OUR ANNUAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER, 2023



"Nothing of significance was ever achieved by an individual acting alone." -John C. Maxwell

Features

Message from Founder/ED Stephania Vasconez

Mutual Aid Partners Distro

2022 Impact Report

Acknowledgements

What is Mutual Aid?

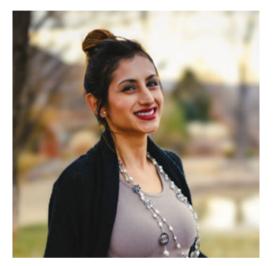
Mutual Aid is when everyday people get together to meet each other's needs, an exchange of resources. Its ideals and practices are based on the principles of direct action, cooperation, mutual understanding and solidarity.

Mutual Aid is a core component of who we are as humans and our way of life; understanding that we're in this together.



MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER





-Stephania Vasconez, Founder & Executive Director

Since MAP started in the summer of 2020, our values and our dedication to this community have only grown stronger. We know the impact we co-create is exponentially greater due to our emphasis on cooperative partnerships, as well as our positioning of meaningful outreach through the lens of accessibility and a dignity-centered approach.

In 2022, we were able to assist over 15,000 families through the weekly distribution of essential resources including food, clothing, and hygiene products, as well as advocacy and facilitated access to education, sanitation, health care, and shelter. As you can see, MAP's impact goes beyond meeting basic needs.

We are grateful for the power of commUNITY and want to say THANK YOU for your energy, love and support. We can't wait to see what we'll accomplish together in the new year!

ABOUT MUTUAL AID PARTNERS

We are a grassroots-oriented organization focused on community building, advocacy, and education through a platform that reduces food insecurity and centers accessibility and connection between community members, resources, and organizations.

We serve every demographic of this community; from working families to veterans, students to seniors, and our unsheltered neighbors.

Born from an immediate need to fill support gaps during the 2020 pandemic, our work has become a deep-rooted commitment to nurturing sustainable projects that lower barriers and create positive change in Mesa County.

MUTUAL AID PARTNERS DISTRO

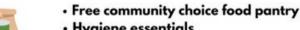
- A community of neighbors supporting and advocating for mutual needs
- A distribution of nutritious food, essential supplies, and personal care items
- A platform for community members and organizations to connect to resources and education weekly
- An opportunity to boost collaboration between community organizations through the lens of equity and accessibility

MUTUAL AID DISTRIBUTION DAV





536 OURAY AVE., GRAND JUNCTION, CO



- Hygiene essentials
- Sack lunches
- Hot beverages/Hydration station
- Haircuts/Barber services
- Dog & Cat vaccinations
- Resource advocacy & navigation

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC EVERY TUESDAY



DONATION DROP OFF 9:30AM-12:30PM PICK UP SUPPLIES 10:30AM-12:30PM

PLEASE CHECK IN & FOLLOW SAFETY PRECAUTIONS



TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION MutualAidPartners.org

SUPPORT US WITH YOUR



970.316.2019 info@MutualAidPartners.org





DÍA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN DE APOYO MUTUO



- Despensas gratis con alimentos que usted puede elegir
- Productos esenciales de higiene personal
- Bolsas de almuerzo
 - Bebidas calientes/Estación de hidratación
 - Cortes de pelo/Servicios de barbería
 - Vacunas para perros y gatos
 - Promoción y navegación de recursos comunitarios

ABIERTO AL PÚBLICO TODOS LOS MARTES



ENTREGA DE DONACIONES 9:30AM-12:30PM PARA RECOGER SUMINISTROS 10:30AM-12:30PM

POR FAVOR REGISTRESE Y SIGA LAS PRECAUCIONES DE SEGURIDAD



970.316.2019

APOYANOS CON TU DONACIÓN DEDUCIBLE DE IMPUESTOS MutualAidPartners.org MUTUAL

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#MAPGI





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Mutual Aid Partners is a network that supports and connects grassroots efforts in Mesa County Colorado,by facilitating communication, education, boosting collaboration and accessibility to resources & volunteers.

Driven by the spirit of solidarity and focusing on action driven, creative solutions, we listen and work within our community to build a deeply rooted, sustainable support system.





