impact consulting firms, nonprofits, and corporates. In his current role, he manages sourcing, due diligence, and selection of private investment opportunities with a focus on racial equity.



**JASPER VAN BRAKEL**  
President and CEO, RSF | Regenerative Social Finance  
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As president and CEO of RSF Social Finance, Jasper van Brakel guides the organization in revolutionizing how people relate to and work with money. He leads a talented team that develops innovative giving, investing, and lending programs to address the significant social, environmental, and economic challenges of our time. Prior to joining RSF in March 2018, van Brakel was a partner at Newpark Capital, a private equity firm for impact-driven companies. He served as an operating partner with Armonia, an impact investor and regenerative field builder, where he initiated collaborative partnerships and provided strategic leadership support to several portfolio companies, both as an adviser and as a board member.



**CINDY WILLARD**  
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Partnership development, structuring investments to maximize impact, creating supportive due diligence processes, aggregating capital, working with foundations on PRIs, utilizing integrated capital.

## » FAMILY OFFICES



**MARGARET BOWMAN**  
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Margaret has helped foundations and NGOs promote sustainable water solutions through better policy, strategy, and investments. Margaret consulted with several foundations on water-related impact investing, oversaw municipal water impact investing at Spring Point Partners, and supported the development of blueprints for Colorado River impact investing at the Walton Family Foundation.



**TIM CROSBY**  
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Working at the intersection of agriculture, food, finance and philanthropy by prototyping systemic investing pathways that build precedent for multiple types of investors seeking to invest different forms of capital in order to generate impact and financial returns.



**CHRISSY SOLLENBERGER GODBOUT**  
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Chrissy Sollenberger is a Senior Officer of Philanthropy at iAlumbra Capital, an impact platform advancing the vision that community, environment, and economy thrive as an integrated system. She leads cross-sector initiatives aligning ecological and economic incentives with a focus on forests, coastal resilience, and agriculture.

Continued on page 8

# How to Raise \$1 Billion of Private Investment for Colorado—By Investing in Ourselves

By Dr. Stephanie Gripne, Founder and CEO, Impact Finance Center

Colorado is overflowing with wealth—**\$1.45 trillion in private assets** held by more than a million residents. Yet at the same time, too many of our neighbors are being priced out of the very communities they helped build. We're short 325,000 housing units, including 175,000 for very low-income families. Solving that crisis would cost just \$7.7 billion—less than one percent of the wealth already here. And housing isn't the only gap: the same is true for childcare, climate solutions, and keeping local businesses locally owned.

So how do we raise \$1 billion of private investment for Colorado?

It begins with awareness. Most investors know how to buy stock in a global brand, but few know how to invest in affordable housing in Dillon or a women-owned business in Denver. Education helps people see that local investing is both possible and powerful.

The next step is trust. Investors need reliable systems that make it safe and straightforward to put their money to work in their own communities. Colorado Gives Day proved that the right infrastructure can unlock generosity by connecting donors and nonprofits. Now it's time to build that same infrastructure to connect investors with community projects.

That is the work of Impact Finance Center. In 2026 and beyond, we will roll out a suite of tools designed to make local investing practical at scale:

**Trustworthy Impact** – a modern trust company built for impact investors.

**The Diligence League** – helping investors evaluate opportunities with confidence by sharing expertise and costs.

**Main Street 2.0** – blending philanthropic funds, guarantees, and community investment options to make participation seamless.

This model isn't theoretical—it works. From 2016 to 2018, Colorado leaders piloted an impact investing marketplace

## The Three Keys to Unlocking \$1 Billion in Colorado Investment

### Education

Most investors know how to **buy stock** in global companies but not how to invest locally.

### Infrastructure

Just as Colorado Gives Day created a **trusted system** for philanthropy, Colorado needs tools that connect local investors.

### Trust

Investors need confidence. **Shared due diligence** and transparent platforms make community investment simple and safe.

The time to invest in ourselves is now

***“The heroes of this story aren’t distant financiers. They’re right here in our neighborhoods.”***

with a \$100 million goal. Within two years, over \$300 million had been mobilized, inspiring similar initiatives in Alaska, Massachusetts, and beyond.

