

2023 Community Spirit Award Winners

The Community Spirit Award is an opportunity to recognize businesses who are making outstanding contributions to the community by supporting events, programs, or initiatives that benefit the City of Westminster and its residents. This award will also recognize the work that they are doing to make our community more vibrant, resilient, and foster a spirit of service.

The **2023 Small Business Community Spirit Award** was awarded to Conexus Insurance Partners.

Conexus Insurance Partners is a full-service, independent insurance agency that has been serving the Westminster community and beyond for more than 55 years. They specialize in business insurance, employee benefits insurance and personal insurance - offering a broad array of custom solutions to meet the needs of every client no matter how unique. **People first is their passion and leading priority.** With this perspective, they are dedicated to caring for and protecting their employees, community and clients through ongoing partnership, education, service, and care.

What stood out on their nomination, and why they were chosen for this award was this:

Conexus Insurance Partners recently awarded a \$10,000 donation to Denver's Project Angel Heart, a local organization dedicated to providing Coloradans living with a severe illness access to nutritious food that supports their health and well-being. The \$10,000 award will help Project Angel Heart prepare and deliver 700,000 medically tailored meals to 5,000 Coloradans. Conexus was awarded \$5,000 of this donation through the Make More Happen Award from Liberty Mutual Insurance and in turn, they raised an additional \$5,000 by conducting a local awareness campaign for the nonprofit. With the community, the goal was met increasing the total donation to \$10,000 for Project Angel Heart. This award, along with the wide array of other community engagements that were submitted is why they were chosen this year.

The **2023 Large Business Community Spirit Award** was awarded to Carrabba's Italian Grill.

Carrabba's Italian Restaurant located off of 92nd & Wadsworth features authentic Italian cuisine passed down from its founder's family recipes. Carrabba's was born in 1986, making full and faithful use of the family's hundred-plus years of cooking traditions. In 1993, a joint venture partnership was formed with Outback Steakhouse then in 1995 they acquired the rights to develop Carrabba's nationally.

Carrabba's owner Parker Brown received 4 nominations for this award and this is what people said:

- Parker is always there to donate food, including teacher appreciation lunches and various fundraisers
- Carrabba's has made donations on numerous occasions to help feed the schools and to help with school supplies and book drives
- Parker supports the Jumping Jack Golf Tournament and the Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
- Parker is simply the best! He donates gift cards, silent auction baskets, gives huge discounts on catering and even allows the use of his kitchen

Parker, along with his restaurant Carrabba's Italian Grill, is so clearly invested in our community and his efforts are why they were chosen to receive this award this year.