



**caring
for Denver**
FOUNDATION

Community Conversation

We're excited to meet you.



Let's introduce our team.

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How it started

Caring for Denver was created from a simple, yet powerful idea. For every \$100 spent in Denver, 25 cents goes toward addressing mental health and substance misuse needs in our city.



Founded by
& for Denver



Independent, nonprofit
foundation



Address Denver's
mental health &
substance misuse needs

*We're on a
Mission*

To address Denver's mental health and substance misuse needs by growing community-informed solutions, dismantling stigma, and turning the community's desire to help into action.

Caring for Denver Funding Areas



Alternatives to Jail: Redirect people with mental health and substance misuse crisis away from the criminal justice system.



Youth: Provide earlier and more resources to help Denver's youth increase resilience and better manage life's stresses.



Community-Centered Solutions: Use community knowledge, strengths, and resources to foster local connectedness, and support access to quality mental health and substance misuse care at the right time.



Care Provision: Support access to quality mental health and substance misuse care at the right time.

Shared Change Needed



Inclusive Access

People need access to care in ways that make sense for them, in places that feel comfortable, and at times that fit their schedules.



Attention to Fit

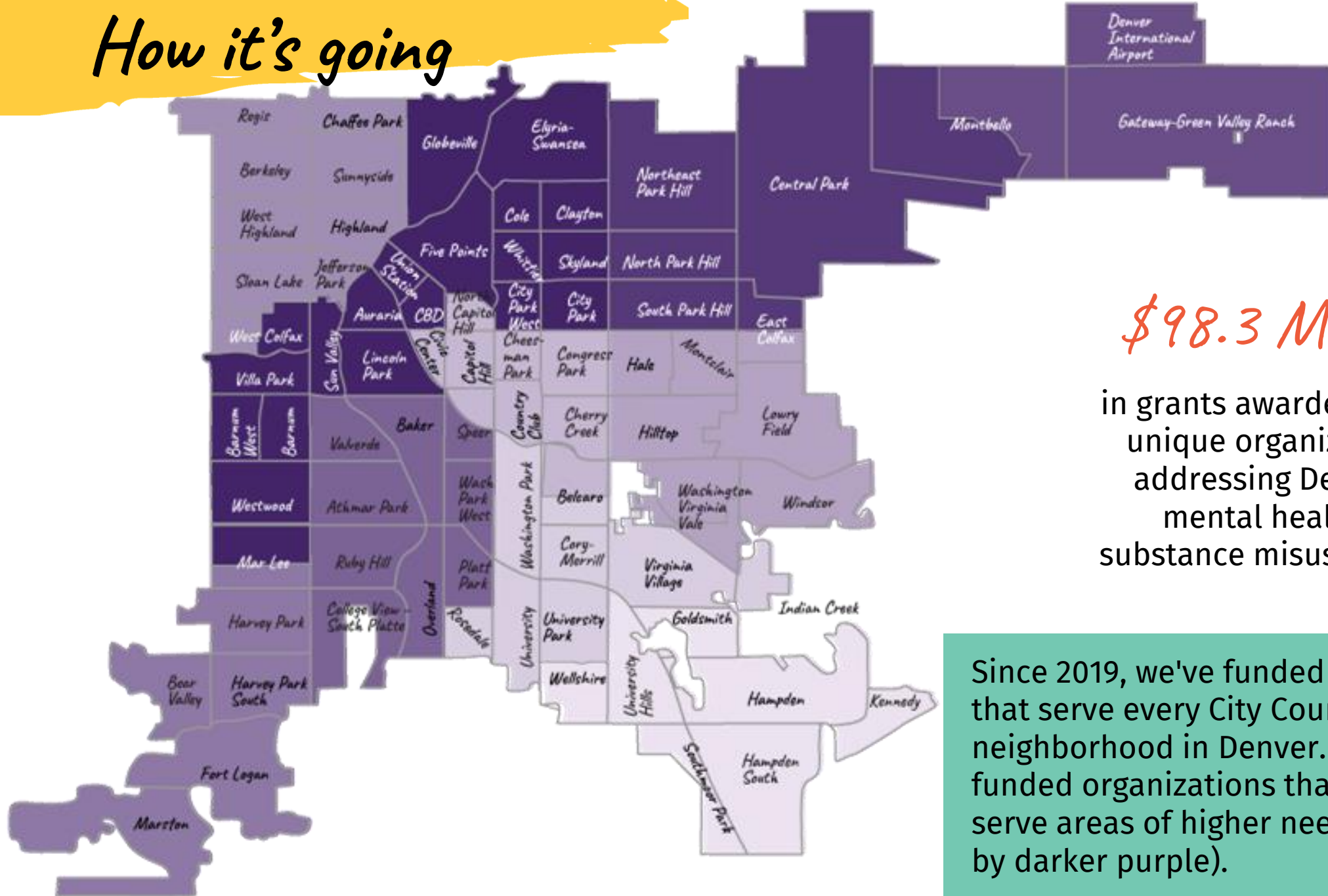
When people seek care, they should feel understood, connected, and respected by those providing that care.



