



The Progress Report

Vol. 11, No. 2

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In Good Health: Evolving for Impact

Editor's note: "In Good Health" is now featured on the Foundation's website in [our blog](#).



Every strong philanthropic organization evolves to meet the current needs of those it serves. One definition of evolution that resonates with me: a process of gradual, peaceful, progressive change or development.

The Foundation is at a pivotal time in our history. I am thrilled to share with you how we continue to evolve for impact in order to ensure that every Coloradan, in every community, has the opportunity to be healthy.

Over the last year, we've become eminently clear about how and why we need to evolve. We've spent time learning about the people who we are charged to work on behalf of – low-income and vulnerable populations primarily. For us to affect positive change toward a healthier Colorado, we must be aware of the challenges Coloradans face in the communities they live. We must evolve in order to help Coloradans live their healthiest lives by advancing opportunities to pursue good health and achieve health equity.

To that end, we are changing our way of engaging with you. We are aware that we have to be sensitive to the unique assets and challenges of rural, frontier, urban and suburban areas of the state. We understand that a "one size fits all" approach does not actually fit all. Vice President of Philanthropy Amy Latham shared last week in a [blog post](#) how we've reorganized our Philanthropy team to have a greater impact on our mission.

In our new state, we will engage more deeply in Colorado communities in order to understand, listen and support your agendas. We may even support you in developing a plan, but we aren't there to tell you what your plan of action should be or how to go about achieving your goals.

While we will have an intentional focus in community engagement, we are not abandoning our state-wide work. We still plan to cast a wide net and reach people through that net too. But in order to make impact at the community level, we need to be IN it and WITH you in your communities, experiencing it as closely as we can to the way you do.

Our new direction is set and our six focus areas have now been established, including: Access to Care, Healthy Behaviors, Healthy Children and Adolescents, Healthy Communities, Mental and Behavioral Health and Social Determinants of Health. While we are fully devoted to these focus areas, we are still crafting our priorities and objectives within each area. Your ideas have influenced our thinking. Over the next several months, we will develop and evolve our priorities and objectives based on what we have heard and will continue to hear from you.

Another exciting resource as we evolve for deeper impact: We created a new position, a chief impact officer (CIO). This position was designed with a vision to make impact by increasing healthy opportunities, health access and health equity for all Coloradans. I'll expect our new CIO, [Bruce Byington](#), to wake up every morning thinking about the best ways to achieve maximum health for the residents of our state.

You will continue to hear from us as we evolve how we plan to engage with you – as an evolution of this sort is a process, unfolding our new ways, spawning our new DNA.

More updates to come soon. Make sure to [read our blog](#), check our website frequently and stay in touch.

In good health,



Karen McNeil-Miller



Engaging Deeper in Colorado

The Foundation's Amy Latham discusses how we're expanding our view of health and offers an inside look at our evolving approach to community engagement.

[Read...](#)



Rural Health Data Spotlight

This report focuses on barriers faced by rural Coloradans in their pursuit of health, delving into solutions from communities in Antonito, Burlington and Rocky Ford.

[Learn...](#)



Interview with Foundation CEO

Karen McNeil-Miller shares insight into the Foundation's goals and approach around rural engagement in Colorado in this recent, *Rural Monitor*, article.

[View...](#)

Bruce Byington Named Chief Impact Officer of the Colorado Health Foundation



The Foundation [announced this week](#) the hiring of Chief Impact Officer (CIO) Bruce Byington. The CIO role, which is new to the Foundation, was designed to purposely deploy Foundation resources. In this position, Byington will oversee the Foundation's prominent philanthropic tools, including grantmaking, evaluation, policy and advocacy, program-related investments and engagement with the private sector. He will also share responsibility with Karen McNeil-Miller, president and CEO, in overseeing the Foundation's communications efforts; ensuring that messaging and strategy are fully integrated.

Byington comes to the Foundation after more than 25 years at the Center for Creative Leadership (CCL). In his most current role, he served eight years as the executive vice president of the Americas Region and was responsible for all CCL Global Market operations in

North and South America, which consists of about 200 employees and another 400 adjunct faculty and coaches. Over his career, he has built expertise in strategy creation, alignment and implementation, including strategic facilitation that focuses on internal capability audits, financial and portfolio analyses, change leadership and organizational development.

Byington will assume his role as Foundation CIO on Monday, April 3. [Read the announcement](#) to learn more about his new role at the Foundation and prior experience.

The Foundation Signs on to a Statement on Immigration

The Foundation has signed on to a [Joint Foundation Statement on Immigration](#) to show support to vulnerable communities. The Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR) organized the document, which has been signed by more than 130 philanthropic leaders across the country, and expresses the need to keep America a land of opportunity for immigrants and refugees seeking a better life for themselves and their families. The statement is also an example of the critical role foundations can play by going beyond grantmaking and organizing in support of communities or causes.

Health Insurance Literacy Survey Now Open



The Foundation is part of a group of government, advocacy, provider groups and others interested in improving health insurance literacy for individuals so they can better use their coverage to improve their health and the health of their families. We need your help to ensure we are working on topics and resources that will make the most impact in Colorado.

Please take a moment to give us your thoughts by [completing a brief survey](#). The survey includes five questions – most of them open ended – to allow you to provide input relevant to your experience. It's intended for those working in the health coverage field and will be open for responses through Friday, March 10. Contact [Keri Jones](#), communications associate, with questions.

Behavioral Health Insurance Survey Now Open



Mental Health Colorado (MHC) is currently conducting research to look at behavioral health insurance coverage in Colorado. Now that insurers are required to achieve parity when it comes to consumers accessing behavioral health services, MHC is trying to understand if this policy is ensuring access to care. Have you or someone you know been denied behavioral health or substance use disorder services? If so, please take the time to [complete this survey](#) or share more broadly with your network.

Mark Your Calendar

[Next Grant Application Deadline](#)

June 15, 2017

[Colorado Health Symposium](#)

Aug. 2-4, 2017
