COLORADO SAFE FUTURES FUND

Investing in Community-Led Solutions to Prevent Firearm Harm

WHAT IS THE COLORADO SAFE FUTURES FUND?

The Colorado State Futures Fund is a **statewide partnership** investing in trusted, community-based organizations working to prevent firearm-related injury and death. With investment from peer foundations and broad partner support, the Fund supports organizations across Colorado by providing actionable data, resources and capacity to drive meaningful change.

LOCAL SOLUTIONS FOR A STATEWIDE PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE

Firearm harm is one of Colorado's most urgent public health challenges, affecting families, schools, workplaces and neighborhoods in rural, urban, and suburban communities. Locally developed solutions are needed from the Eastern Plains to the Western Slope to reduce firearm harm. Recent statistics underscore the urgency:

- Firearms are the third leading cause of injury-related death among Colorado adults and the **leading cause of death for youth ages 1–17.**
- In 2024, Colorado recorded **958 firearm deaths, 74 percent of which were suicides.**
- **One in five Colorado teens** reports access to a loaded firearm, significantly increasing risk of harm.
- In 2024, **75 percent of domestic violence fatalities involved firearms.**

These realities manifest differently across communities, but no corner of the state is untouched.

ROOTED IN COMMUNITY, CREATED FOR COLORADO

The Fund was created to invest in organizations already embedded in their communities—trusted organizations that understand local needs, and the specific risk factors facing their neighbors. Rather than prescribing a single impact model, the Fund grants empower organizations to lead with approaches that reflect what safety and prevention look like where they live.

HOW THE FUND WORKS

Foundations, corporations and individuals can all donate to the Colorado Safe Futures Fund. Rose Community Foundation administers the Fund and **does not charge fees.** Grantmaking prioritizes public health evidence-based strategies with strong community impact and credibility.

OUR PARTNERS

Colorado Safe Futures Fund partners include Rose Community Foundation, Caring for Colorado Foundation, Colorado Access Foundation, The Colorado Health Foundation, The Colorado Trust, The Denver Foundation, Johnson Family Foundation, Kaiser Permanente , Rocky Mountain Health Foundation, and Rocky Mountain Health Plans, along with generous individual donors.

WHY GIVE TO THE COLORADO SAFE FUTURES FUND?

Colorado has experienced notable mass shootings-and far more frequent, less visible forms of firearm harm that affect families, places of worship, schools and communities every day. While no single investment can prevent every tragedy, we know that **communities equipped with the right tools and resources can reduce risk and save lives.** Giving to the Colorado Safe Futures Fund is a way to invest in prevention that is proactive, credible and rooted in local communities.

YOUR SUPPORT ENSURES THAT:

- **Communities don't have to wait for a crisis to act -** Grants from the Fund are focused on organizations working to prevent harm before it begins. Programs aimed at suicide prevention, safe storage access, youth engagement, restorative justice and trauma-informed support can disrupt the cycle of harm.
- **Local knowledge is paired with statewide expertise -** Community organizations lead this work, informed by partnership with statewide public health and prevention experts, including the Colorado Office of Gun Violence Prevention and the Firearm Injury Prevention Initiative. Together, funded solutions are both locally relevant and grounded in public health evidence.
- **Shared funding leads to smart, responsive grantmaking** - Colorado Safe Futures Fund's collaborative model brings together urban, rural, private and corporate funders for shared learning and decision making, allowing donor dollars to have a greater impact in communities statewide.

In a state shaped by both resilience and loss, the Colorado Safe Futures Fund offers a community-centered path forward to reduce firearm harm and build a safer future.

SUPPORT A SAFER FUTURE

The Colorado Safe Futures Fund continues to grow its community of partners committed to preventing firearm harm and strengthening the health and safety for all Coloradans.



VJ Brown
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IMPACT TO DATE

The Colorado Safe Futures Fund has awarded $1.2 million to organizations delivering real-world solutions, including:

- Safe firearm storage access and safety education
- Youth leadership and harm-prevention programs
- Suicide prevention and postvention
- Hospital-and community-based violence intervention
- Trauma-informed and restorative justice approaches

Together, grantees illustrate how prevention looks in practice when communities are resourced to lead.

"Support from Colorado Safe Futures Fund has enabled us to expand our school-based internship and classroom program..helping build the next generation of gun-violence-prevention leaders."

-Laney Sheffel, Executive Director, Colorado Ceasefire

"This grant allows us to purchase and distribute firearm-locking devices free of charge, esepcially lduring family mental-health crises - meeting a real and community need."

-Erin Ivie, Executive Director, SpeakUp ReachOut