ABOUT THE BARTON INSTITUTE

In 2016, the University of Denver (DU) and David Miller came together to establish at DU a new Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise, the first of its kind in Colorado. In November, 2016, the Barton Family made a transformational gift to name the institute: the Barton Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise.

The Barton Institute is free-standing and is not a part of any school, department or college at DU. Thus the Institute has the freedom to explore and leverage resources across DU to bring the strongest interdisciplinary approach to issues facing the Rocky Mountain West.

MISSION OF THE BARTON INSTITUTE

The Institute addresses major social issues and improves society by promoting and enhancing traditional and new forms of philanthropy, social enterprise, and partnerships among the private, public, nonprofit, and academic sectors.

How will the Institute operate? Through four pillars:

1. CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS: The Institute brings together people from different sectors and connects them with resources to address major social challenges. In 2017, the Institute is working with a group addressing homelessness and another group helping expand restorative justice in Denver Public Schools.

2. COLORADO EVALUATION & ACTION LAB: The Lab works with the Governor’s Office and researchers, including at universities, to evaluate state-funded programs for efficacy and efficiency.

3. SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS: The Social Enterprise Fellows is an interdisciplinary program that brings together graduate students from across DU to invest their time and energy to work with social enterprises.

4. STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES: The Institute seeks out new challenges and opportunities that have a positive impact on vulnerable populations in Metro Denver. One of the first such efforts is the Bold Philanthropy Convening on October 4, 2017, bringing together practitioners and leaders from across the country to talk about how philanthropy can become more effective and impactful.