

# 2020

// ANNUAL REPORT //



## What a year.

Dear Friends,

How many times and ways can we say “unprecedented”? Despite 2020 being a year that tested the bounds of our imaginations and our adaptability, JVA has many successes to celebrate—both among our team and for our wonderful clients and partners. In 2020, JVA worked with **50+ clients** on **almost 170 different projects**, and we were so honored to do so.

### Resource Development

JVA grantwriters wrote **102 grants** and won **\$19.3 million in awards** (so far). Among outstanding wins: a **\$1.2 million Adult Education and Family Literacy Act grant for Asian Pacific Development Center**; a **\$1.2 million Victims of Crime Act award for Gateway Domestic Violence Services**; and a **\$7.3 million grant to help Denver Economic Development & Opportunity expand workforce development**.

### Evaluation & Engagement

Meanwhile, our evaluation and engagement team worked with **16 different organizations**, spoke with nearly **300 people** in interviews and focus groups, convened over **470 individuals** for facilitated meetings, and heard from **1,731 survey respondents**. Adapting to COVID-19 restrictions, yet recognizing that digital access is not universal, we adopted **new engagement and facilitation methods**.

### Planning & More

We conducted virtual community needs assessments for **Tri-County Health Department** and **Denver’s Department of Human Services**. Among our planning engagements, we worked with **Emerge Colorado**, **Ambient Energy** and the **Colorado Episcopal Service Corps** (in person back in February, below).

In addition, JVA hosted a virtual networking and conversation series, **Executive Directors in a Changing World**. It focused on boards, staff and funding in the context of COVID-19 and a society awakening to heightened calls for racial justice.

Through it all, we have all had to lean into **courage, resilience, innovation and care** more than we ever anticipated. In this spirit, we decided to feature ways our clients exemplified each of these in 2020. We look forward to bringing these values and the lessons we've learned into 2021 to continue to help you make the world a better place. Thank you for allowing us to do so.

— Your JVA Team



We're in awe of how changemakers have demonstrated **courage, resilience, innovation** and **care** in 2020. Here we share snapshots of just a few of our many clients who applied these attributes through new programs, populations served and methods for delivering services.

## Courage

1) the ability to do something that frightens one; 2) strength in the face of pain or grief

JVA facilitated the equitable evaluation collaborative with the Colorado Health Foundation and The Colorado Trust.

Think 360 Arts for Learning is a JVA annual grantwriting client; we won \$328,955 in grants for T360 in 2020.

### The Colorado Health Foundation and The Colorado Trust

The Colorado Health Foundation and The Colorado Trust teamed up with JVA to support the Colorado Collaboratory on Equitable Evaluation, which brought evaluators together to examine their own practices and to consider the question: “**What might be possible if evaluation was conceptualized, implemented and utilized in a manner that promotes equity?**” The collaboratory began in 2019, and the urgency of its activities related to power dynamics, worldviews, unspoken orthodoxies and more became ever clearer in 2020 against the backdrop of the pandemic’s disproportionate impacts and protesters taking to the streets with calls for racial justice.

### Think 360 Arts for Learning (T360)

With schools and older adults among its main audiences, T360 was hit hard by the pandemic’s need for social distancing. Artists lost work, and the budget was cut. Nonetheless, T360 was there for its community, conducting an online **social-emotional learning arts symposium** for artists and teachers; hosting **daily programs live** on its Facebook page for **Denver Arts Week(end)**; **distributing art kits** with holiday food at the Senior Hub; offering **virtual classes** through Denver Public Library; and more.



1) the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness  
2) the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity

## Resilience

JVA conducted the 5-year local evaluation of the Denver Indian Center, Inc.’s HFP, including providing the metrics and writing the grant proposal that won the HFP 5 more years of federal funding.

JVA's evaluation of MSU Denver's HCOP (3 years) and POHA (5 years) programs includes focus groups, surveys and extensive data analysis and reporting.

