

2024

LARAMIE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT





OUR MISSION:

ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT LCCC.

Established in 1968, the Laramie County Community College Foundation exists to develop and sustain support for Laramie County Community College through solicitation, management and recognition of donations.

The Foundation is dedicated to providing services and assistance to students, faculty, staff and the community, thereby enhancing a sense of tradition and pride in the college. Though it is separate from the college, the Foundation works closely with the college to generate private gifts for the college's major fund-raising priorities. In addition to raising money effectively, the Foundation provides careful management of funds already raised.

With the assistance of the Wyoming State Legislature's challenge grant program which began in 2004 the LCCC Foundation has been able to match more than \$9,000,000.00 in donor gifts.

These generous gifts dedicated to helping our students achieve academic success have brought the Foundation's total endowment up to more than \$58 million.

Cover photo: Laramie County Community College students share their thoughts during a question-and-answer session. The session was featured as part of the LCCC Foundation's annual scholarship luncheon, which gives Foundation scholarship recipients a chance to connect with their donors.

Inside cover: The Board of Trustees for Laramie County Community College enjoy a game at LCCC's newly renovated Blue Federal Credit Union Recreation & Athletics Complex.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



As I complete my term as President of the LCCC Foundation Board of Directors, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to you - our donors and friends - for your continued engagement and support. Your generosity fuels our mission of Engaging our Community and Supporting LCCC and inspires our work every day.

This year, I'm especially excited to collaborate with our Vice President, Dershie Barber, as we prepare for her upcoming term as President. It's a privilege to work alongside Dershie and such a dedicated and passionate group of community members, all committed to making a meaningful impact on our college and its students.



As I look back over my term and as I continue to learn more about the impact of the LCCC Foundation, what drives us most are the stories of our students - their resilience, determination, and triumphs. Whether it's overcoming personal challenges, returning to school after an unsuccessful attempt at post-secondary education, or retraining for a new career to better support themselves or their family, these stories push us to do more. They remind us why our work matters.

Looking ahead, to the conclusion of my term and the beginning of new leadership for the LCCC Foundation, we will be focusing on a strategic vision for the LCCC Foundation - exploring how we can continue to strengthen our support for the college, its programs, and most importantly, its students.

We are excited for the opportunities for our community of supporters to engage with our students and our campus in the coming year. We invite you to join us on campus for cultural events and sporting events, we encourage you to connect with our students through mentoring opportunities and community connections. We invite you to hear firsthand the stories of our students and how you continue to positively impact them and their experiences at LCCC.

On behalf of the LCCC Foundation Board of Directors, we thank you for being part of our story and we look forward to sharing the next chapter with you.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Stege'.

Mark Stege
President, LCCC Foundation Board of Directors



A YEAR IN REVIEW

Dear Friends of the LCCC Foundation,



As we close another remarkable year, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to you - our dedicated supporters, donors, and friends. Your continued generosity and belief in our mission of Engaging our Community and Supporting LCCC have made 2024 another great year for the LCCC Foundation.

Thanks to your support, we have been able to provide vital scholarship and programmatic assistance to Laramie County Community College. Your contributions directly impacted our students by making college more affordable and accessible, and opening doors to opportunity and success that our students might not otherwise experience.

Every gift, every act of support, and every word of encouragement helps us grow and strengthen our programs. Together, we are not only investing in education - we are transforming lives.

A few highlights from the LCCC Foundation:

- Our endowment reached over \$60 million in 2024, closing the year at \$58 million.
- For the first time, the LCCC Foundation allocated more than \$1 million in scholarship support to students.
- Our annual scholarship luncheon returned to LCCC, with more than 340 students, donors and friends joining us.
- Our 2024-25 Employee Giving Campaign saw a commitment of more than \$55,358 to the Foundation through gifts and contributions from college employees.
- We established a new scholarship to help students with the cost of living on campus in LCCC's residence halls - an effort to provide more students with a residential living experience.

We are profoundly grateful for the community of friends who stand beside both the College and the Foundation. Your partnership empowers us to continue making a positive difference in the lives of our students.

With gratitude,

Lisa Trimble
Vice President, Advancement

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LCCC'S CAIUS KRUPP

OVERCAME ADVERSITY TO EARN STALCUP AWARD AS HE GRADUATES

When he came to Laramie County Community College, Caius Krupp wasn't sure he'd ever walk across the commencement stage to receive a diploma. He came home from a four-year institution to care for his sick father, stepped into an LCCC classroom because he promised his mother he'd try and nearly walked away from it all when profound loss overwhelmed him.

But someone noticed. An LCCC instructor came to talk to him when he'd missed a month's worth of classes. That led to the realization that he didn't want to walk away from the opportunity to be the first in his family to earn a college degree.

On May 17, Caius stood before his graduating class as its student body president, honoring not just his journey, but the unseen struggles of every student who made it to this moment.

"All of us have had to overcome something to get to this stage today and all of us have stories just like me about the actions it took to reach the seats you sit in now," he told his fellow graduates.

"For many, it has been a difficult road to tread the path you took now, but as you sit upon this peak, I want you to look back on how much you really have accomplished."

That same spirit - of showing up, pressing on and contributing to something larger than yourself - is why Caius was chosen as this year's recipient of the Jan and W.M. Stalcup Excellence Award.

Each spring, the award honors a student who has made a significant impact on the LCCC or Cheyenne community. Jan and W.M. Stalcup, who have long believed in the transformative power of education, created the award not just to celebrate student achievement, but to support it. The award comes with an unrestricted cash gift, and recipients are selected by a faculty committee dedicated to identifying students who reflect the award's purpose.

Caius was helping to take care of his father when he enrolled at LCCC. About halfway through his first semester, his father tragically died from COPD compli-

cations. At the time, it wasn't clear he'd find a way to earn a degree.

But he said LCCC's instructors encouraged him to persevere, even though unthinkable loss, to dedicate himself to his goals.

"It was really rough, but with the help of a lot of instructors and a lot of hard work, I was able to stay on track to graduate," he said. "Having faculty reach out to me and say, 'Hey, do you need a break?' or, 'Hey, we have these assignments due this week, forget about them, take some time' - that meant a lot. It felt like the kind of experience you wouldn't get anywhere else."

The Stalcup Award isn't being given to Caius just because he's graduating with his Associate of Arts in the Human & Public Services Program; it's also about how his support, assistance and dedication have made LCCC and the Cheyenne community better places.

