



**COLORADO**

Department of Public  
Health & Environment

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

## Reducing Unintended Pregnancies in Colorado

Colorado has a vested interest in reducing the number of unintended pregnancies that occur each year. By providing greater access to contraception, including long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs), Colorado has become a national leader in reducing unintended pregnancies and is providing guidance to other states and programs as they try to achieve similar health and social outcomes.

Since 2009, CDPHE's Colorado Family Planning Initiative (CFPI) has increased health care provider training and reduced the costs of the most effective forms of long-term contraceptives, such as intrauterine devices (IUDs) and implants. As a result, the number of Colorado women choosing these methods has increased dramatically and Colorado has seen unprecedented declines in the number of unintended pregnancies and abortions.

- The birth rate fell by 40% among women ages 15-19 and 9% among women ages 20-24 from 2009-2013.
- The number of repeat teen births dropped by 53% from 2009-2013.
- The birth rate among low-income women in the counties served by the initiative dropped 39% among women ages 15-19 and 22% among women ages 20-24 from 2009-2012.
- The abortion rate fell by 42% among women ages 15-19 and 18% among women ages 20-24 from 2009-2013.

Despite successful efforts over the past six years, there are still more than 275,000 Colorado women that need increased access to contraceptive services.

Unintended pregnancy can lead to:



- Depression
- Physical abuse
- Diabetes
- Obesity



- Poor physical & mental health
- Child abuse
- Lower educational attainment

**CDPHE Colorado Family Planning Initiative**

## About the Colorado Family Planning

The Colorado Family Planning Initiative (CFPI) at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has successfully expanded contraceptive options, enabling more than 30,000 women in the state to choose the most effective contraceptives - intrauterine devices (IUDs) and implants. For more than 40 years, Title X family planning clinics have played a critical role in ensuring access to these devices as well as other family planning services for millions of low-income or uninsured women and their families. Since 2009, a boost in funding from the CFPI to Title X clinics increased health care provider education and training and reduced cost-barriers, enabling thousands of Colorado women to choose the most effective forms of contraception. For more information, please contact Eliza Shultz, CDPHE Legislative Liaison, at (303) 913-1955 or [eliza.schultz@state.co.us](mailto:eliza.schultz@state.co.us).

