

She  
CANNOT WAIT  
WE CANNOT  
Wait

MILE HIGH UNITED WAY  
WOMEN UNITED®



Mile High United Way  
23<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
WOMEN UNITED  
LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 23, 2021  
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
The Fillmore Auditorium

## A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND CEO



Dear friends,

Welcome to the 23rd Annual Mile High United Way Women United Luncheon! I am thrilled we are back together, both in-person and virtually, as we reflect on this past year and celebrate those in our community who have stepped up to support women and families across Colorado. This includes each and every one of you.

Because of your continued commitment to Mile High United Way, we can address the challenges facing women and girls in Metro Denver. We can provide greater access to education, financial opportunity, professional development, and more so that women can become agents of change in their own lives and in their community. Thank you for being here. I am always humbled to be surrounded by such strong women and corporate partners who continually show up.

Speaking of inspiration, I am delighted to hear from our keynote speaker, Renée Elise Goldsberry, a multitalented actress and singer who has delivered award-winning performances both on Broadway and on the screen. She is best known for her role as Angelica Schuyler Church in the Broadway drama, *Hamilton*. And of course, the chance to hear her sing live is something I have been looking forward to all year.

We will also hear stories from women changing the future of Colorado. One of those women is Anna Jo Garcia Haynes, our 2021 Frances Wisebart Jacobs Award honoree. Anna Jo's visionary leadership has improved the lives of children everywhere across Colorado. She spearheaded bringing the Head Start program to Denver. She co-founded and currently serves as President Emeritus of Mile High Early Learning, Denver's oldest and largest provider of subsidized quality early childhood care and education serving low-income children and families, and so much more. We cannot wait to celebrate her today.

It is going to be a great day. Thank you for being here and investing in our future. As Women UNITED, we are creating a stronger, more vibrant community for women and girls across Colorado.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Benero". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christine Benero  
President and CEO, Mile High United Way

A personal postscript: Thanks, Mom! It was the best of times!

# MILE HIGH UNITED WAY COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

## We support families.

Mile High United Way, the first United Way in the world, was founded in Denver, CO in 1887. Working side-by-side with the community, Mile High United Way takes on critical human services issues facing our seven-county footprint including the Metro Denver, Boulder and Broomfield communities. Through our community programs and initiatives, we support families and focus on our three interconnected Community Priorities: giving all children a strong start, supporting education and academic success, and creating economic opportunity for all.



### GIVING ALL CHILDREN A STRONG START

Ensuring all children enter kindergarten ready to succeed.



### SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Building educational success through partnerships with schools, families, and communities.



### CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Ensuring people can meet their basic needs and have opportunities to move toward economic success.

Learn more at [www.unitedwaydenver.org](http://www.unitedwaydenver.org) or follow us on social media @UnitedWayDenver

# YOUR IMPACT: WOMEN UNITED INITIATIVE



Through our **INNOVATION FUND**, women and girls at A Precious Child's Precious Perks program are being trained for excellence in the job market through working at the Social Enterprise Coffee and Gift Shop.

Through our **ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN FUND**, 7,550 girls and women received job coaching, gained employment, or received academic support.

Through our **EMERGING NEEDS FUND**, in partnership with the COVID Relief Fund, over 3,500 families were connected with basic needs resources and support, over 100 students received laptops for remote learning, and over 5,000 first responders were assisted with child care services.

Through our **KINDNESS PROJECT**, approximately \$20,000 of diaper donations and other baby supplies were collected for young families in our community.

## WOMEN UNITED INITIATIVE

Make a difference for women and girls in your community.

### DONATE TODAY

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code below:



Share your impact today using:

#**WECANNOTWAIT**

Tag us in your photos and stories!



/unitedwaydenver





# WOMEN UNITED®

Women United is a global, growing force of community leaders dedicated to creating a world of opportunity for women and their families. Women United members invest \$1,000 or more annually in our effort to help women and their families move from poverty to financial success.

## LEARN

Monthly networking opportunities that bring together community experts to inform and educate Women United members on important development issues affecting women and children in our community.

