

2021 Grant Awards By Grant Type

Targeted

As defined by Behavioral Health Services Technical and Consumer Advisory Committees, Targeted grant funding is designed to drive specific outcomes and address identified and critical gaps in behavioral health care with focused funding and includes the Gary A. Darling Grant.

Gary A Darling: A prestigious grant awarded to a project that serves at the intersection of behavioral health and criminal justice.

Targeted Project #1: Behavioral Health Care Coordination Across Services

Targeted Project #2: Moderate/Intensive Care Coordination for Those With Complex Needs

Targeted Project #3: Behavioral Health Workforce Development & Retention

Targeted Project #4: Enhancing First Responder and Behavioral Health Crisis-to-Care Collaboration Efforts

Targeted Project #5: Increasing Access to Behavioral Healthcare in Non-traditional Settings

Targeted Project #6: Prevention Education & Early Intervention for Vulnerable Youth

Responsive

Grant proposals that align with the BHS Ballot Language and Funding Priorities but do not necessarily align with a specific Targeted Project. Responsive Grants were available to a variety of programs that allow organizations to define the problem and propose solutions to the challenges faced in the communities they serve.

The following pages outline the Organizations, Project Titles and Executive Summaries for each grant.

Gary A. Darling Award

Larimer County Criminal Justice Alternatives - Pretrial Services

Expanding Capacity and Resources for Justice-Involved Pretrial Clients with Mental Health Needs

This project expands pretrial case management services for people with mental health needs who are accused of crimes in Larimer County. In four years, the demand for mental health intervention pretrial services nearly doubled with only one case manager. An additional case manager will increase our capacity to provide intervention and coordination between the criminal justice and behavioral health systems.

Targeted Project #1: Care Coordination

The Matthews House

The Matthews House Positive Futures Pathway® Care Coordination

This project will provide care coordination and system navigation through Positive Futures Pathway®, 2Gen approach for both parents and youth experiencing mental health and substance use disorders, by providing necessary resources and creating a safe space to discuss complex feelings that arise from past trauma leading to positive mental health.

Health District of Northern Larimer County

Expanded Countywide Access to Connections/CAYAC Services

The requested funding will ensure that that southern Larimer County residents will continue to have access to support in finding and navigating to the right behavioral health care in the community for their circumstance, as well as critical support services in the interim through the Health District's Connections Program, including the Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Connections (CAYAC) Team.

Northern Colorado Veterans Resource Center

Veteran Peer Support Navigation Program

Using wrap-around peer support and trauma-informed case management model, NCVRC will support the recovery, healing, and growth of Colorado veterans re-integrating into civilian life by adding a navigator based in Larimer County and devoted to its veterans.

Targeted Project #2: Moderate/Intensive Care Coordination

SummitStone Health Partners

CDDT and Homeless Services Expansion

SummitStone Health Partners has a Community Dual Diagnosis Treatment (CDDT) Team, and a multi-disciplinary team (PATH) specializing in behavioral health who serve clients experiencing homelessness. This project aims to (1) Decrease behavioral health related hospitalizations and jail days for clients participating in CDDT and (2) Provide for the behavioral health prescriber and nursing needs of people experiencing homelessness.

Homeward Alliance

Frequent Utilizers System Engagement (FUSE) Larimer County

This is a proposal to expand the Frequent Utilizers System Engagement (FUSE) program in Larimer County, a best-practice intervention that has already (a) produced positive, long-term health/housing outcomes--in Fort Collins and elsewhere--for people escaping chronic homelessness (b) reduced the usage of costly emergency services among those individuals; and (c) engaged new partners to expand wrap-around services to current and future FUSE participants.

Targeted Project #3: Behavioral Health Workforce

Northern Colorado Health Sector Partnership

Northern Colorado Health Sector Partnership - Behavioral Health Committee

This project aims to (1) host this annual event held to inspire the next generation of behavioral health professionals titled: "Career Pathways in Behavioral Health: Explore, Connect, Engage." and (2) hold two Advisory Forums, bringing Education and Industry together with the goals of developing relationships, enhancing communication and address barriers for students entering a behavioral health career in Northern Colorado.