The formula is simple: education, infrastructure, and trust unlock investment. Mobilizing even a fraction of Colorado's wealth—less than one percent—could put billions to work on our most urgent challenges.

The wealth is here. The needs are

clear. The time to connect the dots is now.

The heroes of this story aren't distant financiers. They're our neighbors, our friends, the people building Colorado every day. Now it's our turn. Let's celebrate them, join them, and invest in our communities. Together, we can turn opportunity into impact—and build a Colorado where everyone belongs, thrives, and rises.

Join Impact Finance Center's Newsletter





# WINNERS

## » FUNDS



**BRENDAN COSGROVE**  
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Private markets specialist with 10+ years investing in emerging fund managers and developing innovative capital solutions for overlooked communities at Cambridge Associates, Kauffman Foundation and Catalyze. Focused on building ecosystems that connect smaller, newer GPs with capital and operational support.



**PATRICK DILLON**  
Client Portfolio Manager, Community Capital Management  
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As a Client Portfolio Manager, Patrick is Community Capital Management's point of contact for advisory firms, RIAs, family office, and institutional clients. He serves as a liaison between the portfolio management team and clients to ensure the team's investment strategies are effectively represented in the fixed income impact investing space. A personal investor in the impact investing space for over 15 years, Patrick is an advocate for driving two types of "ROI": Returns on Investment and Returns on Impact!



**JESSAMINE FITZPATRICK**  
Managing Director, Alder Point Capital Management  
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Jessamine Fitzpatrick is the Co-founder and Managing Director of Alder Point, focusing on integrating finance with environmental sustainability. With a strong background in impact investing, she built a \$600 million portfolio in farmland and timberland. Cofounding Alder Point in 2022, she aims to provide profitable investment alternatives centered on regenerative practices, decarbonization, ecosystem restoration, and community prosperity. The firm is currently raising a fund dedicated to timberland and farmland investments in the U.S.



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Managing Director of the Fibers Fund, a catalytic fund to support U.S. natural fiber and textile producers and processors. Expertise in co-designing, launching, and managing an innovative integrated capital fund deploying term loans, forgivable loans, and business TA grants, all with a focus on environmental equity, power-shifting governance, and relational underwriting.



**COURTNEY LUSSENHOP**  
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I oversee our Business Development for our nonprofit, which offers 0% interest, small-dollar loans to individuals facing a financial challenge through partner organizations across the country. I also oversee our fundraising and investment initiatives. I am an alum of the IFC's Spring 2025 Fellowship.



**ROSY MCDONOUGH**  
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First Southwest Community Fund  
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Rosy McDonough is one of Colorado's top impact investing professionals. She leads First Southwest Community Fund, a nonprofit, pioneering innovative financial solutions and education for rural entrepreneurs. Through creative, specialized lending programs for women, BIPOC and immigrant entrepreneurs, she helps transform rural communities through capital investments and job creation. She is a leader in creating access to capital and comprehensive, bilingual business education in the San Luis Valley, across southwestern Colorado and is currently expanding into other rural areas across the state.



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Institutional private equity investor driving positive impact in economic opportunity, environmental sustainability and health equity.



**RACHEL J. ROBASCIOTTI**  
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With over two decades of experience, Rachel J. Robasciotti leads Adasina Social Capital, an investment firm dedicated to advancing racial, gender, economic, and climate justice through innovative portfolio strategies, shaping industry standards, and driving meaningful change across the field of impact investing.



**ERIKA SETH DAVIES**  
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Erika Seth Davies has dedicated her career to shifting capital and leveraging capital markets to advance racial and gender equity. She designed a groundbreaking program to encourage foundations to incorporate a racial equity lens in endowment management practices, founded The Racial Equity Asset Lab (The REAL) which centers racial and gender equity in impact investing, and is currently CEO of Rhia Ventures which leverages capital to advance reproductive and maternal health equity.



**NOELLE ST. CLAIR LENTZ**  
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Noelle is CEO of Allivate Impact Capital®, an impact investing fund manager with a mission of elevating communities, alleviating poverty, and activating entrepreneurial ecosystems. Noelle is also SVP, Impact Investing Director at Woodforest National Bank®. She Co-Founded The WOW Center, a community-based organization offering various programs and services in South Jersey.