Involvement in campus life has been a hallmark of Caius' time at LCCC, including participation in the Student

Government Association. As a student employee in the Ludden Library, he became a dependable resource for others, particularly in the Golden Eagle Wyrkshop - an innovative space designed to foster creativity, hands-on learning and collaboration among students, faculty and community members. There, he played a key role training users, maintaining equipment and most recently leading efforts around the library's Meta Quest virtual reality headsets, helping students explore new possibilities with immersive technology.

This type of technical expertise wasn't necessarily Caius's niche before coming to LCCC, he said. Having the opportunity to fill those roles allowed him to develop new and employable skills.

"I've picked up a lot on technology working in the library," he said.

What began as a focus in college on political science continued evolving into something quite different, as Caius's curiosity about science, technology, engineering and math - or STEM - began to take hold. That shift sparked a desire to help younger students discover a passion for STEM fields of their own. One of the most visible ways he's done that is through his involvement with the Harry C. Vaughn STEM Mobile Science Lab, a hands-on, traveling classroom created by the STEM Pathway and STEAM Club to spark young people's interest in science.

When Trent Morrell, LCCC's STEM

Pathway coordinator, was seeking student volunteers for a school visit, Caius enthusiastically stepped forward, offering his time to help bring real classroom tools and interactive experiences to students across the region. Trent said Caius has since become a regular presence at these outreach events, using his approachable demeanor and growing expertise - including in virtual reality - to connect with young learners in meaningful ways.

"I added Caius to all the invites for our Mobile Science Lab outreach events, and he has become my most reliable student assistant and has been a huge asset," Trent said. "Now, with his expertise on the (virtual reality) headsets, we have been taking those to our outreach events, and the school kids love it."

Caius will transfer to the University of Wyoming in the fall, the same place he began his college journey. But when he goes this time, Caius appears to be entering UW as a changed person.

His own tragic experience of losing his father has taught Caius the value of perseverance. As he and his fellow graduates take the next steps, Caius said he would never forget what it took for him to get to that commencement ceremony, and hoped his fellows would do the same.

"I want you all to remember what got you to where you are now," he told the graduating class. "Your ability to persevere through the challenges you

faced, and the support of all the wonderful people along the way. These are the things that have helped you now, and these are the things that will help you going forward."

The ability to overcome challenges and make LCCC a better place while he was here will always stick with Caius, he said. Even when feeling defeated, feeling like goals are unattainable, Caius said he and his fellow students should always find the will to fight to make their lives and the world a better place.

"I leave you with just some advice: persevere," he said. "You have been unimaginably strong to get where you are, and with the dedication you've shown today, you have proven that nothing can prevent you from doing what you want. Go forward and make great discoveries, make the world more beautiful, and help people become better versions of themselves."

About the award:

The Stalcup Excellence Award reflects Jan and W.M. Stalcup's lifelong dedication to education and community impact. Jan, a former elementary teacher and longtime LCSD1 board chair, and W.M., a business leader who partnered with LCCC to train hundreds of local employees, created the award to offer both recognition and real-life support to students who embody service and perseverance. Their shared experiences in education and business reinforce their belief that financial support and recognition can change lives.



SCHOLARSHIPS MADE IT POSSIBLE: JENNIFER'S JOURNEY TO A NEW CAREER

Jennifer Lamblin decided in 2022 that she wanted to pursue a new career. Though she encountered hurdles accessing the financial support she needed, she found ways to make it work and walked across the stage at Laramie County Community College's spring commencement with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Business Management.

As a hard-working single mom, Jennifer wore many hats over the years — working in custodial roles, retail and sales, and as an apprentice plumber and pipefitter through Local 192. When the pandemic hit, work around her apprenticeship slowed significantly, and the remaining jobs required a degree of travel that wasn't feasible for her as a mother. Looking for a more stable future for herself and her four children, she began exploring higher education.

When Jennifer prepared to enroll at LCCC for the summer 2022 semester, she was able to receive FAFSA support. But complications arose ahead of the fall semester, and she was no longer able to access the assistance that had made her return to school possible. With help from LCCC Student Services Specialist George Jankowski, she was able to stay enrolled and avoid taking on debt. Scholarships soon became a key part of her ability to continue.

"I had to find different ways to pay for school and avoid debt," she said. "For

that Fall 2022 semester, I received more than \$6,000."

Each academic year, Jennifer put significant time and effort into applying for scholarships, and the effort paid off. With support from LCCC staff and her own determination, she graduated in May without any debt. The scholarships also made it possible for her to focus on school.

"It gave me the freedom to be a full-time student," Jennifer said. "If I had to work full-time, I don't think I would have been able to do it."

For Jennifer, scholarships have meant more than financial support — they've been the foundation that allowed her to continue her education while setting an example for her children. The support has helped her stay enrolled and fully engaged in her coursework, even while balancing the demands of parenting.

"Scholarships are essential for me to stay enrolled, stay focused, and continue building a better future, not just for myself, but for my children as well," she said. "They see me working hard and chasing my goals, and that example is just as valuable as the education itself."

Giving back to her campus community has been a part of Jennifer's collegiate journey, as she also serves as vice president of LCCC's Rotaract Club, which she joined during her second semester. Looking for a way to give back, she found a group of like-minded people who sup

ported each other through school and life.

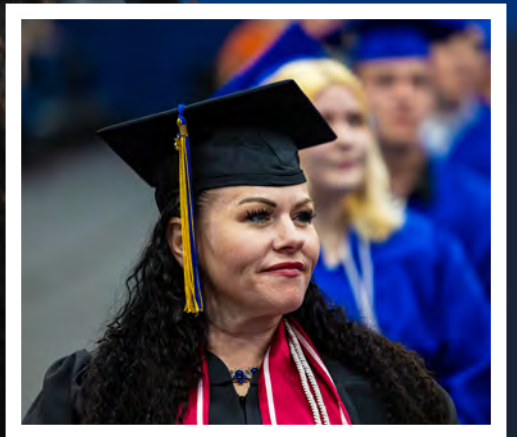
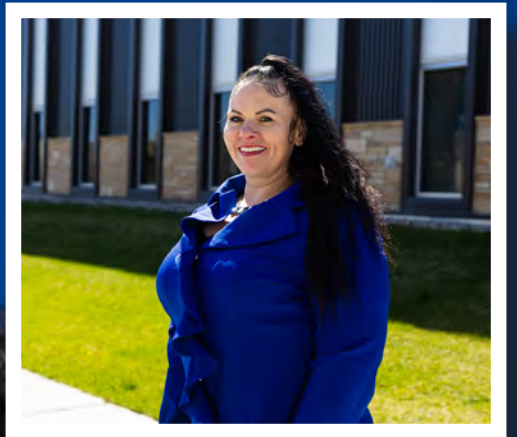
"I didn't expect how much it would help me too," she said. "It's been a really good experience."

