PHILANTHROPY REPORT
2018

Our Mission:
Always mindful of the impact and the capacity to affect change we connect our guest and our employees with the organizations in our communities that improve the quality of life through direct care. We constantly engage to learn more and grow in our desire to help define the future of hospitality by being a leader in community engagement.
In the restaurant industry, we have the privilege of serving fine food and drink to people every single day. The 13 restaurants of BRF open our doors with the intention of making people’s day better and providing a bit of respite from the hecticness of everyday living. The word restaurant likely comes from the French verb, restaurer, meaning “to restore”. Or perhaps from the Latin restaurare, meaning "to renew." However, beyond making someone’s day, we are lucky to be able to improve the quality of people’s lives and we do that in partnership with some amazing organizations in our communities.

Here are some highlights from 2018...

High West Oyster Festival moved to downtown Denver and brought 350 people in to celebrate their love of oysters and raise just over $80K for First Ascents, an amazing organization that provides life changing outdoor adventures for young adults impacted by cancer. Check out the highlights in this video produced by BRF alumni, Gavin Anstey, founder of Cinebody.

The team at Lola hosted the 11th annual Dos Casas for Brent’s Place, an organization that provides a ‘Safe-Clean’ home-like environment for immune compromised children and their families while they are receiving treatment at Children’s Hospital. From our home at Lola to theirs, this event also raised $80K and brought together some of Denver’s best chefs for an incredible 5 course meal.

West End Tavern hosted the 10th Annual Jul-IPA festival to benefit Boulder County Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN). The month-long celebration concluded with a rooftop BBQ party, live music, and amazing prizes for a robust silent auction. We love to throw parties but it fills our hearts (and our beer bellies) when we can help incredible organizations raise much needed funds, in this case - a record breaking $18K!

Big Red F has been a long-time supporter of There With Care, a non-profit organization that supports families and children facing critical illness. This year we once again co-hosted their annual Red Carpet fundraiser, where chefs Sheila Lucero and Jamey Fader teamed up to create an incredible New Orleans French Quarter menu. In June, our office staff participated in a volunteer day to assemble toiletry/hospital bags for families and children. Additionally, each month one of our restaurants prepares 50 quarts of soup to be distributed to the There With Care families for a total of 108 gallons of soup throughout 2018.

The Big Red F family takes care of each other. We have our own 501c3 charitable organization to provide emergency financial assistance to current or past employees who experience an unexpected crisis. This past year, we have given $15,000 in grants to 30 employees. Most often we help with medical bills and lost wages but have also helped with plane tickets home & funeral expenses after the loss of a family member. The BRF Family Fund is funded through generous payroll deductions by employees and 100% of all funds raised are used for grants.

“Only a life lived to the service of others is worth living”

- Albert Einstein