**ANIYIA WILLIAMS**  
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I make investments in ecosystems and networks of people that are creating the conditions for responsible innovation. My aim is to build social and economic infrastructure, such as community-controlled funds, that allows alternative companies, products, and services to arise that others can invest in.



**TRENT YANG**  
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Climate and renewable energy investing and company building from venture to project financing to structured debt. I've invested or started multiple \$B companies in this space.



**BRANDON WELCH**  
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Brandon has raised over \$90MM all focused in impact across a USDA grant, VC capital, and multiple blended finance funds, all focused on private credit to organic farmers and regenerative ranchers.

## » IMPACT INVESTING SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS



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Rex Raimond is building Transformational Investing in Food Systems (TIFS) into an impact network that builds and implements solutions for financing food systems change, including the DiversiFund that is focused on infrastructure of the middle, an innovative farmer investor model, and application of risk pools for regenerative farmers.



**ANNA BENGTSON**  
Housing Development Specialist, Town of Vail  
abengtson@vail.gov  
970.904.9905  
vail.gov

Convening partners and piloting innovative financing for community-based initiatives, particularly in support of housing.



**ELIZABETH GARLOW**  
Chair, Catholic Impact Investing Collaborative  
elizabeth.garlow@gmail.com  
248.508.7898  
www.catholicimpact.org/

Elizabeth Garlow is an impact investing expert working with faith-based investors on values-aligned strategies, PRIs, and MRIs. She founded Francesco Collaborative and the Livable Future Investing Workshop,



## WINNERS

and is co-creating a private impact fund with Catholic sisters—pioneers of the CDFI movement—advancing spiritually rooted approaches to economic and financial transformation.


**KAT GILJE**

Managing Director, Just Futures Impact  
kat@justfuturesimpact.org  
510.459.8794  
www.justfuturesimpact.org

Kat Gilje brings over a decade of experience in impact investing and philanthropic leadership, with a focus on social, environmental, and land justice. She led Ceres Trust's full asset redistribution to grassroots and regenerative economy efforts, holds a Series 65 credential, and advises initiatives advancing reparative, community-driven investment strategies.


**BLAKE JONES**

President, Kachuwa Impact Fund  
blake@kachuwaimpactfund.com  
www.kachuwaimpactfund.com

Blake Jones is Founder of Kachuwa Impact Fund, an investment cooperative with a \$50M+ evergreen portfolio of impact investments. He also co-founded Namasté Solar, an employee-owned cooperative; Clean Energy Credit Union, a federally chartered credit union; and Amicus Solar Cooperative, a purchasing cooperative. Blake is a 2010 Ernst & Young "Entrepreneur of the Year."


**HEATHER MATRANGA**

Managing Director, Impact Investments  
Village Capital  
heather.matranga@gmail.com | vilcap.com

Heather has experience in early-stage, catalytic impact investing and fund management across health equity, climate resilience, and economic mobility. She brings global experience, applies gender lens investing, leverages innovative finance strategies, and uses bias-mitigation tools to support more inclusive investment processes and equitable outcomes.


**AUNNIE PATTON POWER**

Founder, Innovative Finance Initiative  
aunnie@intellimpact.com  
www.innovative.finance

Aunnie Patton Power is rewriting the rules of finance. As an advisor, academic, and

author, she builds investment structures that challenge extractive norms and put purpose at the center. From boardrooms to classrooms, she works globally to shift power, move capital differently, and fund the future we actually want.


**PETER STEIN**

Managing Director, The Lyme Timber Company LLC  
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617.833.5378  
www.lymetimber.com

Long term practitioner and fund manager for sustainable natural resource investments in the US and Canada. Principally natural forest investments plus stream, wetland and ESA habitat mitigation banks. Investments managed by Lyme have resulted in 1.1 million acres of permanently conserved lands typically through collaborative partnerships with conservation NGOs and State, Provincial and Federal natural resource agencies. 25+ year advisory practice helping private grant-making foundations design land conservation initiatives and utilize Program Related Investments and recoverable grants to support natural resource conservation and restoration.


**KEVIN IRBY**

Managing Director, FORA  
kirby@forainitiative.org  
forainitiative.org

Kirby has been at the forefront of integrated capital and impact investing for over a decade, having advised and worked for a variety of funders. His expertise focuses on the intersection of regenerative agriculture, climate change, and social justice.