The faculty and staff at LCCC, Jennifer said, were crucial to her success, highlighting the supportive and compassionate culture they foster. Instructors like Dr. Kelly Simons and Business & Finance Program Director Jeff Shmidl helped her develop not only academically, but also personally, reinforcing the importance of self-awareness and emotional intelligence. Their impact, along with the generosity she received through scholarship donors, has inspired her to give back.

"I am very thankful, incredibly grateful, and truly humbled to all who have helped and shown charisma and compassion by giving back through scholarships," she said.

Encouraging others to pursue higher education, especially single parents facing financial barriers, is important to Jennifer. She said it's possible to avoid burdensome student loans by seeking out scholarships, which played a crucial role in her own success. With determination and effort, she believes others can do the same.

"It's not easy, but it's doable; don't give up if you have a goal and passion, because there are ways to continue your education without going into debt," she said.



MENTORSHIP, PERSEVERANCE *and a* SCHOLARSHIP

FOR THE NEXT IN LINE

Rob Dickerson knows the value of mentorship and networking. When he came to Laramie County Community College in 1989 as a nontraditional student, he was searching for direction. Uncertain about his future and whether he could succeed academically, he found the guidance and support he needed at LCCC—a turning point that would eventually lead to a successful career.

The mentorship he received from LCCC faculty helped Rob achieve a GPA that led to scholarships. Affordability, Rob said, is another barrier to a life-changing education that he understands.

That's why in 2024 Rob and his family began a pledge to fund a scholarship prioritizing nontraditional students at LCCC. Knowing the transformative power of a degree, Rob is hoping the Robert & Kimberly Dickerson Opportunity & Perseverance Scholarship will provide opportunities for students seeking that goal.

"If a little bit of money can be the deciding factor between going or not going to school, I'm hoping I can help," Rob said. "I left Wheatland in 1986 with \$300 and a suitcase. I've worked hard and been fortunate, and if I can share some of that—if this scholarship can push someone over the edge to say, 'I'm going to go for it'—then that's what I'm hoping for."

AN UNCERTAIN START

Rob Dickerson grew up in Michigan before moving to Wheatland, Wyoming, where he graduated from Wheatland High School in 1984. After high school, he enrolled in a 20-month computer technology program in Arizona, but when the tech economy collapsed in the late 1980s, job opportunities vanished. He returned to Wheatland for a winter, where limited work and a lack of direction left him, in his words, "getting into trouble."

Looking for a fresh start, Rob moved to California to join his girlfriend, Kimberly, who was studying at the University of California, Santa Barbara. After she graduated, the two relocated to Fort Collins, Colorado, where Rob spent a year working temporary jobs—in

cluding a stint at Hewlett-Packard—before deciding it was time to pursue a more stable career. Encouraged by Kimberly's father, an attorney who by this time had become his father-in-law, Rob chose accounting for its promise of steady employment and returned to Wyoming to begin his journey at LCCC.

Accounting seemed to make sense, he said, because there would always be a need. But when starting classes, Rob struggled in certain areas.

Rob said he wasn't a strong student in high school, wasn't a morning person and dreaded having to take classes such as English. But his very first class at Laramie County Community College presented a challenge: 8 a.m. English on a Monday.

"I'm a blue-collar guy who avoided English and all that stuff as much as I possibly could when I was in high school," Rob said with a laugh. "It was the last thing I wanted to do."

While his composition skills at the time needed some polishing, Rob said he received the help he needed, and the course ended up being the most formative of his life.

Taught by Janelle Moore, that class shifted everything, Rob said. She allowed him to revise and resubmit his work, helping Rob build both writing skills and study habits. Her mentorship continued beyond the classroom, guiding him through résumé building and helping him find an internship with the Wyoming Legislature.

"Getting an A in that English class felt like winning the lottery," Rob said. "You've got to be kidding me Rob got an A in English?"

But his instructor's help didn't stop when the course concluded. Rob said Janelle helped him with some of the student and life skills that would be game-changers in the future.

"Beyond that, she became a mentor for me, even after I was out of her classes," he said. "If I had issues or was struggling, she would help me work through it and find solutions. She said, 'We've got to build up your résumé—let's find some things for you to do,' and I was able to do that."

His English instructor wasn't the only one to help Rob during his time. He also points to math and business professor Ray Steege as another key figure in his success at LCCC. (Interestingly, Ray's grandson Bradley Steege now works for Rob's firm.)

The course was difficult, and Rob spent a lot of time in Ray's office trying to grasp the material. Instead of turning him away or rushing through explanations, Ray took the time to make sure Rob truly understood the concepts. That kind of support, Rob said, kept him from getting derailed in college. It wasn't just about showing up to class and taking tests — it was the extra time and resources that helped him push through.

"It was that next level — the willingness to provide extra resources and support outside the classroom — to get students over the hump," Rob said. "That's what I think was key for me; those extra resources."

THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Those who invested their time in Rob, as well as his own dedication and effort, wasn't wasted.

After graduating from the University of Wyoming in 1993 as the top accounting graduate, Rob went on to work for an accounting firm in Cheyenne. He learned valuable skills at the firm and made connections that last to this day, but in 2007, he decided to do something different.

Longtime friend and colleague Scott Rulon invited Rob to join a three-partner firm on a "one-year, no-harm-no-foul" basis.

"Scott said, 'Come help me out. If you find something else after tax season, fine. Go do it. If not, we'll see where we can take this thing,'" Rob said.

This led to Rob being a partner at RLR, LLP, where he remains today. Since he joined RLR nearly 20 years ago, the firm has grown from about a dozen employees to a team of 45 across three locations — Cheyenne, Fort Collins and Greeley — all operating as one cohesive office. Annual revenue has increased from \$1.25 million in 2010 to a projected \$7 million and change in 2025.

HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES

Rob knows that accomplishing anything meaningful in life requires individuals, including himself, to "drive the bus." Looking at his time at LCCC, he knows he had to dedicate himself to his educational goals. But he also knows he couldn't have completed his education, or any of his life goals, without mentors and partnerships.

"You get out what you put in, sure, but for me, it also took people who were willing to take an interest and spend their time going above and beyond with me to help get me there," he said.

Whether it was in his educational journey or his business endeavors, Rob believes people need to seize opportunities. The scholarship, he said, could help people find a chance to improve their lives and communities.

"There's so much opportunity in this country — it takes hard work, it takes networking, and sure, it takes some luck," Rob said. "But no matter where you're at or what you're doing, you've got to be willing to throw everything to the wind and give it a shot. I hear people say, 'I can't do this' or 'I can't do that.' There are no can't's. There are only cans."



