



## Community-Centered Solutions Call for Proposals

### About Caring for Denver Foundation

Caring for Denver Foundation was founded and funded with overwhelming voter support to address mental health and substance misuse challenges facing the residents of the City and County of Denver. We plan to achieve this by supporting community-informed solutions, dismantling stigma, and turning the community's desire to help into action.

### *Equity*

As we work to address the mental health and substance misuse needs in Denver, we are committed to funding and supporting innovative efforts that move us towards equity and outcomes where race/ethnicity, disability, immigration status, and identity can no longer be used to predict life outcomes. Our ongoing efforts must elevate the voices of those impacted and repair historical trauma and oppression.

More information about Caring for Denver can be found at <https://caring4denver.org/about/>

### Focus Area

**Community-Centered Solutions** is directed at innovative community-based mental health and/or substance misuse supports which prioritize access, cultural relevance, collaboration with community, and/or address the stigma that discourage those in need from seeking needed support.

### Priorities

Caring for Denver will consider investments in programs, projects and/or activities in the following priority areas within the Community Centered Solutions funding area:

1. Increase access to community-focused mental health and/or substance misuse supports which may include:
  - a. Supports available in the community at times/on days that work best for the community
  - b. Supports accessible in places and spaces people live, know, visit, learn and trust
  - c. Art (of all forms) as a tool to promote community-based resources and encourage recovery and wellness
2. Increase community-based connections for mental health and/or substance misuse via:
  - a. Peer supports and mentoring opportunities for mental health and/or substance misuse created by, and supported, expanded, and promoted in community
  - b. Messages developed and spread by community in their own voice to discuss and normalize mental health and/or substance misuse, stigma, and stress more effectively in their community

### Impact

Programs, projects and/or activities that address and work towards achieving at least one of the following results, which must be highlighted in the application:

- **Greater public visibility** around mental health and substance misuse **that reduces stigma and/or increases understanding and supportive actions** by community members
- **Increased connections to and use of social networks and relationships** that reduce isolation

- **Increased use of supports meeting people where they are** that address mental health and/or substance misuse needs in community

#### Award Considerations

Grant decisions will favor organizations that:

- Have demonstrated partnership with communities and are known and trusted by community and focus on innovative approaches that are grounded in the knowledge of community
- Can develop and maintain productive and collaborative partnerships
- Focus on the strengths of participants
- Support efforts rooted in existing knowledge that respect and uphold cultural beliefs and traditions

#### **Total Allocation**

The total amount available for all grant awards in this funding area is up to \$5 million. Applicants should consider the total amount available to organizations and agencies in the amount they request. Budgets will be evaluated for their reasonableness.

#### **Eligibility**

Projects and activities supported by Caring for Denver's grantmaking must serve or support only residents of the City and County of Denver. Caring for Denver's general definition of residency is derived from the State of Colorado Medical Services Board Rule 8.607.1(F) around Areas of Service. The following individuals will be considered City residents by Caring for Denver:

- An individual physically residing full time in the City
- An individual experiencing homelessness presenting in the City and intending to stay in the City
- An individual, under 21 years of age and in the custody of Denver Human Services
- An individual, under 18 years of age and in primary legal and residency custody of a City resident
- A non-City resident who is placed in a mental health and/or substance abuse program while in a City Jail

Applicants can be any nonprofit organization designated by the IRS as tax-exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3), or under other sections of the U.S. tax code or fiscally sponsored by a Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity. Faith-based organizations are eligible to apply so long as they are designated by the IRS as a tax-exempt nonprofit organizations and all Caring for Denver grant funds are used for non-religious purposes. Applicants may also be any Indian or Native American entity. Government-supported entities, including schools, museums, or libraries, as well as City and County of Denver or State of Colorado agencies are eligible to apply.

#### **What Caring for Denver Will Not Fund**

- Individuals
- For-profit organizations
- Fundraising events
- Capital campaigns or projects
- Endowments
- Organizations that practice discrimination of any kind

In addition, our [founding ordinance](#) prohibits us from using our grant dollars to *supplant* existing funds. Grant recipients may not replace existing federal, state, city or other local agency funds with funds from Caring for Denver. However, our funds may be used to *supplement* existing funds to replicate or expand the scope of an existing program or project.

## Timeline and Deadlines

August 27, 2020 7:00 pm (MT)  Fluxx Registration Deadline	Fluxx is Caring for Denver’s online grants system where applicants submit materials. We ask that you register in Fluxx or update your registration by this date—five days before the application deadline—to ensure that applicants have enough time to complete and submit their applications. Of course, we encourage you to register before this date to give yourself as much time as you need to complete your application. Access Fluxx by visiting <a href="https://caring4denver.fluxx.io">https://caring4denver.fluxx.io</a> .
September 4, 2020 7:00 pm (MT)  Proposals Due	Submit your complete application with document uploads at <a href="https://caring4denver.fluxx.io">https://caring4denver.fluxx.io</a> . The online application system will not allow incomplete proposals or submissions after 7:00 pm (MT).
November 2020  Notification	All applicants will be notified of their status.

### To Apply

Visit our website at [caring4denver.org](http://caring4denver.org). Further guidance is provided in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section.

If you need assistance or have questions about the application process or information needed, please reach out to Director of Grants Leah Spielberg at [leah@caring4denver.org](mailto:leah@caring4denver.org) or 720.647.6375.

Through extensive community engagement efforts, Caring for Denver identified four priority areas of funding: Alternatives to Jail; Youth; Community-Centered Solutions; and Care Provision. Our strategic funding document can be found by clicking here: [Caring for Denver Strategic Funding Report](#). Calls for proposals for the other priority areas will be released at later dates on our [website](#).

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