Care Over Time

People need to know and experience care options that are consistent, dependable, and flexible.

How it's going



\$98.3 Million

in grants awarded to **204** unique organizations addressing Denver's mental health & substance misuse needs.

Since 2019, we've funded organizations that serve every City Council District and neighborhood in Denver. Additionally, we funded organizations that specifically serve areas of higher need (as indicated by darker purple).

Shared Impact

Goals

45 grantees have reached the one-year mark for their grant. All had rich data to report for Signals of Progress, and 21 were ready to report on our Shared Impact Goals.

Reduce substance misuse (including maintained healthy relationship with substances)

70%

of 687 participants demonstrated or reported reduced substance use or a maintained healthy relationship with substances that met criteria of the program.

Improve or maintain mental health (including reduced harm to self and others)

83%

of 113 participants reported improved or maintained positive mental health.

Increase equity in mental health and substance misuse outcomes

99%

of 215 participants met program criteria for not entering the justice system, either because of no charges leading to incarceration during the grant period; or by completing a diversion program.

Reduce entry or recidivism into the criminal justice system for those experiencing mental health and substance misuse challenges

86%

of 891 participants did not return to the justice system.

Co-Response & STAR:

Co-Responders

- Officer and clinician respond together
- Higher risk calls (i.e., potential for weapons / violence)
- To date: less than 2% of responses have required enforcement (citation or arrest)
- Case Manager Hub
 - 11 total
 - Ensure long-term success through service connection

STAR Pilot

- Non-law enforcement response
- Lower risk calls (i.e., no weapons involved)
- 9-1-1 **call-takers** screen the following calls for riskiness: assist, intoxicated person, suicidal series, welfare check, trespass / unwanted person, and syringe disposal





Colorado Village Collaborative

Cuica Montoya leads the outreach and wellness program at Colorado Village Collaborative, a transformational housing community built in partnership with people experiencing homelessness.

Her lived experience and peer support training helps her to connect with residents through shared understanding, respect, and mutual empowerment.

I have the space to be authentically me and come in with my voice and share my experiences as a way to help other people going through similar experiences.

- Cuica Montoya



Culinary Hospitality and Outreach Wellness

Denver restaurateur John Hinman started Culinary Hospitality and Outreach Wellness, Inc. (CHOW) to raise awareness on the importance of hospitality worker's mental health and wellbeing as well as increasing the availability of and access to support, resources and services to those in need.

CHOW provides support groups to address addiction, anxiety/depression, eating disorders, and self-care led by industry workers with lived experience with mental health and substance misuse issues.

The whole idea behind CHOW is us helping us. You know, 'oh I worked 18 hours that day, I cut my left thumb off, and lit my shoes on fire,' – that's kind of a normal day. To be able to set all that aside and go right for their heart makes it easier.

-Jon Hinman

Thank You!

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Sign up for our email list
Reach out to lorenz@caring4denver.org

www.Caring4Denver.org

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