



Boulder Community Health
Foundation

Over 40 Years of Community Impact

The Boulder Community Health Foundation Call for Letters of Inquiry for 2026 Funding

Deadline: Letters of Inquiry due by Friday August 8th, 2025 no later than 5pm (see below for submission details)

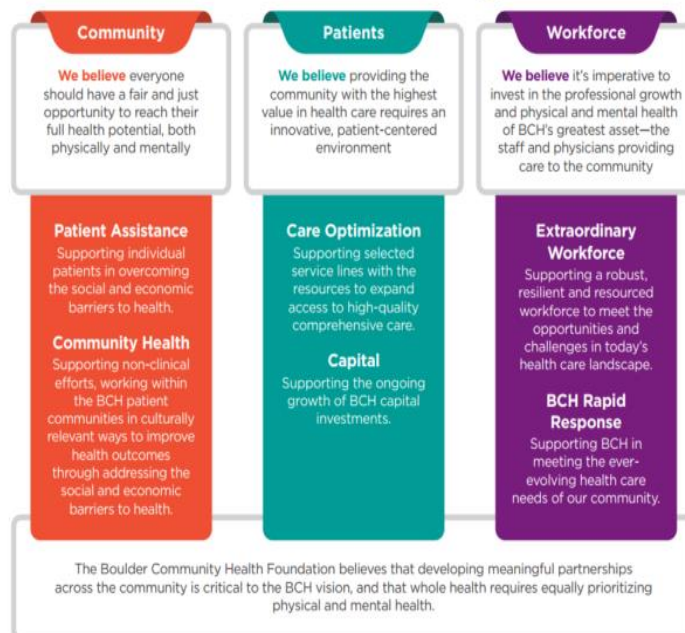
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1.) About the Boulder Community Health Foundation

The Mission of the Boulder Community Health (BCH) Foundation is *to inspire giving in support of Boulder Community Health to enhance the quality and availability of healthcare in our community*; and the collective vision for both BCH and the BCH Foundation is **partnering** *to create and care for the healthiest community in the nation*. The Boulder Community Health Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. For over four decades, the generosity of our community has led to more than \$80 million raised in support of BCH. Over the past five years, the BCH Foundation has granted \$15 million to BCH in support of various capital and programmatic priorities. The Foundation has assets of over \$70 million in place to ensure continued investment in enhancing the quality and availability of healthcare in our community.

The BCH Foundation accomplishes this work by strategically focusing our funding efforts in the following areas:

BCH Foundation Funding Focus





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2.) Community Collaboration Funding Overview

In support of Boulder Community Health's vision of partnering to create and care for the healthiest community in the nation, in 2018 the BCH Foundation established the Community Collaboration Fund. Since 2018, the BCH Foundation has been investing in Boulder-based community organizations where there is **direct programmatic partnership** and strategic alignment with the Boulder Community Health hospital and health system. The BCH Foundation has invested over \$1M into partnerships with community-based organizations addressing infectious disease prevention, housing, food security, access to health care, gaps and needs related to behavioral health and suicide prevention, social connection, and more. The Foundation's community funding is primarily focused on the social and economic barriers impacting health outcomes among our BCH patient population, and in our community. We know there are significant root causes and reasons that optimal health is not within reach for all individuals in our community. The BCH Foundation aims to create support and bridges in the name of health equity, by offering funding to facilitate direct BCH partnerships and programming which address these barriers impacting health outcomes.

BCH has recently implemented screening tools in clinics to determine whether a patient has social and/or economic needs that are not being met, which may put them at a higher risk for adverse health outcomes. The Foundation is using the aggregated data from these screening tools to determine which areas of investment are most needed within the BCH patient population. Additionally, as required by the State of Colorado, BCH conducts a [Community Health Needs Assessment](#) every three years to hear from our community about where they believe BCH ought to be focusing strategically. With these two sources of both quantitative and qualitative data informing this Community Collaboration funding, the Foundation will focus on funding partnerships to impact the following areas for this current funding cycle:

