

## Our Unintended Consequences



Four kids start their day at Blue Lake Preschool in El Jebel

*“Charity creates a multitude of sins.”*

—OSCAR WILDE

Life is rife with unintended consequences—predicaments, really—that we veneer with easy answers.

My best dictionary starts with this.

“Charity: Christian love: the virtue or act of loving God with a love which transcends that for creatures and of loving others for the sake of God.”

Later on we read,

“An act or series of acts of aid to the needy.”

What possible sins here?

- Creating dependencies rather than empowerment.
- Reinforcing their helplessness rather than their potential.
- Maintaining an unequal relationship of power between supplicant and potential benefactor.
- Acknowledging oppressive social contracts rather than changing them.

Traditional charity tends to be doing it *to* them or doing it *for* them. Manaus is building a model of charity where we do it *with* them. The model may not be entirely sin-free, but there is a conscious effort to build a partnership of equals.

If supporting an organization’s commitment to the double bottom line were zero sum, focus on earned income would detract from focus on the social bottom line. This would not be desirable and we are learning how to design, with our partners, simultaneous improvements to both bottom lines.

This is exploratory work. We must learn from mistakes as well as successes.

*“Caminante no hay camino, se trace el camino al andar.”*

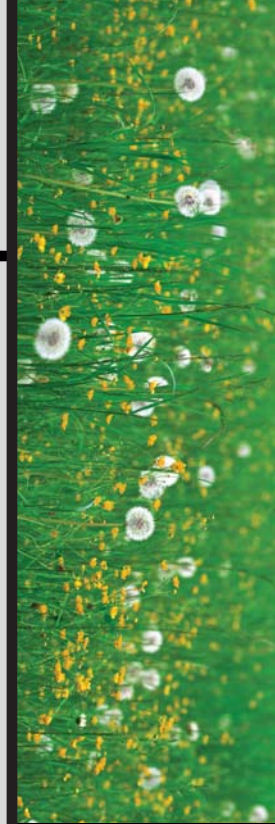
—ANTONIO MACHEDO

{*“Never do for others what they can do for themselves. Never.”*}

The Industrial Areas Foundation’s Iron Rule is our guide in the Manaus approach to aid for the needy.

—GEORGE STRANAHAN

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THE MANAUS FUND  
BUILDING A DOUBLE BOTTOM LINE

Building capacity to achieve  
a more just society through  
investments and partnerships

## The Manus Fund Partners & Investments



Third Street Center

### THIRD STREET CENTER

The Manus Fund has invested \$520,000 in the pre-development phase of this community project. The Third Street Center is a joint effort between the Town of Carbondale, SCoR and the Roaring Fork Community Development Corporation (CDC) to renovate the old Carbondale Elementary School into a green facility that

maintains affordable space for community and regional nonprofit and for profit organizations. [www.thirdstreetcenter.net](http://www.thirdstreetcenter.net)

### LIFT UP

*The Manus Fund has been with LIFT UP through good economic times and bad, always there with monetary support, encouragement, and a big heart. We would not be able to serve the hundreds of needy we do today if they had not believed in our mission and endorsed our service.*

—JOHN SUITOR, PRESIDENT  
LIFT UP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

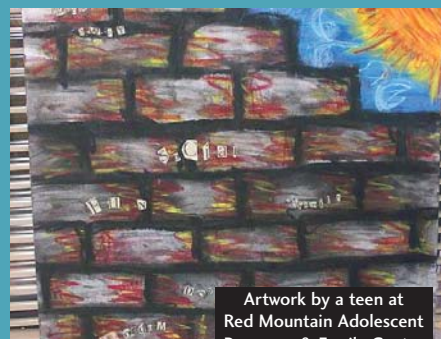
In 2005 The Manus Fund funded Lift Up with a \$25,000 grant and a \$75,000 loan to purchase property in Rifle to expand its food bank, thrift shop, and administrative facilities. In 2009 The Manus Fund purchased a building in Parachute and is leasing it to Lift Up as a site in which to operate an additional thrift shop and regional clothing recycling center. Lift Up will raise money over the next three years to purchase the building from the Manus Fund. [www.liftup.org](http://www.liftup.org)

### YOUTHENTITY (formerly Computers for Kids)

Received \$100,000 to open their Partnering for Success Center in Carbondale. The Partnering for Success Center is an authentic learning center and a place where adults learn from youth and youth learn from adults while providing students, adults and businesses with technology, technology training, tools and meeting spaces to work, play, produce and collaborate. [www.c4kfoundation.org](http://www.c4kfoundation.org)

### COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES: RED MOUNTAIN ADOLESCENT & FAMILY CENTER

Received \$30,000 to fulfill staffing needs of its youth treatment program. The center is dedicated to helping youth and their families recover from the destructive effects of alcohol and substance abuse. Red Mountain treats and educates individuals and families who have been affected by alcohol and other drug abuse. [www.pathways-colorado.org](http://www.pathways-colorado.org)



Artwork by a teen at Red Mountain Adolescent Recovery & Family Center

## Partners & Investments continued

### WOODY CREEK COMMUNITY CENTER

Having served the community of Woody Creek for years, George and Patti Stranahan gifted the Woody Creek Community Center to The Manus Fund to ensure that it would remain a place to celebrate and serve the community of Woody Creek. The WC3 has undergone a full renovation and rejuvenation and has re-opened its doors to the community. [www.woodyc3.org](http://www.woodyc3.org)

### ALPINE LEGAL SERVICES

Received \$40,000 enabling them to hire a bilingual staff person to reach out to the valley's Spanish-speaking communities. The intention is to help Latinos draft pleadings so that they may have greater access to justice and civil redress in the Court system. Alpine Legal Services is a private, non-profit legal assistance agency dedicated to providing legal services to low-income clients in Garfield, Pitkin and western Eagle counties for more than a quarter century. [www.alpinelegalservices.com](http://www.alpinelegalservices.com)

### ASPEN THRIFT SHOP

Received \$150,000 that will be regenerated from Thrift Shop sales and re-invested in suggested Manus Fund projects and also a \$50,000 matching grant allowing them to complete the construction of their new building in Aspen.

The Aspen Thrift Shop was formed in 1949 and supports more than 70 nonprofit organizations annually through their grants program and gives out over \$35,000 in college scholarships to local high school students per year.

### ASPEN PUBLIC RADIO

Received a total of \$120,000 over three years to expand local news coverage in the Lower Roaring Fork and Colorado River valleys through adding a full-time bilingual broadcast news reporter. Aspen Public Radio's goal is to expand its



Teens use laptops after school in Youthentity's Partnering for Success Center, in Carbondale



Two girls at Lift Up's holiday Angel Tree gift project

membership and underwriting base in these areas. A portion of the \$120,000 is being repaid through a percentage of incremental revenue from the success of the venture. [www.kajx.org](http://www.kajx.org)

## Partners & Investments continued

### ASPEN VALLEY SKI & SNOWBOARD SCHOOL (AVSC)

Received \$100,000 to develop a clothing business capitalizing on AVSC's brand awareness in the Valley. Proceeds from the enterprise will be used to fund scholarships for Latino children as well as to fund AVSC programs, creating capacity for bilingual instructors and participants in winter sports. [www.teamavsc.com](http://www.teamavsc.com)



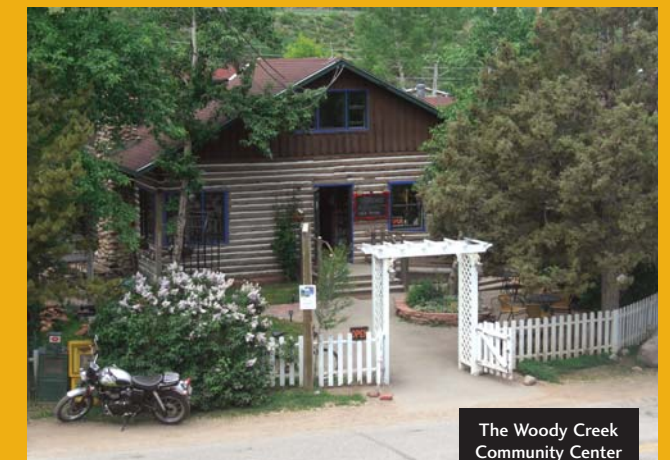
AVSC kids and instructors on the slopes

### COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD PROGRAM

The Manus Fund initiated a scholarship program to assist successful Latino students achieve their goals of graduating from a two-year or four-year college or university, allowing them to reach their full potential and contribute their knowledge, skills and talents to their communities.

### WESTERN COLORADO PRESCHOOL COOPERATIVE (WCPC)

Over the next three years, the WCPC will strengthen early childhood education services from Parachute to Aspen. Working regionally, the WCPC will collaborate with existing programs to increase quality through improved and shared financial and management services.



The Woody Creek Community Center

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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