From our President & CEO: We’ve Got a Bold Dream!

Every day I come to work inspired—by our students, our dedicated staff and Notre Dame AmeriCorps, and the community that supports our amazing work.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you, our supporters, as well as our fantastic Board, for making all this possible.

From our in-school and after-school program that helps kids get and stay ahead in class to the summer experiences visiting colleges and taking trips outdoors, we are 100% committed to walking alongside our children.

We start early, we stay late. It’s 12+ years of comprehensive support and we can’t wait to share some of what that looks like with you!

In gratitude,

Lori Canova

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Expanding Dreams with Learning Opportunities

Boulder County Dreamer Scholar Conference Builds Networking Skills & Possibility

Over 250 Dreamer Scholars gathered together Friday, June 7th for our annual Dreamer Scholar Conference!

This year’s theme was Dreams to Reality, giving kids the chance to learn about a variety of post-secondary options and careers. Presenters included a firefighter, the Denver Broncos equipment manager, an EMT (with ambulance!), a business banker, and a software engineer, among others.

Volunteers from Medtronic helped with logistics and facilitating the sessions—thanks!

Abe, a Dreamer Scholar alum now studying political science at Metro State, kicked the day off and told Dreamer Scholars, “Life isn’t about your failures, it’s about your attempts to jump over them.”

Junior and Senior Scholars Learn the Ropes at CU Boulder

Last summer, 40 “I Have A Dream” high school juniors and seniors joined their peers from Adelante!, AVID (Boulder Valley School District’s Advancement Via Determination program), and Boulder Housing Partners for a 2-week residential experience on CU Boulder campus.

While students attended classes, lived in the dorms, and enjoyed a real taste of the college experience, their parents attended their own orientation. This is a great help for first-generation college students as, for many families, unfamiliarity with college can be a barrier to access and advancement.

Preparing for career success is a key part of “I Have A Dream’s” mission, and your support helps kids know that post-secondary education is for them!

Top: A Dreamer Scholar tries on a firefighter’s kit at 2019 BCDC. Bottom: Thanks, Medtronic volunteers!
Amazing Internships & Awesome Interns

Building the Dream Internship Event Links Local Companies with Resources

On February 15th, local businesses gathered at the 2nd annual Dream Big Internship Event to learn how they can build a viable pipeline for great talent in our area.

Hosted by Google and co-chaired by IHDF and the Boulder Chamber, the event brought together 100+ guests from local businesses with current and former interns and their hosts. Area companies learned how to get the benefit of amazing interns through “I Have A Dream” and help build Boulder County’s talent pipeline in the process!

Dreamer Scholars Prep for Summer Internships

“I Have A Dream’s” College & Career Department works hard to make sure every Dreamer Scholar is ready for post-secondary education and a meaningful career. High school Dreamer Scholars and Dream Big partner students apply for paid summer internships with local businesses and organizations.

Students participated in an internship bootcamp with resume advice and mock interviews. Then they interviewed with internship hosts for their preferred summer jobs.

40 students are currently working at amazing local companies like Boulder Food Rescue, WOW! Children’s Museum, and Congressman Joe Neguse’s office.

Not Too Soon to Start Thinking About Next Summer! What Can an “I Have A Dream” Intern Do for You and Your Business?

Reasons why being an IHDF Intern Host makes good sense:

• You’ll get great talent
• You’ll help a student get the experience needed to excel
• You’ll build Colorado’s workforce!

Look for info about the February 2020 internship event, coming sooner than you think!

Internship Host of the Year

CU Boulder Continually Impressed by Talent

At the 2019 Internship Event hosted by Google, “I Have A Dream” honored CU Boulder as the Building the Dream Internship Host of the Year.

Over the past two decades, the university has hosted hundreds of pre-collegiate interns on its campus, preparing them for future careers and shaping their aspirations.

Chris Pacheco, Executive Director of the CU Boulder Office of Pre-College Outreach and Engagement in the Office of Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, notes that many of the interns they’ve hosted as high schoolers go on to study at CU, work in offices on campus, and later become community leaders.

IHDF serves these students day in and day out, and we are not the least bit surprised at the wonderful things they accomplish. We’re grateful to our partners, like CU Boulder, for helping make these opportunities reality for kids in our community.

Dreaming All Year Round

Holiday Dreams Donors Share the Bounty of the Season

Holiday Dreams, IHDF’s annual holiday gift program, matches donors with children and families whose holidays can be made brighter when community members spread the joy of the season.