### Denver Indian Center, Inc. (DICL)

COVID-19 hit when the federal grant period for DICL’s Honoring Fatherhood Program (HFP) was in its 5th year. HFP provides **culturally specific trauma-informed parenting, relationship and economic services to American Indians and Alaska Natives**. DICL tested various methods to deliver HFP while keeping the community safe, including adjusting workshop design, providing technology to participants and creating new curriculum. Amid these struggles, DICL won funding for 5 more years of HFP.



### Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver)

MSU Denver, like many universities, moved most of its courses online in 2020, requiring a tremendous amount of flexibility and resilience on the part of both faculty and students. Amid these challenges, the school proceeded with two groundbreaking initiatives: the **Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP)** and **Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (POHA)**—and JVA continued its evaluation of them. Both programs are designed to **support students** whose backgrounds can make completing a college degree challenging, and both ultimately seek to **increase diversity in health-related fields**. These programs, built to improve resilience, also tested it in a way none could have foreseen.

# Innovation

1) the action or process of innovating, “innovation is crucial to the continuing success of any organization”

JVA wrote 10 successful grants for TEENS, Inc. in 2020, helping it win more than \$1.2 million for its programs.

JVA facilitated Pueblo City-County Library District's strategic planning preparation, leading focus groups and meetings with staff and leadership.

## TEENS, Inc.

Nederland, Colorado-based TEENS, Inc. was innovating even before COVID-19, offering prevention services and urban-rural youth corps programs, and providing social-emotional learning in schools. It even added a preschool in 2019. In 2020, TEENS expanded its role as a coordinating agency for Peak-to-Peak service providers by distributing food and financial aid, and operating a hotline to support parents, all while adapting its programs to continue serving the community.



## Pueblo City-County Library District (PCCLD)

PCCLD's innovation amid the pandemic extended from how the library served its community to its commitment to conducting its scheduled strategic planning despite the constraints of the moment. PCCLD's pandemic innovations included providing a variety of virtual programming; partnering with other organizations to equip the public with hot spots and laptops; preparing snacks and art project kits for youth to pick up at the library; and offering curbside book pickup. As part of its strategic planning, with the help of JVA, PCCLD gathered 130 staff members (masked and socially distanced) in a half-day remote session to inform the library's future direction.

1) the provision of what is necessary for the health, welfare, maintenance and protection of someone or something; 2) serious attention or consideration applied

# Care

JVA has worked with Shiloh House for several years, conducting research, writing and updating grant boilerplates, and writing many successful grants including one for \$25,000 to support BTW and the COVID Safety Unit in 2020.

The Colorado Health Foundation awarded Mile High Behavioral Healthcare a \$340,000 grant for its Transcend program in 2020, in response to a proposal written by JVA.

## Shiloh House (Shiloh)

Youth aging out of foster care are bearing a heavy burden as a result of the pandemic: increased isolation, anxiety and depression; job loss; barriers to schooling; and food and housing insecurity. Shiloh has continued to offer its Beyond the Walls (BTW) support for these young people, boosting its online and social media presence to keep them engaged, including using live platforms to connect in real time, and creating daily challenges for them. The program also helped youth who had lost jobs by providing money for food, clothing or rent. Working with Tennyson Center and Savio House, Shiloh also set up a COVID-19 quarantine unit at its campus to care for youth who tested positive for the virus.

## Mile High Behavioral Healthcare (MHBHC)

Marked by its social isolation, economic uncertainty, and political and societal unrest, 2020 was a tough time to be in recovery. MHBHC's Transcend aftercare program worked to make it more bearable. Transcend helps its clients build community in support of their long-term recovery, connecting them with peers who have lived experience with substance use disorders. These peers provide long-term support and friendship, as well as someone to be accountable to.



# Our 2020 Clients

Over JVA's 33 years, we've been fortunate to partner with changemakers whose efforts impact a vast variety of societal needs and populations. We are so proud to support your invaluable work. Below are our 2020 clients, with some of their areas of expertise noted—though we know that their endeavors defy boundaries.

