

Caring for Colorado 2020-2025 Strategic Plan Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why did the foundation change its vision and mission?

When the foundation was created in 1999, our work was focused on improving access to health care for uninsured populations. In the last 20 years, Colorado has seen dramatic growth in its health care safety net and significant improvements in health insurance rates. With these positive changes, requests to Caring for Colorado have shifted to the social and economic factors that affect health. As a result, our recent work has focused on the health needs of children, youth and their families, social and emotional development, mental health, and programs and services that address the needs of children and families who face the greatest barriers to health. Caring for Colorado's new vision and mission reflects this change and deepens our commitment of working to ensure that the next generation of Colorado's children has equity in health, well-being and opportunity.

2. What informs the new Caring for Colorado Strategic Plan?

During the past year, Caring for Colorado gathered data and reflected on the following in determining our 2020-2025 Strategic Plan:

- We held 25 meetings across Colorado to speak with nonprofit organizations, community leaders and residents and offered an online survey to gather input from interested parties. The results of the survey and community conversations can be found [here](#).
- We assessed Colorado's philanthropic landscape and discussed where Caring for Colorado best fits among the funding priorities of other statewide funders.
- We studied health data, published reports and media articles on long-term and newly emerging health needs within communities.
- We reviewed the requests coming to Caring for Colorado as the needs and resources in communities shift due to economic and policy changes.
- We engaged in dialogue with the Caring for Colorado Board of Directors and staff on where our resources can best be deployed to make lasting improvements for the health and well-being of children and youth in our state.

3. When will the details of the strategic plan be announced?

Caring for Colorado's detailed 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, with specific funding priorities, will be announced in October 2019.

4. What are the grant deadlines for the new strategic plan?

Caring for Colorado will have two deadlines per year – the first Friday in February and the first Friday in August. Awards will be made approximately four months after the grant deadline. For 2020, the foundation's deadlines are February 7, 2020 and August 7, 2020.

5. Will there be another grant deadline in 2019?

Caring for Colorado will not have any additional grant deadlines in 2019. The March 2019 deadline was the last grant funding opportunity under CFC's current strategic plan.

6. Will Caring for Colorado continue to fund in the area of oral health?

Caring for Colorado has had a 20-year commitment to improving oral health access and outcomes for those facing the greatest barriers to care. We are proud of our work in this area of health. Going forward, Caring for Colorado will continue to fund oral health in two important ways. First, we will continue to support our initiative – the [SMILES Dental Project](#) – which uses the workforce differently to bring care to children, youth and families where they live and work in community settings. We will also fund oral health policy and advocacy to ensure that people have oral health insurance coverage and access to affordable, evidence-based care.

7. My organization has previously received grant funding from Caring for Colorado Foundation. How will we know if we are eligible for funding under the foundation's new strategic plan?

Specific funding priorities will be announced in October 2019. We will host community outreach meetings and webinars to explain the new priorities. In addition, we'll have an updated website with information on specific funding priorities. After this information is released, we encourage you to contact a member of our program team (see below) at Caring for Colorado Foundation to discuss alignment with your organization's and/or community needs and the foundation's funding priorities.

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8. How can I stay up to date on Caring for Colorado announcements?

Sign up for our mailing list [here](#).