Caring *for* Colorado FOUNDATION
Promoting Health

Sperry S. and Ella Graber
PACKARD FUND
for Pueblo

Funding Opportunity:
Children, Youth, and Families

PURPOSE: Support opportunities that create equity for children, youth, and their families in Pueblo County.

Focus Area: Social and Emotional Well-Being

DESIRED RESULT: All children, youth, and their families cultivate a strong sense of identity, develop supportive and nurturing relationships, and can fully engage in opportunities that build connections and community engagement.

APPLICATION TIMELINE
Part 1 Due: 1/16/2025, by 5:00 p.m.

Part 2 Open (if invited): 1/27/2025

Part 2 Due: 02/20/2025, by 5:00 p.m.

Grant Start Date: 07/01/2025

Click here to apply!

WHY WE CARE

We believe that all children, youth, and their families deserve the chance to cultivate a strong sense of identity, develop supportive and nurturing relationships, and fully engage in opportunities that build connections and community engagement.

Social well-being is the ability to communicate effectively with others, develop and maintain positive relationships, and create a community of support. Emotional well-being is the ability to effectively cope with life's stressors and to identify and manage emotions in a way that supports and improves mental health. Both aspects of well-being are essential to the healthy development of children, youth, and their families.

Developing a strong, positive sense of identity supports social-emotional well-being by providing a sense of belonging, purpose, and self-worth. A strong sense of identity often emerges from feeling accepted and valued within social groups such as family, friends, and community. Understanding and embracing one's cultural identity can also enhance social connections and emotional well-being, fostering a sense of pride and belonging. When young people feel supported and connected to each other, their families, and their community, they are more likely to meaningfully contribute and engage in civic life. This results in a healthier, safer, and more resilient community.

Eligible Funding Strategies

To increase the cultivation of a strong sense of identity, development of supportive and nurturing relationships, and engagement in opportunities that build connections and community engagement, we fund strategies that:

- Create opportunities for parents and caregivers to build social support and strengthen relationships with their children
- Help children and youth cultivate healthy and supportive relationships with peers and trusted adults, including access to diverse mentors
- Support young people in developing effective coping, self-management, and self-regulation habits and skills
- Implement evidence-based restorative justice practices with young people that aim to build a sense of community while responding to conflict and harm
- Encourage pride in community, culture, or identity through free or affordable extracurricular and enrichment activities
- Help young people develop leadership skills and engage in civic life
- Offer safe, affordable, and reliable transportation for young people and their families

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

In addition to Caring for Colorado's general eligibility requirements, the proposed work must provide services in Pueblo County.

We will not fund:

- Grants to individuals
- Scholarships
- Debt retirement
- Building endowments or reserve funds
- Capital campaigns
- Membership campaigns
- Individual financial assistance programs that are not supported by wraparound services
- Grants for academic research
- Anti-abortion efforts
- Religious organizations for religious purposes

Types of Funding

We will fund requests for general operating or project support. Annual grants can range from $15,000 to $100,000. Multi-year requests will be considered.

Grantmaking Guiding Principles

Caring for Colorado partners with a local community advisory board to provide grant funding to organizations that serve Pueblo County. The Sperry S. and Ella Graber Packard Fund for Pueblo Advisory Board prioritizes funding for organizations and programs that are guided by community voice, are culturally responsive, focus on equity, and demonstrate significant impact. The advisory board's has established shared definitions of key terms, guidance, and recommended strategies for success. Learn more about our advisory board guiding principles.

Application Review Process and Timeline

Caring for Colorado utilizes a two-part online application process. **No registration is needed to submit the Part 1 application, which is designed to provide grant seekers with a quick, low-barrier opportunity to share basic information about the organization and proposed work.** Staff reviews Part 1 applications to determine eligibility and alignment with the funding opportunity.

Organizations that submit a Part 1 application by 5:00 p.m. on January 16, 2025 will be notified about the status of their application by January 27, 2025. If an application is declined, the organization will receive an email from the director of place-based philanthropy with a brief explanation of the decision. Organizations that are invited to move forward in the review process will be asked to complete the Part 2 application by 5:00 p.m. on February 20, 2025. **The Part 2 application must be submitted via Caring for Colorado's online grants portal.**

Organizations invited to submit a Part 2 application will also be required to participate in a site visit with staff and community advisory board members. Following a comprehensive review process, the community advisory board will submit its funding recommendations to the Caring for Colorado Centennial Fund board of directors for final approval. Following board approval, the director of place-based philanthropy will notify applicants of grant decisions by May 22, 2025. The grant start date is July 1, 2025.

Learning & Assessment

How Your Application Informs Our Learning	
The **Part 1 application** requires basic organizational data that Caring for Colorado collects to inform the decision-making process and help the foundation track and assess key grantmaking metrics over time (e.g., counties served, budget size, populations served, etc.).	The **Part 2 application** requires organizations to establish at least one objective and subsequent outcome for each eligible funding strategy selected. If funded, the grantee will report on the results of objectives(s) and outcomes(s) after 12 months.

POST GRANT AWARD:

In addition to reporting on grant objectives and outcomes, grantees will be asked *optional* learning questions in their annual grant report. These questions are designed to support Caring for Colorado in assessing our Packard Fund for Pueblo funding approach and create opportunities to share best practices and lessons learned with other grantees working on the same strategies.

Grantees will not be expected to implement any specific measurement tools or be asked to explicitly evaluate the impact of their work on the funding opportunity's desired results. We understand that organizations use different tools and methods to track data and measure impact, and we are confident that those will be helpful in reflecting on the funding opportunity's impact.

Connect with our Director of Place-Based Philanthropy

The director of place-based philanthropy is available to answer questions that will help you determine eligibility and prepare your Part 1 Application. We recommend you watch the Children, Youth, and Families Webinar and

review application resources before scheduling a meeting. Schedule a meeting with Gina Lopez Ferguson.

How to Apply

The Part 1 application is submitted online and does *not* require registration in the Caring for Colorado grantmaking portal. For the best results, we suggest that you use Google Chrome as your web browser.

Important note: You cannot save your work while working on the Part 1 online form. We recommend using the Part 1 Application Template and then copying and pasting your answers into the online form.

If you are unable to complete an online application, please contact our grants management team at grants@caringforcolorado.org to discuss alternative options.