Connections that TRANSFORM
2017 Annual Report
MORGAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2017 was a year of many changes at Morgan Community College. We said farewell to colleagues who retired or moved on to other positions, and welcomed many new faces to the MCC family. These changes ushered in a spirit of entrepreneurship that inspired innovation in our instructional programs and services to the community. The common thread running through these transitions was how our connections as individuals, as an institution, and as a community transformed our world and us.

We were enriched and transformed through close work with the diverse communities in which we live and serve. Our connections transformed student learning and futures through instructional innovations, excellence, and access to higher education. Businesses and industries were transformed through partnerships, internships, and collaborations with the college.

The MCC Foundation served as a catalyst and accelerator for many of these connections. Through the generous donations of community members, the MCC Foundation amplified the impact Morgan Community College made by increasing access to higher education and funding dreams that will transform generations to come.

All of these transformations have propelled MCC toward a future filled with more innovation, collaboration, and excitement as we build new connections, promote new programs, and continue to provide the excellent service MCC is known for. We cherish our partnerships throughout our region, and are sincerely grateful for the help and support we continue to receive in helping transform lives and communities.

Sincerely,

Curt Freed, Ph.D.
President

MCC Administration
College President
Dr. Curt Freed
Vice President of Administration and Finance
Susan Clough
Vice President of Instruction
Kathy Frisbie
Vice President of Student Success
Kent Bauer

MCC Advisory Council
Mary Zorn, Chair
Geoff Baumgartner, Vice Chair
Mike Berryhill
Gary Bruntz
Jeff Durbin
Dawn Garcia
Betty McKie
Our Pledge
We pledge our commitment to student access, student success, teaching excellence, valuing people, operational excellence, innovative leadership, community leadership and partnership, and continuous improvement.

Our Mission
We partner with students in imagining, believing, and achieving their goals.

Our Vision
We commit to providing relevant learning by responding to evolving student and community needs.

Our Values
We value the individual, learning, excellence, integrity, innovation, and the community in everything we do.

Faculty Member of the Year, Jennifer Newman. Dan Marler was presented with a Crystal Apple Award. Dr. Kerry Hart also received a Rotary Lifetime Achievement Award during the ceremony. Adjunct Instructor of the Year, Robert Doriss. MCC Employees of the Year Greg Schehrer and Troy McKie. Prior to retiring, former President Dr. Kerry Hart was named Citizen of the Year by the Fort Morgan Chamber of Commerce and was presented the Sage Award by Morgan County Economic Development Council (accepted by Kathy Frisbie). George O’clair received an Award of Excellence from the Mountain & Plains Adult Education Association.
Connections that transform

FUTURES

Education has the power to raise students’ earning potential and increase their employability. In return for their investment in education, MCC students will receive higher wages throughout their working lives.

On average, for every dollar MCC students invest in their education, they will receive a cumulative $8.30 in higher future earnings in their lifetime.

On average, an associate degree completer in Colorado will earn $7,600 more at the midpoint of their career than someone with only a high school diploma.

They will earn $1,401,800 (un-discounted) over their working lifetime, an increase of $326,800 compared to someone who only completed high school.

In other words, the rate of return for students who graduate from MCC is 21.8%, and will continue throughout their working lives. In contrast, had money for college been invested in a standard bank savings account instead, they would have received less than 1% rate of return!

For every dollar of public money spent on MCC, taxpayers receive a cumulative return of $4.50 over the course of students’ working lives in the form of higher tax receipts and public sector savings.

Summary of the Taxpayer Investment

4.5 Benefit-cost ratio

10.2% Rate of return

MCC is a smart self investment
Graduation Rate
MCC students graduate from college at a rate of 11% higher compared to other community college students, and 13% higher compared to other Colorado community college students.

Minority Graduation Rate
MCC students from underrepresented backgrounds graduate at a rate similar to their peers and exceed that completion rate in all categories at other Colorado Community Colleges.

Tuition Comparison: MCC is the best value for obtaining the first two years of a college education.

Based on 12 credits per semester and in-state tuition for the 2017-2018 academic year and does not include room & board, books, meal plans or activities fees.

More interaction with faculty.