BUILDING SOMETHING

Greater

LCCC Foundation Board member sees LCCC's impact everywhere



Some people look at the Laramie County Community College Campus and see buildings. Jera Likely sees stories being built

As a structural engineer and LCCC Foundation board member, she knows how the right facilities can anchor opportunity, and a real connection with students can drive them to succeed. For her, it's all about providing opportunities. LCCC, she said, must do all it can to provide students with an extraordinary campus filled with dedicated and capable people.

It's important work for Jera because the Cheyenne native wants to see her hometown succeed on every level. Whether through her profession, extensive volunteer work or mentorship of those looking for a career, Jera believes Cheyenne is a great place, providing remarkable chances for people to thrive.

Cheyenne is on the cutting edge of development in Jera's view, adapting to what the community needs to make it thrive. LCCC strives to meet those needs, and Jera said she loves being involved at the college because it gives her insight into how it's improving the community.

"You read in the news all the time that we need more people, more jobs, more highly trained individuals," Jera said. "That's what's happening right here at LCCC. If you just come in and look around, you can see it happening."

In seeking to contribute to those missions, the LCCC Foundation raises and manages private support to help students

succeed and enhance college programs and facilities.

For Jera, her work on the Foundation board is about more than being the financial arm supporting growth and success at LCCC. As a board member, she hopes to convey to all of the college's stakeholders that lives are being changed for the better at LCCC every day.

"We see ourselves as a supporting development arm for Cheyenne and Laramie County," she said. "What we do goes beyond just the college. We're engaging businesses and industry, and getting alumni to come back. Once you get people here on campus, they realize the impact LCCC has made in that brief period of time; it's led to much larger things. There's a lot of response at LCCC to what's happening in Cheyenne and so we want to be able to share that message."

EDUCATION AS A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

Nearly 35 years ago, Jera's journey with LCCC began at the Children's Discovery Center, where she spent her early days in daycare. As she grew older, she didn't set out with engineering in mind, but she was always drawn to architecture, community spaces and how people interact with their environments. Strong skills in math and problem-solving, combined with a deep curiosity, found a natural outlet at Central High School, where a

three-year
engineering drafting

program allowed her to earn college credit through LCCC before graduation.

Her time in SkillsUSA during high school was transformative, Jera said. Starting out competing at the local level, she eventually campaigned and was elected as a state officer and later became one of only five national officers to ever represent Wyoming since the organization's founding in 1965.

"That's where my love for education and foundation for service really stems from," she said.

After completing her degree at UW, Jera returned to Cheyenne, where she joined The Rotary Club of Cheyenne, hoping to connect with professionals beyond the four walls of her office. In seeking ways to contribute to her hometown, she encountered Billie Addleman, past-president of the LCCC Foundation Board. It was Billie who reacquainted Jera with LCCC, she said.

Joining the LCCC Foundation turned out to be another growth opportunity for Jera, especially as it introduced her to areas like fundraising and community engagement that were outside her usual professional experience. But what truly drew her to the board was the chance to connect with students and contribute more directly to areas she cares deeply about - particularly STEM, the trades and supporting women in engineering.

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

As a first-generation graduate student herself, Jera knows there are barriers for students, but she emphasizes that there are many paths to success, and they're sometimes winding.

And some of the conventional ideas of what it means to be a college student can be limiting for students with different interests and skills, Jera said. Believing a four-year degree isn't the only route to success or self-discovery, she challenges the idea that life should follow a straight, predetermined path.

"There's been a shift in the last 20 years on the mindset of what education really means," Jera said. "A two-year degree program, certifications, just growing your skill sets - whether it's one class or a full two- or four-year program - there are opportunities to do that here, and you just really have to take the jump."

Understanding some of the barriers to success students can face, Jera said she's passionate about the opportunities LCCC provides to first-generation students, including the Davis First Generation Experience. While her parents took some college courses, Jera was the first in her family to attain a college degree.

Jera believes the most meaningful part of LCCC is witnessing students, including first-generation students, discover their own potential - an experience she understands by directly engaging with students at LCCC. By pushing themselves beyond their comfort zones, she said, students uncover strengths they didn't know they had and gain clarity about their goals. It is because of the incredible generosity of donors like Dr. Harmon "Bud" and his wife Claire Davis that this opportunity of support is available for students that bolsters their success.

"You have to do things that really push your boundaries - that push the envelope for you - or you won't be ready to take the next steps," Jera said. "It's so important for students to realize there's more to them than they see in themselves."

A COMMUNITY EFFORT

Jera is an associate structural engineer at Martin/Martin Wyoming, an engineering services firm in Cheyenne. Some of the most

recognizable and high-impact facilities on LCCC's campus - including the Prentice/Surbrugg Health Sciences Building, Flex Tech Building, Clay Pathfinder Building, Surbrugg/Prentice Auditorium, and the Blue Federal Credit Union Recreation & Athletics Complex - were designed by Martin/Martin Wyoming engineers and its predecessor firms. Jera said that a long-standing relationship, which continues today with ongoing façade upgrades, establishes a deep connection to the campus for her and her colleagues.

But that connection, Jera said, runs deeper than business contracts. Martin/Martin Wyoming may come to LCCC for the work, but she said they stay for the students.

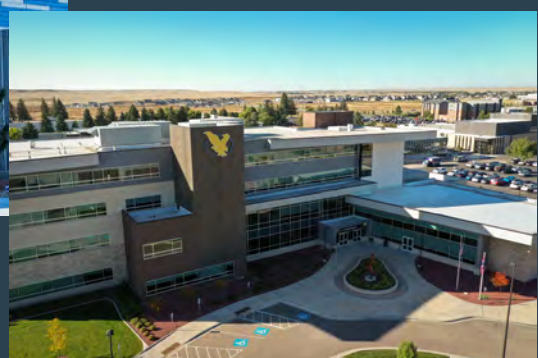
The firm is a sponsor of Golden Eagle athletics and regularly encourages its staff to engage directly with students in the STEM and Trades & Technical Studies pathways. Team members frequently participate in campus events, serve on the STEM Pathway advisory committee and meeting twice a year with STEM Pathway coordinator Trent Morrell to help guide the program's development. Several current employees also have LCCC students in the family, further strengthening the firm's ties to the college. Jera said the company's involvement reflects a long-standing commitment to supporting student success in every way they can.

The drive for all the effort and time invested in the community is not just for self-gain, Jera said. What really matters is making the community she loves a better place.

All the facets of Jera's life and work come together with a clear sense of purpose. The complex network of organizations, interests and passions she's involved in all trace back to formative experiences that helped shape who she is today.

