



# The Progress Report

Vol. 10, No. 8

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## In Good Health

*Editor's Note: "In Good Health" is a feature in the Progress Report offering thoughts on health from Foundation President and CEO Karen McNeil-Miller.*



Wow, thanks to those who joined us for the Colorado Health Symposium last month. I hope all who attended or participated online were as inspired and emboldened to act as I was. Throughout the conference, we were reminded that we all have a role to play in community health, no matter who we are or what we do. And now, we are ready to turn ideas into action and actions into a movement. Information does not make a movement...ACTION makes a movement.

In case you missed it, I [shared my thoughts about starting a movement](#) to make sure every person and every entity believes and acts as if they have a role in creating health in their communities. Beginning with the statewide tour and continuing through the Symposium, we have expanded our thinking of how we define health and health care. The speakers helped get the point across that health IS everyone's business and reminded us to use our voice for health equity, social justice and community engagement. More importantly, they reminded us how critical it is that we seek out the voices of others. Watch me as I use my voice by [rapping on stage with the Flobots](#) (I will be happy if you choose not to watch it, but my communications team insisted I include it!)

You can't have action in a community unless there is first understanding and awareness. How do we bring forth awareness about issues that are beyond data and put context into our own lives? [Listen to my closing remarks](#) (courtesy of that pesky communications team again) as I share context and remind everyone to act as if health is their business.

I'm brimming full of gratitude and optimism for the opportunities ahead. [Catch all of the speakers again here.](#)

In Good Health,

  
Karen McNeil-Miller

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## Building Better Health

Mark your calendar for the annual coverage conference. Receive notifications when registration opens.

[Sign up...](#)



## Watch Symposium

Miss the Health Symposium or want to hear a speaker again? View videos of plenary and keynote sessions.

[Watch...](#)



## New Advocacy Webinar

Learn about the opportunities and limitations of integrating advocacy activities into the nonprofit setting.

[View...](#)

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# New Data Spotlight Features Coloradans Bringing Voice and Action to Health



Three Colorado communities featured in the new [Where Health Happens Data Spotlight](#) are bringing a strong voice and tangible solutions to improve the health and well-being of local residents.

- In the Elyria-Swansea neighborhood, a ZIP code plagued with pollution and poor food access, [The Growhaus](#) pairs food activists with local residents to increase access to fresh, healthy food within the community. [Watch this video.](#)

- Community members in [Walsenburg](#) have recently taken action to create safe, active transportation options – pulling in \$1.3 million in funding from the Colorado Department of Transportation. Watch a [KOA news story](#) on the project.

- [Mariposa](#) was designed by residents with health in mind and provides a community garden, opportunities for exercise, accessible transportation and child care. [Watch this video.](#)

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Developed in partnership with the Colorado Health Institute, the [Where Health Happens Data Spotlight](#) takes an in-depth look at how health happens beyond the doctor's office and within our homes, neighborhoods, schools, grocery stores and the roads we travel. [Read more](#) on how these three communities are taking action to improve health. Join the conversation on Twitter by using the hashtag #COHRC.

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## Special Projects Program Open for October Grant Deadline



The Foundation is excited to share that the [Special Projects Program](#) is open for our next deadline. The Stage One deadline is Sept. 1 and the Stage Two deadline is Oct. 15.

The purpose of the Special Projects Program is to fund time-limited projects that address a pressing community need; propose new work or build on existing work; support a promising innovation or practice; and may set the groundwork for sustainable collaboration and programs. Applicants will be asked to describe how the project seeks to address a pressing community need and how this approach builds on existing evidence of what works to improve health in their community. The program funds project support for planning, implementation, evaluation or capacity building to strengthen an organization's business capabilities. There are no required funding limits for potential grants or a specifically designated length of time required for a grant, but proposed budgets need to be reasonably aligned with the scope of the project. The program will not support projects currently funded by the Foundation and/or projects that align with one of the Foundation's existing funding opportunities. [Visit our website](#) for more information and to learn about the special two step application process. If you have questions or would like to discuss a proposal idea, [contact one of the assigned program officers](#).

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## Mapping Colorado's Human Services Landscape



Human service programs ensure that Colorado communities have the building blocks for a prosperous future equipped with essentials such as food, health care, child care and financial assistance. An interactive dashboard aggregates county-level data to provide a clear picture of how these programs are ensuring the well-being of all Coloradans. The new [online tool](#) uses the most current fiscal, administrative and census data available to give Colorado stakeholders a county-by-county comparison of enrollment allocations in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Special

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Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP), Colorado Works and Medicaid. It features caseload and performance data from all programs in one place to show how these programs are helping Coloradans in their communities.

[Read more in this blog.](#)

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## New Report on Evaluation of Advocacy Convening



A [new report](#) is now available about the [consumer advocacy funding opportunity](#). This document provides findings from the evaluation of the Foundation's funding strategy and the June 2016 advocacy convening. It focuses on findings most relevant to advocates and the specific actions advocates suggested are critical in the coming months, along with specific asks of the Foundation. The brief covers these main topics:

- The scenario unfolding in the current health policy environment
- Changes needed to advance five priority policy targets: the protection of current successes, cost containment, payment and delivery reform, health literacy and integration of care
- Progress by advocates in advancing the changes including their collective ability, consumer engagement and policymaker engagement
- Actions advocates identified as important to take
- Supports that may help advocates be successful in 2016

Access the [report on our website](#) under Bi-Annual Convening Reports.

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## Foundation Submits Comments for Proposed Rule on Health Equity

The Foundation recently [submitted comments](#) supporting the sections of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposed rule related to non-discrimination protections in its Conditions of Participation (CoP) for hospitals and critical access hospitals. The non-discrimination provisions in this proposed rule will complement the previously approved rule regarding non-discrimination covered in health programs authorized in Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The explicit provisions will help strengthen important civil rights protections for individuals who may fear care in hospitals or critical access hospitals and extend explicit protections from discrimination on the basis of a person's gender identify, sexual orientation or limited English proficiency.

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# Mark Your Calendar

[Building Better Health 2016: Roadmap to Health](#)

Oct. 13-14

[Next Grant Application Deadline](#)

Oct. 15

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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.