

Transforming Safety Grant Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is the grant request range?

There is no limit to the amount that can be requested. The focus of the Transforming Safety grant program is to achieve measurable impacts within the three-year time frame set out in the legislation. There will be \$1.3 million available for funding in the March 2018 grant cycle. Provided State funds are allocated, there will be additional grant rounds in the fall and spring of 2018-19 and 2019-20, with approximately \$650,000 available/grant round. Funds that are not expended in any grant round (e.g., if there are insufficient qualifying applications) can be carried over into the next round and the next funding year (i.e., unspent funds do not revert to the State.) Groups are encouraged to apply for the amount needed to operate an impactful program that is likely to achieve measurable results.

Can applicants apply for more than one year of funding?

Organizations can only apply for a one year grant in any Transforming Safety grant round. Successful projects will be encouraged to apply for additional funding in the following years. Please only submit a proposal reflecting 1 year of programming and a 1-year budget.

How will applications be evaluated?

Applicants that show the most promise for achieving measurable impact within the period of the legislation have the best chance of receiving funding. The review team will not be using scoring criteria to weight responses to individual application questions, but will be evaluating the overall likelihood that the proposed program will achieve measurable results on one or more of the grant priorities within the three year period of the legislation.

How will grant be evaluated and how will grantees report on their progress?

Each grant recipient will work with the Latino Coalition for Community Leadership (LCCL), the contracted evaluator for Transforming Safety. LCCL staff will work with grantees to develop a plan for reporting and entering data to demonstrate progress toward the goals detailed in the grant application. The focus will be on developing processes to track measurable impact and outcomes. As part of their grant contract, all grant recipients will be required to meet on one with the LCCL, and to meet quarterly with all other Transforming Safety grantees in their area.

What are the grant periods, and by when must grant funds be expended?

Each round of grant funding will be for a 12 month period. Transforming Safety grant funds must be spent in the 12 month period starting when grantees receive their grant contract. Grantees making demonstrable progress toward achieving their outcomes and advancing the goals of the Transforming Safety program will be eligible to reapply for funding the following year in the same grant round in which they received funding. E.g., if a group receives funding through the April 2, 2018 application deadline, that same group can reapply at the April 2019 application deadline.

Are there limitations on the use(s) of grant funds?

Grant funds can be used for general operating support if the grantee's overall work advances one or more Transforming Safety priorities, and also for program support if only one program within an organization is focused on Transforming Safety grant priorities. See the Grant Guidelines for funding restrictions.

Can collaboratives apply?

Collaboratives of organizations that come together to create a program that will advance one or more Transforming Safety priorities are strongly encouraged to apply. Oftentimes the collective power of multiple organizations with different strengths can make progress more quickly. Groups can apply both on their own and as a part of a collaborative, and/or as part of more than one collaborative, so long as the different collaboratives have different goals. If applying on their own, groups can only submit one application.

Who will be making grant decisions?

The Denver Foundation will conduct an initial review of all applications. This review will ensure that applications provide services within the geographic boundaries for each community, advance one or more grant priorities, are financially sound, and have satisfied all application requirements. The Denver Foundation will prepare a summary of each application. Qualifying applications will be forwarded to the grant review teams in each community. These teams are made up of members of the Aurora community with a significant connection to North Aurora, and of the Colorado Springs community with a significant connection to Southeast Colorado Springs, as well as staff and consultants from The Denver Foundation and Pikes Peak Community Foundation. Grant review team members include members of the Local Planning Teams from each area, which were responsible for setting the geographic boundaries and determining the grant priorities for each community. No Local Planning Team member who is applying for a grant was eligible to sit on the grant review team. The grant review teams will review the applications and make grant recommendations in early May. The Denver Foundation will then meet with the State Department of Local Affairs in mid-May to convey the grant teams' recommendations. The Department of Local Affairs has final say in all grant decisions. The Denver Foundation will notify applicants on or shortly after May 10th of the final grant decisions.

Southeast Colorado Springs Grant Review Team Members

Councilwoman Yolanda Avila – City of Colorado Springs District 4

Julie Ramirez – teacher in Harrison School District, member of the Local Planning Team

Joyce Salazar – community outreach specialist with the El Paso County Health Dept. and Rise Coalition, member of the Local Planning Team

Mina Liebert – public health planner with the El Paso County Health Dept. and the Rise Coalition, member of the Local Planning Team

Abigail Simpson – Sand Creek and Fountain Library Director for Pikes Peak Library District, member of the Local Planning Team

Wendy Talley – Transforming Safety local planning team facilitator for SE Colorado Springs

Eula Tatman – Program Officer, Grants and Donor Services for Pikes Peak Community Foundation

North Aurora Grant Review Team Members

Kenneth Crawford – Care Coordinator with the Aurora Municipal Wellness Court, member of the Local Planning Team

Nancy Jackson – Arapahoe County Commissioner, member of the Local Planning Team

Tonya Rozencwajg – Director of Our Inheritance, LLC, member of the Local Planning Team

Dace West – Vice President of Community Impact for The Denver Foundation

Patrick Horvath – Deputy Vice President of Programs and Director of Economic Opportunity for The Denver Foundation