

Community Giving Program
2025 Annual Report

colorado access

Colorado Access

Community Giving Program

We are a local, nonprofit health care organization, and we've been caring for the health of Coloradans for 30 years.

Partnering with communities to help increase access to quality, equitable, and affordable care is central to our mission. We prioritize the total health of our members and the communities we all live in, not just with traditional health care, but also through community investments to address health-related social needs and improve health equity and outcomes for our members.

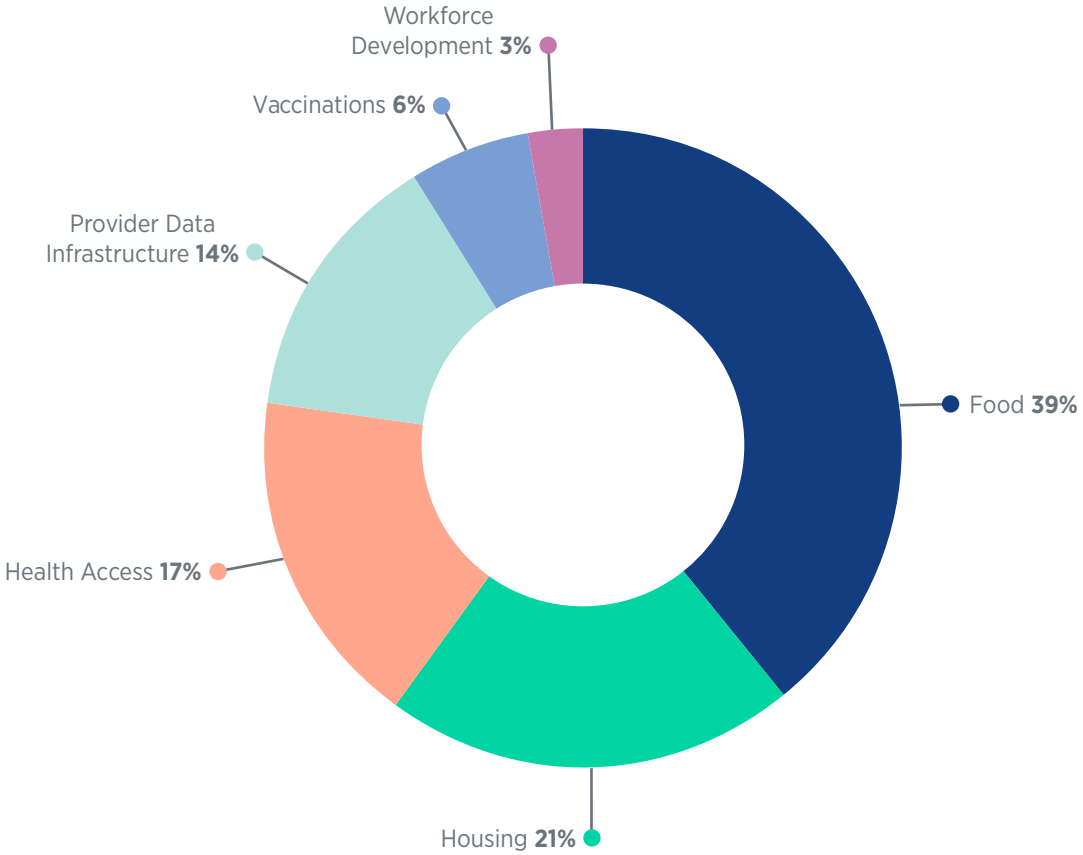
The Community Giving Program (CGP) allows Colorado Access to elevate and integrate community voices by funding projects that support health-related social needs in the communities we serve. In 2025, the CGP opened quarterly application cycles for community partners to request support for programming serving our members and communities, with a focus on their health-related social needs.

Throughout 2025, the Community Giving Program invested over

nearly $1.9 million

in support for 36 partner organizations, strengthening emergency food assistance, housing stability, and legal resource access for members and families across Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, and Douglas counties.

