

## Priority: Reproductive Health Equity



**PURPOSE:** To expand and improve access to contraceptive care across Colorado so those who have barriers to care can access person-centered contraceptive care that is affordable, available, and meets their individual needs.

### Focus Area: Protect and Expand Contraceptive Access

**DESIRED RESULT:** To build the capacity of community safety net health clinics to provide person-centered contraceptive care by strengthening care delivery systems and policies to improve access to person-centered contraceptive care.

### Why We Care

**We believe that contraceptive care is essential primary healthcare that every Coloradan deserves and is fundamental to overall health and well-being.**

By ensuring that people of reproductive age have access to healthcare that respects their lived experiences, we can support them in making informed decisions — leading to better health outcomes for individuals and their communities.

Despite significant efforts and investments to advance reproductive health equity in our state, many communities still face barriers to care. These populations include young people, people of color, people who identify as two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, asexual, intersex, and other identities represented by the “+” sign (2SLGBTQIA+), those living in rural and frontier areas, people who are undocumented, asylees, and refugees, and people with low incomes who struggle with financial barriers to accessing care.

### APPLICATION TIMELINE

**Part 1:** Due March 20, 2025, by 5:00 p.m.

**Part 2 (if invited):** Due April 24, 2025, by 5:00 p.m.

**Grant Start Date:** July 1, 2025

[Click here to apply!](#)

### PERSON-CENTERED CONTRACEPTIVE CARE

Respecting each patient’s preferences, values, and lived experience in selecting or discontinuing a particular contraceptive. [Source: Person-Centered Reproductive Health Program](#)

## Overview

This funding opportunity provides grants for up to 18 months to support safety net clinics in improving the delivery of contraceptive care. A program implementation partner with expertise in reproductive health equity will provide individualized technical assistance and coaching to identify key areas for improvement in the delivery of person-centered contraceptive care. In addition to improving contraceptive care within the clinic, there will also be an opportunity to engage local leaders and organizations to close gaps in contraceptive care access and services.

This funding opportunity will support community safety net health clinics, such as local public health agencies, independent safety net clinics, school-based health centers, and certified Rural Health Clinics. Grant funding will support covering staff time away from clinical care to participate in clinic-level improvement activities, such as provider trainings, electronic health record upgrades, billing and coding improvements, and implementing a pregnancy intention screening question. Funding will also support engagement efforts such as partnering with local community leaders or organizations to support clinics in achieving their contraceptive care goals.

## Program Implementation Partner

Caring for Colorado is partnering with **CO**mmunity-Centered + **RE**productive Health (CO+RE) for this funding opportunity. CO+RE advances sustainable, inclusive reproductive healthcare by equipping community-based providers with training, quality improvement support, tailored workflow, and policy development. By partnering with foundations, clinics, and government entities, CO+RE drives community-led solutions that turn knowledge into action. Founded by Angie Fellers LeMire and Sarah Warsh, CO+RE brings over 30 years of experience in sexual and reproductive health. CO+RE assists organizations in bridging the gap from knowledge to action with policy, strategy, and research to implement evidence-based practices with flexibility and sustainability at the forefront.

Grantees will be required to engage with the CO+RE team to co-create a Contraceptive Access Action Plan. The Action Plan will identify key priority areas and strategies to **improve person-centered contraceptive care at the patient, provider, and clinic levels.**

The table on the next page displays clinic improvement and community engagement activities that clinic partners may choose to implement in their Contraceptive Access Action Plans. This is not an exhaustive list; clinic staff will identify all Action Plan activities in collaboration with the CO+RE team based on clinic capacity, needs, and other considerations.

## Examples of Possible Activities and Strategies for Contraceptive Access Action Plans

Clinic-Level Improvement Activities	Community-Informed Engagement Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provider and staff training in equitable, affirming, patient-centered care, such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Incorporating implicit bias, anti-racism, and anti-coercive practices into clinic policies.</li> <li>- Reproductive justice and sexual and reproductive health education frameworks.</li> <li>- 2024 Office of Population Affairs Quality in Family Planning Guidelines.</li> <li>- Person-centered contraceptive care and counseling.</li> <li>- Gender inclusive and affirming care.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Clinical training and practice administration support for the provision of contraceptive methods (LARC training, same-day access/removal, extended supply, advanced provision, over-the-counter method access, and emergency contraception availability).</li> <li>● Selection and implementation of clinical screening tools for reproductive care into workflow (i.e. Parenting/Pregnancy Attitudes, Timing &amp; How Important (PATH), One Key Question (OKQ), The Person-Centered Contraceptive (PCCC)).</li> <li>● Selection and implementation of validated, standardized clinical performance measures for assessing the quality of contraceptive care.</li> <li>● Developing and implementing patient experience surveys.</li> <li>● Improving workflows, policies, and procedures.</li> <li>● Supporting data collection.</li> <li>● Billing and coding improvements (Medicaid/insurance utilization, reimbursement, non-clinician visits).</li> <li>● Stocking contraceptive methods at discounted rates (EC/Implant/IUD).</li> <li>● Strategies related to managing impending federal, state, and local public health budget reductions, including the impending Medicaid reimbursement reductions.</li> <li>● Improving billing and coding based on populations served (Medicaid/insurance utilization, reimbursement, non-clinician visits).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conducting surveys, focus groups, listening sessions to authentically connect with community feedback and inform community engagement plans.</li> <li>● Building and strengthening relationships with community-based organizations to expand access to contraceptive services.</li> <li>● Using Maternal Child Health (MCH) Title V Block Grant and Colorado Health Assessment and Planning System (CHAPS) needs assessment data to inform community engagement and outreach.</li> <li>● Developing a community-informed engagement and outreach plan (e.g. Title X Community Education, Participation, and Engagement (CEPE) that meets Title X expectations and is sustainable.)</li> <li>● Supporting Medicaid enrollment staff.</li> <li>● Collaborating with local pharmacy/ pharmacist.</li> <li>● Exploring Community Health Worker or Health Educator role expansion in the community.</li> <li>● Developing a reproductive health community ambassador or field catalyst to improve contraceptive services.</li> <li>● Implementing other community-informed engagement activities that are clinic-led and community-led.</li> </ul>

