

*Creating Unforgettable  
Colorado Experiences*



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# Strong Partnerships

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Lincoln Hills Cares has created lasting partnerships with national organizations such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the YMCA and Big Brothers Big Sisters, along with numerous local organizations and school groups. The partnerships forge and strengthen our ability to deliver high-quality outdoor education programming to thousands of youth across the Front Range of Colorado and beyond.



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Take action to help us bring communities together to expand natural resource awareness, stewardship and involvement, while improving equity in accessing outdoor resources. We are always looking for support through donations, volunteers, and by spreading the word.

*Lincoln Hills Cares*

DONATE [lincolnhillscares.org/donate](https://lincolnhillscares.org/donate) EMAIL [info@lincolnhillscares.org](mailto:info@lincolnhillscares.org) PHONE 720.504.9754



# Thank You

*Thank You to all of those who helped us reach our goals through volunteerism, sponsorship and donations! Without your kind support and generosity, we would not be able to offer unforgettable Colorado experiences to those who may not otherwise have the opportunity.*

## Foundations & Corporations

The William H. Donner Foundation  
The Burkett Family Foundation  
The Denver Foundation  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
Sportsman's Warehouse  
Wright & McGill  
Bass Pro Shops  
Dunbar's Kitchen & Tap House  
Chocolate Spokes Studio  
Lincoln Hills Fly Fishing Club  
Colorado Trout Fisher Guides  
Boulder River Ranch Holding Company  
Black Label Real Estate  
FUGBUG  
Lincoln Hills Holding Company

## At the forefront of our programming is Mr. Robert F. Smith.

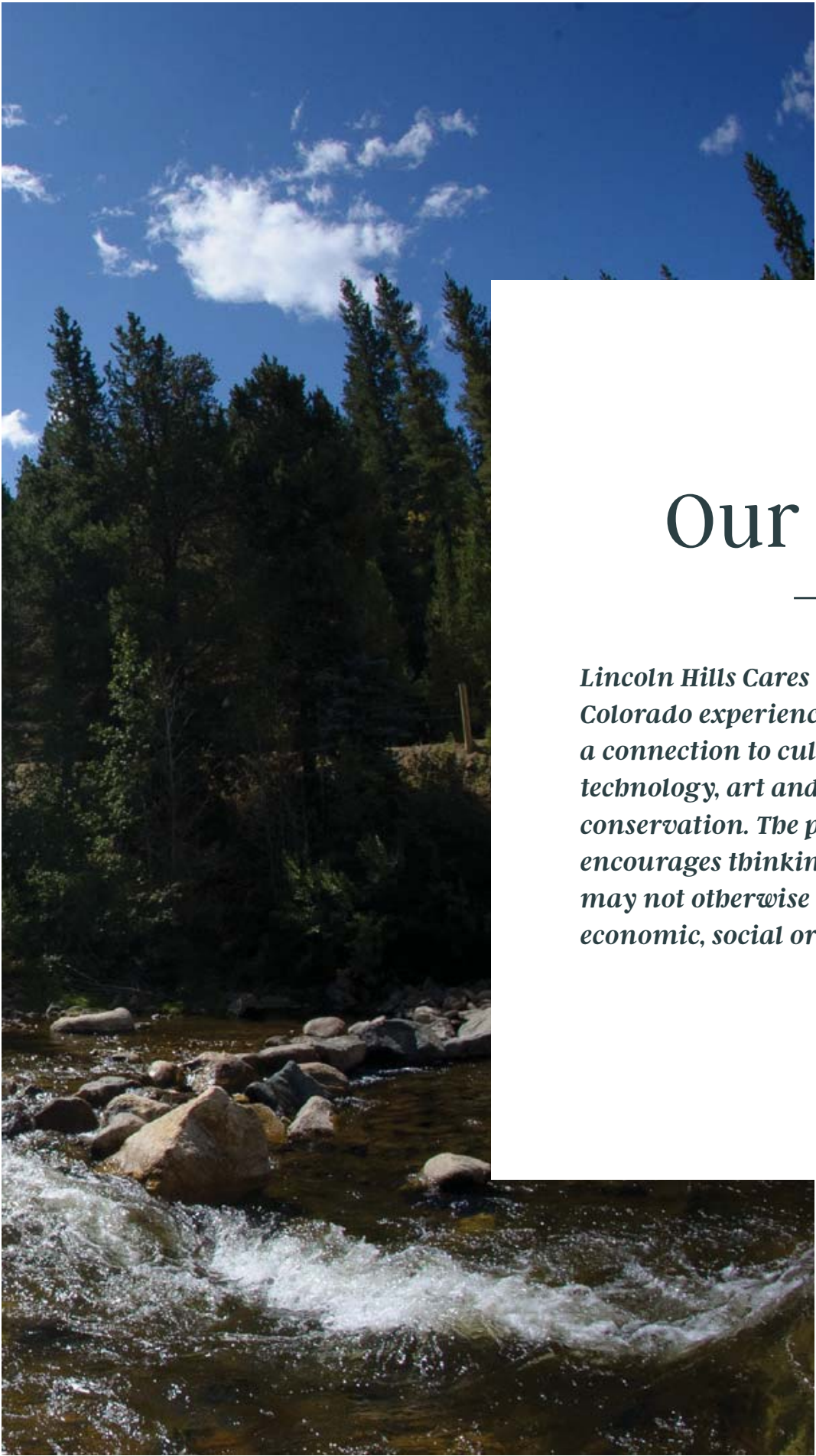
His donations have allowed us to connect young people to beneficial outdoor activities and increase their knowledge of nature. None of our programming would be possible without his incredible generosity and support.