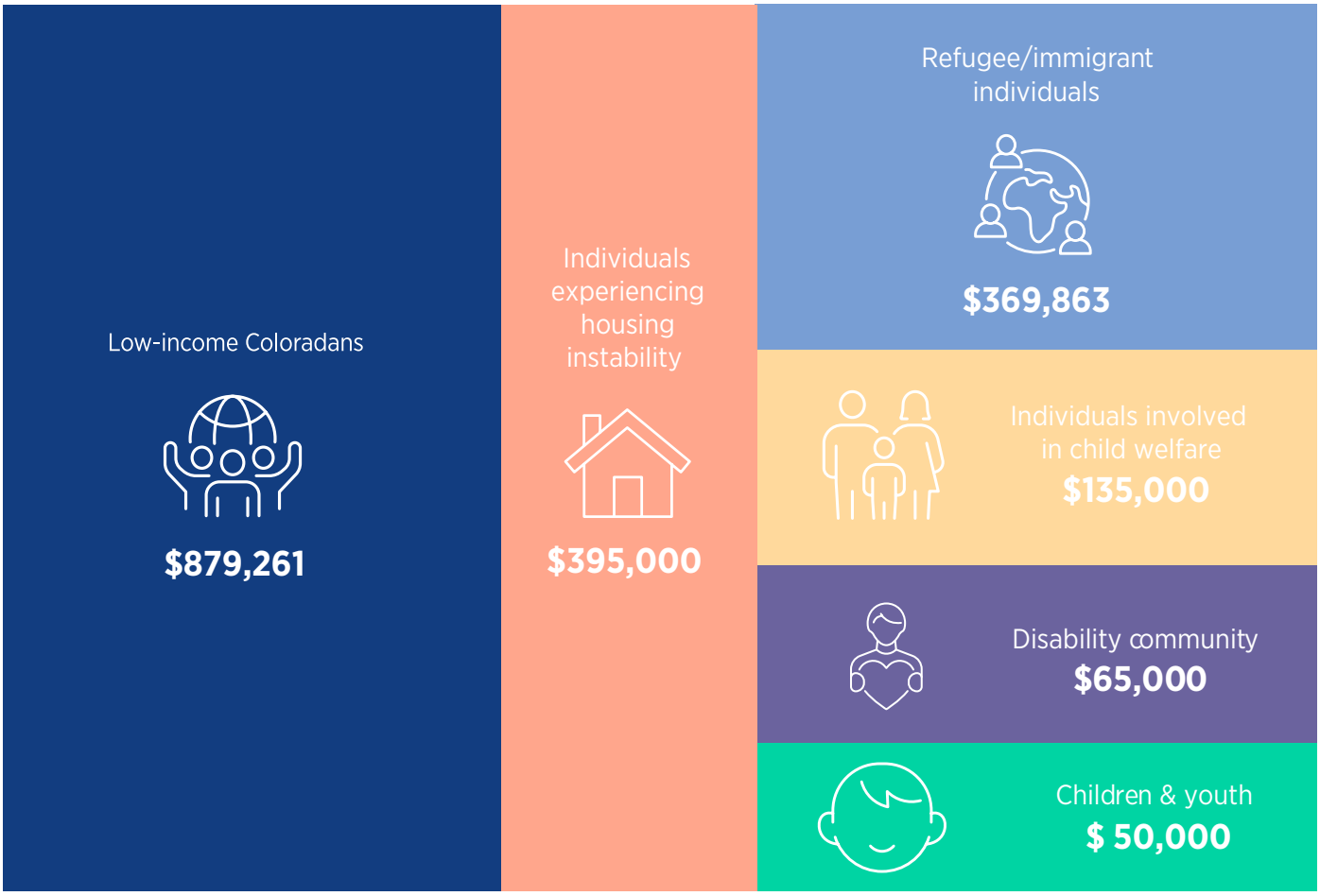
2025 CGP GIVING BY THEME



Source: 2025 Colorado Access Community Giving Program Investments

As a result, community members received vital support, helping them maintain stability and access to essential resources during an unprecedented federal shutdown.

