



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

*“To protect and improve  
the health and environment  
of the people of Colorado.”*

# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

**Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2008**

## **State Health Department Awards Funds for Underserved Populations in Colorado**

DENVER—The Office of Health Disparities of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has awarded 23 grants totaling \$3.1 million to organizations committed to reducing health disparities and improving the health and wellness of people of color in Colorado.

The grant period for the projects began July 1 and will continue through June 30, 2009. The projects were recommended for funding by the Minority Health Advisory Commission and approved by the Colorado Board of Health.

For additional information, visit the Office of Health Disparities Grant Program Web page at <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ohd/hdgp.html> or call Twila Martinez at 303-692-2102.

The following lists the grantees and amounts awarded.

### **Cancer Projects**

#### **Center for African American Health**

##### **Prostate Health Initiative for African American Men**

Amount Received: \$79,000  
Project Category: Cancer  
Target Population: African-Americans/Blacks  
Geographic Area: Metropolitan Denver  
Project Manager: Grant Jones, 303-355-3423

This program is designed by and for African-American men to help reduce the high rate of death due to prostate cancer in the African American community.

#### **University of Colorado Denver**

##### **Colorado Campaign to Increase Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccination Use Among Latinas**

Amount Received: \$150,000  
Project Category: Cancer  
Target Population: Latinas/Hispanics

Geographic Area: Adams, Alamosa, Arapahoe, Bent, Boulder, Broomfield, Cheyenne, Clear Creek, Conejos, Costilla, Crowley, Custer, Denver, Dolores, El Paso, Fremont, Garfield, Gilpin, Huerfano, Kit Carson, La Plata, Larimer, Las Animas, Lincoln, Logan, Mesa, Montrose, Morgan, Otero, Park, Prowers, Pueblo, Rio Grande, Saguache, San Miguel, Teller and Weld counties

Program Manager: Patricia Alvarez Valverde, 303-724-0628

The overall target population of this project is Latino parents of girls aged 9-26 for HPV vaccine awareness and women of all reproductive ages for cervical cancer detection. The outreach efforts will work to decrease the main barriers to HPV vaccination among Latinos.

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## **Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes**

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### **University of Colorado Denver**

#### **Web-Based Nutrition Education for Low-Income Hispanics**

Amount Received: \$100,000

Project Category: Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes

Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics

Geographic Area: Adams, Arapahoe and Denver counties

Program Manager: Robyn L. Wearer, RD, 303-315-2368

Hispanic adults in the United States and Colorado experience significantly higher rates of diabetes and obesity than other races and ethnicities. This project aims to improve nutrition behaviors among Hispanics by increasing computer technology and Internet usage skills among low-income, Spanish-speaking Hispanic parents of elementary-aged children in Aurora and Denver public schools to improve diet quality through increased nutrition knowledge, awareness, intentions and skills.

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### **Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association**

#### **Improving Access to Cardiovascular Care for Minority Populations in Northwest Colorado**

Amount Received: \$100,000

Project Category: Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes

Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics

Geographic Area: Jackson, Moffat and Routt counties

Program Manager: Ilanit Kateb, 970-846-2822

This program aims to improve control of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and related precursors, and overall heart health behaviors in minority populations for people ages 18 and over in northwest Colorado.

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### **Pueblo City-County Health Department**

#### **Neighborhood Approach to Reducing Obesity and Diabetes**

Amount Received: \$75,000

Project Category: Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes

Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics

Geographic Area: Pueblo County

Program Manager: Julie Kuhn, 719-583-4311

The Neighborhood Approach to Reducing Obesity and Diabetes brings together innovative strategies to reduce the incidence of two cardiovascular disease precursors, diabetes and obesity, in the Hispanic population in three at-risk neighborhoods called the Y Zone in Pueblo County.

The goal is to reduce the risk of developing the chronic cardiovascular disease precursors of diabetes and obesity by providing education and opportunities for participants to eat better and move more, thereby increasing their metabolic rate, losing weight, increasing muscle mass, reducing stress and increasing mental well-being.

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**American Diabetes Association – Colorado Area**

***Por Tu Familia: Soluciones Para la Salud de Corazón***

Amount Received: \$125,000  
Project Category: Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Adams, Alamosa, Arapahoe, Boulder, Clear Creek, Douglas and Eagle counties  
Program Manager: Julissa Molina Soto, 720-855-1102 ext. 7027

This program will promote culturally and linguistically appropriate cardiovascular and diabetes primary and secondary prevention activities to individuals and families in the target Latino communities.

