



THE PROGRESS REPORT

The Colorado Health Foundation's newsletter provides updates highlighting programs, policy issues and events related to our mission to improve the health of Coloradans.

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Foundation Releases Report on Creating Healthier Colorado



Last week, the Foundation released a new report, [Creating Healthier Colorado](#), explaining our decision to create and endow Healthier Colorado, a 501(c)(4) organization. In 2011, when the Foundation began its transition from a public charity to a private foundation, the leadership team concentrated on a unique opportunity: to form a separate and independent 501(c)(4) organization that would focus on health policy advocacy, lobbying and grassroots political activism in the state.

The report outlines our transition to private foundation tax status and evolution of policy engagement, the process behind the formation of 501(c)(4) organization and the advocacy work of Healthier Colorado to date. It showcases how funders have the opportunity to support high-profile advocacy and lobbying organizations while staying within the legal confines of a public charity tax status.

[Read a blog](#) from Kyle Legleiter, senior director of policy, and [access the report](#). Questions? [Contact Keri Jones](#), communications officer.



Open Job Opportunities

The Foundation has three open positions: communications associate, program officer and senior program officer. [Apply or share...](#)



Health Affairs: Health Equity

The June edition of Health Affairs examines health equity in care and the relationship between social factors and health equity. [Read...](#)



Senate Health Bill Info

Colorado Health Institute published resources to help Coloradans understand the Better Care Reconciliation Act projected impacts. [Learn...](#)

Patient Portal Knowledge Center Now Live



Earlier this month, the Foundation launched the [Patient Portal Knowledge Center](#), a one-stop-shop resource designed to share tools and lessons learned from a two-year, 14 clinic patient portal implementation project. The newly released Knowledge Center was developed to provide clinicians with key patient portal resources, available for download. They include real-world examples, job descriptions, free-to-use images and posters, as well as sample policies and procedures. It covers key topics for planning and launching (or relaunching) a patient portal, including:

- Patient portal fundamentals
- Portal planning and leadership
- Portal software and vendors
- Deploying and operating a portal
- Portal deployment for varied populations

[Read a blog](#) from Dara Hessee, senior program officer, view our [Insights page](#) and the [Patient Portal Knowledge Center](#) for more. Questions? Contact [Keri Jones](#), communications officer.

Advocacy Partners to Develop a Blueprint to End Hunger in Colorado



We know that food insecurity, a condition where individuals or families lack access to sufficient food because of limited resources, is strongly linked with poor health outcomes, higher health care costs and utilization, self-sufficiency and well-being. It's also linked to educational outcomes and school readiness in children and for seniors. Increasing food security is widely recognized as an impactful strategy for improving health outcomes and lifting families out of poverty. Across the nation, federal food assistance programs are an effective avenue to alleviate hunger and supplement the food budgets of low-income families. However, Colorado

consistently ranks low when it comes to enrollment of individuals and families who are eligible to participate in such programs.

One of the [Foundation's 2017 policy priorities](#) is to improve supports for Coloradans experiencing food insecurity a condition where individuals or families lack access to sufficient food because of limited resources. Earlier this month, we convened a broad group of food insecurity leaders to discuss opportunities to establish a shared vision for ending hunger in our state. We reviewed findings of a recent [food insecurity scan](#) and discussed [effective models from other states](#). Based on the discussion, there is collective interest in developing a blueprint to end hunger in Colorado.

We will begin this important work this summer - and look forward to working with many of you and your organizations. If you would like to engage in the conversation or for more information, [contact Alexis Weightman](#), senior policy officer.

New Grocery Delivery Service Launches with Help from Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund



To expand food delivery options in Denver's northeast neighborhoods, Denver Food Rescue applied for funding from the [Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund](#) (CO4F) to support a new venture: [Goodness Groceries/Bondadosa](#). Supported by a CO4F start-up loan of \$30,000 and grant of \$20,000, the social enterprise will offer affordable grocery delivery service with no minimum order requirements, delivery fees or membership fees.

Goodness Groceries is one of only five grocery delivery services in the nation to serve people of advanced age and people living with disabilities who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

benefits, through a U.S. Department of Agriculture pilot program that authorizes SNAP as an accepted payment method. According to Denver Food Rescue, only 42 percent of older adults and people living with disabilities eligible for SNAP use their benefit – one likely cause being that many are homebound and SNAP has not been allowed for food delivery payments in the past. Customers will soon be able to order groceries online or over the phone, in English or Spanish, and have them delivered to their homes the same day. Goodness Groceries is also partnering with local retailers to purchase wholesale goods and pass the savings onto their customers, keeping the costs for fresh, healthy food affordable. [Read more](#).

Mark Your Calendar

[Colorado Health Symposium](#)

Aug. 2-4

[Next Grant Application Deadline](#)

Oct. 15