Turning Point

Turning Point Center for Youth and Family Development

Turning Point Center for Youth and Family Development is requesting funding to assist in providing training opportunities for staff and hiring an addictions specialist for our residential programs. The impact includes being able to provide a higher quality of services to the populations we serve, for both inpatient and outpatient services, and specifically address the increased level of substance abuse issues in adolescents.

CSU School of Social Work

Peers of Larimer: A Community Hub Expansion Project

As an academic-community partnership with CSU School of Social Work, this project seeks to continue building Peers of Larimer as a community hub for peer support education, training, and best practices, and increase peer-to-peer individual and group support options, including our Alternatives to Suicide peer support groups for adults and youth.

Larimer County Criminal Justice Alternatives - Internships/ Scholarships

Building Addiction Counselor Workforce Through Internships & Scholarships

This project aims to attract behavioral health workers to a correctional setting and propose a twofold approach: 1) offer paid internships in collaboration with Colorado State University Masters in Addiction Counseling program; 2) offer scholarships to internal CJS staff interested in obtaining a Certified Addictions Specialist credential or a Licensed Addictions Counselor in collaboration with Colorado Counselor Training and CSU's Masters in Addiction Counseling Program.

Targeted Project #4: Crisis-to-Care Collaboration

Larimer County Sheriff's Office/Co-Responders

Larimer County Co-Responder Unit Training Request

The Larimer County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Mental Health Co-Responder Unit is requesting training funds for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Seminar to enhance the training, knowledge, skills and abilities of the Co-Responder unit. The Co-responder program aims to reduce trips to hospital emergency rooms for mental health issues by offering safety planning with clinical oversight, and diversion to non-medical, mental health programs and resources.

8th Judicial District Attorney's Office

8th Judicial District Diversion Programming

Expansion of Diversion programs offered to Larimer County, with the intention of diverting individuals with mental health and substance use concerns away from the Criminal Justice system, allowing them to enter community-based treatment programs more quickly without the unintended consequences that can come with further Court involvement.

Targeted Project #5: Non-Traditional Settings

Estes Valley Fire Protection District

Estes Valley Fire Peer Support Team and Agency Clinician

This funding would support: (1) a dedicated contract clinician who provides mental health services for all members and their families and also provides training for our volunteer support team, and (2) the ability to add up to two additional peer support team members through a 40 hour peer support academy.

Healing Warriors Program

Suicide Prevention for Service Members and Their Families in Larimer County

This project aims to provide behavioral health support services consisting of Client Care Navigation and Treatment Series (using Acupuncture, CranioSacral therapy, Healing Touch Therapy, and Guided Imagery) to interrupt the factors that lead to service member suicides.

CSU - Inclusive Health Collaborative

Behavioral Health Training for the Inclusive Health Collaborative: Pet Owners

Experiencing Homeless

This project aims to increase awareness and knowledge about the impact of behavioral health issues among pet owners experiencing homelessness. The activities in this project will include training in QPR among the team members and students, developing and offering short on-line training modules on social determinants of health, adverse childhood experiences, and trauma informed care, and working with the developers of the current resource guide for homelessness to include pet friendly shelter and provider information.

Cor Defense

Children's Program

This project aims to provide instruction for Cor Defense's Children's Program, which facilitates trauma-informed defense training for children who have been sexually abused and helps them heal from trauma.

Targeted Project #6: Youth

CASA of Larimer County

Caregiver Education Supporting Child Trauma Recovery

Our proposal is to expand Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Larimer County's (CLC) trauma-informed education, prevention, and intervention delivered through our Nurturing Parenting Program (NPP) and forthcoming Trust Based Relational Intervention training (TBRI). Both will be integrated into our two programs: CASA and Family Connections (FC) where we currently serve more than 600 children each year who have experienced maltreatment. Both NPP and TBRI equip parents, volunteers, and caregivers of children who've experienced trauma with knowledge and tools to provide present intervention and mitigate future negative behavioral health outcomes associated with trauma.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County

Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County Behavioral Health Initiative

This project aims to maintain our Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) on staff to provide behavioral health support for youth/families who might need counseling services or who need to be connected to other community resources. In addition, this LCSW will maintain small group counseling sessions that focus on building resilience and developing positive social and emotional regulation skills and ensure all staff members working directly with youth are trained on trauma-informed care.