2025 BCH Foundation Partnership Priority/Impact Areas:

The community collaboration funding is focused on **specifically supporting individuals experiencing compounding social and economic vulnerabilities, and who are considered 'complex patients.'** At BCH this includes patients with diverse health needs, encompassing physical, mental, and psycho-social aspects, which may result in barriers to accessing care (multiple diagnoses, multiple medications, several points of care, etc.):

Priority Area #1: BCH has recently appointed a Geriatric Specialty Medical Director, as well as opening a Geriatric Clinic in Boulder to complement the one that already exists in Longmont. With that, we are seeking to fund partnerships which support [older adults](#) with complex needs; and support for aging in Boulder. Specifically, partnerships that focus on:

1. Chronic disease management
2. Social connection, and
3. Aging in place ("the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, interdependently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability").

Priority Area #2: As an acute care hospital with primary care and specialty clinics through Boulder County, BCH is primarily focused on medical care and treatment for patients. However, we know that the health of our patients is deeply impacted by an individual's ability to access the right care at the right time. That's why we're focused on partnerships offering expanded access to services in the community directly impacting health outcomes. More specifically:

- 1.) Direct referrals to address housing and food insecurity
- 2.) Support for individuals not enrolled in health insurance and benefits plans, and



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- 3.) Preventative and/or specialized health services for uninsured patients and/or those on Medicaid and support where gaps in care and coverage exist (ex: At-home care, respite care, nutrition and physical activity, transportation/mobility, language and translation services, etc.) – please note, organizations able to cite recent statistics regarding local needs will be prioritized

Priority Area #3: Since 2018 the BCH Foundation has invested over \$7.5M into BCH's Behavioral Health Service Line. As BCH continues to navigate the complex landscape of providing Behavioral Health services to the community, the Foundation is seeking partnerships to facilitate patients' abilities to access the right mental health care needed, at the right time; and support BCH patients as they navigate services throughout the community, which aren't offered at BCH.

The BCH Foundation has up to \$350,000 to award for 2026, an increase of \$50,000 from 2025 funding. We will welcome requests between \$10,000 and \$100,000. Organizations who have been previously funded do not need to complete an LOI but will receive communication from the BCH Foundation about whether or not they're being invited to apply again, based on mid-year reports.

3.) Evaluation and Impact

The BCH Foundation seeks to articulate the impact of the investments made in community collaboration partnerships at both the micro (specific partner) and macro (across the funding priority) level. To do this, the Foundation has reviewed other local funder's 'theory of change' frameworks, as well as the [Global Impact Investing Network's IRIS+](#) tool to create the following framework for measuring impact.

If invited to apply for funding, all partner organizations will be expected to articulate the following:

1. **What.** Identifies the outcomes the enterprise is contributing to and how important those outcomes are to stakeholders.
2. **Who.** Identifies the stakeholders who are experiencing the outcome and how underserved they were prior to the enterprise's effect.
3. **How Much.** Identifies how many stakeholders experienced the outcome, what degree of change they experienced, and the length of time the outcome lasts.
4. **Contribution.** Identifies whether an enterprise's and investor's efforts resulted in outcomes that were likely better than what would have occurred otherwise.
5. **Risk.** Identifies the likelihood that impact will be different than expected.

Another key element will include explaining the evidence base for the proposed program/partnership.

Possible metrics/units of measure can include:

- Short-term indicators:
 - Number of patients/people served
 - Metrics specific to under or uninsured patients served through the partnership
 - Percent of patients/people served in comparison to geographically available data related to need (ex: 15 patients served = 2% of total local need as identified through census data)

If feasible, the distribution of demographic data across need & those served

- Cost per patient/person for the intervention provided
- Number of services provided
- Number/percent of patients receiving services at no cost OR at a reduced rate



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- Mid-term:
 - Patient reported satisfaction/qualitative feedback related to goals of the partnership (ex: net promoter scores)
 - Access metrics – articulation of pre-intervention and post-intervention access to partnership services at the macro and micro level (ex: patient reported need for increased opportunity for social connection – intervention led to a patient reported increase in social connection opportunities by facilitating weekly classes/gatherings)

