

## Caring for Colorado Foundation Position Statement on Health Care and Health Coverage March 2018

Caring for Colorado Foundation believes that access to health care is a human right. We work to ensure Coloradans' access to high-quality, affordable, evidence-based and culturally competent health care, especially for those facing the greatest barriers to care.

As efforts to reform health insurance coverage continue, and as Colorado's health care safety net continues to face challenges, we remain committed to the following:

- Ensuring that individuals currently eligible for health insurance coverage through Medicaid
  expansion and Connect for Health Colorado will maintain their coverage, and that all individuals
  will maintain access to the essential benefits, provisions and services created under the Patient
  Protection and Affordable Care Act, including but not limited to:
  - Coverage for pre-existing conditions, coverage of preventive services and coverage of young adults on a parent/guardian's insurance.
  - o Parity of mental health care with medical care.
  - o Access to comprehensive women's health services.
  - Coverage for substance use disorder treatment.
  - Protections for patients' rights and protections to limit patients' financial exposure.
- Continuing efforts to increase health care coverage to uninsured and underinsured people until
  universal health coverage is achieved and includes adequate coverage for oral, physical and
  behavioral health services.
- Ensuring that the most vulnerable and those with the most barriers to care can access affordable, high-quality, effective, safe, patient-centered and culturally competent care.
- Actively working to eliminate racial, ethnic, gender, immigration, economic and geographic disparities in health service access, utilization and outcomes.
- Incentivizing prevention and wellness activities.

Caring for Colorado remains committed to our mission of promoting health and health care for the people of Colorado, especially for the most vulnerable among us. We stand resolute in our support of federal and state law that has at its core the goals to protect and promote the health of <u>all</u> Coloradans.