



Executive Director Report

November 2018

NOTE: this report is re-organized based on the Canopy's FY18-19 Organization Benchmarks discussed at the October Board meeting. Let us know what you think!

Build Financial Stability

Canopy Budget: Initial drafts of October budget-to-actuals show the organization expenses tracking in alignment with income. The full monthly report will be reviewed by the Finance Committee on November 20, 2018.

Development: The Canopy has been promoting its 10th Anniversary Celebration and Fund Raising Campaign via mailings, individual invites, and electronic invites. An Honorary Host Committee comprised of past Board members and active champions are extending invitations. The goal is to raise \$25,000 by December 31, 2018. To date, \$2,500 has been contributed, including numerous new donors. There will be a variety of opportunities to give at the celebration and through the CO Gives campaign. Please continue to extend invitations to the Celebration event on November 28th!

Maximize the Canopy's Capacity and Effectiveness

Strategy Development: Board feedback on the focus and desired outcomes for the 2019 strategic planning process was shared with Kara Penn, [Mission Spark](#). The planning committee (e.g. Michelle, Karen, VJ, Jodi, Bill) and will meet early December to finalize the process which will be shared through the December ED Report.

Brand Management: The Canopy received a "cease and desist" request from Evan Rosen and The Culture of Collaboration® Institute. Evan is owner of the federally-registered trademark THE CULTURE OF COLLABORATION that comes into play for things like seminars, workshops, speeches, live presentations, book series, blog, consulting, information and business advisory services. We have received an initial consult from lawyer to help us fully understand this request and support our response. We anticipate we'll need to cover some legal fees unless we find a lawyer willing to do this pro bono on our behalf. We hope that agreeing to re-brand our annual Summit (currently the Culture of Collaboration Summit), will satisfy this request. The Board will be kept posted as things progress - we welcome any input.

Create a Strong and Healthy Canopy Team

Talent Management: The HR Shop is actively recruiting a skilled facilitator/trainer to join the Canopy team. The hope is to bring this person onboard in January 2019, stepping immediately into multiple projects that Bill has been lead facilitating as well as some of the emerging community projects through the Community Learning and Development Partner project. The position will be funded by both fee-for-service work and the CLDP project budget.

Demonstrate Community Impact

Project Highlights:

[ECCP Network](#) Hosts Harnessing Data for Social Change in Early Childhood event. This full-day training brought together over 100 early childhood stakeholders to learn how to frame and communicate data to drive more productive understanding and action around important issues. The training included how the ways we share data can often trigger bias and individualistic ways of thinking and how we can move toward more upstream and systemic approaches. Local experts shared ways they are using data for social change. Attendees left the event with increased capacity to access, share and visualize data in the context of early childhood. [Find helpful materials from the event on Civic Network.](#)

Roaring Fork School District: The Canopy helped the RFSD launch the next iteration of their strategic visioning process, building on the work we supported five years ago that engaged over 1,500 community members. Over a three-day barnstorming process of 13 meetings, 400 community leaders, teachers, students and parents were engaged to reflect on how the district was living up to its commitments, and what it could do better. Meetings were conducted in English and Spanish, collecting feedback using real-time PollEverywhere software, allowing for a real-time discussion on responses. The Canopy team is coding the themes and developing ways to help the community prioritize its next steps in January.

Vantage Training: As part of the Canopy's efforts to operationalize our evaluation framework and begin gathering data on impact, the team from [Vantage Evaluation](#) held a training with Canopy staff on how to develop better survey questions to get the data most needed. The session was a triple win: a great professional development opportunity for the team, a way to refine the actual survey questions we want to ask of clients and community partners, and a team building opportunity to build connections with some of the Canopy Associates—consultants being trained in Canopy tools and practices.

EastSide Unified/Unido: Five East Denver community residents and partners were recently trained in [Asset Based Community Development](#) by a training team that include ABCD founder, John McKnight. That EU team shared their experience through a learning circle that included 25 community members. Plans are underway to initiate learning conversations to better understand the variety of assets, hopes and ideas for a healthy east Denver community.