Early Childhood Council of Larimer County

Enhancing Early Childhood Mental Health in Larimer County

Leveraging community partnerships with child-serving and adult-serving agencies, creates specialized career pathways for students seeking careers in social work, increases expertise among those already in the field, and expands access to professional consultation and wrap-around services for families with young children. It is designed to be in alignment with local, county, and state strategic priorities funded by taxpayers, including the Talent 2.0 Child Care Taskforce, Larimer County Behavioral Health Services 0.25% sales tax, and Colorado's Proposition EE (universal Pre-K). By integrating both primary prevention and multi-generational approaches.

Hearts & Horses, Inc.

Changing Leads: Full-day school program

Changing Leads, an eight-week program combining Equine Facilitated Learning and Social Emotional Learning, targets middle school youth facing great adversity. By exploring the themes of respect, empathy, self-respect, confidence, accountability, and conflict resolution, the youth participating in our program are learning to navigate school and life with more success. This project aims to continue with Thompson School District and rekindle a partnership with Poudre School District.

Every Child Pediatrics

Behavioral Health Service Expansion within School-Based Health Centers in Poudre School District

As a permanent School-Based Health Center is being developed inside Lincoln MS this project will support ongoing and expanded behavioral/mental health service provision (including professional development supervision for CSU MSW students) for at-risk youth at Centennial HS's SBHC and the new Lincoln site as part of an integrated care model. Community youth will receive in-person and virtual behavioral/mental health care including validated health risk assessments (depression, anxiety, substance use and ACEs), prevention, early identification and therapeutic intervention services where they spend a majority of time: in school. Any PSD student enrolled for our care receives services regardless of ability to pay.

Mary Beth Swanson, LCSW, LLC

The Willow Collective: Addressing Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Mental Health

This project will support the well-being of families who are expecting or raising a young child. Intervening early in life has long-term positive benefits for both the families involved and the community at large. Early childhood programs have a cost-benefit ratio ranging from 1:3 to 1:9. The Willow Collective will use these project funds to help families access supportive services, which can prevent more significant challenges later in a child's life. First, through care coordination, staff assess the unique needs of families and then connect them to services and supports. Next, two group programs will both prevent and treat mental health concerns: Nurturing Connections NoCo addresses postpartum mental health challenges through a unique group therapy model that includes both mothers and babies; and Roots and Branches builds community among parents of young children so that they can support each other and learn from each other.

Alliance for Suicide Prevention of Larimer County

Preventing Youth Suicide: Upstream Education, Pathways to Care, and Outreach to Vulnerable Youth

The Alliance for Suicide Prevention (ASP) seeks funding to expand youth programming across 3 areas: k-12 school-based prevention education, increasing pathways to care by training adults supporting youth, and peer support to vulnerable youth (LGBTQ+). This will create/expand 4 positions and serve all of Larimer County, emphasizing reaching youth in rural locations.

Mindset Reps

Mindset Reps TEENS

Mindset Reps is requesting funds from the Larimer County Impact Fund Grant Program to provide scholarships for 16 young men and women to participate in specialized groups that integrate fitness and psychotherapy to support their mental health. The requested funds would further be used to optimize support and education to those clients by providing seminars to the group members about nutrition as well as psychoeducation to the parents and guardians as they support their teens. Funds would also support providing an extra workout session per week to group members to foster further wellness, consistency, and connection to group members.

EVICS Family Resource Center

Early Childhood Mental Health Support and Consultation Services

Grant funds will provide a continuation of services for families and children in Estes Park by supporting the Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant position for EVICS who will conduct assessments, provide brief interventions, facilitate educational groups, conduct community outreach, provide resource navigation and professional development/training for early childhood educators.

