

JAVIER ALBERTO SOTO

INCOMING PRESIDENT & CEO



THE DENVER FOUNDATION

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I am honored to join The Denver Foundation, one of the leading community foundations in the country. Denver has reached an exciting inflection point in terms of population growth, demographic change, and economic development. I'm looking forward to working with The Denver Foundation team — and the entire community — to build on the Foundation's long record of driving local solutions and bringing people with divergent perspectives together around common goals.

**JAVIER ALBERTO SOTO,
INCOMING PRESIDENT & CEO**

The Denver Foundation, Colorado's largest and most experienced community foundation, is proud to announce Javier Alberto Soto, current President and Chief Executive Officer of The Miami Foundation, as its next leader.

Soto is the sixth Chief Executive Officer in [The Denver Foundation's](#) 94-year history. He will step down from The Miami Foundation at the end of September and assume his new role in October 2019.

Over the course of Soto's 10-year tenure as The Miami Foundation's leader, he led the organization through a period of significant growth in assets, ambitions, and aspirations. Soto positioned the Foundation at the center of civic and philanthropic activity in the Greater Miami area. He launched many initiatives including Give Miami Day, which has generated \$47M in donations since 2012.

In 2016, he convened Miami, Miami Beach, and Miami-Dade County to submit a successful joint application to The Rockefeller Foundation's [100 Resilient Cities Program](#), which focuses on urbanization, globalization, and climate change in major urban centers. This collaboration resulted in the recent rollout of the [Resilient305 Strategy](#), a blueprint for a more resilient future for the region. He also led the development of key Foundation projects including the "[Our Miami Report](#)," a biannual overview of issues that shape the experiences of people in Greater Miami.

Soto has broad influence within the philanthropic sector. In April, he completed a two-year term as Board Chair of the [Council on Foundations](#), which represents nearly 1,000 philanthropic organizations across the United States and abroad. He is a member of the Knight Foundation's Miami Community Advisory Committee, and he was awarded a [Henry Crown Fellowship](#) by the Aspen Institute in 2013. Through many years in the public sector, he served as Chief of Staff to the County Mayor in Miami-Dade County and as a litigator in the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office.

The son of Cuban immigrants, Soto was born in Madrid and moved as a young child to Miami. He graduated from Florida State University with a B.A. in History and Political Science and earned his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. With strong personal ties to Colorado, Soto and his family have visited the Denver area many times and are looking forward to connecting deeply with its history, neighborhoods, and people.

denverfoundation.org



Combined with The Denver Foundation's deep roots in this community, Javier's varied experience and dynamic leadership will bring new energy and ideas — as well as a fresh perspective — to our efforts to address today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.

NITA MOSBY TYLER, CHAIR OF THE DENVER FOUNDATION'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MISSION

We inspire people and mobilize resources to strengthen our community.

THE DENVER FOUNDATION by the numbers

TOTAL ASSETS

\$823 million

THE FUND FOR DENVER VALUE OF ASSETS

\$145 million

TOTAL GRANTMAKING

\$79 million

TOTAL GIFTS RECEIVED

\$86 million

Per audited financials, 12.31.2018.

For more information about Javier Alberto Soto or The Denver Foundation, please email media@denverfoundation.org. 303.300.1790

The Consensus Selection

Javier consistently separated himself among candidates, and was the consensus candidate of all search participants.

Soto's deep and relevant professional experience elevated him to the top of a pool of more than 350 highly qualified local and national candidates. With proven executive management skills, a demonstrated commitment to philanthropy and civic engagement, and experience as a dynamic leader across sectors and communities, he was selected following a nationwide search that was informed by input from Denver Foundation stakeholders, including nonprofit and community leaders, donors, and staff.

The CEO Search Committee unanimously recommended the hiring of Javier Alberto Soto, which was confirmed by a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees on June 18, 2019.

National Leadership

Upon learning of Javier's transition, Alberto Ibarguen, President and CEO of the [John S. & James L. Knight Foundation](#), said:

"Javier Soto is one of philanthropy's most effective, even visionary leaders. He has made The Miami Foundation one of a handful of key players engaged in any discussion about our community's future. He is the trusted intermediary between great capital and social good.

"Miami will miss Javier Soto. The good news is that he has moved The Miami Foundation into such a position of leadership that the pool to succeed him will far exceed expectation. He has led by example, with vision, courage, skill and tenacity. We will miss him and watch with pride as he continues to engage his considerable talent and good will in service of others."

Upon his election as the Board Chair

of the Council on Foundations, [The Miami Herald published an op-ed](#) in support of Javier's leadership, written by Ruth Shack, President Emeritus of The Miami Foundation:

"Now, [Javier] will take his talent to Washington as the newly elected board chair of the Council on Foundations. For almost 70 years, the Council has been the leading association of grantmaking foundations and corporations, empowering the sector to meet today's toughest challenges and advance philanthropic activities in the U.S. and around the world.

"Javier is unquestionably the man for the job. He has shown a keen ability to drive consensus when it matters most."

Colorado Connection

Javier has a close, long-time friend who lives in the Metro Denver area. Their children are similar in age, and Javier has visited with his family many times. Each time they visited, they felt Colorado would be a great place to live.

Javier has a passion for hiking, and he is looking forward to cycling from neighborhood to neighborhood to meet and learn from members of the community. "Miami has been my home since I was three years old. I always knew it would take a very special place to get me to leave Miami. Metro Denver checks all the boxes," he says.

Javier will work closely with the Foundation's staff, trustees, volunteers to learn the unique history of Metro Denver, including today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities. The Foundation's deep roots, enriched by Javier's dynamic leadership, promise The Denver Foundation will bring new energy and ideas to our 100-year commitment to take care of the future.

*Released by The Denver Foundation
July 1, 2019
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