

# Family & Intercultural Resource Center

**Vision**

Through education and support, FIRC helps families make healthy choices and provide an environment for children to thrive. By strengthening families, we are strengthening the community.

**Mission**

FIRC promotes stable families.

**1993**  
Established

Serving  
**Summit County**

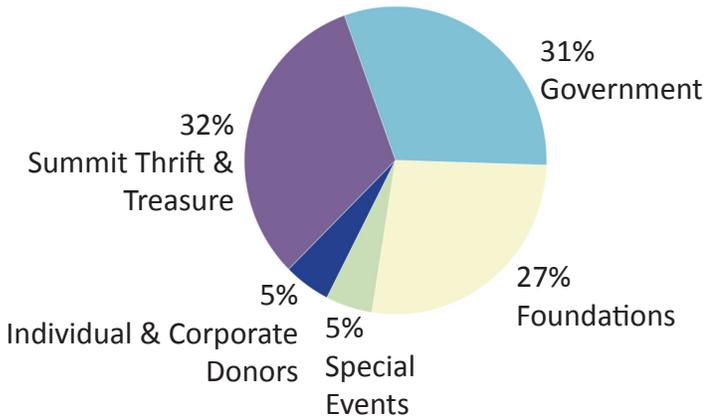
**45**  
Staff

**\$4,154,546**  
2017-2018 Budget

**3,500**  
families served annually

**501(c)3**  
Org structure

**Types of Funding**



**Key Programs**

- Family Leadership Training
- Family Support
- Families United
- Food Pantry
- Health Insurance Enrollment
- Parent Engagement
- Thrift Stores

**Serving Our Community**

The high cost of living in Summit County makes it a very difficult place to raise a family. Many locals spend 60 percent of their income on housing and 30 percent on child care leaving little for savings or other essentials. The Family & Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC) works to provide working families with the education and support needed so they can remain living in Summit County. Our staff works with families to set and achieve goals so they can avoid crisis and provide a stable environment for their children to have the best start to life. Budgeting assistance, connection to resources, support and encouragement and leadership training so people can have a voice for change are all ways FIRC's programs are helping to strengthen families and the community.

Highlights

Over the last year, FIRC took on several new programs to support Summit County families. Through a partnership with The Summit Foundation, FIRC is the new home to the Building Hope mental health initiative which is providing scholarships for people seeking therapy and providing community events to reduce isolation. Building Hope is making great strides in its first year and reducing barriers to accessing mental health support.

FIRC will have over 70 graduates from the Family Leadership Training Institute by the end of the year. This 20-week program provides adults and teens with the skills to advocate for change in the community and beyond.

Over 700 people received health insurance enrollment assistance from FIRC Health Navigators.

FIRC partnered with the Summit School District to provide home visitations to all children entering kindergarten. This provided a chance for teachers to meet children and parents before starting school and for FIRC staff to connect parents with the resources we offer for the community.

Family Success Story



**Voice for Change**

Milena was a participant in the 20-week Family Leadership Training course offered at FIRC. Through the course, she was empowered with the skills and confidence to stand up for issues affecting her children and community. English is her second language and she never felt like she had a voice to speak out at meetings, but now that has changed. Since the class she is now the president of the PTSA and initiating several parent engagement programs. Hope starts when you have the voice to stand up for what is important.



**How You Can Help**

Donations to support general funding allow us to address the changing needs facing Summit County families. Volunteers for the food pantry, thrift stores and bag project are needed to support operations.

