



CELEBRATING
\$100 MILLION
IN INVESTMENTS
TO IMPROVE THE
HEALTH
AND HEALTH CARE
FOR THE PEOPLE OF COLORADO.

CARING *for* COLORADO FOUNDATION
A Health Grantmaker

Achieving a Significant Milestone

Dear Friends,

This year, Caring for Colorado Foundation is marking an exciting grantmaking milestone. Over the course of our 16-year history, we have invested \$100 million in communities to improve the health and health care for the people of Colorado. While this is an accomplishment worth celebrating, we know our work is not finished.

Together with our partners we continue to leverage our resources to meet the most pressing health needs of vulnerable and underserved people in Colorado. Accomplishing this requires an unwavering commitment to a grantmaking approach that is collaborative, flexible and, most importantly, responsive to the needs identified by the communities throughout our state.

We remain dedicated to our priorities in community health, oral health, mental health, and children and youth, while adapting our strategies to address identified gaps. We do this by listening to the needs of the communities throughout the state and applying our resources appropriately.

Improving the health of the people of Colorado is a long-term process requiring partnership and collaboration. Thank you to the individuals who've contributed to this worthy endeavor. We look forward to working with you to further improve health outcomes for all Coloradans.

Sincerely,



Chris J. Wiant, MPH, PhD
PRESIDENT AND CEO



Oswaldo A. Grenardo, MD, MBA, MS
BOARD CHAIR

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“Caring for Colorado has a deep commitment to the communities they serve. Through their collaborative partnerships and community engagement, they have truly made a difference in the lives of countless Coloradans.”

Governor John Hickenlooper

“Caring for Colorado’s strategic investment of \$100 million in nonprofits, health care facilities, schools and other organizations has resulted in more people having access to valuable physical, mental, behavioral and social/emotional health services. I am pleased to celebrate and acknowledge this tremendous contribution.”

Bill Ritter, former governor of Colorado

“Congratulations to Caring for Colorado on the substantial impact they have made by investing \$100 million since their inception in 2000 to improve the health of Colorado’s most underserved individuals and families.”

Bill Owens, former governor of Colorado

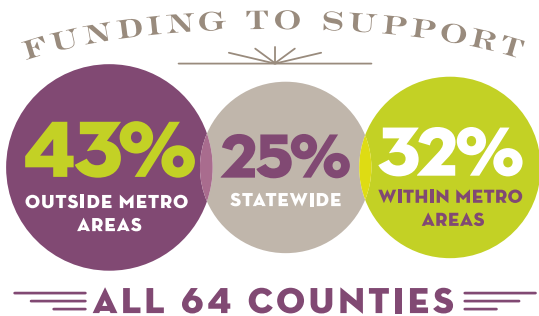
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Community Impact

Since awarding our first community grant in 2001, we have made almost 1,900 grants to over 560 Colorado entities – including nonprofit organizations, government agencies, hospitals and health centers and community coalitions. These investments in Colorado communities have contributed to:

- Reducing health disparities.
- Developing a new generation of healthy Coloradans through health promotion and disease prevention activities.
- Assuring that all Coloradans can access high quality and affordable health care services.
- Building health systems to produce long-term benefits and improved health outcomes for individuals and communities.
- Leveraging resources to address the most pressing health needs in Colorado.

Caring for Colorado grants have been awarded in all 64 counties. Thirty-two percent of the grants made support programs in the Denver metro area, 25 percent have a statewide reach and 43 percent of organizations funded are outside of the Denver metro area.



“Caring for Colorado’s \$100 million investment in improving health and health care in our state is a significant milestone. I am proud to have been a part of establishing the foundation while serving as attorney general and applaud them for all they have done for the people of Colorado over the past 16 years.”

Ken Salazar, former U.S. senator and former secretary of the interior”

Funding Priorities

The priority areas of our grantmaking – oral health, mental health, children and youth, and community health – have remained consistent since the inception of the foundation, as has our focus on improving health and access to health care for underserved populations.

ORAL HEALTH

We strive to prevent dental disease in underserved children and adults by improving access to preventive oral health care and developing new and innovative oral health delivery systems that improve access to care.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

We are working to ensure that every Colorado community has access to a health care infrastructure to support the physical, mental and oral health needs of its residents. To accomplish this, we're expanding and strengthening the health care delivery system in high-need and underserved communities.

MENTAL HEALTH

We are working to increase access to mental health care through the integration of physical and behavioral health and increasing the availability of community-based mental health programs for underserved populations.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

We partner with communities to build comprehensive systems and services to promote the social, emotional and physical development of young children. We're also working to reduce barriers to health and mental health care for children and youth by supporting school-based services.



Investing in Collaboration

Since inception, Caring for Colorado has invested in multi-year, statewide initiatives designed to improve health systems and bring evidence-based programs and innovations to communities across the state. Many of these initiatives have been funded and implemented in partnership with other Colorado foundations.

Colorado Health Institute: 2002–Today

The Colorado Health Institute was established in 2002 to serve as a comprehensive source of health data resources and policy analysis for policymakers, health planners, the business and nonprofit communities, advocacy and consumer groups, health care providers, foundations, and the media. CHI was created by Caring for Colorado, The Colorado Trust, and Rose Community Foundation. Currently, CHI is funded by these three foundations as well as The Colorado Health Foundation.



Advancing Colorado's Mental Health Care: 2006–2010

Caring for Colorado came together with The Colorado Trust, the Colorado Health Foundation and the Denver Foundation for a five-year, \$5 million effort to improve local mental health systems. Results included the development of some of the first integrated health programs in the state, support for the Housing First model for the homeless, the use of peer educators to help address complex behavioral health needs and efforts to integrate behavioral health into special education classrooms and school-based health centers.



Cavity Free at Three: 2007–Today

This \$5 million effort was incubated by Caring for Colorado and funded in partnership with The Colorado Trust, the Colorado Health Foundation, Delta Dental Foundation of Colorado, Kaiser Permanente and Rose Community Foundation to train health care providers and parents about the prevention of dental disease in children under three. Results include training of all health professional students in the state, the ability for medical providers to bill Medicaid for delivering Cavity Free at Three services, the training of thousands of health care providers and a significant decline in dental disease in Colorado's children.



SMILES Dental Project: 2015–Today

In 2015, Caring for Colorado and the Colorado Health Foundation launched a five-year, \$4.7 million initiative to bring oral health care to Colorado's low-income and geographically-isolated children, seniors and homeless individuals. The SMILES Dental Project will fund six projects over a three-year period to develop a regional dental care delivery system that deploys registered dental hygienists to community settings, such as schools, nursing homes or group homes, to provide a dental home via a tele-health connected delivery system between dental hygienists in the field and a dental office.



LAUNCH Together: 2015–Today

Caring for Colorado, in partnership with Buell Foundation, Community First Foundation, the Colorado Health Foundation, Rose Community Foundation, Piton Foundation at Gary Community Investments, Kaiser Permanente and the Ben and Lucy Ana Fund of the Walton Family Foundation, created the LAUNCH Together initiative, a five-year, \$11.5 million effort to improve the systems related to social and emotional development of young children. This initiative is focused on investing in Colorado communities interested in expanding evidence-based prevention and promotion practices and building coordinated systems to support the wellness of children from prenatal through age eight with a focus on behavioral health and social and emotional development. The initiative is directed by Early Milestones Colorado.



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