



The Progress Report

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New Medicaid Expansion Report Reveals Positive Impact on Colorado's Economy

A new independent analysis, "[Assessing the Economic and Budgetary Impact of Medicaid Expansion in Colorado: FY 2015-16 through FY 2034-35](#)," shows that Medicaid expansion in Colorado has already had, and will continue to have, a significant positive impact on the economy at no cost to the state's General Fund. Key findings include:



- To date, there are already 31,074 additional jobs created in Colorado as a result of expansion. A total of 43,018 jobs are projected to be created in Colorado by fiscal year (FY) 2034-2035.
- Economic activity in the state, as measured by gross domestic product, is currently \$3.8 billion larger because of Medicaid expansion. By FY 2034-2035, the economy is projected to be \$8.5 billion larger.
- Coloradans' average annual household earnings are \$643 higher in FY 2015-2016 as a result of expansion. By FY 2034-2035, average household earnings in Colorado are projected to grow to \$1,033.

The report, commissioned by the Colorado Health Foundation and prepared by the Colorado Futures Center at Colorado State University, updates a 2013 analysis of the estimated economic and budgetary impact

of Medicaid expansion. Access the [executive summary](#) and [infographic](#). A full report is slated for release this spring.



Mathematica Report

A new cross-state brief examines the health coverage landscape for children in low-income families from Colorado, California and Texas.

[Read...](#)



National Nutrition Month

Are Coloradans eating enough fruits and vegetables? We have data from the 2016 Colorado Health Report Card on how Colorado is doing.

[Review...](#)



USDA Food Systems Grants

A total of \$26 million in grant funding is now available through U.S. Department of Agriculture to strengthen local food systems.

[Learn...](#)

Advance Care Planning – Perspectives from Colorado Health Care Providers



To inform the Foundation's [effort to improve advance care planning](#) for Coloradans, 118 Colorado health care providers were surveyed regarding current practices, policies and efforts to engage patients in advance care planning. [Results are highlighted in this infographic](#). The survey was led by Dr. Hillary Lum, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Division of Geriatric Medicine, and involved an electronic survey conducted from April-May 2015.

The survey provides insights on opportunities for individuals, health care providers, health care systems and Colorado communities to improve education and engagement in advance care planning, and ultimately receive medical care and other services that are important to them. The Foundation's Advance Care Planning funding opportunity is part of an overall strategy to empower individuals and families to manage their own health. The Foundation is partnering with individuals, health care systems, providers and Colorado communities to improve educational opportunities and resources for individuals and families to engage in advance care planning, and ultimately receive vital health care and other services. [Read a recent Denver Post article discussing this topic](#).

Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund 2015 Successes



The Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund (CO4F) has established its [statewide position](#) for 2016. [CO4F was developed](#) as a result of several partners convening on ways to improve access to fresh food in the state, and the Foundation's role was critical to these conversations. In the program's early stages, lack of capital for grocers was identified as a key issue. To address this issue, the Foundation became a founding CO4F partner by investing \$7.1 million in seed funding to [launch the program](#) and support food retailers access the capital needed to improve healthy food access in their communities.

Last year, a total of 13 grocery retailers received CO4F support and were able to improve fresh food access in their communities. These projects were made possible by more than \$1 million in loans and grants, which leveraged more than \$7 million in

traditional financing. While CO4F is making progress to reduce food deserts in Colorado, the need for funding remains strong. In the year ahead, CO4F will continue to support underserved communities, both rural and urban, in effort to increase access to fresh, healthy food.

If you would like to stay informed about the CO4F, [sign up to receive a quarterly newsletter here](#).

Foundation Transitions to Online Grant Reporting

In a move to make grantee reporting easier and more efficient, the Foundation will fully implement online reporting this month. The [new program](#) will replace our current reporting system, which used email and post mail as the primary channels of submission. The Foundation requires that all grantees submit reports and some grantees may have additional requirements. Each awarded grant has specific requirements for reporting on its progress, challenges and accomplishments.

During a pilot test of the system, feedback from participating grantees was been overwhelmingly positive, with 96 percent reporting it easy to use. Grantee comments include, "Great to see the transition to online reporting" and the system is "very straight forward and similar to other online submissions I've completed."

Mark Your Calendar

[Next Foundation Grant Application Deadline](#)

June 15, 2016

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The Colorado Health Foundation works to make Colorado the healthiest state in the nation by ensuring that all Colorado kids are fit and healthy and that all Coloradans achieve stable, affordable and adequate health coverage to improve their health with support from a network of primary health care and community services.