In 2018, 290 generous donors made 1,500 recipients holidays happier with their infinite holiday spirit. Keep an eye out for 2019 sign-ups this fall!
Mentor Spotlight:
Aimee Miller

Mentors establish a trusted relationship with a Dreamer Scholar, enjoy fun non-academic activities, and make a difference one-on-one.

Q Aimee, why did you want to become a mentor?
A I was looking for a way to give back with an organization that has a great impact on kids and our communities.

Q What favorite activities do you and your mentee share?
A Our favorite activities are playing with our dogs, playing at the park, and just talking to each other.

Q What has mentoring taught you?
A I appreciate the amazing similarities and differences among individuals, families, and cultures in our community. It has reinforced the importance of close friendships for all of us.

Notre Dame AmeriCorps Spotlight:
Ellen Rigell

Growing up in the mountains of Tennessee, Ellen Rigell fell in love with nature. After studying Biology at Colorado College, she was soon training young students, witnessing their relationship with science and nature unfold. With an awakened passion for education, she applied to be a Notre Dame Mission Volunteer AmeriCorps member, an 11-month position, with IHDF’s Carbon Valley class in Frederick, CO.

“I’ve seen the CV Dreamer Scholars grow from doe-eyed fourth graders to angsty preteens, while I’ve grown from a deer-in-headlights to a confident educator, mentor, and advocate,” she says.

Rigell says her service is invaluable: “While I’ll be leaving with a toolbox full of trainings and certifications, I’ve experienced how invaluable the soft skills of communication and collaboration are to opening up opportunities for the Dreamer Scholars, creating more equity in the educational system, and ultimately achieving IHDF’s amazing mission.”

Become A Mentor!
A mentor is an instrumental role model in a Dreamer Scholar’s life. They commit to:
• Hang out with their mentee twice a month
• Be a mentor for at least one year

Apply today at our website: bit.ly/IHDFVolunteer
Broadway East Class Graduates
First Group of Dreamer Scholars - Class of 2019

Six Dreamer Scholars from our Broadway East class in Boulder graduated high school in 2019.

These new grads will be attending post-secondary at CU Boulder, Colorado State University, Front Range Community College, Metro State, and vocational training programs.

We’re so proud of you, graduates! We can’t wait to see where life takes you next. Each and every one of you is awesome!

Congrats!

Iris Dreamer Scholars class of 2018

Class of 2018 • Iris Dreamer Scholars Graduate • Program Director Francisco Mejias to Continue with Phoenix Class!

10 years ago, 50 third- through sixth-grade youth living in Boulder Housing Partner sites joined our Iris Dreamer Scholar Class, led by program director Francisco “Cisco” Mejias. Governor Jared Polis was a featured speaker at the ceremony.

Students from this housing site-based class have been graduating each year, over the past three years, with the last of the group completing high school in May 2018. We are so proud that 93% of youth in this cohort graduated high school and 85% are enrolled in post-secondary education. This is a wonderful feat given the 76% graduation rate of their peers. Well done, Iris graduates!

We’re also delighted to announce that Cisco will be continuing his amazing work with another class of students in January 2020. We can’t thank you enough, Cisco!

90% Dreamer Scholars Graduate High School

86% Dreamer Scholars Attend Post-Secondary

Congrats!
New Dreamer Scholar Classes: IHDF Commits to Support Kids To & Through High School & Beyond

2nd Alicia Sanchez Class Dedicated in Fall 2018

The newest group of Dreamer Scholars was officially inducted into their class (the Alicia Class) on Thursday, October 11, 2018.

The Alicia Dreamer Scholar Class programming is provided in collaboration with the Alicia Sanchez International Elementary School and the Family Resource & Learning Center, Boulder Valley School District, Centaurus High School, and CU-Boulder.

Program Director Lupita Crespo said, "My dream for the Alicia Dreamer Scholars is that they find their passions as I present to them different experiences. I want them to not be afraid to try different things. I want them to know that they have a voice and that they are able to do whatever they set their hearts and minds to.

Announcing the 2019 New Alicia Sanchez Dreamer Scholar Class!

And, thanks to generous donors at our 2018 Dream-Maker Luncheon, we have funded and will be starting a new class of first grade Dreamer Scholars this fall at Alicia Sanchez!