## Individuals

Bob Adwar	Ethan Emery	Eric Nesbitt
Jereme Baker	John Gart	Enrico Parrotta
Vincent Bowen	Charlie Gwirtsman	Anderw Quintana
Albus Brooks	Laurence Hoess	Seth Rankin
Billy Brown	Brynne Jensen	LaDonica Reed
Samuel Brown	Janos (John) Jugl	Alan Robinson
Stephany Brown	Francis McGinty	Dillon Roy
Jeremy Burkett	Karen S. Merling	
David J. Casper	Jason Mundy	
Richard (Rick) Ellison		

# Our Mission

*Lincoln Hills Cares creates unforgettable Colorado experiences for youth by forming a connection to cultural history, science, technology, art and environmental conservation. The program imparts knowledge, encourages thinking and empowers youth who may not otherwise have the opportunity, due to economic, social or family circumstances.*





# Our Work at a Glance

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LINCOLN HILLS STORY  
04

TIMLINE  
06

YOUTH OUTDOOR  
EDUCATION PROGRAM  
08

TEAMWORKS SERVICE  
LEARNING PROGRAM  
10

NIZHONI EQUESTRIAN  
PROGRAM  
12

OUR IMPACT & VISION  
14

OUR SUPPORTERS  
16





# Our Impact

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*We strive to continue to have the opportunity to inspire future generations of productive citizens who give back to their communities and respect and appreciate our natural environment.*

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17,000+

*youth and young adults served through the Outdoor Education, Nizboni Equestrian and TeamWorks programs*

13,000+  
hours

*of Lincoln Hills Cares event programming*

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By 2020, our goal is to have served:

30,000+

*youth through our Outdoor Education and Nizboni Equestrian Programs*

330+

*TeamWorks participants entering the work force*







# The Story of Lincoln Hills

The history of Lincoln Hills began in 1922 when the Lincoln Hills Development Company (LHDC) was formed by Denverites E.C. Regnier and Roger Ewalt, local entrepreneurs who sought to build a resort in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado for middle class African-Americans. At the time of its founding, Lincoln Hills was the only vacation resort west of the Mississippi River catering to African-Americans. Only three other resorts in the United States, Idlewild in MI, Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard, MA and American Beach near Jacksonville, FL also catered to African-Americans at that time.

"I am honored to be a part of the Lincoln Hills Cares Nizhoni Equestrian Program for young ladies. I have mentored young ladies from 10 to 18 years old from all walks of life. Many of the young ladies come from low income, single parent or two parent households, but quite a few are facing adult dilemmas in their lives. The program helps the young ladies with their issues, combining equestrian and nature activities that we do throughout the summer months. The equestrian program allows them to work with horses, which can be quite intimidating in the beginning. As the young ladies learn grooming and care of the horses, they become more comfortable as they learn to be in control of the horse."

