



March 2018  
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Pictured: John LeEVERS, owner of Save-A-Lot in Denver's Montbello neighborhood. Photo courtesy of LeEVERS Supermarkets, Inc.

## CO4F METRICS

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

**\$8,300,000**

Total Capitalization

**\$2,796,307**

Funds Available

**\$5,178,693**

Total Funded and Committed

## CO4F Supports New Grocery Store in Montbello

The Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund (CO4F) recently closed a \$1.5 million loan to support a new Save-A-Lot grocery store in Denver's Montbello neighborhood. The financing was made in participation with two CO4F partners, Colorado Enterprise Fund and The Colorado Trust, each supporting Save-A-Lot with \$1 million in financing for a total of \$3.5 million, which leveraged a senior loan from Wells Fargo.



Photo courtesy of LeEVERS Supermarkets, Inc.

"CO4F was a huge part of this because it filled half of the gap financing we needed to make the store possible. It was very instrumental," said John LeEVERS, President of LeEVERS Supermarkets, Inc., which owns this Save-A-Lot and several other locations throughout Colorado.

The Montbello Save-A-Lot store serves as the area's only nearby full-service grocery store with an onsite butcher and scratch

*Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund (CO4F) improves access to healthy food in underserved Colorado communities by financing grocery stores and other forms of healthy food retail.*

## PARTNERS



The Colorado Health Foundation™

colorado  
enterprise fund



**THE PITON  
FOUNDATION**  
at Gary Community  
Investments



*A Health Equity Foundation*

bakery, therefore improving residents' access to fresh food.

"We have a higher than average inventory dedicated to fresh food. Our heavy focus on fresh food includes a large fresh produce department, large meat department with all cutting done on site, a full scratch bakery, and tortillaria," said John.

The store's impact on health and social cohesion within the community goes beyond providing fresh food. John explains a unique store amenity that offers more opportunities for shoppers and residents.

"Based on feedback from the community, we learned that there was a need for public meeting space. Save-A-Lot offers a 600 square-foot community room that features a full demonstration kitchen. We're partnering with local groups like Cooking Matters to offer "healthy eating on a budget" cooking classes. We also hold yoga classes there and host local youth football team meetings. It is available to the community free of charge."

The new Save-A-Lot store also is breathing new life into the retail center where it's located by serving as an anchor tenant and attracting new businesses.

"Two thirds of the center was vacant prior to Save-A-Lot, and now with a Planet Fitness, DaVita dialysis clinic, and another new tenant moving in soon, the center will be more than 90 percent occupied," said John. "The community is excited and so are we. We also have a community advisory board that provides feedback and it's great because the community is really engaged."

Since opening in December, John says the store is performing above expectations and directly supports 50 jobs.

## CO4F Launches New Video

We are pleased to announce that a video showcasing CO4F and some of its success stories is now available! [Watch our new video](#) to learn more about the history of CO4F, the perspectives of businesses we've supported, and the latest program outcomes.



## Partner Spotlight: Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger Released

Colorado prides itself on being one of the fittest, most active, and healthiest states in the nation.

Coloradans are problem solvers, collaborators, and innovators in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors. As we learn about challenges that have



*Photo courtesy of the Colorado Health Foundation, photographer, Barry Gutierrez.*



human and financial impacts for our communities, we solve them together. Despite our national reputation as a healthy state, hunger remains a reality for too many Coloradans, including 1 in 6 children. Recognizing this challenge, a group of leaders came together in 2017 to develop a shared vision and actionable roadmap for ending hunger in our state in the next five years.

This group of leaders, including CO4F partner, the Colorado Health Foundation, has officially launched the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger. The Blueprint offers a unified vision with five goals and associated strategies to end hunger in the state of Colorado. CO4F is one of many programs highlighted in the report. The vision, goals, and strategies in this document are intended to be aspirational in nature and seek to leverage current momentum and build on recent successes by coordinating efforts and energy.

Visit [endhungerco.org](http://endhungerco.org) to learn more and download the full report.

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