

# RAWtools forges new partnerships, including with Denver Broncos



After the King Soopers shooting across from Boulder Mennonite Church in March of 2021, RAWtools partnered with Prayerstream and BMC to host a prayer and vigil space and BMC. Clergy from Community UCC church up the street attended and would later host the first gun back facilitated by RAWtools, followed by another at Longmont UCC, and recently at 6th Ave UCC and Mountain View United Church in Aurora over MLK Weekend.

In late 2021 the cities of Aurora and Denver announced a partnership with RAWtools to host 4 buybacks in each city in 2022, for a total of 8 buybacks, one each month from March to October. This is a pilot program to see how it can be built on in the future. RAWtools is also partnering with Sharletta Evans and Colorado Crime Survivors Network to host "sister" events later the same day and turn one of the guns disabled that morning into a garden tool, hear from people like Ms. Evans who have been impacted by gun violence, and connect to resources to end gun violence.

On Jan 7, The Denver Broncos announced 6 recipients of \$35,000 each from their social justice fund, which is funded by the team and players as part of the NFL's "Inspire Change" programs. "More than 20 players participated in the review, voting and selection of six Colorado programs and organizations to each receive \$35,000 through the team's Social Justice Fund (Black Resilience in Colorado Fund, Center for Work Education & Employment, Colorado Freedom Fund, Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, RAWtools, and Sun Valley Community Center). These designated initiatives are in the focus areas of criminal justice reform, economic development, equity, gun violence awareness and prevention, and police and community relations" - Denver Broncos announcement.

"RAWtools is grateful for the support of the cities of Denver and Aurora, as well as the Broncos players and organization for their support financially, and the time and energy they are putting into the organization and promotion of the buybacks and sister events," says Mike Martin, Executive Director of RAWtools.

If you would like to help volunteer at these events, please email [mike@rawtools.org](mailto:mike@rawtools.org). More information will be provided as dates and hosts are finalized for each buyback.

[Broncos announce \\$200,000-plus donation to player-designated organization through club's Social Justice Fund](#), Jan 7, 2022