Ambient Energy  
Asian Pacific Development Center  
Black Cube  
Boulder County Area Agency on Aging  
Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado  
Clínica Tepeyac  
Colorado Community College System  
Colorado Episcopal Service Corps  
Colorado Public Television (KBDI-12)  
Colorado Workforce Development Council  
Community College of Aurora  
Denver Children's Advocacy Center  
Denver Department of General Services  
Denver Department of Human Services  
Denver Department of Public Health and Environment  
Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Denver Economic Development & Opportunity  
Denver Department of Housing Stability  
Denver Indian Center, Inc.  
Denver Indian Health and Family Services  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
Denver Office on Aging  
Denver Public Library  
DeSmog Denver  
Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County

Emerge Colorado  
Encore Roadmap  
Family Star Montessori & Early Head Start  
First Descents  
Gateway Domestic Violence Services  
Grand County Library District  
Greater Purpose Media  
GRID Alternatives  
Growing Home  
Kids Aid  
Lowry Foundation  
Mesa County Partnership for Children and Families  
Metropolitan State University of Denver  
Mile High Behavioral Healthcare  
New Legacy Charter School  
Nonprofit Centers Network  
Prime Health  
Pueblo City-County Library District  
Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment  
Re:Vision  
Rose Community Foundation  
Sheridan Health Services  
Shiloh House  
TEENS, Inc.  
The Greeley Dream Team  
Think 360 Arts for Learning  
Tri-County Health Department  
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
University of Colorado-Anschutz  
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education  
Westminster Public Schools

## Impact Areas

- Arts
- Disability
- Domestic violence
- Early childhood
- Education
- Environment
- Food security
- Government
- Health
- Housing
- Immigrants & refugees
- LGBTQ+
- Mental health
- Nonprofit capacity
- Older adults
- Teens & youth
- Women
- Workforce development

## Our Services



### EVALUATION AND ENGAGEMENT



### TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT



### COMMUNICATIONS AND DESIGN



### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT



### STRATEGIC PLANNING

How can we serve and support you? >>> Learn more at <https://joiningvisionandaction.com/services/>

# Our Team

While 2020 presented a lot of challenges, it also inspired our team to find additional, intentional ways to be together while apart—building our capacity to show courage, be resilient, care for each other and ourselves, and tap into the creativity we'd need to innovate in this unusual time.

Starting in April, we added an extra weekly staff meeting to “check in” and used this opportunity to get to know each other a little better. We played games, and we asked a ton of questions, including:

- Who is your favorite villain?
- Have you ever had a moment of fame?
- What was your first job?
- If you could only eat one vegetable for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Did it get silly? Of course! But we learned a lot and had some fun doing it. Feel free to use any of these ideas for your own team-building activities. We’re sharing a few highlights here, so you can get to know us better, too.



Aaron Schonhoff (he/his) // Guitar Hero

## Our Vision

We envision worldwide social change that fosters positive outcomes for all people and the planet, advanced by our thought-leadership and professional services.

## Our Mission

Increasing changemakers' ability to succeed, sustain and scale.

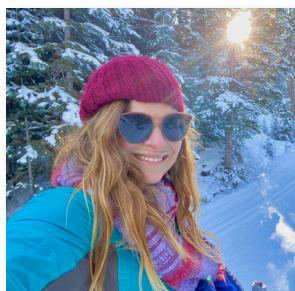
## Our Core Values

Collaboration // Community // Equity // Integrity // Results

Joined in 2020

Cynthia Lizano (she/her) // Cookie Monster

Cynthia is JVA’s bilingual engagement and planning associate and one of our newest team members. She also loves baking and finds it to be an “in the moment” experience. Her favorite snack growing up was fresh fruit. (*At right, Cynthia bakes alfajores—South American cookies with dulce de leche and coconut ... yum!*)