SummitStone Health Partners

Sunrise/TSD/Clinic Behavioral Health Consultation Expansion

SummitStone Health Partners is partnering with Sunrise Community Health to expand behavioral health services with the Sunrise Thompson Clinic, the 1st School-Based Health Center, in the Thompson School District. The Sunrise Thompson Clinic strives to improve the health and academic success of children and youth by advancing health and behavioral health services in schools. The needed service provision to expand behavioral health care integrated with the Sunrise Thompson Clinic is a full-time licensed behavioral health clinician. The position will be partially funded by the El Pomar Foundation, and additional funding is needed to hire a full-time employee.

ChildSafe Colorado

Child Abuse Treatment Program

ChildSafe provides comprehensive treatment for victims of childhood abuse and aims to report a reduction in the problems that brought them to treatment. ChildSafe provides individual, group, and family therapy to children who have been abused, adult survivors, and non-offending family members. The agency's mission is to repair the damage done to victims and families while reducing the risk of re-victimization.

Responsive Grants

Partners

Youth Mentoring & Prevention Education Programming

Partners Youth Mentoring and Prevention Education programming will provide vulnerable Larimer County youth, ages 7-17, with prevention, intervention and support services through our Community Based Mentoring, School Based Mentoring and Prevention Education programs. Research shows that positive youth development activities, the core of Partners programs, strengthen developmental assets, resulting in youth who feel a greater sense of belonging and resilience. As a result we are off-setting risk factors with protective factors (building assets); to support youth well-being and to provide healthy coping strategies in order to minimize long-term mental/behavioral health impacts.

The Family Center/La Familia (TFC/LF)

Bridges to Healthy Minds/El Puente Hacia Mentes Sanas

Leveraging over 25 years of trusted relationships, service provision, and advocacy with and for Larimer County's immigrant Latinx community, this project will raise awareness of, destigmatize, increase social connections, and decrease barriers to mental health access among this critical community that is disparately impacted.

North Colorado Health Alliance

Addressing Structural Inequalities: Care Coordination for SUD and Family Intervention and Education

The project will expand care coordination for persons with SUD and mental illness in Larimer County among traditionally underserved populations, with a special focus on our Latino Communities. Building upon existing efforts to increase care coordination capacity, this project will support a team of care coordinators embedded throughout Larimer County and a certified peer recovery specialist who is a member of the Latino community; it will also provide training to care coordinators and peer support on equity and diversity. In addition, a prevention and early intervention mental health program will be added to serve families and loved ones of persons with SUD. Familia Adelante is a culturally responsive, evidence-based program that was designed specifically to address stressors within Latino families and will provide an initial connection point for care coordination services. Community outreach and engagement will be facilitated by a bilingual and bicultural 0.5 FTE peer specialist.

The Center for Family Outreach

Parenting Navigator of Larimer County

The Center for Family Outreach (CFFO) provides education, prevention, and early intervention programming for youth and their families. We strengthen family relationships, promote positive communication, and enhance the family's ability to solve problems together. We help youth and families sustain long term, positive changes within the family unit. We identify individual needs and the family's collective strengths and challenges. Our services facilitate early identification of risk factors for emotional and behavior difficulties. This process identifies the risk levels in a variety of specific areas and aligns these with programs we offer. Our Parenting Navigator is THE navigator for families who find themselves involved in multiple systems. Our programs keep vulnerable youth out of the criminal justice system, reduce mental/behavioral issues and substance dependence, while improving decision making and successful outcomes across the spectrum of multiple systems.

Estes Park Schools

Social Emotional Learning and Support

Estes Park School District has 2 major goals in our strategic plan to address the social emotional needs of our population. 1. Provide professional learning surrounding Social Emotional Learning (SEL) for key staff members. 2. Identify and provide a range of resources (internal and external) for students to receive SEL support. We will implement a tier 1 Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competency based program at each of our school sites. This will include training for staff and tools for implementation. We will provide behavioral health services to our students in need through a referral and provision process we are currently working to develop. We want to improve our tools for evaluating student needs in the area of social emotional support in order to guide our programs and support services.

