



## Call for Proposals

### Focus Area: Community-Centered Solutions & Care Provision

**Opening Date:** August 3, 2021

**Proposal Deadline:** September 2, 2021, by 7:00 pm (MT)

**Award Notification:** November 2021

Please note that Caring for Denver's Grants Portal (Fluxx) requires registration for new users by August 30 at 7:00 pm (MT).

#### Summary

Caring for Denver Foundation is currently seeking proposals to address its Community-Centered Solutions & Care Provision focus areas. Funding will support innovative community-based mental health and/or substance misuse supports which prioritize access, cultural relevance, collaboration with community, and/or address the stigma that discourages those in need from seeking needed support. In addition, funding will support mental health, trauma, or substance misuse services which increase trusted and accessible care that fits Denverites' needs.

#### Total Allocation

The total amount available for all grant awards in this funding area is \$6 million. Applicants should consider the total amount available to organizations and agencies in the amount they request. Caring for Denver will evaluate budgets for their reasonableness and consider whether an organization has previously received a grant in allocation decisions. *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 City and County of Denver residents. 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.

Find more information about Caring for Denver at [caring4denver.org/about](https://caring4denver.org/about).

## Focus Area: Community-Centered Solutions & Care Provision

### Priority Areas

Caring for Denver will consider investments in programs, projects, and/or activities in the following Community-Centered Solutions & Care Provision priority areas:

**1. More Denverites have trusted, accessible care that fits their specific mental health and/or substance misuse needs**

Proposals should address one or more of the following:

- Using art (of all forms) and movement to promote connections and encourage recovery and wellness
- Improving access to “right now” help or care
- Improving access to and use of trained peers (people with lived experience)
- Providing care that is accessible in ways that work for the community
- Providing high-quality options that help to ensure supports are available across the entire continuum of care, including residential treatment, inpatient, outpatient and recovery supports, sober/recovery living, and crisis supports to manage immediate and ongoing needs

**2. Increased connections and collaborations that deepen a community’s ability to grow and sustain its mental health/substance misuse supports**

Proposals should address one or more of the following:

- Engaging trusted resources and community assets to provide solutions that are grounded in the knowledge, voice, and expertise of culture and community
- Developing or expanding relationships and partnerships to foster a care continuum that works for the community, especially for improving care transitions
- Providing support for navigation, coordination, and collaboration that encourages effective partnerships across care providers and community

**3. Providers have what they need to provide high-quality mental health and substance misuse services and programs.**

Proposals should address one or more of the following:

- Providing needed supports and/or training for providers, caregivers, and peers so that they better connect with and meet community needs, including better delivery of trauma-informed, culturally appropriate care
- Providing supports and/or training that promote self-care and value for caregivers (of all types) to reduce caregiver distress, turnover, and burnout

### Desired Impact/Outcomes

We aim to provide funding and supports to programs, projects, and/or activities that can, over time, demonstrate 1) improved mental health, 2) reduced substance misuse, and/or 3) more equitable behavioral health outcomes for those reached. Applicants should be able to articulate how their work aligns with one or more of these impacts and, if possible, aim to measure one of these impacts.

We also recognize grantees often make progress on many of the pre-conditions and early outcomes that can lead to improved mental health, reduced substance use, and/or more equity in behavioral health conditions before being able to demonstrate these desired impacts. All applicants approved for funding will work in partnership with their program officer and the Foundation's evaluation team to finalize the outcomes and measures that will be meaningful and useful for both the grantee and Caring for Denver. Please see the [Evaluation & Learning page](#) on our website for more information regarding these requirements.

## Award Considerations

Grant decisions will favor programs/projects that:

- Have demonstrated partnerships to improve care and focus on innovative approaches grounded in community knowledge
- Have demonstrated experience working with underserved populations and/or populations disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Focus on the strengths of participants
- Value culture in healing and identity

*If an organization has already received a grant from Caring for Denver in 2021, 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 the IRS designates them 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, and 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 specific 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 Caring for Denver funds. 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

<b>August 3</b> Opening Date	Call for Proposals released
<b>August 6</b> <b>10:00 am (MT)</b> Facebook Live event	Caring for Denver will host a Facebook Live event on our <a href="#">Facebook page</a> for interested parties and potential applicants to learn more about the priority area and have an opportunity to ask questions. We will post a recorded version on our <a href="#">website</a> following the event.
<b>August 30</b> <b>7:00 pm (MT)</b>  Fluxx Registration Deadline – if not already registered	Fluxx is Caring for Denver’s online grants portal where applicants submit materials. 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 our Grants Portal by visiting <a href="https://caring4denver.fluxx.io">https://caring4denver.fluxx.io</a> .
<b>September 2</b> 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 (MDT).
<b>November 2021</b> Award Notification	All applicants will be notified of their status.

## How to Apply

Visit our website at [caring4denver.org](http://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 our grants office at [grants@caring4denver.org](mailto:grants@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. Find our strategic funding document here: [Caring for Denver Strategic Funding Report](#). Calls for proposals for the other priority areas will be released at later dates on our [website](#).