Students Amy Bernabe and Alicia Lee were selected for this year’s Phi Theta Kappa All Colorado Academic Team.
Connections that transform  
LEARNING

The individual achievements and success of MCC students continue to shine bright in eastern Colorado.

Welding students Jose Paredes and Bady Piepho earned a gold and silver medal, respectively, in the SkillsUSA state competition. Paredes placed 43rd at the national SkillsUSA contest held in Louisville, Kentucky.

For the second year, female high school students gathered for a “Girls Only! Women in Manufacturing” event. Women currently working in the manufacturing industry shared personal stories about their careers in the field.

Jay Beecham received the Carolyn Thornsby Outstanding Academic Student Award.

Carlos Montes was named the Gene Zeigler Outstanding Occupational Student.

Ashley Overman was recognized as the Jean Danford Outstanding Leadership Student.

Amy Bernabe and Heidi Gerken were presented with 2017 Rising Star Leadership Awards.

Auto Collision student Walker Graff was a recipient of a Craftsman Tool Grant.

Ahmed (Jamal) Abdirhiyan received the Presidential Outstanding Student Award.

Eighteen students participated in this year’s Health Occupations Student Association (HOSA) state contest. Seven students qualified for the national competition.

Pictured with other work-study students, Amy Bernabe was named Work-Study Student Employee of the Year.

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• Four hundred and four students completed degrees or certificates, representing 58 hometowns across Colorado and neighboring states.

• Seven students graduated from the Radiologic Technology Program.

• Thirty two candidates completed their Associate Degree in Nursing, and 22 first year students completed their certificate in Practical Nursing.

• Twenty four students completed their General Educational Development (GED) testing.

MCC sophomore Ahmed (Jamal) Abdirhiyan has been working at Cargill as a ribber while going to college. He plans to graduate next May with his associate degree, then transfer to the University of Denver to get a Bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. His long-term goal is to become a successful engineer and help others in his family follow in his footsteps.
ECONOMIC IMPACT
FROM MCC IN FY 2015-16

$7.7 million
Operations Spending Impact

$704.1 thousand
Student Spending Impact

$42.8 million
Alumni Impact

✓ $51.3 million
Total Impact

The employment of college staff and faculty, together with increased earned wages of graduates, adds millions of dollars back into the local economy.

MCC’s Ag & Business Management program partnered with Premier Farm Credit and High Plains Bank to sponsor Annie’s Project, a workshop that brought women together to learn from experts in production risk, financial management, human resources, marketing, and legal topics.

MCC awarded six completion certificates for the Small Business Partnership Program. Four were selected to receive $25,900 in cash prizes for their business plans. Tuition and fees were funded thanks to FMS Bank and the El Pomar Foundation.

MCC Jazz Ensemble, MCC Foundation Gala

Approximately 99% of MCC’s students remain in Colorado upon completing their educational goals. As students earn more, they pay more taxes. Employers also pay higher taxes through their increased output and spending.

Connections that transform BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

Top employer industries:
• Manufacturing
• Health Care
• Education
• Retail Trade
• Public Administration
• Accommodations/Food
• Agriculture

Approximately 99% of MCC’s students remain in Colorado upon completing their educational goals. As students earn more, they pay more taxes. Employers also pay higher taxes through their increased output and spending.
For the seventh year, MCC was recognized by the Chronicle of Higher Education as a “Great College to Work For.”

MCC hosted a summer robotics camp for thirty-three 5th through 8th graders in partnership with Northeast Colorado Manufacturers and FIRST Robotics Team #4386. Participants learned about electricity, motors and biorobotics.

MCC partnered with Northeast Colorado Manufacturers and Eastern Colorado Workforce to sponsor TRAINcation, a summer boot camp for grades 6-8. Participants learned essential job skills and visited various manufacturing sites.

Both students and society enjoy a range of benefits from investing in MCC. A portion of these benefits come to state taxpayers in the form of higher tax receipts and a reduced demand for government-supported social services.

Forty-three 8th – 12th graders participated in The Body Shop, a week-long science camp funded by The Dahms-Talton Foundation and co-hosted by Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center and MCC. Participants heard from health professionals, visited medical facilities, completed dissections, and participated in mock scenarios.