Front Range Exceptional Equestrians

De-Escalation of PTSD Symptoms in Two Populations

To provide the benefits of horsemanship, including ground work, to two groups of Larimer county residents: at-risk youth in foster care and veterans and first responders suffering from PTSD. Participants in our groundwork classes build their horsemanship skills on the ground: horse behavior, breeds and colors, equine anatomy, haltering, leading, round pen work and lunging. Activities are designed to develop trust, increase self-esteem and grow socialization skills.

Housing Catalyst

Behavioral Health Clinician in Permanent Supportive Housing

Housing Catalyst (HC) seeks renewed funding for a Behavioral Health Clinician (BHC) to provide therapeutic support for residents living in its Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) in Fort Collins. Utilizing trauma-informed care and harm reduction modalities, the BHC supports housing stabilization, ongoing relationships with providers and decreases unnecessary use of emergency services. PSH's target population is people who have experienced chronic homelessness, have a disabling condition, and are high utilizers of emergency services for stabilization purposes. Since January 2021, HC housed 60 new residents who were known as frequent utilizers of EMS, police and fire services and staffed monthly at the community interagency meeting. Having onsite BHC, has changed the use of community services so that the services are lower level, less frequent and are used appropriately, and as a result, less costly for the community.

Fort Collins Museum of Discovery

Mental Health: Mind Matters Traveling Exhibition

Building on a successful first run during the pandemic's height in 2020, Fort Collins Museum of Discovery (FCMoD) requests funding to host the traveling exhibition Mental Health: Mind Matters, produced by a partnership of The Science Museum of Minnesota and Heureka: The Finnish Science Center, and advised by the National Alliance on Mental Illness for a second running. Presented in English, Spanish, and French, this family-friendly exhibit provides approachable, informative and hopeful experiences to help open the door to greater understanding, conversations and empathy toward the challenges of mental health.

Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth of Colorado, Inc. (SAFY of CO)

Trust Based Relational Intervention® Caregiver Training for Larimer County Families

SAFY of CO project will offer caregivers in our community free access to training in Trust Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI) to support the behavioral health needs of children in their care. Healing from impacts of trauma, such as child maltreatment, is an integral step in improving children's behaviors, leading to better relationships, increased stability, enhanced educational engagement, and improved life-long outcomes.

Denver Rescue Mission

Harvest Farm Peer Leadership and Support Program

The Peer Leadership and Support Program, began in 2019, has become an essential part of Harvest Farm's New Life Program (NLP). Two Peer Support Specialists, along with Peer leaders, provide support, mentoring, and coaching to NLP participants. The Peer Support Program expands Harvest Farm's recovery and treatment options helping to decrease dismissals for relapse/rules violation, increase retention and graduation rates, and empower NLP graduates with lived experience to become dynamic leaders and agents of change for peers newer on the path to recovery by serving as peer leaders. Due to the success and immense impact of the Peer Support Program the last couple of years, Harvest Farm seeks funding for two full-time Peer Support Specialists who will then train three additional Peer Leaders. Men living changed lives greatly impact the overall community.

Crossroads Safehouse

Crossroads Behavioral Health Support

This grant will directly support the mental health of victims of domestic violence, their children, and Crossroads Safehouse staff who work directly with clients. The Goal is to keep all individuals at their optimum mental health which will allow us to better serve clients and make sure clients are able to be productive members of our community.

Elderhaus Adult Day Program

Caregiver Support

In addition to day programs for adults living with dementia or other disabilities, Elderhaus provides professional support for caregivers at no cost. We are the only nonprofit agency in Larimer County specializing in daytime care for adults living with dementia, and the only organization providing two dementia-related support groups each week for caregivers. These support groups are available regardless of whether attendees have a loved one utilizing Elderhaus Adult Day Program services. This grant makes it possible for Elderhaus to dedicate a part-time professional entirely for caregiver support, including facilitation of support groups, individual outreach to caregivers who contact Elderhaus, and development of caregiver resources. The deleterious effects of caregiving on caregiver health are well-documented, and these caregiver support services, provided at no cost to those who benefit from them, are crucial for strengthening the health and well-being of Larimer County caregivers and their loved ones.