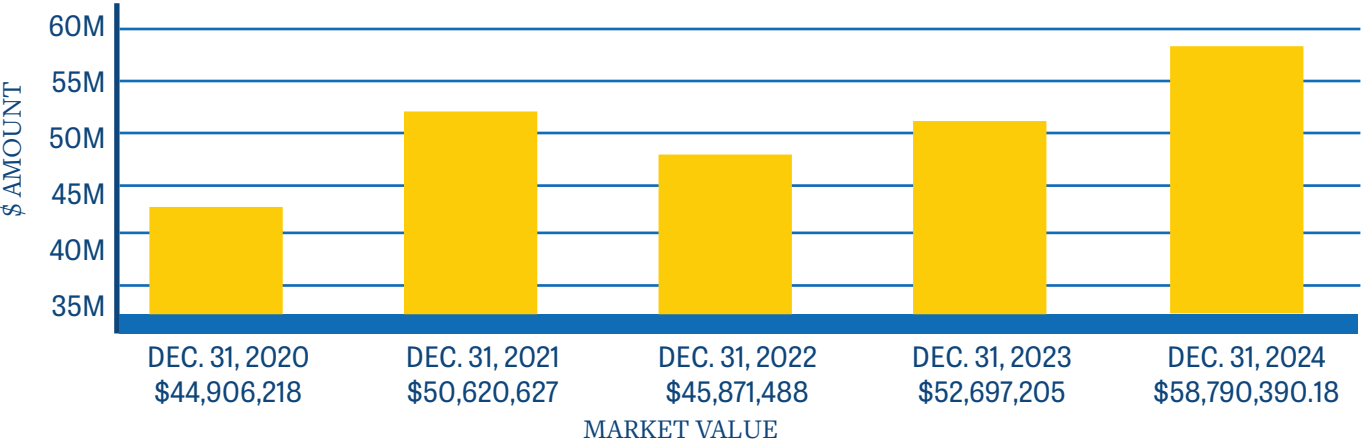
"It's all of the things that come together that continue to encourage me to be a part of the larger community," she said.

For anyone unsure of LCCC's impact, she said, just look around. Conversations across Cheyenne make it clear how many people have been connected to the college in some way. "That connection to the community is everywhere - sometimes you don't even have to look for it," she said.

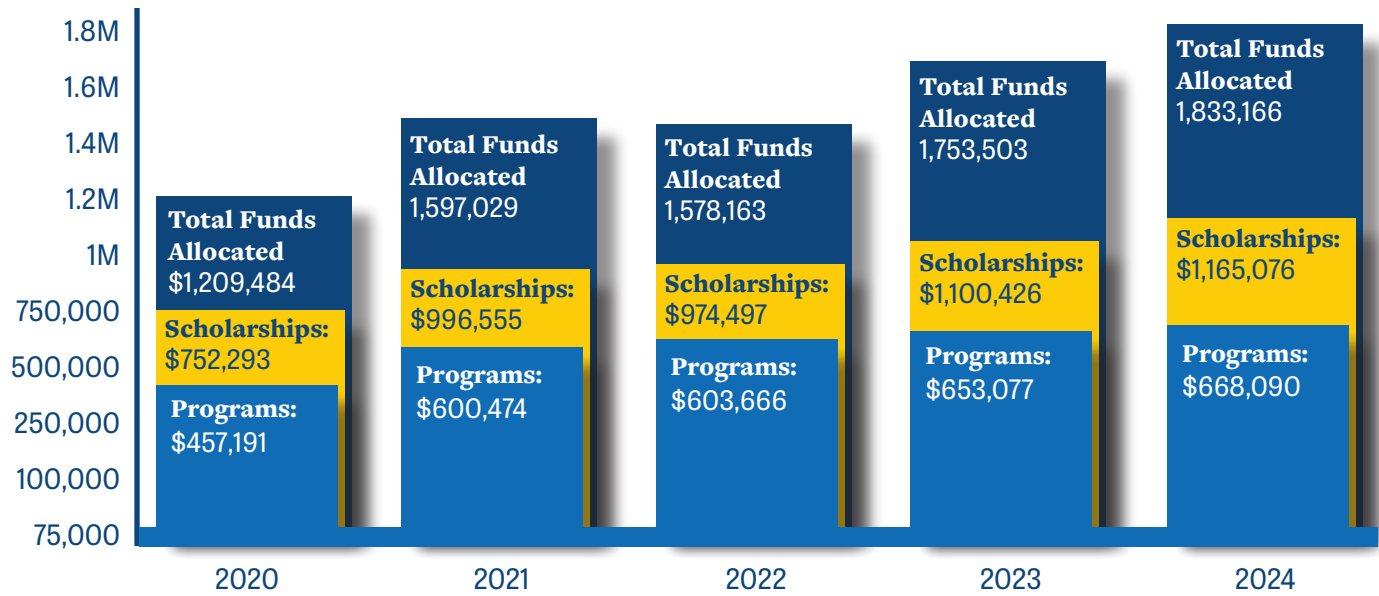


FINANCIALS

ENDOWMENT VALUE



TOTAL FUNDS ALLOCATED TO SUPPORT LCCC



472

Total Endowed Scholarships



52

Total Endowed Projects

NEW ENDOWMENTS IN 2024

BOTH ENDOWED AND WORKING TOWARD ENDOWMENT

- Ayden Maitner Memorial Scholarship
- Billie Addleman Scholarship
- Carol and Steve Foster Scholarship
- Clubb Erickson Legacy Scholarship
- Greenwade Pentecost Nursing Scholarship
- National Board for Respiratory Care Scholarship
- Operation Family Scholarship
- Robert & Kimberly Dickerson Opportunity & Perseverance Scholarship
- Sam B. Turk & Barbara M. Turk Memorial Scholarship



\$839,931

Total scholarships awarded to LCCC Students in academic year 2023-24



538

Number of students who received Foundation scholarship support in 2023-24



EMPLOYEE GIVING CAMPAIGN

95

Employee Givers 2024

\$55,358

given through Employee Giving payroll contributions

78

different scholarships or funds were supported

YEAR-END ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

**12 DAYS
OF GIVING**

\$136,295

total was donated through the 12 Days of Giving campaign

60

different scholarships or funds were supported

2024 CONTRIBUTORS

The following individuals, businesses and organizations made financial contributions to the LCCC Foundation in 2024 to support Laramie County Community College, our students and programs.

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307 Sports Training & Development
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HELPING STUDENTS *soar higher*

EMPLOYEE GIVING AT LCCC CHANGES LIVES

At Laramie County Community College, the dedication of faculty and staff to enriching the lives of students extends beyond the classroom. The Employee Giving Campaign exemplifies their unwavering commitment to student success, addressing the pivotal challenge of college affordability.