## Applicant Eligibility Criteria

In addition to [Caring for Colorado's general eligibility requirements](#), organizations must be Colorado-based primary care safety net clinics, including independent safety net clinics, certified Rural Health Clinics, school-based health centers, and local public health agencies (including clinics with a Title X family planning program).

The proposed work must serve one or more of [ReproCollab's priority populations](#):

- Young people ages 9 to 25
- People of color, including individuals from various racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds not identified as white
- 2SLGBTQAI+ individuals (Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, asexual, intersex, and other identities represented by the "+" sign)
- People in rural and frontier communities
- People who are undocumented, asylees, and/or refugees
- People living on low incomes and facing financial barriers to care

## Eligible Funding Strategies

To increase access to person-centered contraceptive care, we will fund organizations that address gaps and barriers to contraceptive care. This includes:

- Demonstrating a commitment to contraceptive care delivery that is person-centered.
- Identifying and addressing organizational gaps or barriers to contraceptive care and reproductive health in the communities the organization serves.
- Providing contraceptive care to ReproCollab's priority populations and expressing a desire to improve its work in this area.
- Demonstrating a commitment among clinical and administrative staff and leaders to implement clinic-level improvement strategies and ensure sustainable efforts.

## What We Will Not Fund

- Applicants that do not meet Caring for Colorado's general eligibility requirements.
- Current grantees of Caring for Colorado's Protect & Expand Contraceptive Access program.
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) – If you are an FQHC, please contact the Philanthropy Lead to hear about other funding opportunities for which you may be eligible.
- Organizations that do not offer free or accessible services based on a sliding fee scale.
- General operating support of the clinic.
- Lobbying or political support.
- [Crisis pregnancy centers](#).

## Types of Funding

Grants are for clinical and community improvement processes only. Awarded grants will be up to \$125,000 for 18 months, starting in July 2025 and ending in December 2026. The majority of an applicant's proposed budget must

be applied towards staff time to participate in technical assistance and coaching from CO+RE and to complete clinic-level activities. Clinics may dedicate more funding to staff time if needed. The remaining balance may be dedicated to other allowable costs, including:

- Purchase of contraceptives (LARCs, pills, etc.).
- A subcontract with a community ambassador or stipends for community members who participate in informing the clinic’s strategies.
- Community-informed engagement activities as recommended in the clinic’s Contraceptive Access Action Plan (co-designed with CO+RE), such as translation services, tailored health education costs, and listening sessions.

**NOTE: Applicants should consider this a one-time funding opportunity. Community engagement efforts will not be funded beyond the grant term.**

## 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 will review 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 March 20, 2025, will be notified about the status of their application by March 31, 2025. If an application is declined, the organization will receive an email from the Philanthropy Lead 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 April 24, 2025. The Part 2 application must be submitted via Caring for Colorado’s online grants portal.

Part 2 applications will be reviewed by May 2, 2025. If an organization’s application does not move forward in the review process, the Philanthropy Lead will provide the opportunity to schedule a meeting to learn more about the decision. If an organization is asked to continue in the review process, the Philanthropy Lead will schedule a site visit. Site visits will take place between May 5 and May 23, 2025.

Following a comprehensive team review process, the Philanthropy Lead will present their grant recommendations to Caring for Colorado’s Board of Directors for consideration. Following Board approval, the Philanthropy Lead will notify applicants of grant decisions by the end of June. 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 outcome and subsequent objective. If funded, the grantee will report on the results of outcome(s) and objective(s) after 18 months.

## Connect with the Philanthropy Lead

Melody Morshed, ReproCollab's Philanthropy Lead, is available to answer questions that will help potential applicants determine eligibility and prepare a Part 1 Application. [Please register via Calendly for a 20-minute conversation.](#)

For questions regarding this funding opportunity, please [email Melody](#).

## 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 applicants use Google Chrome as their 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](mailto:grants@caringforcolorado.org) to discuss alternative options.