4.) Selection Criteria

The Boulder Community Health Foundation has historically observed success in community collaborations with organizations where there is a clear strategic alignment, and an internal BCH ‘champion’ for the partnership. This is a BCH employee/provider who is willing and able to both manage the programmatic elements of the partnership, as well as amplify the work internally to ensure broad reach/impact throughout the organization. This LOI process will help facilitate introductions to potential champions for those organizations who do not already have a ‘champion’ or connection to BCH, and where there is clear strategic alignment. **Organizations will not be invited to apply for funding without a ‘BCH Champion.’**

Along with the specific focus areas articulated above, organizations must have the following features to be considered for funding:

- Nonprofit organization – 501.c.3 status
- Organizations primarily serving individuals 18+ are eligible for funding (BCH partners with Children’s Hospital CO for pediatric patient care/needs)
- Organizations with a strong operating record are encouraged to apply (proxies for this can be number of years in service, financial reserves, employee retention, etc.)
- Serving BCH patients and or Boulder Community Health’s primary service area:

Eldor Sprgs	80025	Boulder	80310
Lafayette	80026	Boulder	80314
Louisville	80027	Boulder	80321
Louisville	80028	Boulder	80322
Boulder	80301	Boulder	80323
Boulder	80302	Boulder	80328
Boulder	80303	Boulder	80329
Boulder	80304	Jamestown	80455
Boulder	80305	Nederland	80466
Boulder	80306	Pinecliffe	80471
Boulder	80307	Rollinsville	80474
Boulder	80308	Ward	80481



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Boulder	80309	Erie	80516
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- Utilizing evidence-based/best-practice models and strategies
- Ability to articulate the return on investment or benefit the partnership accomplishes for BCH in at least one of the following areas: financial sustainability, value to patients, and community alignment.
- Partner is committed to establishing outcome measures at the outset to enable productive evaluation of the partnership over time.
- Preference for organizations demonstrating successful collaborations elsewhere in the community.

5. LOI Application Process

To be invited to apply for community collaboration funding, organizations should submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) by August 8th 2025, through the BCH Foundation's Submittable grants management platform.

Instructions for LOIs:

- The LOI will ask for the following information:
 - Organization information (name, EIN, address, website, contact name, email address, and phone number)
 - Organization overview (mission & vision, history, organizational goals specific to the proposed program, number of clients served, geographic footprint/impact, requirements for service provision, number of paid staff & volunteers, high-level financials)
 - Selected impact area: aging, behavioral health, and access.
 - A specific description of the proposed program and whether or not you already have BCH Champion (programmatic details, timeline, program participants, evaluation criteria, short-term and long-term goals).
 - Expected amount and duration of funding requested should the organization be invited to apply for funding.
 - Examples of successful community collaboration and partnerships.

Organizations that demonstrate clear programmatic collaboration opportunities and alignment, meet selection criteria, and have strong support from a BCH Champion will be invited to apply for funding. These applications will go in front of the BCH Foundation Grants Committee, made up of Board of Trustees and BCH Operational staff.

6.) Timeline

- Call for LOIs made public July 11th, 2025
- **LOIs due:** August 8th, 2025 (due by 5pm through Submittable: <https://bch.submittable.com/submit/ca835a48-377b-44c0-82fa-400e18de1fbc/bch-foundation-community-collaboration-fund-2026-open-call-for-lois>)
 - LOI Review Period: August 11th to August 22nd 2025
- Notice of declination or invitation to apply by August 29th, 2025

For those invited to apply:

- Community Collaboration Application due November 21st, 2025
- BCH Foundation staff review period: November 24th to December 5th, 2025
- Grants Committee Review period: December 8th to December 19th
 - Grants Committee questions sent to applicants by December 22nd, 2025



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- Applicant presentation prep period: December 22nd to January 9th, 2026
- Applicant presentations to Grants Committee – January 2026 (dates to be sent for sign-up)
- Grants Committee Vote: January 2026
- Awards Announced & funding sent: January/February 2026

Any questions can be directed to the Foundation's Program Director, Riley Bright, at rbright@bch.org