



**Bylaws of
Colorado Knights of Columbus
Charities Fund, INC.**

Adopted: May 6, 1996

Amended: 3/19/11, 10/27/12, 3/25/15, 3/13/16, 3/24/18 and 3/18/23

BYLAWS
OF
COLORADO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITIES FUND, INC.
(A COLORADO NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE CORPORATION)

Article I – Business of the Corporation

Section 1:

The name of this Corporation shall be **COLORADO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITIES FUND, INC.**, and shall be operated and controlled by its duly elected officers and the trustees. The principal place of business be the mailing address of the current Treasurer of the Corporation. Other offices may be established from time to time by the Board of Trustees.

Section 2:

The purpose of the Corporation is as follows:

- A. To carry out any lawful activity authorized by the Colorado Non-Profit Corporation Act, as amended.
- B. To unite all members of the Colorado Subordinate Councils of the Knights of Columbus in closer bonds of fraternity, to further good fellowship among councils, to promote and protect this Order in the state of Colorado, to exchange ideas beneficial to the Councils of this state, and to bear true allegiance to the Constitution and laws of the Knights of Columbus and the United States.
- C. All members in good standing of the Colorado Knights of Columbus shall be ipso facto dues-paying members of the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. Said members shall be engaged in carrying out the objectives of this corporation.
- D. The Corporation shall have one class of non-voting members.

Section 3:

The Officers of this Corporation shall be the Colorado State Deputy, serving as the President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

- A. They shall be elected for a one year term at the regular annual meeting of this Corporation.
- B. In the event the offices of Secretary or Treasurer cannot be filled from the board, the board may opt to elect any member of the Colorado Knights of Columbus to that office as a non-voting member of the board.

Section 4:

The affairs and management of this corporation shall be under the control of the “Board” which is the Corporate Officers, and the Trustees, composed of the elected State Deputy, Secretary, Treasurer, Advocate and Warden, the State Chaplain, the Immediate Past State Deputy and the Past State Deputies of the Colorado State Knights of Columbus, residing in the state of Colorado.

A Quorum shall consist of a total of 7 Board members.

Section 5:

The officers and trustees shall have the same duties as customarily performed by officers and directors of a corporation for profit.

- A. An Executive Committee, to be composed of the elected Corporate Officers and the State Chaplain, shall have the right to exercise, for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees all the powers which the Board of Trustees may or might exercise under the laws of the State of Colorado in management and conduct of the ordinary affairs and business transactions of the corporation save and except such powers and duties as shall otherwise be specially directed or limited by the Board of Trustees. The members of such Executive Committee shall hold office subject to the vote of the Board of Trustees.
- B. All votes including electronic or public mail shall be determined by a majority of the board members present, except for a change of these bylaws, which requires 2/3rd vote of the board members present.
- C. In a given year, by a two thirds vote, the elected officers of the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus, State Chaplain and Immediate Past State Deputy are authorized to disburse, as charitable donations, an amount not to exceed the sum of the previous year’s interest income, the balance of interest from the endowment held by the corporation paid in the previous year, and the Pennies from Heaven Funds collected in the previous year. They are further authorized to collect donations for specific purposes and distribute those funds collected to the appropriate charity. Any disbursement of additional funds requires the vote of the Executive committee as described in Article I, Section 5 (A).
- D. All remaining funds at the end of the fraternal year (year ending June 30) shall become part of the endowment fund unless otherwise specified in these bylaws.

Section 6:

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees shall be held within 90 days of the annual State Convention of the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be held at the call of the President , Vice President or by any three members of the Board of Trustees, with a ten days advance notice.

Section 7:

Required reports:

- A. The Corporate Treasurer of this Corporation shall furnish to all Trustees copies of written financial reports prior to the annual meeting.
- B. The Vice President of this Corporation shall submit annually, an activities report to the Trustees and the members in attendance at the Annual State Convention.
- C. These reports, including the annual audit, shall be included in the published report of the District Deputies of the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus as an appendix.
- D. The Corporate Secretary and Corporate Treasurer shall provide financial reports to the elected State Officers at least quarterly or more frequently if requested by the President, Vice President or at least three members of the Board.

Section 8:

All funds and other properties of this Corporation are subject to the control and disposition of the Board of Trustees. The Officers of the Corporation shall execute the directions of the Trustees in the management of such funds and properties.

- A. Reserved funds will not be distributed except by two thirds vote of the Board of Trustees.
- B. Christopher Fund earnings will be distributed to the fund balances that make up the fund with the balance, other interest and Pennies from Heaven to be available to the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus for charitable contributions during the following fraternal year (year beginning 1 July).

Section 9:

The Corporation shall operate on a fiscal year that matches the fraternal year of the Knights of Columbus which is July 1 through June 30.

Section 10:

The elected State Officers of the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus shall retain an outside charter or certified public accountant (CPA) that will be charged with auditing the books of the Corporation as of June 30 of each year. The CPA shall provide a written opinion of the condition of the Corporation and any affiliated entities. This auditing firm will be responsible for submitting Forms 990 and other required legal tax and Internal Revenue Service forms on behalf of the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus and the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. The retention of an outside auditing firm in no way lessens the fiduciary responsibilities of the Officers of the Corporation.

Section 11:

This is absolutely a non-profit Corporation. The members of the Board of Trustees shall not receive compensation for their services as Trustees; however, the Board of Trustees is authorized to have paid out of the Trust Fund such actual expenses, including meeting and travel expenses, as are necessarily incurred in the proper administration of the affairs of this Corporation.

Section 12:

Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Trustees shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, shall distribute exclusively for the purpose of the Corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall, at the time, qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal law) as the Board of Trustees shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for the purposes or to such organization(s), as said Court shall determine.

