



Funding Opportunity to Reduce Financial Barriers to Contraception Spring 2024

Choose When is a new effort of Caring for Colorado, working to bring down financial barriers to contraception for people who are uninsured, underinsured, or face other obstacles accessing the contraceptive method of their choice. Funded by private philanthropy and individual donors, Choose When will provide financial support to safety net clinics across Colorado **to cover the costs of contraception, especially long-acting methods, to improve access to this basic healthcare need.** Through grantmaking, Choose When will support access to care in communities with a high proportion of uninsured and underinsured individuals who would like to access the full range of contraceptive methods.

OPEN TO: Colorado-based safety net clinics, public health agencies, school-based health centers, and rural health clinics that fit the eligibility criteria.

GRANT AMOUNT: Up to \$25,000 for a 12-month period.

DEADLINES: All applicants must complete Part 1 by April 25, 2024 by 5 pm. Applicants will be informed by May 9, 2024 if they are invited to complete Part 2 of the application. The deadline for Part 2 is May 23, 2024 by 5 pm.

INFORMATION: Staff will hold limited office hours for those with specific questions not addressed in this funding opportunity. Please register at this [Calendly Link](#) for a 15-minute conversation.

HOW TO APPLY: For details, please visit [ChooseWhen.org](#). Please contact Melody Morshed, Philanthropy Lead, at mmorshed@caringforcolorado.org, with any questions.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for Choose When funding, applicants must:

- Be a Colorado-based nonprofit organization, public health organization, school district, or rural health clinic. Organizations are permitted to apply through a tax-exempt organization acting as a fiscal agent. The most common type of fiscal agent arrangement is between a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization and a non-tax-exempt group. The fiscal agent has the ultimate authority and responsibility to see that the funds are used for the purpose intended; it cannot simply be a pass-through organization.
- Be a Colorado-based primary care clinic such as a community safety net clinic, Federally Qualified Health Center, school-based health center, a local public health agency, or a rural health clinic with a contraceptive care program. Choose When funding will be prioritized for smaller clinics and those in rural, frontier, or other underserved communities.
- Offer contraceptive care services to people who meet at least one of these criteria:
 - Live in rural or frontier communities.
 - Live in communities with limited access to affordable contraceptive care.
 - Lack health insurance or are underinsured.
 - Seek confidential services, such as young people.
- Demonstrate a commitment to providing all methods of contraception — including long-acting methods — **with an approach that is person-centered.** This means respecting each patient's preferences, values, and lived experience in selecting or discontinuing a particular contraceptive.



Applicants in Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Routt counties should contact Melody Morshed at mmorshed@caringforcolorado.org before applying due to dedicated funding for this region.

The following organizations are **not eligible** to apply:

- Current grantees of Caring for Colorado's [Protect & Expand Contraceptive Access program](#).
- [Crisis Pregnancy Centers](#).

WHAT WE WILL FUND:

- Contraceptives (LARCs, pills, etc.)
- Clinical supplies needed for providing contraceptive care.

WHAT WE WILL NOT FUND:

- General operating support of the clinic.
- Lobbying or political support.
- Staff time.
- Technical assistance and training.
- Technical projects, such as electronic health record, billing, and coding improvements.
- Travel costs.
- Health education costs, such as interpretation and translation services, or accessible materials for people with auditory or visual impairments.

GRANT EXPECTATIONS: Choose When funds are only available to stock contraceptive methods for patients without a payer source or adequate health insurance so that patients can receive the contraceptive method of their choice, ideally with same-day service, free of charge, or at a highly discounted rate. Grantees are expected to collect basic data related to how the grant funds are spent, such as:

- Quantity and type of contraceptive methods that were purchased.
- The number of unduplicated patients who benefitted from Choose When funding and **any reportable aggregate information** about insurance status, age, or self-identified race, ethnicity, or gender identity. Choose When will work with grantees to ensure that any data collection activities uphold all confidentiality standards and requirements.
- Other evaluation activities include interviews with the clinic director or staff who managed the grant.

Choose When is requesting this information from grantees to understand the landscape of contraceptive access in Colorado and identify policy solutions aimed at financial barriers.

ABOUT CARING FOR COLORADO

[Caring for Colorado](#) is a grantmaking foundation created in 1999 from the proceeds of the sale of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Colorado. We work to improve the lives of children, youth, and families in Colorado through collaboration, partnership, shared knowledge, and grantmaking.

Choose When is one strategy within Caring for Colorado's multi-year initiative, [ReproCollab](#), that is working to advance reproductive equity in Colorado. ReproCollab's goals are to protect and expand contraceptive access, promote community-led solutions in sexual health education, and lead and advocate for reproductive equity. The work is centered on and in partnership with communities historically denied access to their reproductive health.