



# COVID-19 RECOVERY & RESILIENCE

THE DENVER FOUNDATION

**What systems-level ideas and solutions has your organization developed in response to COVID-19? What's the big, bold idea that you're confident would make a difference in the lives of people in our community?**

**We want to hear about it.**

The coronavirus pandemic has changed life as we know it in Metro Denver and across Colorado. For nonprofits and the communities they serve, the impact will be deep, long-lasting, and cyclical.

In addition to responding to the immediate needs of vulnerable people and communities, The Denver Foundation is committed to supporting systems-level responses to this crisis and others to come.

It will take big, bold ideas to pull us through this period of recovery. We know the best of these will come directly from the community. We're talking about ideas that reshape what life looks like when it returns to "normal"—and render it more equitable than it was before the pandemic laid plain the stark disparities that pervade our society.

In the coming months, we will connect the best of these ideas to The Denver Foundation's broad resources. We will also advocate for proposals with the greatest potential for impact within our network of nonprofits and public sector agencies.

*The Denver Foundation is committed to responding quickly to new ideas. We are focused on ideas that are the strongest fit with our mission and resources. Thank you for understanding that we won't be able to screen your idea in advance or discuss declined proposals.*

**What kinds of proposals are we looking for?**

Support will be concentrated in the following areas and assessed through an equity lens:

- 1. Public Health:** Ensuring that those with limited access to health care, who face the largest disparities in health outcomes, receive targeted services and support.
- 2. Social Systems:** Improving delivery of basic human needs services, a fundamental part of a healthy and safe community.
- 3. Economic Recovery:** Caring for entrepreneurs and/or promoting economic justice for workers as they return to their jobs or seek new opportunities for employment.
- 4. Education Equity:** Advocating for practices and public policy that ensures students are able to learn while outside of traditional school, particularly those with special needs and/or significant barriers to access.
- 5. Public Policy Improvements:** Supporting local or state policies that address social and economic inequities, improve access to care or services, and create system change.
- 6. Systems Improvement:** Elevating opportunities to change social and economic systems to create improved care or service, enhanced equity, efficiencies, or cost savings.
- 7. Racially Healing and Equity:** Ensuring BIPOC-led organizations have support to expand and improves systems of delivery and prioritize shared experiences in healing.

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## ***What kind of support is available?***

The Denver Foundation will support successful proposals through a range of resources including grants, program-related investments, and policy advocacy. We will also host convenings and critical conversations.

## ***Who is eligible?***

The Denver Foundation would like to hear from organizations within the Metro Denver area and organizations serving all of Colorado.

## ***What is the process for seeking support?***

Visit [denverfoundation.org/recovery](https://denverfoundation.org/recovery) and complete a brief Letter of Inquiry (LOI) form. We review LOIs weekly. We collect current proposals each Thursday at 10:00 am and respond by the following Tuesday. You will receive a notification via email asking for additional information or informing you that we have declined the LOI.

## ***What are ineligible ideas?***

The Denver Foundation seeks inspired, systems-level ideas that are “shovel ready” and have the potential to shape our return to a more equitable Colorado. As such, we are not looking to provide support for:

- Extensive planning/research of a project.
- Longitudinal research or academic, medical, or point-in-time studies.
- Existing/ongoing direct educational, human, or economic services, and/or expansion of these services.
- Ongoing operations and/or internally facing organizational work.
- Back filling operational losses.

## ***How much money may we ask for?***

Focus most on the idea that can get us to a recovery phase of this pandemic. Tell us what you need to be successful. We will start a conversation if the budget is beyond our capacity.

## ***I have a lot of questions. Who may I speak with about this?***

Share what you're thinking in the LOI and we'll be in touch if what you propose sounds like a fit.

## ***When will this opportunity end?***

We believe that emerging out of the pandemic will be a slow process. Our strategies will evolve as our community moves from recovery to resilience to a reimagined future.

## ***What is the expected time frame when projects must end?***

Priority will be on projects that will help move our community to a more resilient place. We want to be a part of accelerating that change. We are seeking projects that will be wrapped up in 2-8 months.

## ***How many times may we submit an LOI?***

An organization may submit two LOIs per calendar month. Think big and be strategic.