



News Release

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Denver Public Schools Foundation Receives \$150,000 through the Colorado Rockies Charity Fund and The Denver Post Season to Share

Denver, July 15, 2016 – Denver Public Schools Foundation recently received two grants totaling \$150,000 through the Colorado Rockies Charity Fund, a McCormick Foundation Fund and also through The Denver Post Season to Share, a McCormick Foundation Fund. The grants will support Prep League and Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities programs, and Each One Teach One (EOTO): No More Gap program.

“We are grateful to the McCormick Foundation for their continued dedication in supporting literacy and middle school sports in an effort to improve local communities,” said Veronica Figoli, President and CEO of the DPS Foundation. “Through this holistic partnership, we are one step closer to ensuring that Every Child Succeeds.”

Prep League is a program founded in 1997 to give middle school students an avenue for participation in organized afterschool sports. Today, Prep League is comprised of 33 DPS schools and offers roughly 6,000 students the opportunity to participate in 17 sports. Learn more about the program by visiting DPS’ Prep League Middle School sports [website](#).

Prep League gives students access to positive role models, such as coaches and older players. Middle school students tend to be sensitive to criticism, self-conscious, loyal to peers and more motivated by social factors than by academic concerns. As a result, they benefit from sports programs that foster teamwork, leadership and skill building.

Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities is a nationwide effort designed to promote the game of baseball to teenage boys and girls in disadvantaged areas.

EOTO provides intensive, small group language development instruction and gives students the building blocks to be successful learners. Each day over the course of nine-week sessions, EOTO students gather for 25-45 minutes to engage in vigorous conversations inspired by a richly illustrated book to build their vocabulary as they are encouraged to observe, label and describe what they see. Students proudly wear the new words they learn, their “Keys to the Future,” on lanyards around their necks. These keys serve as learning aids, conversation starters and public symbols of achievement. This model is further supported by engaging parents and families to create home environments that are more conducive to and supportive of learning so that at-home time can reinforce what is being learned at school. EOTO engages multiple generations of families to become empowered and passionate learners, teachers and advocates. Family engagement is the core of EOTO, which seeks to foster a love of learning and a sense of academic and collective efficacy that learning and achievement are attainable for all.

About the Colorado Rockies Charity Fund, a McCormick Foundation Fund



Established in 1993 through the Colorado Rockies Charity Fund, local nonprofit organizations with programs that focus on child abuse prevention and treatment, child and youth education, and health and wellness are supported. Grants are made possible with the generosity of Rockies baseball fans, the general public and corporate donations. All donations are matched at 50 cents on the dollar by the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, based in Chicago, Illinois. The Colorado Rockies and the McCormick Foundation pay all expenses, ensuring 100 percent of donations, plus the match, go directly to local nonprofit organizations. Since inception, more than \$25 million has been distributed improving the lives of those in need across the Denver metropolitan region. To learn more about the Colorado Rockies Charity Fund, visit <http://donate.mccormickfoundation.org/rockies>.

About The Denver Post Season to Share, a McCormick Foundation Fund

Established in 1992 through The Denver Post Season to Share, local nonprofit organizations with programs that focus on child and youth education, health and wellness, homelessness and hunger are supported. Grants are made possible with the generosity of *The Denver Post* readers, the general public and corporate donations to the Season to Share campaign, the primary fundraising campaign The Denver Post Season to Share. All donations are matched at 50 cents on the dollar by the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, based in Chicago, Illinois. *The Denver Post* and the McCormick Foundation pay all expenses ensuring 100 percent of donations, plus the match, go directly to charitable organizations. Since inception, more than \$69 million has been distributed to improve the lives of those in need in metro Denver. To learn more about The Denver Post Season to Share, visit www.seasontoshare.com.

About the Robert R. McCormick Foundation

Robert R. McCormick Foundation is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens. Through philanthropic programs, Cantigny Park and museums, the Foundation helps develop citizen leaders and works to make life better in local communities. The Foundation was established as a charitable trust in 1955 upon the death of Colonel Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. The McCormick Foundation is one of the nation's largest foundations, with more than \$1.5 billion in assets.

The McCormick Foundation's Communities Program continues Col. McCormick's legacy by partnering with sports teams, such as the Colorado Rockies, media outlets and philanthropic organizations across the country to raise money and provide matching dollars that increase the impact of charitable giving. To learn more about the McCormick Foundation, visit www.McCormickFoundation.org.

About the Denver Public Schools Foundation

The Denver Public Schools Foundation is the Denver Public Schools' fundraising partner. It generates resources, builds relationships and champions public education to help Every Child Succeed. It is entirely built and sustained by the community; by supporting the DPS Foundation, businesses and individuals are creating positive, sustainable change in Denver's schools and contributing to the success of our next generation. For more information, visit www.dpsfoundation.org.