City of Louisville
COLORADO • SINCE 1878

# *City Council*

## *Study Session Agenda*

**July 11, 2017**
**Library Meeting Room**
**951 Spruce Street**
**7:00 PM**

***Note: The time frames assigned to agenda items are estimates for guidance only. Agenda items may be heard earlier or later than the listed time slot.***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7:00 p.m. | **I.** | Call to Order |
| 7:00 - 7:45 p.m. | **II.** | Presentation – Worthy Cause III Program Review from Boulder County Commissioners |
| 7:45 – 7:50 p.m. | **III.** | City Manager's Report & Advanced Agenda |
| 7:50 – 8:00 p.m. | **IV.** | Identification of Future Agenda Items |
| 8:00 p.m. | **V.** | Adjourn |

**SUBJECT:** **PRESENTATION – WORTHY CAUSE III PROGRAM REVIEW FROM BOULDER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**DATE:** **JULY 11, 2017**

**PRESENTED BY:** **DEB GARDNER, BOULDER COUNTY COMMISSIONER**
**MEGAN DAVIS, BOULDER COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

**SUMMARY:**
Worthy Cause is a .05% countywide sales tax that supports capital projects for non-profit human services agencies in Boulder County. Eligible agencies include those providing health care, child care, aging services, disability services, housing and more. The tax has been in place since 2003. Please find attached a Worthy Cause III Report and a power point on the program review. Boulder County Commissioner Deb Gardner and Megan Davis from the Boulder County Commissioner's Office plan to attend the July 11 study session to provide an overview and seek input on a possible tax extension in 2018.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**
1. Worthy Cause III Report
2. Power Point

# WORTHY CAUSE III

## Foundations for a Better Boulder County

Worthy Cause

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# Dear Boulder County residents -

As your Boulder County Commissioners, we are not only elected officials, we are also proud residents of this community – and one of the top reasons we are proud to call this county home is that so many caring and engaged residents have chosen to live here.

We want all of our residents to enjoy good health, have a stable family life, and obtain a quality education, but many Boulder County residents need support at some time in their life to help them reach these desirable outcomes. The county has established a strong system of health and human services programs to help people obtain what they need to improve their overall well-being.

While we can provide some of these services as a local government, we are fortunate to be able to count on an incredible network of local nonprofit agencies to provide additional services, and often on limited budgets. In an effort to support these important agencies, the Worthy Cause ballot measure was first born. The ballot measure was created to generate funds through a .05% sales tax to help nonprofits afford capital improvement projects that would be difficult for them to complete without the financial support of the community. The first iteration of Worthy Cause was passed in 2000, a five-year extension - Worthy Cause II - was approved in 2003, and voters extended the program once more in 2008 for an additional 10 years - this is known as Worthy Cause III.

In this report you can read more information about how Worthy Cause III has impacted our community, the nonprofits that received grants under Worthy Cause III, and the projects the funding helped to support. We hope this report will illustrate how sales and use tax dollars can assist community members who need it most, and strengthen our entire safety net system now and into the future.

We are grateful for the support Boulder County residents have demonstrated for the Worthy Cause program, and we are happy to showcase these taxpayer dollars at work across the county.

Sincerely,

Boulder County Commissioners

Cindy Domenico  Deb Gardner

Elise Jones

# Investing in capital infrastructure to assist those in need

Boulder County is committed to strengthening families and individuals within our community so that all residents can lead healthy lives and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. To accomplish this, we depend on a network of providers and services that includes the County and our community partners. With the help of our community partners, comprised of a range of human services nonprofits of varying sizes and focuses, our residents are better served and supported. These agencies help address some of our hardest societal challenges and are an incredible partner in accomplishing overall human services goals. Even more impressively, these nonprofits more often than not have a limited budget and inadequate facilities in which to support our residents in need.

Recognizing the value of these community partners in improving the lives of our residents, Boulder County voters overwhelmingly approved the first Worthy Cause ballot issue in November 2000, which established a .05% sales tax (or, 5 cents on a $100 purchase) to provide funding for capital investments in human services agencies. Seeing the infrastructure improvements the Worthy Cause funds were able to help fund, therefore helping to better serve local individuals and families in need, Boulder County voters have twice extended Worthy Cause funding at the ballot box. In 2003, Worthy Cause II was approved to extend the tax for an additional five years, and then in 2008, a 10-year extension of Worthy Cause was approved. Worthy Cause III is set to expire in 2018.