Program Directors Lupita Crespo and Sonia Rivera will be coordinating the now three Alicia Sanchez programs. Sonia graduated from Metropolitan State University of Denver in 2017 and began serving as a Notre Dame AmeriCorps member with the Alicia Class in 2018. She is also an alumna of the "I Have A Dream" Sanchez Class of 2012!

Sonia says, "I’m optimistic and ready for the birth of the newest Dreamer Scholar cohort in the fall. My hope is that, through the ‘I Have A Dream’ program, students will learn more about themselves and others, the value of education, self-empowerment, and a close community."

How Your Sponsorship Makes Dreams Come True

Dreamer Scholar Sponsors pledge to support our students each year for 10 years at $3,000/year.

This sponsorship helps provide daily academic program (during school, after school, and during the summer), tutoring, and enrichment. College & Career services are also included, such as career tours, job shadowing, paid internships, test prep, and FAFSA/college application support. Finally, we provide up to a $10,000 scholarship for college or vocational school.

This gift can be made monthly, quarterly, biannually, or annually and is eligible for the Child Care Contribution Credit.

Learn more at www.ihaveadreamboulder.org
**Events Celebrate Success and Move “I Have A Dream” Toward the Future!**

**Signature Dream-Maker Events Fund New Classes**

On October 4, 2018, we welcomed nearly 1,000 guests at our Dream-Maker Luncheon. Attendees learned about our mission and heard inspiring testimonials from our Dreamer Scholars, their families, and leadership. It was an unforgettable afternoon!

And, after being postponed due to the bomb cyclone in March, the annual Dream-Maker Breakfast in Longmont went off without a hitch on April 4th.

Guests heard from Dreamer Scholar alumna Berenise Corchado, Dreamer Scholar parent Eddie Cordero Sr., and Notre Dame AmeriCorps member Jeff Oliver.

**Latino Parent Summit Builds Community**

A collaboration between Latinx parents in Boulder Valley and St. Vrain Valley School Districts, and “I Have A Dream’s” Dream Big partners, the 2018 Latino Parent Summit addressed issues that parents raised as of particular interest.

The event featured 30 community agencies, BVSD and SVSD superintendents, and workshops/discussion sessions about issues like immigration facts and fiction, suicide, drug/bullying prevention, and zumba. Held entirely in Spanish, the event drew twice the participation of 2017’s inaugural event!

**IHDF Central Office Building Dedicated in Honor**

On Wednesday, August 8th, 2018, IHDF’s Building was dedicated in honor of Irene Lopez Wessell.

CEO Lori Canova thanked Irene for committing her life to working with children and youth in Boulder County, saying “Irene’s impact in our community is impressive! Today, she continues her legacy as a Kiwanian to serve youth in our Boulder County community.”

**Corporate Dream-Makers Support Events Year-Round at “I Have A Dream” Big Impact • Great Partnerships**
GET INVOLVED! JOIN TEAM DREAM TODAY!

VOLUNTEER

Program Volunteer & Tutors
Support students after school and/or in the summer with homework, study skills, and enrichment. You'll meet with students at least once a week for a minimum of one semester.

Group Volunteering
Companies can make the commitment to send one or more employee volunteers one set day per week for one academic semester (fall or spring; 12-14 weeks). It’s easy to set up!

Hosts for Job Tours, Internships, & Career Presentations
Host students at your office or workplace for a talk, internship, or tour; or visit programs to share about your career/industry.

Board & Committee Members
Board members serve 3-year terms, providing guidance on programming, fundraising, and finances. Committees focus on particular events or program sites, helping with planning.

GIVE

$3,000 • Become a Sponsor
Help fund a Dreamer Scholar’s whole journey, from elementary to and through high school and beyond.

$1,000 • Cover the Summer
Underwrite a month of summer program for one of our classes, helping Dreamer Scholars avoid summer learning loss.

$250 • Support Careers
Support college tours, career panels, job shadows, and internships, helping students cultivate career aspirations.

$100 • Do Dinner
Fund a parent meeting, held at dinner time to minimize scheduling constraints for families.

$25 • Give Books for a Semester
Our Dreamer Scholars love to read; you can provide reading material for a class’s semester’s worth of stories.

SHARE

Be a Table Host in 2019
Share your passion for supporting kids in our community with your friends and family. We need people to bring along 8 guests to our October 3rd Dream-Maker Luncheon. It’s free for you and for them!

Visit our Program
See how we support students as they make their dreams come true. We’ll show you how our program runs and why it works. Ask about program tours.

Save Paper & Postage
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