

Community Health Focus

We invest in our communities to help Coloradans thrive



WE'RE COLORADO'S LARGEST NONPROFIT, MULTISPECIALTY PROVIDER OF HEALTH CARE AND COVERAGE

—working to improve the lives and health of all Coloradans over the past 50 years. We understand that being healthy isn't just a result of high-quality medical care. In fact, what influences our health the most is often not found within a hospital or doctor's office. That is why our mission focuses on all the factors that affect people's health.

Through partnerships with charitable and community-based organizations, we address health disparities and public health issues by providing relief with health care costs, creating healthy environments, supporting educational success, and improving economic circumstances and affordable housing. In the past 10 years alone, we've provided more than \$1 billion in community support – from grants to volunteer work. This year, in response to the pandemic, we've contributed more than \$4.4 million in community support.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE



In March, we partnered with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to offer COVID testing for essential front-line workers. And currently, we're partnering with CDPHE on COVID vaccine distribution.

In 2020, we **donated more than \$800,000 to the Colorado COVID Relief Fund**. In addition, through our employee giving campaign, employees donated more than \$7,700.

Access to Care and Coverage

We help Coloradans get health care through Medicaid, medical financial assistance, charitable health coverage, and other forms of subsidized care and coverage. And we're committed to partnering with institutions that serve on the front lines of health care for under-resourced people. Through grants, scholarships for training, and clinical assistance, we're working with our safety-net partners to help them reach the state's population who need the most help.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE



Our total donation to the Colorado COVID Relief Fund includes **\$300,000 to help support the core operations of safety-net clinics.**

Health First Colorado and Child Health Plan Plus

We participate in publicly subsidized programs such as Health First Colorado (formerly known as Medicaid) and Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) in order to make health care accessible to more people.

Medical Financial Assistance

Our Medical Financial Assistance program (MFA) provides temporary financial assistance or subsidized care to patients who receive health care services from our providers.

Specialty Care

- Through our Safety Net Specialty Care Program, Kaiser Permanente specialists provide advice electronically to 8 safety-net primary care provider organizations for their uninsured adult patients. The program also provides face-to-face specialty care visits for safety-net patients and medical educational opportunities to safety-net providers.
- Since 2018, we've worked with 4 community partners to increase and improve access to specialty care for safety-net patients by sharing best practices, collaboratively supporting referrals, and working to influence telehealth policy change; our total \$900,000 in grants and cohort support extends through 2021.



Economic Opportunity

We provide opportunities to improve a person's economic circumstances and support the growth of diverse businesses.

- We partner with 4 national organizations to provide opportunities that help diverse small businesses build capacity for sustainable growth and recover from the COVID-19 crisis. Nationally, we plan to support more than 2,000 black- and minority-owned business over the next year.
- Our recent grant funding of \$95,000 to the Center for Community Wealth Building and \$95,000 to the Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado focuses on initiatives that support an inclusive local business ecosystem, which creates quality jobs and promotes sustainable business practices through leadership development, training, and technical assistance.

Environmental Stewardship

Our longstanding commitment to sustainability and slowing climate change is core to improving individual and community health.

In 2020, we became the first health care system in the United States to achieve carbon neutral status.

Social Needs

When individuals and families experience housing instability and food shortage, they deal with mental and physical stress, and they're forced to make hard choices between basic life necessities and paying for health care. The need for safe, stable, and affordable housing and access to healthy food has never been greater, and it's essential to a person's overall health and well-being.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE



We've invested more than **\$500,000 in response to the hunger crisis** caused by the pandemic. For instance, we've provided funding to key community-based organizations such as **Hunger Free Colorado, Feeding Colorado's food bank network, LiveWell Colorado, Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger, and Project Angel Heart**. We've also reached out to members to inform them about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; more than 6,000 people have asked to learn more and/or enroll in the program.

Housing for Health

In partnership with Community Solutions and the Colorado Division of Housing, we've formed a statewide effort to end veteran and chronic homelessness, called Built for Zero Colorado. This effort includes a cohort of 16 Colorado counties partially supported through our initial investment of \$500,000.

Hunger Relief

We're reaching out to Coloradans in a variety of ways to help them access healthy food resources within the state. Food for Life is our comprehensive initiative that transforms economic, social, and policy efforts so Coloradans have access to affordable, healthy food.

Unite Colorado

We're building a community network to help address social needs. This online coordinated referral network is comprised of a resource directory with geographically based social service providers. It will allow for electronic referrals among community-based organizations, public agencies and health care providers.

Policy/Advocacy

We address health disparities and health inequities from a public health policy approach. CityHealth, an initiative of the de Beaumont Foundation and Kaiser Permanente, advances key policy solutions in America's 40 largest cities by providing city leaders with an annual assessment of policies consisting of conditions that influence health. We work with the city of Denver on initiatives like complete streets, healthy food procurement, and tobacco control policies.

Tobacco Control

We support efforts to reduce youth access to tobacco. In 2019, Denver passed a tobacco policy raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco to 21. It also included tobacco retail licensing provisions which impose penalties on retailers for selling to a minor and/or not complying with other key provisions. We now support Denver in considering a policy to eliminate the sale of all flavored tobacco products.

Healthy Food Procurement

We work with the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment to ensure healthy food options are available on public property and assist city residents in making smart decisions that will help them achieve and maintain a healthy weight.

Complete Streets

We support a comprehensive plan designed by the Denver Department of Transportation to ensure streets are planned and maintained for safe, comfortable travel by users of all ages and abilities, including those walking, cycling, driving, and riding public transportation.





Arts Integrated Resources

We use the arts to inspire people to make healthy choices. Our Arts Integrated Resources (AIR) team integrates the arts with multimedia technology and public health knowledge to improve community health. The AIR programs have also been redeveloped as effective, interactive virtual experiences.

Resilience in School Environments: Understanding and Practice

RISE UP is an online workshop designed to explore the prevalence and potential impact of trauma and stress on student behavior and offer strategies to help educators and other school staff navigate challenging interactions.

Ghosted

Ghosted is a play that addresses suicide, anxiety, and depression to help Colorado teens support each other and their mental health. Professional actors facilitate an interactive program that reduces stigma and encourages open discussion.

Thriving Schools

A key component of our work in the community is done through innovative health education collaborating with schools. This is especially important because better health boosts educational success, which leads to lifelong health, employment, earning potential, and self-confidence.

We support mental health in schools

Every day, teachers interact with children who experience traumatic life events ranging from abuse and neglect to a natural disaster or the death of a loved one. Studies show students and teachers are grappling with growing levels of stress, anxiety, and depression.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE



Answering needs articulated by school district leaders across the state in an assessment conducted by the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Education Initiative in the spring of 2020, we provided **\$1.5 million in grant funding to help 5 Colorado school districts** deepen and scale work to address immediate mental health and social emotional needs of students and staff.

Grant funding also included COVID-19 prevention strategies. To help schools prepare for a new way of learning in the fall of 2020, we partnered with the Colorado Education Initiative, Mental Health Colorado, and other organizations to create and distribute a playbook, **Planning for the Next Normal at School: Keeping students, staff, and families safe and healthy**.

We donated **\$196,000 to 7 school districts and the Colorado Charter School Institute** to help activate and implement strategies outlined in the playbook during the 2020-2021 school year.