Fluctuations in sales tax collections mean the amount available on an annual basis varies, but for the past eight years the fund has averaged roughly $2 million per year of available funding for nonprofit agencies. On an annual basis, human services nonprofits in the community can submit a request for funding for a capital infrastructure project that will strengthen or improve human services programs. To be eligible, an applicant must be a Colorado

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located and operating within Boulder County, and they must offer critical safety net services to vulnerable populations.

Throughout the 16-year life of Worthy Cause thus far, dozens of agencies have received funding, providing organizational stability and service improvements for community members in need. Projects have been funded to support healthcare clinics, mental health services, childcare and early childhood learning, housing, basic needs, aging services, and more.

### Worthy Cause I

**7** agencies **$5.7M** awarded

### Worthy Cause II

**23** agencies **$9.3M** awarded

### Worthy Cause III
(awards made through 2017)

**42** agencies **$19.3M** awarded

Worthy Cause requires that each receiving agency must match its award(s) with a minimum of 50% of the total project cost. In most cases, because Worthy Cause funding is limited – and the demand for funding far exceeds available funds – the match amount is much greater than the minimum requirement.

This report will focus on Worthy Cause III (2009-present), to highlight how sales tax dollars have been strategically invested through Worthy Cause to help address several key issues in Boulder County. Each section contains summaries of just a few of the projects that have been made possible through your sales tax contributions – with a complete list of projects in each section and at the end of the report. We hope to provide a glimpse at the tangible role Worthy Cause funding has played in helping many Boulder County residents live better, fuller lives.

# Basic Needs & Economic Security

In general, Boulder County residents experience a very good quality of life, but a significant number of residents in our community don't have their basic needs met. In 2015, 14.2% (41,412) of county residents lived on less than 100% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) income, including 19,996 of those residents living at or below 50% FPL. Combined with steadily-increasing housing, healthcare, and childcare costs, some individuals and families are struggling to afford even the barest of basics.

With the right support, vulnerable families and individuals can create a path to a more stable future. Worthy Cause has supported nonprofits that directly assist these county residents and their families to receive the right help at the right time, and to strengthen their economic security and overall well-being, in areas including:

**Employment:** For county residents who are able to work, a new or better job can help them reach and sustain economic self-sufficiency. Worthy Cause III has helped agencies that offer various types of employment assistance such as on-the-job training and skill building, referrals to Workforce Boulder County, and financial support for childcare so that working parents can pursue careers and/or education.

**Mobility & Transportation:** Some county residents don't have a personal vehicle or other reliable transportation to get to and from work, school, medical appointments, or other necessary services. Some residents are not able to operate a vehicle due to aging, physical disability, or other considerations. Worthy Cause III funding has helped families and individuals secure reliable transportation that allows them to meet their daily needs.

**Immigrant Services & English Language Learning:** Language barriers can factor into economic challenges, including the ability to thrive in school or excel at a job interview. Also, new community members can benefit greatly by networking at events or gatherings, making key connections that can help build community, provide family support, and may even lead to employment opportunities.

**Food Security:** In Boulder County, 17% of children and 14% of adults are considered food insecure – meaning they don't have access to enough food to support a healthy life. Hunger or improper nutrition affects health, and one's ability to work, study, or handle the stresses of daily life. Agencies which link people to food assistance benefits, food banks, and direct financial assistance help to ensure that families can meet this most basic of needs.

**Comprehensive Self-Sufficiency Services:** Worthy Cause has supported efforts to provide a holistic approach to helping families move toward self-sufficiency. Boulder County's network of nonprofits plays a major role in this goal by unifying community resources and making it easier for families to navigate multiple systems. Collaboration and partnership are key requirements within the Worthy Cause application process, which has supported the development of stronger relationships among agencies that provide various services to individuals and families in need.

