

2021: Celebrating Hope in the Midst of Change

It's been a year of change, but we remain faithful and look forward with hope to what is in store for us as Denver Community Church. With our move to one location, navigating life in the midst of an extended pandemic, and waiting to see what location will be our new home; we are continually humbled and grateful for each of you. Your participation, including your financial gifts, made it possible for us to do so much in the last year. We wanted to share a few stories with you in celebration. We look forward to the year ahead where we can continue to explore and participate in the life of Jesus, so that we can be a healing presence in our world.

Grace + Peace
DCC Leadership

GENEROSITY

The generosity of our DCC community has helped Project Renew meet some specific and unique requests. One that stands out was brought to us by our partner Colorado Immigrant Justice Fund. Through their work they were introduced to Deported Asylum Seekers Assistance Project. DASAP's mission is to assist people who were deported unjustly from the United States by providing direct support to enable them to reach safety and start a new life without fear. While they were busy doing that, your generosity allowed Project Renew to help with the process and cover the costs of DASAP becoming a 501(c)(3). Being able to come alongside an organization that is so attentive to the day-to-day needs of the people they're working with and removing a barrier so they can remain focused on being a healing presence in our world is something I hope Project Renew is able to continue doing in 2022.

~ Ashley Hope, Project Renew

The generosity of DCC'ers feels endless. One example of this is our newest Ministry Partner One Atta Time. In 2019 I, along with Scott Oppliger and Chad McNeely, traveled with Atta to Vietnam and witnessed their work firsthand. This experience allowed me to see the power that something as simple as a water filter has to change lives and entire communities. Our partnership with them is tangibly bringing healing to the individuals and families – allowing them to put their money toward something other than treating water borne illnesses. Now they are able to work consistently, attend school and contribute in meaningful ways allowing them to be a healing presence in their world.

~ Michael Hidalgo, Lead Pastor

SUPPORT PROVIDED

- ✦ Marshall Fire Relief Fund = \$53,948
- ✦ Benevolence Provided = \$7,260
- ✦ Partners = \$219,774
- ✦ Immigrant Justice Fund = \$62,120

ADULT & FAMILY MINISTRIES



DCC Kids has been a healing presence for many families who have not been able to participate in children's ministry at past places of worship. For families who have single parents, LGBTQ members or alternative family structures, DCC Kids is a space where they can show up as fully themselves and participate to the fullest extent. We have welcomed so many new families who are seeking an inclusive space for their family to thrive and heal from past religious wounds. We seek to be a place where kids and families can feel safe regardless of what their family looks like and engage their questions and curiosity.

~ Maggie Knight, Children's Pastor

Through this last year, INC has been committed to creating as much connection and community as possible while navigating the pandemic. Our INC Leaders have stepped up in big ways, seeking to be creative with their interactions with students, staying committed to the relationships they are building with our students and working to create some semblance of normalcy and connection in this season. As we move forward, we see hope in the future to create a space that continues to help our students know what it looks like to follow Jesus in this world.

~Nick Elio, Family Ministries Pastor



Our Group Leaders have navigated the new realities of connecting as a community throughout the pandemic and have done an incredible job creating spaces for people to connect with God and journey with others. They have created and cultivated safe spaces for people to process their faith and the challenges the past few years have held. I'm deeply grateful for their commitment and their leadership to care for folks in their community groups. In a time that has been isolating, our group leaders fought for ways to stay connected.

~Amanda Lum, Neighborhood Pastor

SPIRITUAL FORMATION & WORSHIP



This year, generosity has allowed hospitality to pivot to care for our community as we've moved back to in person gatherings, creating consistency while also adjusting to keep our community safe. New and continuing volunteers step up on Sunday mornings to make coffee, clean up trash, serve communion, and be welcoming faces to everyone walking through our doors, generously giving their time and energy to serve regularly. In 2022, we hope to continue to grow the Hospitality Ministry to serve our community by exploring different options to offer connection, welcome, and rest to each person who walks through our doors on Sunday mornings.

~ Leah Vogel, Gathering Coordinator

In this last year, I have seen people from my team come alongside those in deep pain and experiencing heavy trauma and help in their own unique way. I think of one volunteer who made themselves and their contacts available to help find someone a job! I have seen so much generosity in this last year and think of how much people gave of their time. I have so many examples of my team being willing to jump in, and go above and beyond to make large changes to our area work. I am so grateful for these opportunities to see people step up to changing needs of our community.

~ Chad McNeely, Worship & Arts



Watching the Peacemaking Pathway come together/unfold was such a gift. It seemed to create a space for DCCers (new, old - some not even really affiliated/or trying to decide about church) - to safely connect with others in a meaningful way and talk about things that matter. Many people remarked that the experience challenged them - in unexpected ways - to really dig into their identity and pay attention to who God has created them to be. Some remarked that it was the first time that the spiritual practices really began to stick and make sense for them. Many found community and connection at DCC, and feel more a part of the larger community.

~Bekah Stewart, Spiritual Formation