



# 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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## Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger Establishes Vision and Sets Release Date



We know that food insecurity, a condition where individuals or families lack access to sufficient food because of limited resources, is a real and pressing issue for hundreds of thousands of Colorado families. Hunger is strongly linked with poor health outcomes and higher health care costs and utilization. Additionally, it is connected with poorer educational

outcomes and more limited school readiness in children. For seniors, it dramatically impacts self-sufficiency and well-being.

The good news? We also know that hunger in Colorado is a solvable problem. We recognize that Colorado consistently ranks lower than other states when it comes to enrollment of individuals and families who are eligible to participate in federal food assistance programs. Since ongoing policy and practice issues continue to hamper efforts at the local and state level, a group of leaders has come together to develop the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger.

The Steering Committee for the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger has been meeting monthly to develop a shared vision and goals to guide the work of the many stakeholders and organizations working on this important issue. The Steering Committee is comprised of members from 35 different groups with broad representation from state agency directors, county leaders, subject matter experts, health care leaders, advocacy and policy organizations, the Governor's office, Colorado foundations, community-based organizations and community members. Recently, the Steering Committee agreed on a unifying vision: "All Coloradans have access to affordable and healthy food in their communities." The goals and strategies to support that vision are currently in development.

Save the date for the Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger release event scheduled for the morning of Jan. 17, 2018. Additional details on the event will be available soon. For more information or to engage in the conversation, contact [Alexis Weightman](#), senior public policy officer at the Foundation.



## National Rural Health Day

Today is National Rural Health Day - an opportunity to honor the selfless, community-minded, "can do" spirit that prevails in rural America.

[Participate...](#)



## Colorado Gives Day

Dec. 5 is Colorado Gives Day - an annual statewide movement to celebrate and increase philanthropy in Colorado through online giving.

[Donate...](#)



## In Good Health Blog

Our blog shares what we're learning to ensure that, across Colorado, each of us can say: "We have all we need to live healthy lives."

[Read...](#)

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## Join Our Next Advocating for Impact Workshop on Dec. 6



This fall, the Foundation has been offering a [series of workshops](#) designed to help nonprofit organizations understand their opportunities to engage in various types of advocacy efforts and provide the tools to do so effectively.

Our next workshop, [Legal Advocacy and Strategic Litigation](#), is on Wednesday, Dec. 6. This workshop will help nonprofit organizations better understand how and when strategic litigation and legal advocacy can be an effective means to advance your organization's goals and mission. Attendees will learn about examples of successful engagement in legal advocacy and discover

resources available in Colorado to help nonprofits partner with other advocates and legal experts. This will be our final workshop of 2017 – [register now](#).

If you have missed any of the previous workshops, you can view presentations and resources on [our website](#).

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# Open Enrollment Period Ends on Jan. 12, 2018



Open enrollment for 2018 coverage began on Nov. 1, 2017 through Connect for Health Colorado - Colorado's state-based health insurance marketplace. This year, Coloradans will be able to shop for private insurance plans through Jan. 12, 2018. However, to ensure coverage starts on Jan. 1, 2018, shoppers must purchase a plan by Dec. 15, 2017.

Open enrollment dates apply to individuals purchasing their own health insurance for 2018 through Connect for Health Colorado. Individuals on employer-based insurance plans may be subject to different open enrollment dates.

Visit the [Connect for Health Colorado website](#) for resources on finding the right plan and estimating your costs for the year.

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## CO Impact Days Social Venture Marketplace and Showcase Open to the Public



CO Impact Days 2017 is a three-day experiential user conference where focused investors and philanthropists gain the confidence, tools and connections they need to take action in new, powerful ways. CO Impact Days is where leaders of the impact investing movement are born.

The event culminates with an in-person Social Venture Marketplace and Showcase (open to the public) on Friday, Nov. 17. The marketplace is described as a farmers market for investors filled with valuable social ventures (projects, nonprofits, for-profits and funds) that are seeking investments. [Tickets are available online.](#)

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## Mark Your Calendar

### [2018 Open Enrollment](#)

Nov. 1, 2017 - Jan. 12, 2018

### [Colorado Gives Day](#)

Dec. 5, 2017

### [Advocacy Workshop: Legal Advocacy and Strategic Litigation](#)

Dec. 6, 2017

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[Next Grant Deadline](#)

Feb. 15, 2018

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