

Connection Is Everything

2024 Community Health Snapshot
COLORADO



A message from our leaders

As Colorado's largest nonprofit health plan and one of America's leading health care organizations, Kaiser Permanente is deeply committed to improving the conditions of health in the communities we serve. In 2024, we invested nearly \$110 million in community health support, partnerships, programs, and charitable care and coverage.

People cannot achieve well-being without addressing unmet social needs like access to safe housing and nutritious food. We can help build connections to meet these needs and have prioritized social health at the same level as mental and physical health, committing more than \$5 million to build social need connections and resource capacity.

Our 2024 Community Health Snapshot details some of the community health initiatives we supported in 2024. We're proud of what we accomplished with our teams, community leaders, and organizations.

Mike Ramseier

Regional President
Kaiser Permanente in Colorado

Jeff Krawcek, MD

President and Executive Medical Director
Kaiser Permanente in Colorado

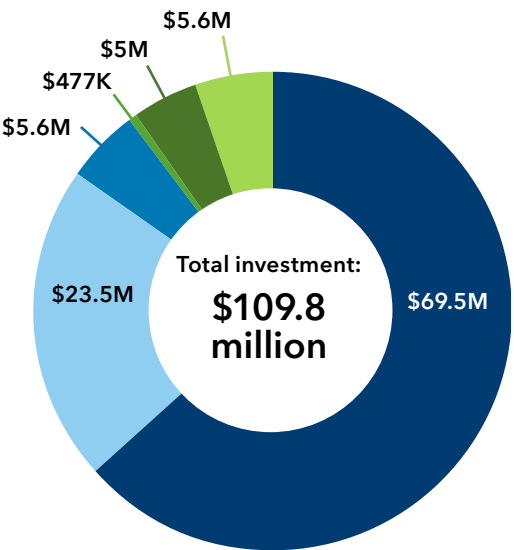
Amy Whited

Vice President of Community Health,
Marketing, and Communications
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2024 by the numbers

Colorado community health investment by program



\$69.5 million

Medicaid and other government programs

\$23.5 million

Charitable coverage and care

\$5.6 million

Grants and donations

\$477,000

Health professions education

\$5 million

Research

\$5.6 million

Other



OUR EMPLOYEES GIVE BACK

5,400

volunteer hours logged by Kaiser Permanente employees in Colorado

\$228,500

donated to nonprofit organizations by Kaiser Permanente employees in Colorado

Housing for health

Medical respite care

For people without housing, it's hard to take care of basic health and medical needs. That's why we connect people to the services and solutions they need to attain optimal health.

We invest in medical respite care programs to provide short-term housing and medical care for people who are experiencing homelessness and recovering from injuries and illnesses. The programs also provide people with access to clinical care and support services, including help transitioning into a stable living environment.

In 2024, we supported grants to strengthen the medical respite ecosystem for patients who were homeless.

- Ascending to Health Respite Care in Colorado Springs was able to hire 7 additional clinical support staff members, allowing the

organization to provide medical respite care over time to 147 people.

- RecoveryWorks in Lakewood continued work on its medical respite expansion. Our grant funding helped 110 people receive emergency services, medical respite care, and support finding long-term housing. Half of the people served were discharged to friends or family, and to permanent supportive, individual, or transitional housing.
- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless was able to improve the service quality provided to people under its care. An additional grant will help the organization hire a licensed practical nurse to provide after-hours support. By hiring a licensed practical nurse, the coalition will be able to help more than 2,100 patients fully recover in safety and comfort.



Mental Health Workforce Accelerator

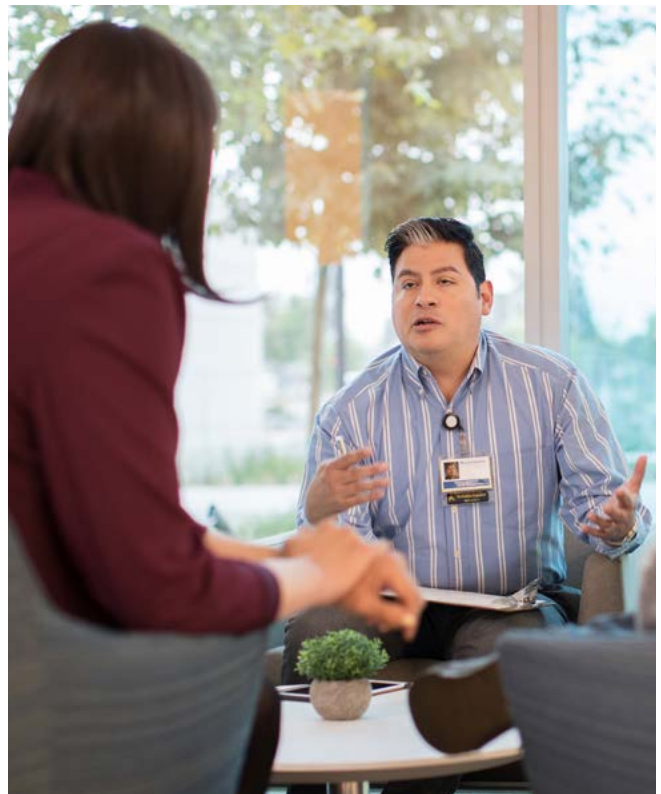
Kaiser Permanente, the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, and the Metropolitan State University of Denver launched the Mental Health Workforce Accelerator Collaborative to address a critical need for mental health professionals in Colorado.

We dedicated \$4.2 million to address the mental health and substance use treatment workforce shortage. The investment will increase the number of licensed clinicians available to serve clients. The funds will also provide stipends to licensure candidates, support supervised clinical hours, and assess the program's success.