2025 CGP GIVING BY TARGET POPULATION



Source: 2025 Colorado Access Community Giving Program Investments

Community Giving Program

Emergency Food Assistance

In October 2025, the federal government entered the longest shutdown in U.S. history, creating significant challenges for Colorado Access members. Notably, the President announced that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients would not receive their November benefits during the shutdown period. The Community Giving Program mobilized $175,000 in emergency rapid response funding to food partners across Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, and Douglas counties – providing critical resources to community members facing barriers to food access.

With many food partners reporting ongoing challenges in meeting rising demand at food banks and pantries, the Community Giving Program disbursed an additional approximately $228,000 in December 2025 to more than 10 food banks and organizations across Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, and Douglas counties.
This investment injected vital resources into the community through local food assistance efforts, reflecting the organization's longstanding commitment to enhancing community health and well-being and recognizing that food security is a key component of both physical and behavioral health. The rapid response funding from Colorado Access prevented service disruptions and enabled the organization to expand distribution during the SNAP benefits gap – ensuring families received the support they needed.

Denver Metro Food Banks

Rapid Response October 2025

Adams County
Aurora Interfaith Community Services
Growing Home
Village Exchange Center

Arapahoe County
Integrated Family Community Services

Denver County
Benefits in Action
Jewish Family Service
Metro Caring
SouthWest Denver Coalition
Struggle of Love Foundation
WeeCycle

Douglas County
SECOR Cares

End of Year December 2025

Adams County
Colfax Community Network
Food for Hope
MYPI Community Center
Project Worthmore
Restoration Outreach Programs
Thornton Community Food Bank

Arapahoe County
Kaizen Food Rescue

Denver County
Clayton Early Learning
Commun Denver, Inc.
Denver Food Rescue
Family Star Montessori – Northeast
Family Star Montessori – Northwest (Main)
FrontLine Farming Greenhouse
SAME Café
Servicios de La Raza
Sun Valley Kitchen
The Fax Partnership
The GrowHaus Food Boxes

Douglas County
Help & Hope Center
Parker Task Force Food Bank

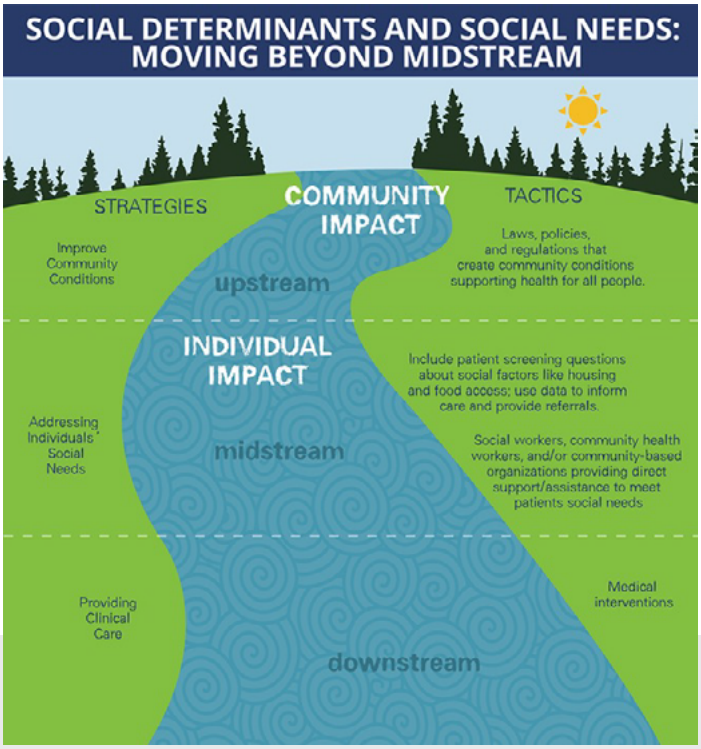
Community Giving Program
Other Funded Initiatives

The Housing Subcommittee of Colorado Access' Committee for Equitable Health and Social Needs established a strategic plan to address members' housing needs at the upstream, midstream, and downstream levels.