# Basic Needs & Economic Security

## OUR Center, 220 Collyer St., Longmont, CO

In 2010 the OUR Center conducted a needs assessment which demonstrated that demand for OUR Center's range of services had increased anywhere between 118% to 698%, depending on the type of service. In order to accommodate the increased demand for services, the OUR Center wanted to consolidate and expand services in a new location. Worthy Cause III contributed $1.2 million toward the OUR Center's $4.7 million new program services and administration center in Longmont. The new home consolidates the agency's basic needs services from four buildings at two different sites, into a single building with more than 9,000 square feet of additional space to accommodate present and future needs. The building serves as a central service center for OUR Center, providing resource navigation, critical needs for homeless people, a community closet, meals and market/food pantry, and classroom space. For the first time, participants can enter the Community Market and, with the help of a personal shopper, select well-rounded, nutritious food for their families off of the carefully-stocked shelves. Those in need of clothing or household items can shop with the help of a volunteer in the new Community Closet. Residents coming for a warm meal walk into the bright, open and welcoming Community Café, which has more than double the capacity of the former dining room.

**As a result of the Worthy Cause investments, the OUR Center's space for operations has increased by 62%, to 30,000 square feet. This project helped the OUR Center expand its ability to deliver services, and is expected to serve 5,000 households per year.**

### Basic Needs Worthy Cause Recipients

- Allenspark Community Cultures Council
  **2014** | $50,000
- Community Food Share
  **2012** | $275,000
- Community Cycles
  **2016** | $50,000 • **2017** | $150,000
- Emergency Family Assistance Association
  **2013** | $68,300 • **2014** | $400,000 • **2015** | $200,000 • **2016** | $51,000
- Immigrant Legal Center
  **2011** | $150,000 • **2012** | $50,000
- Intercambio De Comunidades
  **2014** | $150,000 • **2016** | $50,000
- Meals on Wheels - Boulder
  **2017** | $75,000
- OUR Center
  **2010** | $365,000 • **2010** | $35,000 • **2011** | $300,000 • **2014** | $350,000 • **2017** | $150,000
- Sister Carmen Community Center
  **2019** | $430,000 • **2010** | $200,000 • **2012** | $100,000 • **2013** | $100,000 • **2017** | $75,000
- Via (Special Transit)
  **2010** | $200,000 • **2017** | $100,000

## Sister Carmen Community Center, 655 Aspen Ridge Drive, Lafayette, CO

Sister Carmen provides Boulder County residents with food, nutrition education, job training, case management, counseling, family and parent education, and more. In 2010, Sister Carmen purchased and renovated a service center in Lafayette. Worthy Cause III contributed $1.05 million toward the $3.5 million service center project. The new service site expanded the level and types of services that Sister Carmen is able to provide to community members seeking basic needs services. Four agencies are situated within the Lafayette site – Boulder County Parents as Teachers, Mental Health Partners, Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence, and St. Benedict Health and Healing Ministry. This grouping of support service agencies has provided a more comprehensive range of services to clients. The expansion also allowed Sister Carmen to become a Family Resource Center, providing critical services to strengthen families in Boulder County.

# Children, Youth & Families

Our community works hard to ensure that all individuals have access to certain basics – including educational support, quality early childhood education and care, and guidance to keep children or teens on a path toward successful adult lives. A number of Worthy Cause-supported nonprofits are devoted to improving access to resources for children, youth, and families so that social and economic inequities don't stand in the way of a bright future for all Boulder County children.

**Early Childhood Education:** Early childhood education plays a key role in maximizing kindergarten readiness and social-emotional development, but not all Boulder County families have equal access to these services. Studies show that 90% of brain development takes place in a child's first five years, and that children who are behind their peers at the beginning of their formal education have a difficult time catching up. This delay in education can have a long term impact on educational outcomes, as at-risk children without a high-quality early childhood education are 25% more likely to drop out of school and 60% less likely to attend college.

**K-12 Education & Beyond:** Strong family support and a positive peer learning environment are critical for educational success. Family economics also play a role in academic success, as students from low-income families are 2.5 times more likely to drop out of school than peers from middle-income families, and 10 times more likely to drop out than students from high-income families. Some Worthy Cause-supported nonprofits help students from families of limited means thrive in school, graduate from high school, and plan for higher education.

**Youth Programs & Activities:** As children become teens and gain more independence they are experience new adventures, and are exposed to higher-stakes decision making. For example, according to the 2015 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey, 62.7% of Boulder Valley High School respondents said they had "easy access" to alcohol, 38.2% had tried marijuana, and 30.1% are sexually active. Ensuring that teens have the support and resources they need to make healthy choices and thrive during this exciting time of life is important. Some community partners offer after-school activities, guidance for youth and their parents, peer support, or counseling to address the challenges facing today's teens.

