

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### THE FOURTH ANNUAL WESTERN COLORADO ECONOMIC SUMMIT TO RETURN ON APRIL 19

#### GJEP's Annual Fundraiser Moves to Spring, Partners with CMU

**GRAND JUNCTION, CO (March 8, 2019) –The Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) will host the much-anticipated 2019 Western Colorado Economic Summit on April 19 to coincide with Colorado Mesa University's Student Showcase.**

"We are excited to host the Summit in conjunction with the CMU Student Showcase," said Robin Brown, GJEP executive director. "The showcase highlights the student talent that we have in the Grand Valley, as well as many exceptional businesses that support local workforce development. It is a perfect fit alongside our economic development summit."

The Western Colorado Economic Summit brings together business and government leadership for a half-day conference that covers the most pertinent topics affecting economic growth on the western slope today. It also serves as GJEP's annual meeting and main fundraiser for the year.

"We had so many great successes last year. I'm glad that we don't have to wait until June to share them," continued Brown. "It also means companies have the opportunity to come in earlier in the year and be part of the many exciting business recruitment efforts we have planned for 2019."

**The Summit will kick-off at 8:00 a.m. in the Meyer Ballroom in CMU's University Center.** There will be several morning breakout sessions covering workforce development, ballot initiatives, tech innovation, real estate and more. The Summit concludes with a luncheon, including a keynote address, GJEP's annual update and awards ceremony.

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**GJEP is currently soliciting nominations in two award categories:** the Joseph C. Prinster Leadership Award for individual achievement in economic development, and the Spirit of Economic Development Award Presented by Charter Communications, honoring a business or organization that demonstrates a strong sense of community awareness and involvement.

**To submit a nomination, please email Cilia Kohn at [cilia@gjep.org](mailto:cilia@gjep.org) with the name of the nominee and a brief description of their achievements, as well as contact details for further information.**

The annual Economic Summit would not be possible without the generous support of local sponsors. Venture Advocates joins Coldwell Banker Commercial Prime Properties and Coldwell Banker Distinctive Properties – returning for the fourth year – as title sponsor. Additional sponsors include: Bank of Colorado, Community Hospital, Grand Valley Power, St. Mary’s Hospital, US Bank, FCI, Colorado Christian University, CoorsTek, Hilltop Community Resources, Land Title Guarantee Company and Rocky Mountain Health Plans.

**Registration for the 2019 Western Colorado Economic Summit will open on Tuesday, March 19.**

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**About the Grand Junction Economic Partnership**

The Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) works to enhance the economic vitality and quality of life in Colorado’s Grand Valley by supporting high-impact capital investment and job creation. Operating as a non-profit, GJEP administers incentive programs and offers free services to organizations interested in relocation or expansion in the cities of Grand Junction and Fruita, the town of Palisade and surrounding communities of Mesa County. Visit [www.gjep.org](http://www.gjep.org) for more information.