Article II – Christopher Fund Participation

Section 1:

The Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus through the Colorado State Knights of Columbus Fund will participate in the Christopher Matching Fund Program as adopted by resolution No. 34 at the 1992 Supreme Council Meeting.

Section 2:

Based on the intention in the early 1970's of the then Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus Officers and the Past State Deputies to have an endowment fund of which only the earning are used for charitable purposes and the sole intent of the principle, reserved and unreserved, was to provide earnings and in 1994 the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus chose to participate in the Christopher Matching Fund Program, be it known that those funds held in that fund shall remain as the endowment fund.

Section 3:

Included in the Christopher Fund shall be all substantial donations to the Charities Fund, Inc. that were given for the intended purpose of the development of an endowment fund. The donors' names shall be listed annually in the president 's report of the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. and included in the proceedings of the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus.

Section 4:

The board shall govern the participation of investment in the Christopher Fund.

Section 5:

Colorado Knights of Columbus Councils may invest in this Christopher Fund on an annual basis according to the guidelines set out by the board of Trustees.

Article III – Developmentally Disabled Annual Campaign

Section 1:

Annually, the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus will sponsor, as a community activity, a Developmentally Disabled Campaign to raise funds for the people with intellectual differences in Colorado.

Section 2:

All materials used in this campaign shall be imprinted with the emblem of the Knights of Columbus and a slogan as approved by the Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus.

Section 3:

After allowance for reimbursement expenses such as the cost of candy products, special aprons, mailings, posters, and other necessary miscellaneous items are made, seventy five percent (75%) of the net proceeds are designated for distribution as approved by the participating council, with the remaining twenty five percent (25%) available for designation for distribution by the elected officers of the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus.

Section 4:

All disbursements of funds, as approved by the elected State Officers and the Immediate Past State Deputy, shall be through the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. and not by individual councils. These funds shall be used for the welfare of mentally handicapped persons only. A person or persons acting in the interest of or organized for aiding the mentally handicapped may make application for funds to the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus or a participating subordinate council. Applications to non-participating councils should be referred to the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Section 5:

Each participating council shall submit a report of this activity which details the net proceeds collected and instructions for distribution of 75% of the net proceeds to the Corporate Secretary of Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. no later than December 31 of each year. Any participating council's funds not designated for distribution by the following June 30 shall be disbursed by the elected officers of the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus in the same manner as the 25% State Council share described in Section 3 of this Article.

Article IV – Pennies from Heaven

The Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus has initiated a “Pennies from Heaven Program” for the purpose of generating funds for charitable contributions by the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus. Funds will be maintained as a part of the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc., and disbursed by a majority vote of the board members present.

Article V – Father McGivney Club

The Father McGivney Club provides emergency financial support within the jurisdiction of Colorado to ordained clergy, consecrated religious men and women, seminarians and novices to respond to an unexpected short-term personal or family crisis.

All donations shall be accounted for separately and held in the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. and administered under the bylaws of the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. Funds shall be disbursed by a majority vote of the board members present.

Article VI – Perpetual Memorial Society

The Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus has developed a "Perpetual Memorial Society" for the intentions of the members of the society. Membership is obtained through a minimum donation, which will be determined annually, in the name of the proposed member of the society to the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. with the intention of membership in the "Perpetual Memorial Society". Proceeds from the membership fee form a fund held by the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. The Society should ensure at least 100 masses are said annually for the members of the society, expenses are covered to operate the program. Funds may also be used for various religious charitable purposes as approved by a majority vote of the board present.

Article VII – Colorado Diocesan Capital Restoration Fund

This fund will receive and disburse moneys received for the restoration of Catholic properties within the state of Colorado. Each restoration funding program shall be at the request and approval of the Bishop of that diocese and will require specific guidelines for donations and disbursements approved by the Bishop and by a majority vote of the board members present. An accounting of moneys allocated to each diocese will be maintained and only funds allocated to a specific diocese will be spent within that diocese. The status of each project and/or funds available shall be made available to each Bishop, at the annual mid-year meeting after the annual audit has been completed. This status report shall be included in the proceedings of the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus.

Article VIII – Football Sweepstakes

Each year the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. shall participate in a football sweepstakes fund raiser for the benefit of this charity and the Colorado State Council Knights of

Columbus. The Colorado Knights of Columbus councils participating shall retain twenty percent of the face value of each sweepstakes ticket sold and shall remit the remaining amount to this corporation. Once the expenses of the corporation related to the sweepstakes are paid not less than 75 percent of the net proceeds shall be paid to the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus for the sole purpose of subsidizing the cost of the annual convention. Not less than ten percent shall be placed in the general reserved fund and the remaining fifteen percent is available to the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus. at the vote of the Elected State Officers and Immediate Past State Deputy.

Article IX – Amendments

Amendments to these bylaws may be made by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Board members present at the regularly scheduled annual meeting.

Article X – Ratification

These bylaws were duly presented to the Colorado State Council Knights of Columbus meeting at its Annual meeting in Colorado Springs, Colorado on May 6, 1996.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing bylaws incorporate all changes since the incorporation of the Colorado Knights of Columbus Charities Fund, Inc. and are the bylaws regularly approved and ratified by a two-thirds vote of the Trustees in attendance at its Annual Meetings updated through March 18, 2023.

Attested:



Mark E. Sorenson

March 18, 2023

COLORADO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITIES FUND, INC.
(A COLORADO NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE CORPORATION)
State Advocate, Colorado Knights of Columbus

Certified:



Jon Herskovits

COLORADO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITIES FUND, INC.
(A COLORADO NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE CORPORATION)
President