**JOSH CASHMAN**

Principal, iCubed  
josh@icubedco.com  
icubedco.com

Josh focuses on financial due diligence for impact investments. He supports foundations and family offices in evaluating target investments as Program Related Investments or Mission Related Investments. Josh also proudly teaches finance at the University of Denver, Reiman School of Finance.

Continued on page 10



## USING CAPITAL TO CREATE A BETTER FUTURE

Michael Best is proud to celebrate organizations and leaders making significant contributions to impact investing and driving meaningful change in their communities.



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## » INVESTMENT ADVISORS



**NICK FLORES**  
Partner, Capricorn Investment Group  
nflores@capricornllc.com  
208.972.4144  
capricornllc.com

I'm proud to advise investors who share my fundamental belief: the capital markets play an essential role in supporting solutions to global challenges. Specifically at Capricorn, we serve as an Outsourced Chief Investment Officer, customizing multi-asset class portfolios that align with the values of ultra-high net worth families and foundations.



**LEO FREEMAN**  
Founder & CEO, Chosen Family Office & Obran Capital Advisors  
leo@obran.coop  
916.380.8011  
www.obrancapitaladvisors.com/

Leo has worked as a licensed financial advisor for nearly a decade, supporting clients to transition their investments in alignment with a Just Transition and social movement priorities, investing across Resist and Build opportunities and solidarity economy and community investments.



**SAYER JONES**  
Director, Occam Advisors  
sayer@occampdx.com  
www.occamadvisors.com

Financial generalist with a genuine curiosity in all things impact investing. Former CPA, 12 years experience at an impact focused private foundation, and 5 plus years consulting for community foundations and family offices.



**ERIKA KARP**  
President, Green Alpha Investments  
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GreenAlphaAdvisors.com

25years founding and leading at UBS, Cornetstone Capital, Pathstone and now Green Alpha. Founding Board Member of the SASB, Impact Advisor to the WEF, UNGC, Clinton Global Initiative, Speaker on Impact for the White House, Bloomberg, Harvard, Oxford and the Vatican.



**WILL SARNI**  
Practice Lead, Water and Nature, Earth Finance, Inc  
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720.341.7272  
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Will is an international thought leader on water strategy, innovation and investing. He was, Worth Magazine Worthy 100 for 2022, A Key Player Pressuring Businesses to Care About Water, one of the Top 15 Interviews In Smart Water Magazine 2019 and the author of numerous publications on strategy and innovation.



**RANDALL STRICKLAND**  
Director, Westfuller Advisors  
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917.685.4867  
westfulleradvisors.com

Randall brings deep, multi-faceted expertise in impact investing developed through both hands-on investment advisory and academic leadership. His expertise spans the critical intersections of Sustainable Finance, Catalytic Capital, Effective Philanthropy, and Social Enterprise.

## » MICROFINANCE



**CATHERINE COVINGTON**  
Managing Director & Chief Business Development Officer, MCE Social Capital  
ccovington@mcscap.org  
404.372.8747  
www.mc.esocap.org

I've spent the last 15 years of my career in impact investing with a focus on raising debt capital and guarantees, which are a very underutilized tool in impact investing. MCE Social Capital represents a true blended finance model, and I love working with our supporters to help them align their money with their values.



**JESSICA SVEEN**  
CEO, Rocky Mountain Microfinance Institute  
jessica@rmmfi.org  
630.738.4472  
www.rmmfi.org

For the last decade, Jessica has empowered resilient Colorado entrepreneurs through RMMFI's training program and low-barrier capital. She bridges the gap between capital access and social impact, aligning investment with entrepreneurial growth. Jessica believes small businesses build community wealth, leadership, and cultural identity, driving public health and local resilience through inclusive, community-rooted economic opportunity.

## » PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS



**DANIEL GOULD**  
Vice President of Investments & Operations, Marguerite Casey Foundation  
daniel@caseygrants.org  
20.6419.0684  
caseygrants.org

As VP of Investments & Operations, I shape Marguerite Casey Foundation's financial strategy, ensuring economic justice is central. With 20+ years in investments, my passion is aligning financial power with our mission: shifting resources to working people and their families.



