Golden is a dynamic city with an engaged constituency. Our community is made even stronger through the participation of our business community. We are fortunate to have companies that get involved, and whose leaders and employees also contribute on an individual level.

There are so many ways local businesses can give back to the community and all provide valuable and much needed support to the area.

Companies that develop ways to give back to the community through volunteer programs and charitable giving, strengthen the community, strengthen themselves, and enhance their own standing and image in the community. By supporting education, businesses and organizations are helping the next generation of employees develop to their full potential.

Even with today’s increased business competition and limited resources, companies that have targeted community involvement programs report that, over time, these programs pay for themselves in the form of more loyal and productive employees, as well as customers who feel good about doing business with them.

If your organization is looking for ways to give back to the Golden community, consider some of the options in this brochure.

While you may have already developed relationships with area schools and charities, the City of Golden is also available to facilitate introductions and provide information about known areas of need. For more information, contact Julie Brooks at 303-384-8013 or by email at jbrooks@cityofgolden.net.
Giving Can Give Back
Giving is not a one way street. By giving in the community, your organization can see the returns in enhanced employee engagement and better visibility within the community. Here are some other advantages:

It Develops new relationships
Volunteering in the community puts you in a great position to meet new people. These relationships are good for networking, and help you create a network to consult with outside of your immediate business.

It provides indirect marketing exposure
Articles in the local paper about your fundraising efforts, your company logo in the school newsletter and clients applauding your work with a charity can all result in financial returns in the form of increased business traffic.

It is good for your reputation
If you work for yourself, everything you do on and off the job impacts your business reputation. Giving back is a way to position yourself in a positive light. When you spend time and effort for the betterment of others, you are telling clients, potential clients and colleagues that you are empathetic to those around you.

It makes your organization well-rounded
Volunteering or contributing in other ways makes your organization well-rounded. Understanding the need within the community, and how you or your organization can make a positive impact, helps you find your place and purpose within the community.

Giving back to the community...
• Will enhance your company’s public image;
• Will improve your employees’ morale;
• Will improve your employees’ loyalty;
• Will improve productivity; and
• Will have a broad impact on your community.

Giving Back: By the Numbers
$0 - $100
• Donate to the NVision extended day program at Bell Middle School to help with providing snacks for attendees and to help with the purchase of gift cards used to reward the students for achievements. The program meets five days a week at the school with objectives to improve school attendance and behavior and attitudes toward school; enhance academic performance and language development; and strengthen social skills.

• Coordinate a collection drive at your business. Engage employees and customers to contribute money, food, books, clothing or school supplies, depending on the need. Local school libraries are in great need of books, as it is financially difficult to keep their libraries current with age-appropriate books.

• Host a ‘bottomless jar’ at your business. Raise funds for a charity of choice and donate the money every six months. Use social media to announce how much you have raised. You will increase awareness of the charity and your business.

• Offer an unpaid high school internship program at your organization. Each year, nearly 100 students interested in the Executive High School Internship program through Jeffco Public Schools are unable to complete an internship because the program does not have enough business participants. This semester-long program can provide a student with valuable job skills and serve as a benefit to the employer as well.
• Encourage your employees to volunteer outside of work, or provide time during the workday to meet a volunteer commitment, either individually or as a group. Mentors, tutors and volunteers to help with reading skills are often needed. Recognize employees who volunteer.

• Join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA or PTSA) of individual schools in your area. Businesses and organizations can be business sponsors of a school through the PTA and garner additional advertising and publicity in that way, for a fairly low cost.

• Lend your professional expertise as a speaker in a class. Programs like iSTEM at Bell Middle School rely on professionals to provide insight into science, technology, engineering and math careers.

Up to $500

• Sponsor a local youth athletics team, a car wash or other event to assist a youth or school group. This helps to support the organization and increases visibility for your business.

• Adopt a school – Your organization may want to consider adopting a school, either alone or with another organization. Through volunteers, supplies and some funding, you can fulfill many of the more urgent needs schools have throughout the school year.

• Donate gently used equipment, such as computers, laptops, e-readers, iPads and iPods.

• If you already have an employee rewards program, supplement it by adding a donation to a local charity or school of the employee’s choice. If you don’t have this type of reward program, explore the benefits of starting one.

• Provide an in-kind donation from your business to be used for auctions, raffles, prizes or gifts. This can include gift baskets of products, tickets, gift certificates, etc.

Up to $2,000

• Create a scholarship program or contribute to one locally. Even small donations add up and can provide an opportunity for a student to attend college.

Up to $5,000

• Sponsor one or more students for national programs or competitions. Students from several of our schools often qualify for national programs or competitions, but may struggle with affording to attend. Money to offset expenses may mean the difference between going or not.

$5,000 or more

• Hire a student to work part-time in your business. Students, especially those 14 to 16 years old, often have difficulty finding meaningful work that can accommodate their school schedule. Hiring a student for a couple of hours a week can help teach them the valuable soft business skills they need to succeed in the future.

• Of course, if you don’t have anything specific in mind of how you want to contribute, a cash donation to local schools and charities is always useful.
While there are numerous non-profits and charities in the Golden area, the following is a list of local schools and charities who provide money to schools or work with children and families. Each one can benefit from donations of time, money or experience.

**Public Schools within the City of Golden**
- Mitchell Elementary School
- Shelton Elementary School
- Bell Middle School
- Golden High School
- Free Horizon Montessori
- Connections Learning Center

**Public Schools outside the City of Golden, but within the Golden Articulation Area**
- Pleasant View Elementary School
- Welchester Elementary School
- Ralston Elementary School
- Kyffin Elementary School
- Compass Montessori

**Local non-profits who contribute to area schools**
- The Golden Civic Foundation
  - Provides funding to area schools and others in need
- Golden Schools Foundation
  - Provides funding to Golden articulation area schools
- The Golden Backpack Program
  - Provides weekend food to children in the free and reduced lunch program at local schools during the school year. They are also implementing a lunch program for the summer.

**Other local non-profits in need:**
- The Christian Action Guild
- The Action Center

For more information about any of the opportunities mentioned in this brochure or assistance with participating, please contact:

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