Caring for Colorado FOUNDATION

Funding 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

At Caring for Colorado, we work to improve health outcomes for people experiencing the greatest inequities in health, well-being, and opportunity. **Recognizing that economic injustice, racism, and discrimination are major drivers of health inequity, Youth Health and Well-Being funding opportunities prioritize:**

- Young people and families living with low incomes, defined as living below 260% of the federal poverty level, 80% Area Median Income, or TANF eligible.
- 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 who are being raised by grandparents or other kinship caregivers.
- Young people who are experiencing housing insecurity.
- Young people who are experiencing the juvenile justice system.
- Young people who are pregnant or parenting.
- 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.

Priority Populations and Funding Eligibility

To advance equity in health and well-being, proposed work in the Supporting Young People and Strengthening Families focus areas can **meet eligibility requirements by explicitly centering one of Caring for Colorado's priority populations**. Explicitly centering means that at least 90% of the young people or families served identify with that population. We recognize that young people hold multiple, intersecting identities and may experience overlapping forms of inequity. **This eligibility approach is designed to ensure that resources support efforts created by and for a specific priority population.**