Colorado Plains Medical Center

Morgan Community College is an essential component as we continue to develop our valued workforce in the healthcare field. Many of our nurses, radiologic technicians, and physical therapist assistants received the necessary skills and career preparedness at MCC. The college has proven to be a critical factor in our area’s economic development, not only through affordable educational attainment, corporate training, and continuing educational needs, but more importantly, as a leader moving and collaborating with businesses, governmental agencies, and organizations to energize our community. MCC also enhances cultural offerings through CACE that improves community value, thus making Morgan County an attractive place for our health professionals to practice and reside.

Gene O’Hara, PharmD, MHA, CEO

For the seventh year, MCC was recognized by the Chronicle of Higher Education as a “Great College to Work For.”
Founded in 2011, the college’s Center for Arts and Community Enrichment continues to enhance the quality of life in our community through artistic, cultural, social, and intellectual activities, including an annual student art show (above)—The Best of the Best.

Seven volunteers, 5 MCC students, and 3 students from Fort Morgan High School spent 742 hours in Wray and Fort Morgan preparing and filing 458 returns, helping local tax payers claim $870,846 in refunds as part of the Tax Help Colorado program26.

A dozen area students participated in the second annual “Early College Experience” at MCC. The program was offered for free, and included six sessions27—each exploring a different post-secondary concept.

The MCC Foundation received donor support for the Industrial Electrical Maintenance program from Colorado CoGen, Western Sugar Cooperative, and Xcel Energy28.

• In FY 2015-16, society invested $19.8 million in MCC educations. This includes all MCC expenditures, all student expenditures, and all student opportunity costs. In return for this investment, society as a whole will receive a present value of $361.3 million in benefits, the sum of the increased economic base and social savings that MCC’s 2015-16 student population will generate in the state.

• For every dollar spent on MCC educations, society as a whole in Colorado will receive a cumulative value of $18.30 in benefits, for as long as MCC’s 2015-16 students remain active in the state workforce.

‘Merica, created by Prairie High School student, Ty Coleman
CACE exhibit, The Best of the Best Student Art Show

COMMUNITY Connections that transform our
Benefits created by MCC extend to far more people than just its students. As students and employers enjoy higher earnings and increased output, society as a whole benefits from an expanded economy and a range of savings associated with the students’ improved quality of life.

- Over their working lives, MCC’s FY 2015-16 student population will increase the state’s economic base by $355.2 million.
- As MCC students achieve higher levels of education, they are statistically more likely to develop good health habits. This leads to a present value of $4.8 million in savings to students and to society as a whole for medical treatments related to smoking, alcoholism, obesity, drug abuse, and mental disorders.
- Students enjoy better employment opportunities as a result of their education at MCC. This makes them less likely to require earnings assistance and less likely to commit crimes. These effects translate to a present value of $56.3 thousand in unemployment-related savings and $1.2 million in law enforcement savings to society as a whole.
- Total savings to society is a present value of $6.1 million, equal to the sum of avoided costs related to health, crime, and unemployment.

MCC partnered with OneMorgan County to offer conversational English at the Community PopUp Center. The collaboration is part of the community effort associated with the college’s Educational Opportunity Council.

MCC became a member of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, an association of colleges and universities committed to furthering the success of Hispanic students in higher education.
Our connections that transform us

MCC FOUNDATION

Our mission is to secure financial resources for the growth and development of MCC and promote a superior learning environment. The MCC Foundation continues to do this year after year with great success. I am fortunate to be part of a team dedicated to aligning the Foundation’s work with the priorities of the college as we continue to impact student lives.

MCC continues to lead the way in demonstrating excellence in all that it does. As the College continues to receive state and national recognition, the Foundation is working diligently to support the efforts to help maintain this excellence. Our assets as a Foundation continue to grow, which allows us to help support the College in rising to the next level. We are proud of this and are proud of the student success we help foster. Student success is our inspiration.

Gifts made to the MCC Foundation provide a great way for our donors to participate with the college and directly impact our students, faculty, programs and community outreach efforts.

Morgan Community College is held in high regard across our service area, and it continues to touch many lives in a positive way. We at the Foundation take pride in our work to support MCC, and are inspired every day to help build a positive future for our students.