Transparency Integrity Respect Inclusivity Safety Outreach Organic organizing Advocacy Participation Confidentiality Equity Compassion Courage Empathy Accountability Empowerment Non-Judgement Non-hierarchical







Strengthening our community food program by focusing on creative collaborative efforts that work to reduce food insecurity in Mesa County through accessibility

Increased outreach and support to marginalized groups, prioritizing BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ communities

Advocacy for our unhoused/unsheltered community, centering their voices and lived experience

Community education to re-shape the common misperceptions of people experiencing houselessness

Continuing to build pathways with organizations focused on solving housing insecurity in Mesa County

Mutual aid community advocates

Transparency with financials and the overall organization

OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Diversity is at the very foundation of Mutual Aid as we elevate and connect the lived experiences and possibilities of individuals.

At Mutual Aid Partners, we center equity and inclusion at the heart of our work by co-creating a culture of kindness, belonging and accountability.

Mutual Aid Partners respects all people and is respectful of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation and the complexities that arise from intersectionality.



• 73,777 lbs. of nutritious food distributed to 8,476 families in Mesa County --- 21,598 lbs. of grocery rescue!

OUTCOMES

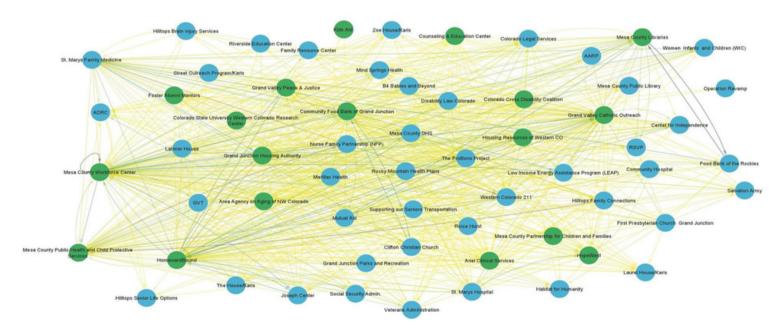
- 6,000 volunteer hours meeting basic needs and sharing human connection
- 4,428 of our neighbors connected to resources onsite at the distro; including shelter and health care advocacy, resource navigation, street outreach, veteran services, migrant education outreach, voter registration, tax credit education, energy assistance, and other family resources.
- 400 marginalized community members supported with direct mutual aid in the form of bus passes, gas cards, phones, shelter, gear, medical and basic living expenses
- In partnership with Solidarity Not Charity: 520 people were provided peer support and harm reduction; FHR Tank Xchange & Gear supplied 439 folx and USK13 gave 520 haircuts at the distro.
- In partnership with Barkley's Hope and The Street Dog Coalition: 242 dogs and 62 cats received veterinary services including vaccines and exams at the distro.



https://mutualaidpartners.org/



- In partnership with La Plaza (formerly Child & Migrant Services) 31 children were gifted Christmas gifts and 4 bikes were donated for migrant workers
- In partnership with the Community Resource Center and Western Colorado Alliance, MAP supported bilingual civic engagement at the distro and also co-hosted a ballot measure event that provided nonpartisan information to more than 50 attendees.
- In partnership with Riverside Educational Center, 60 students were supplied with menstrual kits for the school year.
- As a member of the Mesa County Health Department's Spanish Advisory Group, MAP advocated for BIPOC outreach to 120 community members, supported a visit from the Mexican Consulate, serving 480 people; participated in the Community Health Improvement project and Partner Assessment survey, which identified goals, barriers, partnerships, networks, and significant linkages to MAP, as provided by referral data from the Community Resource Network at QHN.



GRATEFUL TO OUR PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Grand Valley, Community Food Bank, Food Bank of the Rockies, Community Alliance for Education & Hunger Relief, Homeward Bound, Grand Valley Peace & Justice, Karis, Solidarity Not Charity, Western Colorado Alliance, Hilltop, 211, The Street Dog Coalition, Barkley's Hope, Roice-Hurst Humane Society, VA HUD-VASH, Mesa County Public Health, Catholic Outreach, Child & Migrant Services,

Riverside Educational Center, United Way, Western CO Community Foundation, Colorado Health Foundation, City of GJ Nonprofit funds.

A very special thanks to our amazing volunteers and all of our supporters; including Ann Hanson, Suzanne Andrew, Kathy Gardner, Patty Dickman, Julie Kendall, Kelly Hass, the Ram Dhans, Marian & Karalyn Dorn, John Anglim and KAFM Radio, Center for Spiritual Living, Paddleboard Adventure Company, Lithic Bookstore, Liz Sinclair and Charlie Dwellington's, Central Distributing, City Market Community Rewards.

Want to get involved?

Please visit our website https://mutualaidpartners.org/



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