**JAVIER HERNANDEZ**  
Director of Investments, The California Wellness Foundation  
jhernandez@calwellness.org  
www.calwellness.org

Javier Hernandez is the director of investments for The California Wellness Foundation. In this role, he manages the foundation's endowment, focusing on developing and executing a mission-related investment strategy.



**STACY HOWARD**  
Manager of Behavioral Health Strategy, The Buell Foundation  
showard@bueellfoundation.org  
850.491.0157 | buellfoundation.org

Stacy Howard, PhD, brings 26 years of experience in the field of early childhood. At the Buell Foundation, she manages behavioral health strategies that make investments in the youngest children. She has experience in academia, government, and nonprofits and works with hundreds of partners in Colorado, focusing on rural communities.



**PETER KALDES**  
President and CEO, Next50  
pkaldes@next50foundation.org  
303.547.1800  
www.next50foundation.org

Aligning 100% of Next50's endowment with its mission of creating a world that values aging by developing and implementing the first-ever aging investment framework.



**SUSIE LEE**  
Program Related Investments Officer, W.K. Kellogg Foundation  
susie.lee@wkkf.org  
415.680.5791  
www.wkkf.org/mission-driven-investment

Bridge builder transforming capital markets through championing diverse leadership, ownership, and governance. Passionate about new modes of financing, alternative ownership and exit structures to sustain and scale impact in the long term. Invests in innovations in health equity, climate justice, education, future of work, fintech and access to capital.





## WINNERS


**RANDY LINDSAY-BRISBIN**

Director/VP, Windy Pines Foundation  
randy@windypinesfd.org  
719.499.2861

www.windypinesfd.org

I'm interested in exploring philanthropy and impact investing as co-stewardship rather than extraction masked as generosity. Impact investing can offer potential for participation, for mending the tear wealth is woven from, and allowing capital to rejoin the web of life and breath. I welcome opportunities to continue the discussion and practice.


**GLORIA PRICE**

Executive Director,  
Schlessman Family Foundation  
gloria@schlessmanfoundation.org  
714.812.752

www.schlessmanfoundation.org

At Schlessman Family Foundation we strive to build capacity for non-

profit organizations by investing in their missions to help build stronger Colorado communities. With serving Colorado since 1954 our financial investments have created positive impact in the state for over 1,000 organizations to help those in the greatest of need.


**KATHLEEN SIMPSON**

CEO, The Russell Family Foundation  
kathleen@trff.org  
www.trff.org

Kathleen Simpson leads TRFF's total resource activation, aligning ~95% of assets with mission. She launched its Catalytic Climate Finance program to deploy flexible capital, influence markets, and accelerate climate and equity solutions. Through transparency, field collaboration, and impact fluency, she models how foundations can drive systemic change beyond grantmaking.


**ROB TASHIMA**

Managing Director, Pipeline and Partnerships  
DRK Foundation  
rtashima@drkfoundation.org  
drkfoundation.org

Expertise in partnership development across capital providers, including developing new investment initiatives at Village Capital, piloting new funding approaches with Social Tech Trust, and deepening collaboration with peer foundations at DRK Foundation.


**FRANCISCO TORRES**

Program Officer, Arts & Creativity, Barr Foundation  
ftorres@barrfoundation.org  
714.609.6204  
www.barrfoundation.org

My expertise includes integrating impact investing tools—such as PRIs—into grantmaking strategies to preserve and create cultural spaces, strengthen community ownership, and advance equity.

**» SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS**

**ADEEB KHAN**

Executive Director, Denver Economic, Development and Opportunity  
adeeb.khan@denvergov.org  
denvergov.org/Government

Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directory/Economic-Development-Opportunity In his past role at Delta Dental of Colorado, Adeeb launched the Oral Health Capital Loan Fund as well as a \$7.5M low-interest loan program for dentists during COVID. In his current role at the city, Adeeb is launching the BUILD (Business Investments, Loans and Development) Denver program that will provide low-interest loans to small businesses.

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[www.impactfinancecenter.org](http://www.impactfinancecenter.org)

[dawn@impactfinancecenter.org](mailto:dawn@impactfinancecenter.org)