



Call for Proposals Focus Area: Alternatives to Jail

Opening Date: May 11, 2021

Registration Deadline: June 7, 2021 by 7:00 pm (MT) *Review Timelines and Deadlines for details*

Proposal Deadline: June 10, 2021 by 7:00 pm (MT)

Award Notification: August 2021

Summary

Caring for Denver Foundation is currently seeking proposals to address its Alternatives to Jail focus area. Alternatives to Jail funding provides greater supports up front and more opportunities to implement treatment and interventions before, during, and after criminal justice involvement to ensure that people are supported and connected throughout their recovery.

Total Allocation

The total amount available for all grant awards in this funding area is up to \$11 million. Applicants should consider the total amount available to organizations and agencies in the amount they request. Budgets will be evaluated for their reasonableness. If an organization has already received a grant from Caring for Denver, that will be taken into consideration as well. Generally, we are not seeking to fund an organization in more than one funding area in a year.

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 the historical trauma and oppression.

More information about Caring for Denver can be found at caring4denver.org/about.

Funding Overview

Caring for Denver will consider investments in programs, projects, and/or activities in the Alternatives to Jail areas below.

1. Supports that create opportunities to reduce the number of people with mental health and substance misuse issues in the criminal justice system, such as:
 - System and/or community-based pathways to divert people to appropriate mental health and substance misuse programs
 - Strategies to reduce racial disparities in access to mental health and substance misuse services for people placed-at-risk or involved with the criminal justice system
 - Coordinated screenings/assessments and other connections to care for mental health and substance misuse
 - Use of trained mental health and substance misuse peers
 - Strategies to support people's individual needs and preferences through the provision of culturally relevant and trauma-informed services
2. Diverse mental health and substance misuse solutions that support people as they transition across services, programs, and institutions while in—and after they leave—the justice system, such as:
 - Strategies that address the transition needs of people coming into community that have been disconnected to care due to COVID-19
3. Support mental health and substance misuse efforts that prevent people from interacting with law enforcement or other aspects of the justice system

Focus Area Outcomes

Applicants must highlight how their programs, projects, and/or activities work towards achieving at least one of the following results:

- People with mental health and substance misuse issues are being successfully diverted away from the justice system
- Those involved in or released from the criminal justice system are actively engaged with resources available to meet them where they are in recovery and live healthy lives in the community
- Improved mental health and/or reduced substance misuse by those placed-at-risk of engagement or engaged with the justice system
- Reduced recidivism of persons with mental health and substance misuse issues
- Reduced disparities in mental health and substance misuse outcomes for those served

Award Considerations

Grant decisions will favor programs/projects that:

- Focus on the strengths of participants
- Have demonstrated partnership and trust with impacted communities
- Have demonstrated partnership or are actively working to build relationships with systems
- Have demonstrated experience working with under-resourced people, including but not limited to people of color and young adults

- Focus on innovative approaches driven and tested in the community that increase the stability of people being served
- Can develop and maintain productive and collaborative partnerships

If an organization has already received a grant from Caring for Denver, that will be taken into consideration as well. Generally, we are not seeking to fund an organization in more than one funding area in a year.

Eligibility

Projects and activities supported by Caring for Denver’s grantmaking must serve or support only residents of the City and County of Denver (“City”). 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 (“DHS”)
- 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 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 organization and all Caring for Denver grant funds are used for non-religious purposes. Applicants may also be an 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.

Caring for Denver Foundation will accept one application per organization in an open Call for Proposals.

What Caring for Denver Will Not Fund

Grant requests for the following will not be supported:

- Grants to individuals, for-profit organizations, or private foundations
- Annual appeals, membership drives, underwriting or fundraising events
- Endowments
- Loans
- Fellowships or scholarships
- Debt reduction
- Partisan causes
- Programs that require membership in a certain religion or seek to advance a particular religious faith or belief
- General operating costs
- Facilities projects
- Program-related investments

We will not make grants to organizations that practice discrimination of any kind.

We will not make grants to, participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of, in support of, or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

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

<p>May 13 10:00 am (MT) Facebook Live event</p>	<p>The Foundation will host a Facebook Live event for interested parties and potential applicants to learn more about the priority area and have an opportunity to ask questions. The recorded version of the event will be posted to the Foundation’s website following the event. Follow us on Facebook or sign up on our mailing list to get event updates.</p>
<p>June 7 7:00 pm (MT) Fluxx Registration Deadline – if not already registered</p>	<p>Fluxx is Caring for Denver’s online grants system where applicants submit their grant proposal. We ask that you register in Fluxx by this date. If you have already applied or have received funding, you are already registered and may skip this step. Access Fluxx by visiting https://caring4denver.fluxx.io.</p>
<p>June 10 7:00 pm (MT) Proposals Due</p>	<p>Submit your complete application with document uploads at https://caring4denver.fluxx.io. The online application system will not allow incomplete proposals or submissions after 7:00 pm (MDT).</p>
<p>August 2021 Award Notification</p>	<p>All applicants will be notified of their status.</p>

How to Apply

Visit our website at caring4denver.org and click on the Grants Portal button. Further guidance is provided in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section.

If you need assistance or have questions about our available funding or the application process, please reach out to Director of Grants Leah Spielberg at 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](#).