The financial hurdle that impedes many students from pursuing higher education finds a formidable opponent in LCCC's Employee Giving Campaign. Through this initiative, faculty and staff actively contribute to providing vital financial assistance. The campaign allows them to choose specific areas of support, tailoring their impact to directly benefit students.

From bolstering Pathway Scholarships to sustaining existing donor-funded scholarships that span diverse demographics and programs, the Employee Giving Campaign serves as a conduit for targeted generosity. The flexibility of the LCCC Foundation Excellence Fund further ensures that resources can be directed to areas of greatest need, be it scholarships, program requirements, or essential equipment.

Adding a layer of empowerment, the LCCC Foundation facilitates decision-making for contributors, aiding them in identifying scholarships or funds aligned with their interests. Matching Funds, a testament to community collaboration, amplify the impact of individual contributions, effectively doubling the support directed towards endowed funds.

For both new and existing Employee Givers, the incentive to increase monthly payroll deductions brings an added dimension to their philanthropic endeavors. With the LCCC Foundation matching any increase, a simple gesture like augmenting a \$5/month commitment transforms into a more substantial contribution, making a lasting impact on endowed scholarships and programs.

As the Employee Giving Campaign unfolds, it stands as a testament to the collective dedication of LCCC's faculty and staff, fostering a culture where inspired learning not only transforms lives but also breaks down financial barriers to education.

Just ask Erin Palmquist, Arts & Sciences Administrative Assistant, and Jeff Shmidl, Business & Finance Program director.



ERIN PALMQUIST

Administrative Assistant III, Arts & Sciences

Why is it meaningful to you to support students through scholarships in your son's name?

My husband and I were thankful to attend college with the help of scholarships, and our son Grant attended LCCC on a scholarship. Grant graduated

with an associate of science in general studies in Science and Health Sciences from LCCC. After Grant passed away at the age of 23, we wanted a way to remember and honor him and to give back to the college which has meant so much to us. Grant had just completed his first year of pharmacy school at Regis University in Denver. Since the Grant T. Palmquist Scholarship was established in 2010, we have awarded over 14 scholarships to students in the areas of pharmacy, nursing and science. Our second family scholarship is the "Palmquist Going Back to College" scholarship, established in 2009. I was about to finish my AA degree at LCCC at the age of 50, and thought it would be great for others to have the opportunity to have encouragement and support for "going back to college." I asked my friends and family in lieu of a 50th birthday party or gifts, please consider donating to the "Palmquist Going Back to College Scholarship," and the rest is history.

How do you hope students who benefit from the scholarships think about their education and future as a result of this support?

Our hope is that students who receive our scholarships understand and appreciate that others have been in their shoes, returning to college or needing support and financial assistance. We want them to know that because others care and want to pass that caring on to them, and that in turn, they'll be inspired to one day do the same for someone else.

What does it mean to you, personally, to see students thriving and moving forward in part because of your support?

It brings us so much joy to see the recipients of our scholarships succeed. We have kept in contact with several of the students who have received our scholarships, and to this day, we still hear from them and see some of them. Our very first recipient of the Grant T. Palmquist Scholarship received her Pharmacy Degree over 10 years ago and is a practicing pharmacist today. Her sister also received the scholarship and received her nursing degree. It means the world to us to see our students succeed from these scholarships. Our hearts are full knowing that Grant's legacy goes on through the lives of these students. I had a student who received our "Going Back to College" scholarship stop into my office a couple of weeks ago. She graduated in January and is employed as an accountant. She gave us a "Forever Rose in Water Globe" and said that not only did the scholarship she received for several semesters help, but our support and encouragement to believe in herself also helped her through the rough times. She said she would like to be able to help other students one day. We are truly thankful and blessed to be a part of the LCCC Family in helping our students succeed.



JEFF SHMIDL

Business & Finance Program Director

What motivates you to contribute to the LCCC Foundation and support students through scholarships?

Personally, I'm passionate about higher education and creating equitable opportunities for all. My first scholarship was in honor of my late mother. The scholarship is intended for a student in agriculture. My moth-

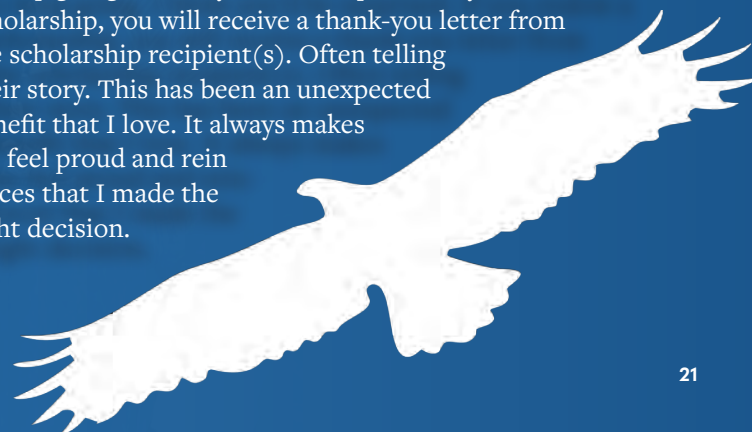
er was never given a chance to obtain a college degree and always talked about how she would've loved the opportunity. I've seen first-hand where students had to make choices between survival and obtaining a degree, to better themselves. It's not sustainable for a student to forgo survival to obtain an education. I was blessed with the opportunity to get an education, and I want to help others better their lives in the same way.

How do you see your contributions making a real difference in students' lives, both on campus and in their futures?

Professionally, I understand the economic and societal benefits of higher education. I want to be a part of helping my community/state grow and prosper. Without equitable access, we may not realize our full potential, as some of our brightest students may not be able to afford college without help. Recently, I had a Bachelor of Applied Science student who was only two courses shy of completing her degree. However, she had run out of financial aid eligibility. Being a single mother, she had decided not to enroll, get a different job and hopefully come back later. I was able to find some help with financial aid and institutional support, which assisted in allowing her to continue in school. This will create employment opportunities that otherwise wouldn't exist.

What would you say to someone on the fence about giving, especially someone who might think a small donation doesn't matter?

We were able to keep the previously mentioned student going for less than \$1,000. It doesn't take very many donations to get that \$1,000, or a lack of donations not to have the \$1,000. If you only give \$50, that's 5% of what that student needed. Ask your students if they had help and what that meant for them to keep going. I think you'd be surprised. If you endow a scholarship, you will receive a thank-you letter from the scholarship recipient(s). Often telling their story. This has been an unexpected benefit that I love. It always makes me feel proud and reinforces that I made the right decision.