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**Bent County Nursing Service**

**Living and Learning to be Healthy**

Amount Received: \$125,000  
Project Category: Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Bent County  
Program Manager: Gary Peterson, 719-456-1234

This program will identify Hispanic children who are obese and enrolled in the Las Animas and McClave school districts to work with them to reduce the risk of diabetes and other cardiovascular diseases through healthy choices.

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**Colorado Prevention Center**

**Community Heart Health Actions for Senior Latinos at Risk-CHARLAR**

Amount Received: \$150,000  
Project Category: Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Metropolitan Denver  
Program Manager: Craig Kapral, 303-991-6058

This program aims to increase awareness and build skills to lower cardiovascular disease risk in older adult Latinos (>50 yrs) and will emphasize involvement of the family.

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**Summit Prevention Alliance**

**La Vida Sana (“The Healthy Life”)**

Amount Received: \$150,000  
Project Category: Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Summit County  
Program Manager: Liliana Meza, 970-668-2077

The vision of the La Vida Sana project is to reduce health disparities in Summit County by providing health education, exercise and nutrition programs to prevent and reduce cardiovascular disease and diabetes among the entire Latino population in Summit County.

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**Rural Solutions**

**Improving Access to Cardiovascular Care for Latinos in Northeast Colorado**

Amount Received: \$200,000

Project Category: Cardiovascular Disease and Precursors Including Diabetes  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, Lincoln, Logan, Morgan, Sedgwick, Phillips, Weld and Yuma counties  
Program Manager: Maranda Miller, 970-526-3616

This program plans to reduce personal barriers experienced by the Latino population when accessing health care services in Northeast Colorado.

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### **Crosscutting Projects**

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#### **Larimer County Department of Health and Environment Addressing Health Inequities in Larimer County's Hispanic/Latino Community**

Amount Received: \$50,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Larimer County  
Program Manager: Janna West Kowalski, 970-498-6749

This program will educate Larimer County Department of Health and Environment staff, key stakeholders and representatives from the Hispanic/Latino community about the root causes of health inequities and to elevate community discussions and solutions beyond individual lifestyle interventions.

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#### **Native American Cancer Research Corporation**

##### **Native American Prevention of Obesity NAPO +**

Amount Received: \$100,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: Native Americans/American Indians  
Geographic Area: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties  
Program Manger: Dr. Brenda Seals, 303-325-3377

This program will promote healthy nutrition and physical activity to prevent obesity among American Indians residing in the Denver metropolitan area.

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#### **The Road Called STRATE (Society's True Rehabilitative Attitude Toward Ex-Offenders)**

##### **Project START: Support, Training, Advocacy, Referrals to Treatment**

Amount Received: \$100,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: African-Americans/Blacks, Latinos/Hispanics and Native Americans/American Indians  
Geographic Area: Metropolitan Denver  
Program Manager: James Thomas, 303-360-9176

This program will address prostate cancer among African-American, Somali and ex-offender communities by providing outreach, education, health risk-factor screening, prostate cancer informed decisionmaking, education and referrals for treatment.

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#### **Moyo Nguvu Cultural & Healing Arts Center**

##### **Healthy Youth, Healthy Futures Project**

Amount Received: \$120,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: African-Americans/Blacks  
Geographic Area: Arapahoe and Denver counties  
Program Manager: Stephen Meeks, 303-377-2511

This program will emphasize health literacy, health care and self-esteem enhancement and provide direct services to 1,270 African-American youth and 90 African-American adults, 26 to 60 years of age, who reside in Central Denver, Montbello and Aurora.

The goal is to change attitudes and increase the implementation of healthy lifestyle changes that directly reduce the incidences of the aforementioned diseases through proven best practices.

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**Pueblo County Government*****Salado No Mas – An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure***

Amount Received: \$125,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics, Native Americans/American Indians  
Geographic Area: Pueblo County  
Program Manager: Mike Trujillo, 719-583-6320

The Salado No Mas project brings health programs and services to residents within the poorest and heavily minority (Hispanic) populated areas in Pueblo County through the McHarg Park Community Center (Avondale) and Fulton Heights Community Center (Salt Creek/Blende).

