

Colorado Springs Health Foundation Grantmaking Policy

Colorado Springs Health Foundation's grantmaking must align with and support the organization's founding purpose ("addressing health issues in the City and Memorial Health System service area") and the organization's mission, vision and values.

The Foundation's grantmaking must align with community need and opportunity. Community need and opportunity are discovered and defined through tapping community experience and insight as well as by monitoring and analyzing health-related data and trends.

The Foundation limits its grantmaking to a specific geographic scope. Founding documents defined the Foundation's geographic focus as Memorial Health System's service area. Memorial's primary service area has been and continues to be El Paso and Teller Counties. As such, the Foundation will only make grants to organizations that serve El Paso and/or Teller Counties, Colorado.

Grants will only be used to address a wide variety of health-related needs. As such, grant type may include, but is not limited to, general operating, program or project, capacity building and/or capital. The Foundation retains discretion as to any limitations it puts on grant type, such as dollar limits on any one grant or type of grant, or restricting/allowing a particular grant type from time to time. In addition, The Foundation does not have the resources to provide ongoing or sole funding for a request. This means that grantees are expected to address sustainability beyond the end of Foundation funding.

The Foundation's grantmaking strategy aims to yield a positive impact on community health. This means the Foundation will determine appropriate metrics with which to gauge impact, and to track, analyze and report them on an ongoing basis. Impact will also be assessed at the individual grant level. Each grantee will be expected to define how it will measure success and then to report progress on those metrics. In addition to outcome measurement, the Foundation will also structure ways to maximize the learnings from its grantmaking. This may take a variety of forms, including convening grantee and/or broader community to share their lessons learned.