A low-angle photograph of a tall, modern tower with a large, white, three-dimensional 'LCCC' sign on its side. The tower is set against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The sign is oriented vertically, following the structure of the tower.

DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES:

The LCCC Foundation is proud to support the strategic priorities and initiatives of the College and appreciates the continued partnership to help establish development priorities to provide focus and direction for the Foundation staff's fundraising efforts. With a number of outstanding opportunities and experiences available at LCCC, we work closely with the leadership of the College to help the Foundation prioritize our fundraising objectives and goals.

We are excited to share we have successfully completed our previous development priorities and have received new priorities beginning in 2025. Included below are the current development priorities for the LCCC Foundation, for January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027. A comprehensive fundraising effort of more than \$4.7 million over the next three years.



LCCC PATHWAY ENDOWMENTS

Grow the existing endowments that support the eight LCCC Pathways. These Pathway's provide the structure to guide students through academic programs and serve as a community of interest for each program to create bonds between students, with faculty and staff, and with business and industry. The Pathway Endowment funds will be used to support activities and opportunities to create this community. The fundraising goal is to have each Pathway Endowment funded at \$500,000.

- Agriculture & Equine Pathway Fundraising Goal: \$305,000
- Business & Accounting Pathway Fundraising Goal: \$402,000
- Communication & Creative Arts Pathway Fundraising Goal: \$305,000
- Health Sciences & Wellness Pathway Fundraising Goal: Minimum Fundraising Goal Achieved
- Human & Public Services Pathway Fundraising Goal: \$450,000
- Information Technology Pathway Fundraising Goal: \$405,000
- Trades & Technical Studies Pathway Fundraising Goal: Minimum Fundraising Goal Achieved
- STEM Pathway Fundraising Goal: \$380,000



SUPPORTING LOW-INCOME STUDENTS

LCCC has done a good job of providing financial assistance based on merit and the majority of the LCCC Foundation Scholarships include merit-based components or are focused on student achievement. While some support focused on financial need does exist, it is not at the level of merit-based aid in either the Foundation or the College. This priority includes two sub-priorities to create more equitable funding environment for low-income students:

1. Proof of Concept Funding for LCCC Accelerate – Fundraise through private gifts and grants, \$600,000 to be spent over three years to test if removing financial barriers related to tuition and fees for low-income students results in increased high school graduation rates and college continuation.
2. Support for Students Living in the LCCC Residence Halls - LCCC is fortunate to have three residence halls. We recognize that for some students the costs associated with living on campus are considerable, especially local students who may forgo this opportunity to experience college life and build lasting relationships simply because it is more affordable to live at home. The LCCC Foundation is charged with growing the current scholarship fund for low-income students with validated need to help with the costs of living on campus (room and board). The fundraising goal for this priority is \$1 million.



NAMING OF FACILITIES TO SUPPORT EXTERIOR RENEWAL

LCCC has launched a comprehensive Exterior Renewal Plan that will eventually transform 13 of the College's oldest buildings into more energy-efficient and aesthetically pleasing facilities, while also reducing long-term maintenance costs. LCCC has been successful in seeking some state and institutional support for these transformations, however, completing all 13 buildings in a timely fashion will necessitate additional financial resources. The College has asked the LCCC Foundation for support in seeking donors and utilizing naming tributes on buildings to generate revenue that can match state funding for the exterior renewal of buildings. The fundraising goal for this priority is \$1 million - \$1.5 million.



THE LCCC STUDENT EXPERIENCE

As part of the College's work around the Unlocking Opportunity initiative, LCCC is purposefully structuring unique learning, engagement, and support activities to create an identifiable, unforgettable, connected and impactful experience for our degree-/credential-seeking students. While some institutional funding exists to support these operations, most of the available resources are limited in scope. While many aspects of this programming should and will be supported by the College's operational funding, LCCC is asking the LCCC Foundation to raise funds that could be utilized annually or through endowed funds to support certain aspects of this enhanced student experience. These opportunities include:

1. Funding to support experiential learning opportunities for current LCCC students. These funds will support experiences such as Applied Learning, Undergraduate Research, Internships, Service Learning, etc. Gift and contributions can be applied to Pathway Endowments to support this work or to the Lois Mottonen Student Experience Fund.
2. Funding to support institutionally identified special populations of students that may experience greater barriers to post-secondary education or educational success. With an institutional focus on first-generation students, the LCCC Foundation is looking to provide ongoing support to for the Davis First Generation Experience.

LCCC has asked the LCCC Foundation to explore donor interest to help support funds that currently exist to support these initiatives with a fundraising goal of \$500,000 to \$1 million for this priority.



Curt Kaiser Memorial Ethics Fund
Dr. Ryan Holston presented on the ethics of artificial intelligence in a free market, speaking to students and at a luncheon.



First Interstate Bank/Progress and Prosperity Community Conversation Series
Branding expert Amanda Brinkman visited campus in March, sharing actionable advice to small businesses and common traits in communities that are thriving.



Clay Watercolor Workshop
Watercolor artist & art instructor Kim Johnson Nechtman taught a class in June at LCCC, focusing on exploring composition and painting from photos.

CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERIES

BRIDGING WORLDS AT LCCC

The LCCC community cherishes the power of expression and embraces a diverse range of voices. Through the Cultural and Community Enrichment Series, LCCC provides compelling opportunities for students and the wider public to engage with and glean insights from artists, authors, business leaders, historians, philosophers, musicians, scientists, photographers, poets, and other experts. These annual events, generously funded by donors, are open to the public, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and experiences.

The Cultural & Community Enrichment Series operates under a philanthropic framework, wherein each associated name represents a single donation or a pool of donations held in an interest-bearing account by the LCCC Foundation. This account serves a specific purpose determined by the donors. Importantly, the donation portion of the fund (the corpus) remains untouched, and additional contributions are simply added to it. Annually, a portion of the interest earned becomes available for expenditure.

ANB BANK PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

The ANB Bank Performing Arts Series has brought on-stage performances to LCCC and the Cheyenne community that provide cultural entertainment.

BMO MUSIC SERIES

The BMO Music Series was designed to bring culturally diverse musical groups and performers into the Cheyenne community and to the LCCC campus.

CLAY WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

The Clay Watercolor Workshop was designed to fund an annual week-long watercolor workshop on the LCCC campus that features a nationally or internationally renowned artist in water media, and includes a gallery show, reception and a public demonstration.

