School-Age Engagement & Care Support - Grant Opportunity

OUR THINKING:
Many students and families are struggling to adapt to remote and hybrid learning. Digital access and connectivity remain a pervasive equity issue. Unemployment and social isolation are challenging for families and children. Food access and housing security are inadequate. Schools, teachers, caregivers, and students are struggling to replicate the social connections, engagement and learning available within an in-person classroom.

We’ve heard from so many partners about the critical need to increase support for agencies engaging and caring for children and youth in the k-12 school system.

Safe, engaged, healthy and tech-enabled spaces for children and youth are essential to learning, growth and development. These spaces also provide essential support to caregivers who are experiencing significant strains to managing employment and caregiving responsibilities during the disruption of COVID-19.

This funding opportunity will provide grants of up to $25,000 to increase support for children and youth (k-12) who are experiencing barriers to returning to a full-time, in-person school environment. Support is directed to agencies serving children, youth and families living in communities who are most affected, with a deep focus on children and youth of color, those living in families with low-income and others facing systemic barriers to realizing their right to health and education.

Please review the following page for more details about this opportunity.

KEY DATES

1. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Register for access to CFC’s grants management system by 5 pm on Thursday, October 29, 2020. If you are already registered, please use your current log in credentials or submit a contact change form if needed.

2. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Applications, including required documentation, must be submitted by 5 pm on Thursday, November 5, 2020.

3. **APPLICATION DECISIONS:** Applicants will be notified of funding decisions via email on Thursday, December 3, 2020.

4. **PAYMENT:** Payments to partners will be made after receipt of signed agreement and ACH information. Please allow 7-10 business days for processing after receipt.

5. **GRANT REPORT:** A grant completion report is due at the end of the grant period.

QUESTIONS?
Register for an overview and Q&A webinar at 3 pm on October 21, 2020 via this link.
Contact us at grants@caringforcolorado.org with your questions. Please state “School Age Engagement and Care” in the subject line.
This targeted funding opportunity focuses on supporting the well-being of children and youth. Our hope is that grants will strengthen existing community-based organizations and partnerships serving children and youth that are pursuing:

- Strategies to keep students supported, engaged, motivated and learning as educational schedules are disrupted
- Strategies to enhance social and emotional engagement, with connections to mental health supports as needed

Awards will be:

- Up to $25,000 over a six-month period
- Supportive of both operational and personnel expenses
- Funded through CFC’s COVID Relief and Recovery program

Eligible entities* include the following and must also meet the criteria outlined below:

- Non-profit 501(c)3 Community Based Providers** (for example, Youth-Focused Non-Profit, Out-of-School Time Provider, etc.). Applications should be focused on specific sites if the entity represents a network of providers.
- Collaborative Partnerships** working across a community to support student engagement and safe spaces for youth
- Individual schools

Organizations or schools that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply:

- Serving children and youth in a community where schools are:
  - Offering full or hybrid remote learning
  - Have experienced or are experiencing high levels of student disengagement
  - Have higher levels of free- and reduced-lunch (minimum of 65% FRL)
- Be a trusted partner in the community, focused on youth engagement and care, with existing relationships and a commitment to inclusion and equity
- Be currently focused on youth services amidst COVID disruption
- Follow health and safety protocols in alignment with state and local guidance
- Certify licensure for services offered, if appropriate, or certify a policy related to child safety (must include background checks for staff/employees)
- Operate 10 hours or more per week on an ongoing basis and provide regularly scheduled, structured and supervised activities
- Offer services with no or low fees.

*Organizations currently receiving or under consideration for funding from CFC are eligible to apply. **Fiscally sponsored projects are allowed.
Application Process:

- **Register** for an account in CFC’s grants management system:
  - If you already have an account, please use the [contact change form](#) to update contact information for this request if necessary.
  - **Please note, registrations must be submitted by October 29. It can take up to 3 business days to process a registration.** Entities can work on application materials while a registration is being processed.
- Log in, open the application through the “Apply Now” button and complete the application fields, which include organizational details and a summary of the project.
- Complete the required attachments and upload to the system.
- When finished, click “Submit.”

Learning & Reporting:

- Grantee partners receiving funding are required to submit a brief narrative summarizing the use of the funding, services provided, and outcomes achieved

Required Attachments:

- [Proposal Narrative](#)
- Copy of Licensure for Services or Approved Policy Statement on Child Safety Protocols
- YTD/Interim Financial Statement & Annual Financial Statements