

# REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS:

**Thriving Colorado Dashboard Scholarship Opportunity**

## INTRODUCTION

The **Thriving Colorado Dashboard** is a collaborative effort to facilitate data sharing for collective impact across Colorado. This statewide community health data dashboard allows Colorado to adopt one common tool to catalog and align efforts and strategies with agencies and organizations across the state.

With support from the Colorado Health Foundation, the North Colorado Health Alliance has invested

$125,000 over two years to support up to fifteen agencies with financial barriers to adopt and implement the Thriving Colorado Dashboard. After awarding eight $5,000 scholarships and one $2,500 scholarship to agencies throughout Colorado, the North Colorado Health Alliance will extend this program to organizations that were unable to apply during the first round of scholarship awards.

The implementation of this dashboard will allow communities to share and leverage resources, develop shared goals and strategies, connect with other communities executing similar strategies, and support collective impact efforts toward a shared goal of making Colorado the healthiest state in the nation.

## ABOUT THE NORTH COLORADO HEALTH ALLIANCE

The **North Colorado Health Alliance** (NCHA) is a public/private non-profit joint venture dedicated to treating community health as a single complex phenomenon. Our mission is to see Northern Colorado become the healthiest region in the healthiest state by developing and supporting a healthy population with 100% access to quality service and care at a sustainable cost.

NCHA recognizes that improving community health requires multiple partners and multiple sectors working in tandem towards a collective goal. We work through collaborative efforts that bring the multiple sectors together to address health. Programming is directed at expanding access to integrated care, eliminating disparities in health outcomes, enhancing the care experience, controlling costs toward a sustainable system, and generating health as a prerequisite for economically thriving communities. We serve as a backbone organization of expressed shared values across a broad region. We operate as a mature public cooperative recognizing that alignment of agency self-interest yields shared public value and collective impact.

## BACKGROUND AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

Over the past four years, NCHA has deployed a community health data dashboard in Weld County (www.thrivingweld.com), with over fifty organizations using and reporting shared goals and strategies on the dashboard. NCHA quickly determined the value of this data dashboard as a tool to guide the implementation of our Community Health Improvement Plan and assist our broad coalition of partners in achieving collective impact. We saw a need for a tool like this to support collective impact efforts on the state level.



Before the launch of the **Thriving Colorado Dashboard**, there was no system in place for Colorado communities and organizations to catalog, track, and report outcomes and outputs associated with strategies and goals. Data is often collected at the state level and it is not adaptable to the local community level. This makes it difficult for communities to align efforts and strategies, communicate best practices, and leverage resources. Through presentations, meetings, and market research, we identified the interest, opportunities, and barriers to offering a statewide dashboard. Our research revealed three main barriers to dashboard adoption: cost, staffing, and expertise. NCHA has cleared many hurdles and plans to help Colorado communities overcome these initial barriers through lowering the entry cost for everyone and providing expertise and technical support for adoption of the Thriving Colorado Dashboard.

The goal of this funding opportunity is to provide **Thriving Colorado Dashboard scholarships** to up to six organizations in Colorado **that are facing financial barriers** to adopting this new technology. For organizations that are not facing financial barriers to the $5000 annual cost of the dashboard, please contact Noah Chornyak at nchornyak.alliance@nocoha.org to discuss setting this up.

Over the two year scholarship period, the successful applicant will work with NCHA to adopt and implement Thriving Colorado Dashboard scorecards and strategy maps into their communities and organizations. NCHA staff will provide dashboard training, technical assistance, and support to scholarship applicants. The Thriving Colorado Dashboard scholarship includes the following package: one dashboard license, five scorecards, two strategy maps, four hours of training, and fifteen hours of support.

A **Dashboard Advisory Committee** has been formed to provide oversight and guidance for the statewide rollout and management of the Thriving Colorado Dashboard. The committee consists of agencies and organizations that are both statewide leaders and users of the dashboard. Specific roles of the committee include determining priority areas and statewide strategies for the dashboard, monitoring and reviewing ongoing effectiveness of the dashboard, and offering recommendations and expertise throughout the rollout process.

## AWARD INFORMATION:

Total funds available: $20,000

Number of awards: Six Scholarships

Amount of Awards: $2,500 – $5,000 per year Scholarship Period: January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2019

Organizations may apply for the Full Dashboard Scholarship of $5,000 (two available) or the Matching Dashboard Scholarship for $2,500 (four available). The Full Dashboard Scholarship is intended for organizations with the highest financial need. For the Matching Dashboard Scholarship, a 1:1 match is required through direct cash support at $2,500.

## TIMELINE:

RFA Released: September 25, 2017

## Applications due: October 25, 2017

Funding Notification: By November 24, 2017

## EVALUATION:

Center for Research Strategies has been hired to evaluate the implementation and collective impact of this project. You will be asked to participate in a minimal amount of evaluation activities during the duration of the scholarship period.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

* The applying organization must have its primary office in the state of Colorado.
* Cost to support the dashboard must be an immediate barrier for the applying organization.

## COMMUNICATIONS

To view our latest informational webinar on the Thriving Colorado Dashboard, please visit [www.thrivingcolorado.com/faqs/dashboard-webinar/.](http://www.thrivingcolorado.com/faqs/dashboard-webinar/) Applicants may email general questions to Carlee Rosen at crosen.alliance@nocoha.org.

## BUDGET

The full project budget will support the cost of the dashboard license, dashboard package, and ongoing technical support. There will be no direct transfer of funds from the North Colorado Health Alliance to applying agencies.

## GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS

Each scholarship recipient will be required to:

* Sign a Master Services Agreement
* Dedicate a staff member as the main contact for this project
* Participate in quarterly Learning Community & Collective Impact webinars
* Dedicate a minimum of 10 hours per month of staff time to the Thriving Colorado Dashboard

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

We ask each organization requesting funding to disclose any relationships with us that may be, or appear to be, a conflict of interest. Such relationships do not necessarily prohibit an organization from receiving funding; however, they must be disclosed.

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Applicants must submit an electronic application via email to crosen.alliance@nocoha.org by 5pm MST on October 25th, 2017. Please make the subject line “Thriving Colorado Dashboard Application.”