ED & CAREN MURRAY ART SERIES

The Ed & Caren Murray Art Series hosts high-quality, nationally known artists in visual arts for workshops, lectures and shows.

FIRST INTERSTATE BANK - PROGRESS & PROSPERITY COMMUNITY CONVERSATION SERIES

The First Interstate Bank Progress and Prosperity Community Conversation Series was established to provide opportunities for LCCC to present workshops and presenters based on community issues that involve local leaders, residents and the LCCC campus.

GERALD & JESSIE CHAMBERS SPEAKERS SERIES

The Gerald & Jessie Chambers Speakers Series selects speakers who will be culturally diverse and deal with topics relevant to the community's present, past and future.

LITERARY CONNECTION

The Literary Connection was established to bring together writers and readers of literature in an informal yet inviting environment.

THE DINNEEN WRITER SERIES

The Dinneen Writer Series was conceived to enrich the Cheyenne community and the LCCC campus by featuring culturally diverse authors and writers.

UNION PACIFIC BUSINESS & INDUSTRY SERIES

The Union Pacific Business & Industry Series is dedicated to raising awareness of the pertinent issues affecting the business community in Cheyenne, while also addressing needs of students preparing to enter the business environment.



2023-2024

LCCC BY THE NUMBERS

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

LCCC awarded 844 degrees and certificates during the 2023-2024 academic year.

24

Bachelor of Applied Science
degrees

82

Associate of Arts degrees

149

Associate of Science degrees

70

Associate Degrees in Nursing

140

Associate of Applied Science
degrees

85

Certificates of Completion

295

Credit Diplomas

43

Credit programs and
concentrations leading to
associate degrees

2

Credit programs leading to a
bachelor degree

30

Credit programs leading to
certificates of completion or
credit diploma

117

Full-time instructional faculty
and 155 part-time faculty
teaching fall credit courses

369

Full-time employees
(including faculty)

5,725

Unduplicated headcount enrollment

82%

For-credit enrollments successfully completed by students

3,760

Duplicated registrations in workforce training, with 3,553 in Laramie County and 207 in Albany County

2,088

Duplicated registrations in life enrichment training, with 1,735 in Laramie County and 353 in Albany County

497

Duplicated registrations in adult education training, with 401 in Laramie County and 96 in Albany County

31

Clubs and teams, including NJCAA men's and women's basketball, Esports, women's volleyball, men's and women's soccer, and rodeo and equestrian show teams

\$77,170,750

Annual operating budget



FOUNDATION STAFF

The Foundation is dedicated to providing services and assistance to students, faculty, staff and the community, thereby enhancing a sense of tradition and pride in the college. Though it is separate from the college, the Foundation works closely with the college to generate private gifts for the college's major fund-raising priorities. In addition to raising money effectively, the Foundation provides careful management of funds already raised.



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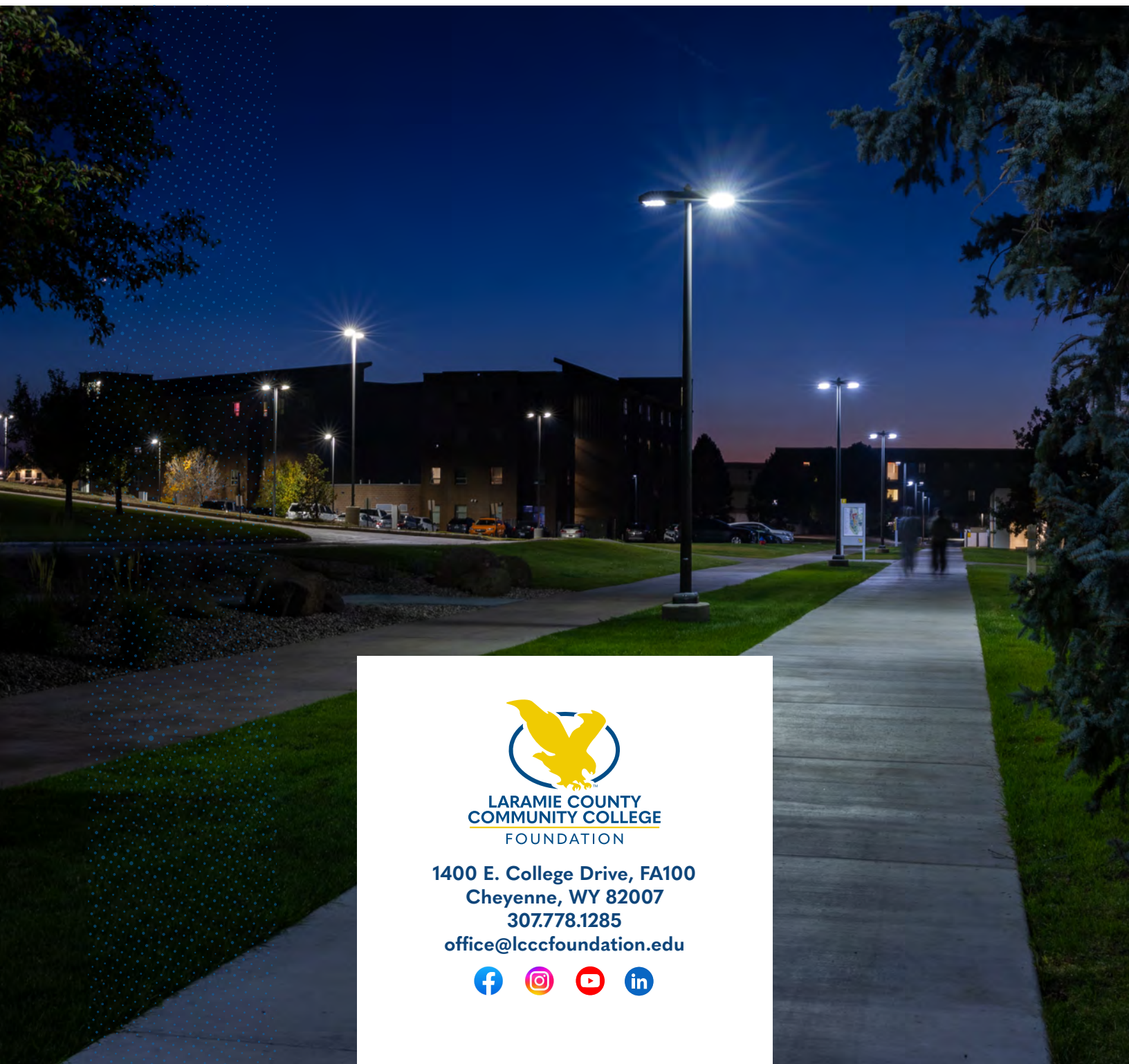
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