The young ladies build confidence, while challenging themselves. As the participants start to bond, they open up about their lives, dreams and hopes for their future. We also fish, hike and do archery as well as trail rides with the horses. The Nizhoni Equestrian program is an amazing program and can be life changing for a lot of these young ladies."

-PAMELA DUDLEY, *Program Manager, Nizhoni Equestrian Program*



MERCEDES,  
*Nizhoni Participant 2016*

"I had never done horseback riding before, nor had I seen a horse up close since the first grade stock show. This program has changed my outlook on confidence and life and it's bettered me as a person and leader. Thank you for such an amazing experience."

CINDY CHAVEZ,  
*Nizhoni Participant 2016*

"Hi my name is Cindy Chavez. I am 9 years old. This summer I joined a very cool program with Ms. Pam. This program was not a regret. All of the horses I saw and rode were very gentle and calm. It was amazing. My favorite horse was Peanutbutter."







# The Nizhoni Equestrian Program

*With roots that date back to 1924, the Nizhoni Program was re-established in 2013. Lincoln Hills Cares sponsors a number of youth and teen girls from diverse backgrounds to participate in the Nizhoni Program. Through equestrian training, participants engage in positive and empowering experiences that foster personal growth and develop confidence.*



## Growth of Historic Lincoln Hills

The historical Lincoln Hills resort area extended over 100 acres in total and over 600 lots were sold in the 1920s and 1930s. Most lots were small, only 25 foot by 100 foot, and sold for \$50 – \$100 apiece. Typically, they had cabins erected on them or were used as campsites.

Owners were dispersed throughout the United States but its core ownership group was found within the African- American community of Denver, Colorado. The Lincoln Hills resort area saw several distinctive periods of growth and use. The first began in 1925 when Obrey Wendell “Winks” Hamlet and his wife Naomi Hamlet began their construction of Winks Lodge, also known as Winks Panorama, which would become the first full service resort in the growing area. Completed in 1928, Winks Lodge consisted of three stories and 6 bedrooms. Over time additional facilities were added to include, Winks Tavern, a honeymoon cabin, the orange cabin, tin house and a threeplex cabin.

## The Railroad, Mining, and Modern Rejuvenation

The railroad has also been significant to both the past and present history of Lincoln Hills. The Moffat Tunnel is a railroad and water tunnel that cuts through the Continental Divide in North-Central Colorado. Appropriately named after Colorado railroad pioneer David Moffat, the tunnel's first railroad traffic passed through in the early spring of 1928. Today the railroad still passes Lincoln Hills on a daily basis, connecting the different ends of the divide.

Mining has also been a prominent and important part of Lincoln Hills. Beginning in 1888 a company known as Deadwood Diggings conducted placer mining on the property, commencing work in 1895. Mining then remained idle for several years until 1901 when hydraulic mining by use of Manchester Lakes took place until 1922. From 1938-1947 Lincoln Hills was dredged and primarily mined for gold.

## Iconic Visitors

As it was one of only a small handful of resort hotels that catered to African-Americans, Winks Lodge drew many of America's most noted African-American creative luminaries including Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Lena Horne and Billy Eckstine who would visit Winks Lodge before/after their performances in the Five Points jazz venues of Denver. The Lincoln Hills Resort and Winks Lodge community continued to enjoy a strong existence and role in the lives of many African-American families throughout the Great Depression, post-World War II and up until the mid-1960s, when the death of Obrey “Winks” Hamlet and the successful passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 served as harbingers that the time for change had arrived once again.