We also hosted nearly 100 representatives from community organizations, nonprofits, and governments at the Colorado Health Action Summit. With a focus on mental health, the summit's sessions focused on closing workforce gaps and strengthening resilience in schools.

“ To effectively address the local impacts of the national mental health crisis, we need to develop a communitywide mental health workforce that effectively represents the communities hit hardest. ”

– Mike Ramseier
Regional President
Kaiser Permanente in Colorado



BY THE NUMBERS

56

licensing candidates enrolled in Mental Health Workforce Accelerator

5,137

clients served by licensure candidates



Thriving Schools

In collaboration with schools and school districts, our [Thriving Schools initiative](#) addresses the physical, social, and mental well-being of students, staff, and teachers.

Chef Ann Foundation's Healthy School Food Pathway

The Chef Ann Foundation is using a \$275,000 grant from Kaiser Permanente to make school lunches healthier. The Chef Ann Foundation's Healthy School Food Pathway helps schools convert heat-and-serve menus, which are heavy in processed foods, to whole-ingredient, scratch-cooking programs that provide kids with tastier, healthier meals.

It also upskills school nutrition workers, expanding their career pathways through a paid, 7-week pre-apprenticeship program for those with little or no experience in preparing school lunch or cooking from scratch, and a 9-month apprenticeship program for pre-apprenticeship graduates.

BY THE NUMBERS

19

Colorado school districts and charter schools used Thriving Schools resources

Improving teacher retention

The [Public Education & Business Coalition](#) received a 2-year, \$1.5 million grant from Kaiser Permanente to improve teacher retention and diversity. The Public Education & Business Coalition Teacher Residency program has evolved from 2 Colorado-based teacher residency programs dating back 20 years. The program is expanding mental health support and reducing financial barriers with a focus on candidates of color.



Food Is Medicine

A nutritious diet can help [prevent and manage ongoing conditions](#) like heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. Yet, [47 million people](#) in the U.S. don't have enough to eat or can't afford healthy food.

In 2024, we invested in programs and collaborated with organizations to help people eat healthier. We also continued to educate and share resources on healthy eating with our communities and patients.

Food Is Medicine Summit

Kaiser Permanente and Project Angel Heart convened the second [Colorado Food Is Medicine Summit](#) in 2024. More than 250 researchers, policymakers, and representatives from community organizations met to discuss food and nutrition security and nutritious food programs.

“As the idea of Food Is Medicine has grown, these programs have clearly shown their clinical benefits. If we can improve people's health or prevent them from getting sick in the first place, that is a major win for health care in Colorado.”

– Jeff Krawcek, MD
President and Executive Medical Director
Kaiser Permanente in Colorado

Food Bank of the Rockies Culturally Responsive Food Initiative

With the support of a Kaiser Permanente grant, Food Bank of the Rockies expanded its [Culturally Responsive Food Initiative](#). The organization provided 20 of its Hunger Relief Partners with special training and gave \$5,000 in food credits and an additional \$1,000 in funding to address language barriers.

Supporting access to nutritious food

In 2024, Kaiser Permanente contributed more than \$650,000 to food and nutrition initiatives in Colorado, supporting 8 community partners to help people in need enroll in food benefits, like SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and WIC, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. The contribution also provided access to healthy foods at food banks and helped distribute medically tailored meals to people in need.

All of our investments in food and nutrition programs help people access critical food and nutrition resources.



BY THE NUMBERS

71,000

people accessed critical food
and nutrition resources

Environmental stewardship

Climate Resilience Academy

In 2024, Enterprise Community Partners received a \$95,000 grant from Kaiser Permanente to support the Climate Resilience Academy in Colorado.

The academy provided technical assistance, support, and education to nonprofit, multifamily, rental housing owners to enhance the climate resilience of their properties. It also helped homeowners implement upgrades to low-income housing units, ensuring residents have adequate protection against extreme temperatures, poor air quality events, and fires.

With our support, Enterprise Community Partners' Climate Resilient Affordable Housing program served 10 Denver nonprofit housing providers.

BY THE NUMBERS

1,175

housing units upgraded

Program participants received training, property assessments, and in-depth technical assistance.

As a result of this program, 13 properties, or 1,175 units, have undergone \$1.7 million in energy-saving upgrades, with an additional 16 properties, or 970 units, on track to be upgraded in 2025.



Safety-net support

When people don't have health coverage, they often seek care at safety-net organizations like federally qualified health centers, community health centers, free clinics, primary care associations, or hospital system coalitions. Together, these organizations work to expand access to care.

To strengthen this support system, we invest in programs that improve safety-net providers' quality of care and increase the number of people they serve.

Improved access for rural communities

In 2024, we supported Colorado Rural Health Center in its efforts to improve access to care for Coloradans living in rural communities. Often, these communities experience limited health center staffing, which can be a barrier to receiving needed health care.

The grant helped 16 rural clinics enhance the overall care experience by implementing best practices for staff recruitment and retention. The clinics also improved their day-to-day routines. As a result, appointment scheduling and access became more efficient, and check-in and visit preparation processes were smoother.

Support for community health centers

We provided grant funding to Colorado Community Health Network for a project to enhance workforce sustainability among clinical support staff. The project provides technical assistance and resources to Colorado community health centers. They are exploring

and testing new staffing and health care delivery models to help enhance health center capacity and address burnout and turnover in staff.



BY THE NUMBERS

16

rural clinics supported



Community Health Committee of the Boards of Directors

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