



Meet David Dahlin!

- 1. You have gravitated to the nonprofit sector and found a home in philanthropy. What has led you down that path?** I grew up in a family that highly valued living lives of service. In my family, a “good job” was one where you could wake up every morning and do some good. I have always worked in the social sector and have found it very fulfilling work. Over the years, I’ve also grown in wisdom as to what lends itself to the social sector, what is the best role for government, and where are the powerful levers of business the best fit. At the Community Foundation, I’m excited to advance philanthropy and guide its strategic use.
- 2. What wakes you up every day?** Ideally birds chirping! I love nature and the natural rhythm of life. I actually have a fancy alarm clock that starts with birds softly chirping and a soft light coming on. Eventually it gets louder and louder and ends with an annoying buzzer if I don’t turn it off! But the real question, “what gets me out of bed in the morning,” is a host of things. I’m a practitioner of mindfulness and I have learned the joy of being in the presence of each new day and trying to live that day as fully as I can. So, each day is a gift, waiting to be unwrapped. Part of my daily gift now is being able to use my time and talents with PPCF to increase the amount and the strategic impact of philanthropic dollars in our community. I love this place that we call home, and I am committed to doing my part to create a quality of life for all of our residents now and in the long-term future.
- 3. How long have you lived in the Springs?** I have lived in the Springs for most of the last 31 years. I spent a fun year in Denver trying out “downtown living” and a year in Philadelphia when I ran Geneva Global. But most of my life I have lived right here. When I say the Springs, I include Manitou Springs. I lived in Manitou while I led the Fine Arts Center and I recently purchased property back in my old neighborhood and intend to move back.
- 4. If you could eat one food for the rest of your life...?** Ice cream! I know I should say fresh fruit and vegetables, which I do love. I am a health and fitness enthusiast and am committed to a healthy lifestyle. But, really, if I could only have one food—ice cream is about perfect. And it comes in so many flavors!!