## VOLUNTEER

Opportunities to volunteer and serve women and children in our community through fun, family-friendly engagement events.

## INVEST

Women helping women move from poverty and crisis to economic success and security.

## JOIN US!

Visit [unitedwaydenver.org/women-united](http://unitedwaydenver.org/women-united) to learn more.

With gratitude, we thank our Mile High United Way Women United leaders.

## WOMEN UNITED LEADERSHIP

### Women United Leadership Council

**Chair:** Julie Bearup, Community Leader  
**Vice-Chair:** Sonja Borodko, BOK Financial

### Community Connections

**Chair:** Ashley Story, Mercer  
**Vice-Chair:** Morgan Montgomery, Kroenke Sports & Entertainment  
**Member:** Yun Hui Kehoe, Community Leader  
**Member:** Wendy Topalian, Community Leader

### Women United Global Leadership Council

**Chair:** Kimberly Smith, American AgCredit

## WOMEN UNITED LUNCHEON COMMITTEE

Driven by a desire to educate and inspire women leaders in Metro Denver, the committee helped plan and support our annual luncheon.

**Co-Chair:** Lee Gash-Maxey  
Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce

**Co-Chair:** Alice Jackson  
Xcel Energy

**Julie Bearup**  
Community Leader

**Kristin Bender**  
Community Leader

**Deborah Blair**  
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**Cheryl Johnson**  
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U.S. Bank

**Christina Zavislan**  
Mortenson

# LUNCHEON PROGRAM

## Live Performance by the Evans Choir

### Welcome

Sylvia Young, President and CEO, HCA Healthcare, Continental Division

Christine Benero, President and CEO, Mile High United Way

### 2021 Frances Wisebart Jacobs Award

Carrie Morgridge, Chief Disruptor, The Morgridge Family Foundation

Anna Jo Garcia Haynes, President Emeritus, Mile High Early Learning

### Impact Feature

Catalina Gonsales, Community Advocate Supervisor, United for Families and United Neighborhoods,  
Mile High United Way

### Keynote Speaker

Renée Elise Goldsberry, a multitalented actress and singer, featured in the original Broadway production of *Hamilton*

## Live Performance by Renée Elise Goldsberry

### Closing Remarks

Catherine Hance, Partner, Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP; Board Chair, Mile High United Way



## FEATURING

# RENÉE ELISE GOLDSBERRY

*Actress and singer*

Renée Elise Goldsberry is a multitalented actress and singer who has delivered award winning performances both on Broadway and the screen. She is best known for her role as Angelica Schuyler Church in the Broadway drama, *Hamilton*, which received rave reviews across the board and has become a cultural touchstone for the ages. Renée's performance earned her a Tony Award, Grammy Award, Drama Desk Award, and Lucille Lortel Award.

# FRANCES WISEBART JACOBS AWARD RECIPIENT



## ANNA JO GARCIA HAYNES President Emeritus, Mile High Early Learning

Anna Jo Garcia Haynes was selected as this year's Frances Wisebart Jacobs award recipient for her lifelong dedication to serving Colorado's children and their families. During her 40-year tenure as the executive director and co-founder of Mile High Early Learning, Anna Jo played a key role in creating programs and policies designed to meet children's developmental needs.

As President Emeritus, she continues to advocate for universal and quality early childhood education (ECE) and care, and has been a driving force in many state and city initiatives to expand ECE access.

### Past Frances Wisebart Jacobs Award Recipients

Debbie Trujillo	Linda Brisnehan	Roxane White	Kate Paul
Jodi Maples	Pam Jeffords	Neyeska Mut	Debbie Welle-Powell
Betsy Wiersma	Deb Smith	Carrie Morgridge	Caz Matthews
Julie Bearup	Teresa Van De Bogart	Barbara Grogan	Barbara Mellman Davis
Libby Anschutz	Kathy Ambrose	Susan Kiely	

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Broomfield (Retired)

**Carlos Pacheco, Vice-Chair**  
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Union

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Connect for Health Colorado

**Patrina Pettry**  
U.S. Bank

**Michael Ramseier**  
Kaiser Permanente

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\*Emeritus

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