

Priority: Youth Health and Well-Being



PURPOSE: To advance health and well-being for young people, ages 9 to 25, in Colorado who experience health inequities due to economic injustice, racism, and discrimination through strategic investments designed to support young people, strengthen families, and build youth-centered communities.

Priority Populations

We seek to build a more equitable future for young people and their families. Recognizing economic injustice, racism, and discrimination are major drivers of health inequity, we prioritize:

- Young people and families living with low incomes, defined as living below 260% of the federal poverty level, 80% Area Median Income, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) eligible.
- Communities with high rates of poverty, defined as a county or municipality where 18% or more of children under 18 live at or below the federal poverty level.
- Communities of color, including individuals from various racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds not identified as white.
- Young people who identify as 2SLGBTQAI+.
- Young people who are experiencing the child welfare system.
- Young people being raised by grandparents or other kinship caregivers.
- Young people who are experiencing housing insecurity.
- Young who are experiencing the juvenile justice system.
- Young people who are experiencing interpersonal or family violence or abuse.
- Newly arrived immigrants or refugees.
- Young people who are experiencing family separation and/or instability due to parent involvement in the justice or immigration system.
- Young people living with visible or invisible disabilities, including physical or intellectual disabilities or mental health conditions that create barriers to education, healthcare, or employment.
- Young people who are pregnant or parenting.

Focus Area	Applicant Eligibility Criteria
Supporting Young People	Proposed work must serve a minimum of 75% of young people who live with low incomes OR serve a minimum of 90% of young people who represent one or more of the priority populations listed above.*
Strengthening Families	Proposed work must serve a minimum of 75% of families who live with low incomes OR serve a minimum of 90% of families who represent one or more of the priority populations listed above.*
Building Youth-Centered Communities	Communities with high rates of poverty OR communities where the priority populations listed above are experiencing significant health disparities as compared to the state average.

* This eligibility requirement aims to prioritize organizations or efforts that intentionally create opportunities designed to meet the unique needs of one specific population listed above. Therefore, multiple priority populations cannot be combined to achieve the 90% threshold even though the people served have unique experiences and identities that intersect with more than one group.