Colorado Access supported several key initiatives to address the health and social needs of its members. The organization established a new **Medical Legal Partnership** with Colorado Legal Services, enabling care coordinators, member-facing staff, and select enhanced care provider partners to refer members for legal assistance related to housing challenges such as eviction proceedings and landlord disputes. The Colorado Access investment made it possible to launch the partnership and provide necessary staff training for the referral process, with the initiative commencing in late 2025 and outcomes to be tracked throughout 2026, including the number of members referred and cases resolved.

As part of the Food Subcommittee's strategic plan, Colorado Access renewed its partnership with Hunger Free Colorado, facilitating **SNAP application assistance and navigation** throughout Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, and Douglas counties. The investment enabled continued outreach, application navigation services, and community engagement by supporting staffing, and in 2025, Hunger Free Colorado assisted over 15,000 individuals with SNAP applications and submitted more than 7,000 applications, change reports, and recertifications, with plans to evaluate successful enrollments and reductions in food insecurity rates among members.

Additionally, Colorado Access has been developing workflows for **closed-loop referrals** with partners, including Hunger Free Colorado and Village Exchange Center, so that care coordination staff can receive updates and track outcomes for referrals to health-related social needs resources. Colorado Access's investment made possible necessary technology upgrades, workflow development, and pilot testing with community partners, with the pilot launched in late 2025; key performance measures will include the percentage of referrals resulting in member engagement and the number of updates received from partners, with outcomes scheduled for measurement by end of year 2026.



Community Giving Program
2025 Partner Funding Highlights

ABC Collective / ABC Community Hub

With support from Colorado Access, the ABC Community Hub has become a shared home for organizations offering resources that address social determinants of health, including education, economic mobility, mental health access, workforce development, and food access. The Hub provides an affordable, accessible space for community members and organizations to host activities such as basketball camps, pet vaccination clinics, healing-centered events, art workshops, youth summer camps, foundation meetings, trainings, and family celebrations.

By bringing partners together, the Hub fosters collaboration and strengthens each organization's goals



and impact. This year, it became a tax preparation site, bringing $100,000 back into the community, and added food distribution services in partnership with Food Bank of the Rockies.

The ABC Community Hub provides access to a community of care where youth through elders feel a sense of belonging to build their civic muscle together.

Aurora Community Connection (ACC)

In 2025, Aurora Community Connection (ACC) expanded access to health coverage, public benefits, and preventive care services for underserved families across the community. ACC supported more than 2,100 community members through health fairs, wellness workshops, enrollment assistance, and one-on-one navigation services. The ACC team helped 150 individuals enroll in Qualified Health Plans, connected 60 individuals to OmniSalud coverage, assisted 508 people with Medicaid enrollment, and supported 670 people in accessing SNAP benefits. In partnership with local health organizations and public health agencies, ACC also hosted and participated in community health



events that provided vaccinations, vision screenings, eye exams, and glasses to hundreds of residents. These efforts strengthened community wellness, reduced barriers to care, and ensured that families had access to essential health and nutrition resources.

Hunger Free Colorado (HFC)

Hunger Free Colorado (HFC) is committed to making sure all Coloradans have sustainable access to nutritious and affordable food every day. As part of this commitment, HFC helps eligible households access SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) through outreach and application assistance. Dedicated food resource navigators support individuals and families via a statewide Food Resource Hotline, in-person sites across Metro Denver and a SNAP PEAS (Partners Engaging in Application Services) statewide network of partner organizations. The funding provided by Colorado Access supported these efforts in the Colorado Access service area, improving nutritious food access for people in Adams, Arapahoe, Denver and Douglas counties. In 2025, the funding provided by Colorado Access's Community Giving Program led to 7,121 SNAP applications being submitted, and a total of 15,120 people were served.