# Timeline

- 1922** *Lincoln Hills Country Club founded*
- 1927** *Camp Nizboni founded*
- 1928** *Winks Panorama (Lodge) completed*
- 1938-1947** *Lincoln Hills dredged for gold*
- 1945** *Camp Nizboni closed*
- 1965** *Lincoln Hills closed (Civil Rights Act enacted, July 2, 1964)*
- 1980** *Winks Panorama listed on National Register of Historic Places*
- 2006** *Matthew Burkett leased property and re-opened area as a fly fishing destination*
- 2007** *Van Horn, Burkett and Associates purchased Pactolus Ice House and founded the Lincoln Hills Fly Fishing Club*
- 2008** *Robert F. Smith and Burkett purchased the former LH Country Club property, began developing area to provide opportunities for youth and people with disabilities*
- 2010** *Lincoln Hills Cares founded with aim to preserve and publicize history of the area by offering a variety of outdoor education programs for youth and young adults*

**UMA GURUNG,**  
*age 20*

*“TeamWorks gave me the opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone and it helped me grow mentally. Working with our partners expanded my thinking and allowed me to do things that I’d never done before.”*



**MIKE MCHUGH,**  
*Partner, Eldorado State Park*

*“Part of what makes the group so uniquely effective is a very effective leadership structure. TeamWorks embraces and fosters a huge variety of leadership traits in their participants. I was particularly struck by how much they lead by example - there are no idle ‘supervisors.’”*

*“The long-term investment that Lincoln Hills Cares (LHC) has made to TEENS, Inc. and the TeamWorks program has directly impacted over 140 youth by providing meaningful summer employment and scholarship funds that encourages youth to continue their education. Just this year, 60 youth learned critical life, leadership, and employment skills while forming strong bonds with co-workers from diverse backgrounds by working 40 hours / week together. The support from LHC has changed the course of many young people’s lives while also protecting and conserving the unique Front Range environment. We are incredibly excited to continue this unique partnership!”*

**Stephen LeFaiver,**  
*Executive Director TEENS, Inc.*



**KAREN SHUNGU,**  
*age 16*

*“TeamWorks has been one of the best summers I’ve ever had because it taught me about friendship, teamwork and hard work. My supervisors were role models who inspired me to work hard and be respectful.”*





# TeamWorks Service Learning Program

To date, this program has increased resiliency, ecological literacy, and work ethic in over **140** youth employees – many have repeated this program for multiple summers. These youth, many who are under-served, have formed strong bonds with their peers, developed a conservation ethic, and utilized the skills learned in TeamWorks to be successful in college and beyond.

The program has developed partnerships with numerous organizations, including Wildland Restoration Volunteers, Colorado State Parks, Rocky Mountain National Parks, Jefferson County Open Space, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Coalition for the Upper South Platte, Denver Water, Gilpin County Fair, Fourmile and Lefthand Watershed Coalitions. The partners, along with TEENS, Inc. connect TeamWorks members to meaningful ecological projects.

Another exciting opportunity that has been implemented for this year is the EcoLab and LifeLab. These full day conferences include representatives from our partners along with other agencies to highlight conservation related employment opportunities and the life skills needed to obtain these types of jobs.







# Our Programs

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## Youth Outdoor Education Program

The programs of Lincoln Hills Cares dates back to the year 2000, when several of our for-profit partners teamed up to begin offering outdoor experiences to those in need. Over time, the programming has morphed and expanded to provide multiple options and work with multiple groups. Education Friday was created as a dynamic program designed for children, youth and adults to engage in a wide-range of topics related to Lincoln Hills and outdoor experiences. It saw demonstrated extensive growth serving the educational needs of participants, from an average of 40 to 375 plus in 2014.

The overall goal was to increase the number of educational opportunities available. Starting in 2015, by partnering and collaborating with other non-profit organizations who serve youth, the programming grew exponentially.

<b>2015</b>	2,252 youth served, a 282% increase from 2014, with 116 days and 500 hours of programming
<b>2016</b>	5,558 youth served, a 196% increase from 2015, with 205 days and 1,657 hours of programming
<b>2017</b>	12,227 youth served



## Youth Outdoor Education Program

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***Youth are provided S.T.E.A.M. based education including:***

- Fly Fishing
- Equestrian Skills
- Botany
- Wetland Ecology
- Cultural History
- Entomology
- Survival Skills
- Archery
- Gold Panning
- Movement and Dance
- Wildlife Biology
- Map and Compass Navigation
- Watershed Ecology and Conservation