Kari K. Linker
Director of Development
MCC Foundation

Total Assets $5,899,517*
*as of July 31, 2017

- Investments $5,075,070
- Real Property $620,349
- Current Assets $171,059
- Others Assets $33,039

MCC Foundation Board Members:

- Alissa Harris, President
- Brenda Shelton, Vice President
- Robert (Bo) Chapin, Treasurer
- Cameron Armagost
- Carrie Mobley
- Karen Rebol

- Robert (Bob) Sachs
- Lee Ann Samuels
- Dr. Robert Thiel
- Dr. Curt Freed, Ex Officio
- Kari Linker, Ex Officio
- Madalyn Piper, Secretary

MCC Foundation, 300 Main Street, Fort Morgan (970)542-3107

$149,833 contributed to MCC programs (2016/2017)
$227,413 given towards scholarships (2016/2017)
Currently 47 scholarships offered—4 added in 2017!

Newly added scholarships:
- Cargill Women in Manufacturing Scholarship
- Community Nursing Scholarship
- Robert and Janet Datteri Career and Technical Education Scholarship
- Arthur James Lee Scholarship

The Arthur James Lee Endowment was created in memory of Art Lee of Wiggins, Colorado. The scholarship will help a non-traditional student in need of assistance to achieve his/her educational dreams.

Scholarship Recipient

Elizabeth Shuck is a 2017 graduate of Strasburg High School and is pursuing a degree in nursing. She was awarded a Williams Family Foundation Scholarship.

Caleb Hills is a 2017 graduate of Wiggins High School. He is currently enrolled in MCC's welding program and is excited to learn welding technology. Caleb is the recipient of the Robert F. and Janet R. Datteri Career Technical Education Scholarship. With the help of this scholarship, he is able to stay close to home while attending college.

All Star Alumni

MCC recognized nine “All Star” Alumni at this year’s Gala event, hosted by the MCC Foundation at Frank D’Rico’s home, Viaero Ranch. These graduates are making a difference in their communities through their professions and leadership.

For four consecutive years, the MCC Foundation has offered a scholarship to every student that applied by the deadline!

Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative

COSI was established to provide matching funds to leverage millions of dollars of new private scholarship investments for local communities. In 2017, the Foundation generated $150,600 towards scholarships.
The MCC Foundation’s revenue goal is $376,000 for 2017. In 2016, $374,435 was raised in total cash/commitments.

Colorado Gives Day is an annual statewide movement to celebrate and increase statewide philanthropy through online giving. The MCC Foundation participated and collected $2,641.08 for the event.

The 1st Distinguished Donor Award was presented at this year’s event (see caption on left). The annual award is given by the MCC Foundation Board of Directors based on commitment and contributions made to MCC and its students.

The Foundation contributed $1,092,167 towards the Student Scholarship Campaign for Colorado Community Colleges. The total campaign generated $26,454,336 for students at the 13 Colorado Community Colleges System colleges.

Connections that transform our GROWTH

Pictured (center) are the 2017 Distinguished Donor Award recipients, Dr. Robert F. and Janet R. Datteri.

“MCC will always hold a special place for me; I started a major part of my career here.”

Morgan Community College’s second president, Dr. Robert Datteri, was college president from 1977-1981. He and his wife have a long history of supporting the college and future students.

For every $1 donated, the return on investment for the organization is $3.59. Donor support is nearly quadrupled when channeled through the MCC Foundation.
The Colorado Community College Foundation celebrated the end of a four-year scholarship fundraising campaign with dinner at the Governor’s mansion.

While MCC’s student population is only 1.8% of the CCCS head count, MCC Foundation’s scholarship fundraising made up 4% of the total dollars raised during the campaign.

The event’s gross revenue was $60,300 (which included sponsors, ticket sales, auction, etc.), and had a record 370 in attendance!

The Morgan Community College Foundation was recognized by the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) for its collaborative spirit and its success in developing partnerships that effectively result in post-secondary access for under-represented groups in rural Colorado.


Thanks to donor and sponsor support, CACE had over $20,000 this season to bring in guest speakers, authors, artists, and performances free of charge to the public.

In addition, the college welcomed Suzanna Spears as the new CACE Coordinator. Her office is at 300 Main Street, Fort Morgan.