Erin Shaver (she/her) // Shredder

Joined in 2016

Erin is JVA’s director of resource development and grantwriting. She also coaches her daughter’s youth soccer team, dabbles in gardening and bird watching, and loves listening to her kids play piano. She worked at a grocery store and a movie theater in high school. Despite growing up in Florida, she’s happiest on her snowboard or cross-country skis. (*At left is Erin on her skis.*)

Joined in 2020

Jessi Rodriguez (he/his) // TV Star

Jessi is JVA’s associate consultant and one of our newest team members. Watching “The Great British Bake Off” has helped him cope during the pandemic. His favorite villain is Tony Soprano, and he recommends that you read “East of Eden.” In 2013, he was in the Rose Parade playing cymbals and bass drum as part of the Los Angeles Unified School District band. (*At right, Jessi was on TV briefly in the Rose Parade.*)





### Jill Iman (she/her) // Fearless Leader

*Joined in 2014*

Jill is our managing director and director of research and evaluation. She enjoys reading "The Polar Express" to her young daughter around the holidays, but she hates goat cheese. Ruth Bader Ginsburg was one of her heroes, and her favorite TV show growing up was "Dinosaurs." (*At left, Jill and her daughter sport complementary RBG "Fight For the Things You Care About" T-shirts.*)

*Joined in 2017*

### Katalin Wishart (she/her) // Product Placement Pro

Katalin is a senior grantwriter at JVA. Her favorite villain is Selina Meyer from the TV series "Veep." Her first job was busing tables at an Italian restaurant, where she learned how to make a killer cappuccino. If you travel with her, don't expect her to pack light; she likes to bring all her favorite products. (*At right, Kat assembles the basics for her next trip.*)



### Lisa Cirincione (she/her) // Puppy Taxi

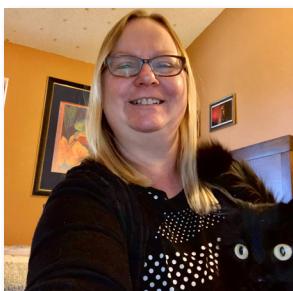
*Joined in 2000*

Lisa is JVA's senior resource development associate and in 2020 marked an amazing 20 years with JVA. She loves bird watching and logs each species to visit her yard. She also likes bike riding with her dog, Barkley, and works on stained glass projects in her basement studio. Relaxation to Lisa is watching The Ohio State University play football as she enjoys a pint of Pliny the Elder. (*At left, Lisa and Barkley at Dillon Ice Castles.*)

*Joined in 2006*

### Marshall Vanderburg (he/his) // Sommelier

Marshall is JVA's director of operations. He enjoys winemaking; Charles Darwin is one of his heroes; and his family wears matching pajamas for Christmas. He is NOT a fan of squirrels in his yard, and he once shared a photo of two he trapped in one cage overnight. He knows a fair amount of Denver history, including that of the previous owners of his home. (*At right, Marshall bottles wine at home.*)



### Sandy Wiegand (she/her) // Animal Tracker

*Joined in 2017*

Sandy is JVA's copyeditor and writer. She enjoys watching bears squeeze through the hole they made in her backyard fence. She grew up with eight siblings, and in high school she worked for the real-life version of the drug smuggler portrayed by Clint Eastwood in "The Mule." She has three cats, except when she's cat sitting two more. (*At left are Sandy and Pepper in their home office.*)

*Joined in 2011*

### Stella Carrasco (she/her) // Best Grandma Ever

Stella is JVA's office manager and training coordinator. She and her granddaughters pick sage on the South Dakota prairie or near Red Rocks Park in Colorado and burn it as part of a Lakota cleansing ritual. She's an admirer of the late author Leo Buscaglia and a bigtime Broncos fan, and her favorite Thai dish is pineapple fried rice, minus the curry and cilantro. (*At right, Stella brightens her surroundings, as usual.*)



*We'll see you in 2021!*