Immunize Colorado (IC)

Immunize Colorado partnered with Colorado Access to implement a Trusted Messenger community immunization program from November 2024 through February 2026. IC analyzed data to determine which areas and specific populations were most in need of more accessible immunization services and contracted with Trusted Messenger organizations to plan and implement vaccine access and education events. IC connected Trusted Messengers, such as the Fax Partnership and the Colorado Asian Culture and Education Network, with mobile vaccine teams to deliver immunizations to refugees, immigrants, older adults, pregnant people, and low-income communities across the region at health fairs, food distributions,



cultural events, and on-site vaccine clinics. In total, 20 mobile clinics were held at 12 unique locations, delivering 610 vaccines to 379 people. IC also created and distributed 15 new fact sheets on vaccine-preventable diseases in both English and Spanish, which have over 17,000 views on the IC website.

Jewish Family Service (JFS)

JFS is committed to providing a holistic approach to delivering wraparound support services, assessing the various needs of the individual or family, and providing the appropriate services through a range of responsive and inclusive programs to help those in need with support in achieving stability and self-sufficiency. The agency serves more than 26,000 clients across multiple programs annually through 167,545 visits, sessions, classes, and deliveries.

Colorado Access awarded the JFS KidSuccess program with a $150,000 grant to provide culturally competent, trauma-informed mental health counseling and medication management directly in schools, eliminating barriers to care and reducing the stigma of seeking mental health services. The grant supplied supervision for nine pre-licensed, graduate-level clinicians, provided 19 clinicians with training and certifications in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)



and Trauma-Informed Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TFCBT) and assisted 410 uninsured youth ahead of the enrollment period for Cover All Coloradans.

Reach Out and Read

With support from Colorado Access, Reach Out and Read Colorado expanded access to preventive healthcare and early literacy supports for Medicaid-enrolled children across the state. During the grant period, more than 20,000 additional well-child visits incorporated evidence-based literacy guidance and book distribution. The grant also strengthened provider capacity through training for 49 medical professionals and supported the development of Book as a Clinical Tool, an innovative resource created in partnership with Reach Out and Read National that helps clinicians more effectively integrate literacy promotion into pediatric care. By connecting families with books, developmental guidance, and trusted healthcare providers,



this investment improved school readiness, strengthened caregiver-child relationships, and enhanced the quality of care for thousands of Colorado children while contributing to national best-practices.

SECOR 20 CARES

Caring People Caring for People

SECOR Cares

Through grant funding provided by Colorado Access, SECOR Cares implemented wraparound services for guests struggling with food insecurity. In February 2025, SECOR hired a part-time social worker, offering a variety of resources and assistance. Each appointment represented an opportunity for guests to share their current situation and any history relevant to their needs. During 2025, the social worker had over 237 appointments ranging from resume building and job coaching to benefits enrollment including SNAP and Medicaid.

"Christina has gone above and beyond my expectations. Also, she redefined my perception of being a social worker. She has proven herself to be a strong support for my current situation and time of need."
-SECOR guest.



This would not have been possible without the grant funding provided by Colorado Access. Thank you for supporting our guests through this partnership!

WellPower™

WellPower

Colorado Access invested in WellPower's PLAY Program, which provides Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC) to support young children's social-emotional and behavioral development.
The program equips parents, caregivers, educators and administrators in Denver County with the knowledge, tools and support they need to care for children from birth through age 5. Services are provided at no cost by licensed mental health consultants and include site visits, observations and reflective assessments; goal setting and strategy recommendations; training, workshops and reflective groups and community resources and referrals.

