



Responsive Grant GUIDELINES

SUMMER 2018

Everyone has a smile. Oral health impacts Coloradans of all ages and, at a broader level, affects the well-being of our communities.

Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation's (DDCOF) mission is to elevate the well-being of all Coloradans by advancing oral health equity.

We are improving access to comprehensive oral health care, promoting systems and support services that prevent tooth decay, and emphasizing the vital connection of oral health to systemic health.

We seek to provide all Coloradans with a continuum of accessible dental care and education across a lifetime. Working with communities, we can strengthen opportunities for people that have historically been overlooked.

We are stronger together. Join us on our journey to improve **oral health equity**.

How we define oral health equity

At this time, our definition of oral health equity is modeled after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2017 statement:

Health equity is achieved when every person has the opportunity to "attain his or her full health potential" and no one is "disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances."

What the data show us

Health disparities, like race and ethnicity, income, geography and age, greatly impact a person's oral health.

- **68% of children ages 0-18** reporting poor oral health live in families with incomes less than 250% of the Federal Poverty Level. (2017 Colorado Health Access Survey)
- **More than half of Coloradans** over the age of 65 lack dental coverage. (The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment)
- **Only 51% of African Americans** visited the dentist in the last year compared to 66% of all Coloradans. (The Colorado Health Institute)
- **Less than half of U.S. women** have their teeth cleaned during pregnancy. (The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System)
- **Fifty-seven of Colorado's 64 counties** are designated a Dental Health Professional Shortage Area. (The U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration)
- **Just 63% of Coloradans** with incomes at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty level report both good physical and oral health status. (The Colorado Health Institute)

Our approach to funding partnerships

Every community has unique needs, assets and priorities. We want to understand what your community needs to be healthy. Our work begins by cultivating partnerships with organizations. Together we can address community needs and implement activities to improve oral health. These partnerships make the greatest impact in Colorado communities. During 2018, we will prioritize the following focus areas from our strategic framework:

ACCESS TO CARE

GOAL	All individuals have affordable, accessible and comprehensive oral health care.
FOCUS POPULATION	Historically overlooked population groups that face oral health and overall health disparities. Populations may experience disparities due to race and/or ethnicity, geography, socio-economic status or age.

PREVENTION OF TOOTH DECAY

GOAL	Effective and innovative programs are available for prevention and early intervention of tooth decay.
FOCUS POPULATION	Historically overlooked children ages 0-6, students (K-4 th grade) and pregnant women.

Grant guidelines

Applications from Colorado-based nonprofit organizations whose activities occur in-state and benefit Coloradans will be considered. We encourage grant applications to draw our attention to different approaches to address and achieve oral health equity. Proposals should demonstrate impact toward our strategic focus areas of access to care and prevention of tooth decay.

We will review all grant funding requests, including:

- **Programmatic purpose:** 1) an existing program that would have greater impact through additional financial support, or 2) a new program or innovative idea that would have a fresh impact on the community and would benefit from startup financial support.
- **Operating purpose:** supporting the ongoing operations of an organization, including regular personnel, administrative, fundraising and office expenses.

Eligible organizations include:

- Colorado organizations classified as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4).
- Tax-supported Colorado organizations including state or local governments or schools.
- New or emerging organizations without 501(c)(3) status that apply through a tax-exempt organization acting as fiscal sponsor. These organizations must provide written documentation of the relationship with the fiscal sponsor.



What we will fund

- Community-based interventions
- Clinical interventions and equipment
- Education and awareness programs
- More specifically, we will consider programs and activities that:
 - increase access to affordable, accessible and comprehensive oral health.
 - aim to prevent tooth decay in young children, from birth through 4th grade, and pregnant women.
- Efforts and interventions that utilize data to inform, measure and develop work
 - Innovative grant applications designed to meet community need through proven or unproven efforts.
 - Grant applications for traditional methods proven to improve oral health. When possible, use data to inform your proposal concept to help us better understand your desired outcome.

What we will not fund

- Grants to individuals
- Debt retirement
- Building endowments or reserve funds
- Capital campaigns
- Capital expenses
- Membership campaigns
- Grants for medical, scientific or academic research
- Financial support for political candidates
- Lobbying efforts
- Legal services
- Scholarships
- Patient assistance funds that cover individual medical, dental, mental health or pharmaceutical costs
- Pass through organizations
- For profit entities

When applying, keep in mind

- The application must include specific goals, objectives and deliverables to be carried out within the grant period.
- Applicants may request support for one year or up to three years (multi-year request).
- Applications between \$10,000 and \$100,000 per year will be considered. Requests may be no more than 25% of the total program budget and no more than 20% of the organization's total per year fiscal budget.
- Only one application per organization can be submitted each open grant application cycle.
- Before an organization will be considered for additional grant funding for the same purpose, a final report must be submitted.
- Grantees awarded funding will be asked to participate in evaluation activities.

Application instructions

- Begin by reviewing the grant guidelines above. If you'd like to discuss your application before submitting it or if you have questions, please contact grants@ddpco.com or (303) 889-8633.
 - Submit your application through our [online application portal](#). Applications are due by midnight **Friday, August 31, 2018**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.
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- Applications will be assigned to a member of our programs team for thorough analysis. Your assigned program officer will contact you and may request a site visit.
 - If your application does not meet these guidelines, you will receive a notice of declination by September 30, 2018.
 - We will reach out to you about the final funding decision for your application by November 30, 2018.

Learn more

No one knows your community like you do. We welcome the opportunity to have a conversation about how your organization's work fits within our strategic focus areas.

Please contact **(303) 889-8633** or **grants@ddpco.com** to start the conversation.

If you'd like to receive emails about future funding opportunities, please email **hello@ddpco.com**.



How we define and understand key terms

Health Equity

Health equity is achieved when every person has the opportunity to attain his or her full health potential and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017

Affordable

Families can pay for the cost of dental care and still afford basic living necessities.

Accessible

Oral health care that can be obtained in a timely manner that is personally and culturally relevant.

Comprehensive

A full-spectrum of oral health services are offered, including preventive and restorative care and disease management.

Prevention

To protect, promote and maintain oral health and well-being; includes clinical, educational and public health interventions.

Effective

An intervention that produces the intended result.

Intervention

Action taken to improve a clinical, environmental or societal situation.

Overlooked

Populations that are disadvantaged in regard to accessing oral health services based on income, geography, age and race/ethnicity.

Innovation and Unproven

An idea, approach or intervention that is new and being introduced. Existing data or proof of success may not exist. Untested.