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**El Paso County Department of Health and Environment*****Faith/Health Connection: Evidence-Based Approach to Address Health Disparities***

Amount Received: \$150,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: African-Americans  
Geographic Area: El Paso County  
Program Manager: Ann Zielinski, RN, 719-578-3245

This program will partner with faith communities to deliver primary prevention services to African-Americans, with a focus on promoting healthy cardiovascular and pulmonary systems and general lifestyle risk-reduction behaviors.

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**La Clínica Tepeyac*****La Clínica Tepeyac's Heart-Healthy Community Program***

Amount Received: \$150,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Program Manager: David Lack, 303-583-0150

In collaboration with Denver Area Youth Services, this program provides community-based screening, early detection, treatment and behavioral education for hundreds of Latinos at high risk for diabetes. It engages youth in physical activities throughout the year to create healthy habits to avoid obesity and diabetes.

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**Salud Family Health Centers*****Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease for a Population at High Risk for Diabetes***

Amount Received: \$150,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanic, African-Americans/Blacks, Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders and Native Americans/American Indians  
Geographic Area: Adams, Boulder, Larimer, Logan, Morgan and Weld counties  
Program Manager: Gilda Salazar, RN, CDE, 303-833-2050 ext. 4739

This program's goal is to decrease the risk of cardiovascular disease among low-income and Hispanic populations of central and northeastern Colorado.

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**Colorado African Organization****Colorado African Organization Health Awareness Campaign**

Amount Received: \$175,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: African-Americans/Blacks, African Immigrants  
Geographic Area: Adams, Arapahoe and Denver counties  
Program Manager: Dr. Bakary Sonko, 303-485-8571

The program aims to educate African immigrants in Adams, Arapahoe and Denver counties. The African immigrant community is distinct culturally, socially, religiously and perhaps economically from the African-American community. The goal is to increase knowledge about risk factors for, and preventative measures that can be taken against, cardiovascular disease, prostate, breast and cervical cancers.

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**North Colorado Health Alliance****Improving the Cultural Competence of Cancer, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disease Prevention and Detection Practices in Integrated Health Care Settings**

Amount Received: \$175,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Logan, Morgan and Weld counties  
Program Manager: Becky Marrujo, 970-397-1284

This program will provide cultural competence training to nearly 250 health care providers who provide services to more than 20,000 Latino/Latina patients within integrated health care settings (combined mental health and primary care services) in Northern Colorado with the goal of improving prevention and early detection of cancer, cardiovascular or pulmonary disease as well as patient compliance with preventive screening regimens among disparate populations.

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**University of Colorado Denver****Project T.E.A.C.H.: Teaching Equity to Advance Community Health**

Amount Received: \$175,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: African-Americans/Blacks, Asian-Americans/Pacific Islanders, Latinos/Hispanics and Native Americans/American Indians  
Geographic Areas: Statewide  
Program Manager: Angela Sauaia, MD, PHD, 303-315-0002

This program will address health disparities in Colorado by working with community-based organizations to empower them to obtain the financial resources needed to develop, implement and evaluate sustainable, data-driven, evidence-based projects aimed at reducing disparities in heart disease, cancer and lung disease.

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**Colorado NonProfit Development Center****Risk Reduction and Health Promotion in Multi-Cultural Communities**

Amount Received: \$200,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: Asian-Americans/Pacific Islanders, African-Americans/Blacks and Latinos/Hispanics  
Geographic Area: Denver metropolitan area, El Paso, Logan, Larimer, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington and Yuma counties  
Program Manager: Alok Sarwal, 303-521-7641

This program will address the issue of adults in the community who have stopped believing that people can control their own behavior and reduce risk factors for the onset or reoccurrence of cardiovascular, pulmonary and prostate diseases to reduce health disparities.

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**Denver Health****Reducing Health Disparities Through Community Outreach and Patient Navigation**

Amount Received: \$200,000  
Project Category: Crosscutting  
Target Population: African-Americans/Blacks, Latinos/Hispanics, Asian-Americans/Pacific Islanders and Native Americans/American Indians  
Geographic Area: Denver metropolitan area  
Program Manager: Pedro Arevalo Rincon, 303-436-4182

This program will address racial and ethnic health disparities in underserved populations for cancer, cardiovascular disease, pulmonary disease, diabetes and associated risk factors, through patient navigation provided for individuals with chronic conditions and/or associated risk factors to improve diagnosis and treatment. The goal is improved outcomes for patients with chronic diseases and associated risk factors.