**Daycare:** Meaningful and sustainable employment provides a pathway to economic well-being, and yet for families with children, securing childcare can be a significant barrier. The ever-increasing cost of childcare threatens to leave low-income parents without access to childcare, potentially affecting jobs or education. In 2015, the average yearly cost of childcare in a licensed facility was $13,210 for preschool-aged children and $15,193 for infants. Affordable, quality daycare can help working parents make ends meet, and provide early childhood development, and nutrition, health, and education supports for parents and children alike.

# Children, Youth & Families

## Family Learning Center, 3164 34th Street, Boulder, CO

The Family Learning Center (FLC) offers educational opportunities for children and youth in low-income households. The center is located in the City of Boulder near an area with the city's highest concentration of people living in poverty. Worthy Cause III funding played a major role in the construction of FLC's new 1,700 square foot Health and Wellness Education Center, which was completed in late 2016. The building gave FLC enough space to offer its clients education in healthy eating, including showing parents how to can or freeze fruits and vegetables so they don't go to waste. The building also hosts classes in yoga, Zumba, along with a strength and conditioning program. All preschool students get at least 60 minutes of physical activity daily, and the new Health and Wellness Education Center is adjacent to the FLC's playground so kids can go outside to play when the weather permits. Worthy Cause accelerated the project and helped FLC reduce its debt by providing $235,000 over four years.

## Children, Youth & Families Worthy Cause Recipients

- Acorn School
  **2011** | $200,000 • **2012** | $700,000 • **2012** | $30,000
- Aspen Grove - Over the Rainbow
  **2010** | $125,000 • **2015** | $50,000
- Boulder Day Nursery
  **2011** | $300,000 • **2011** | $50,000 • **2012** | $200,000 • **2012** | $700,000 • **2015** | $278,000
- Children's House Preschool
  **2010** | $100,000
- Longmont YMCA
  **2012** | $60,000 • **2015** | $202,652 • **2017** | $150,000
- Family Learning Center
  **2013** | $75,000 • **2015** | $50,000 • **2016** | $60,000 • **2017** | $50,000
- I Have a Dream Foundation
  **2016** | $100,000 • **2017** | $50,000
- Teens, Inc.
  **2013** | $64,588 • **2014** | $100,000
- Wild Bear Learning Center
  **2017** | $50,000
- Wild Plum Center
  **2009** | $50,000 • **2011** | $50,000 • **2012** | $50,000 • **2013** | $50,000 • **2014** | $12,950 • **2016** | $250,000
- YWCA of Boulder
  **2014** | $32,545

## Teens, Inc., 151 East Street, Nederland, CO

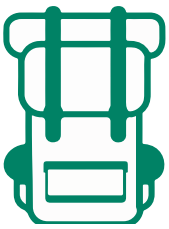
Teens, Inc. empowers youth and their families in the Peak to Peak region, by offering educational and recreational opportunities, youth employment and training, support services, and a safe environment in which to socialize. However, it gets cold and windy in Nederland, and an energy audit showed that Teens, Inc.'s building envelope was extremely leaky. With the help of $164,588 in Worthy Cause grants and matching funds, Teens Inc. was able to shore up its building and provide a greater comfort level for students and employees. The project included digging a four-foot-deep trench around the entire building, insulating the floor, removing the siding to seal gaps around the windows, and installing a high-efficiency furnace and a high-efficiency water heater. A new second floor now includes office and classroom space – a nice upgrade since Teens Inc. used to hold classes in its kitchen. These renovations allowed Teens, Inc. to expand their services and the number of youth they can serve in their facility.

# Housing & Homelessness

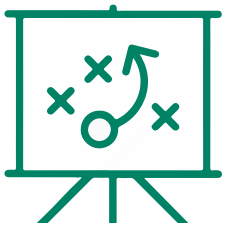
Safe and stable housing is an essential component to physical and mental health and overall well-being. Housing affordability and homelessness are prominent local issues that deeply affect community members of all ages. In 2016 there were at least 726 homeless people identified in Boulder County through a point in time study, and more than half of those identified had been homeless for more than one year. Homelessness is a growing problem for families, who cannot afford housing in our community. Boulder Valley and St. Vrain Valley School Districts had 844 homeless students in 2016, a number that has risen steadily over the past several years.

For those residents who have housing, the rising cost of housing in Boulder County has increased financial stress and security for many households. In 2015, roughly 59% of Boulder County renters were considered "housing cost-burdened," spending more than 30% of their income on housing. Nearly 30% of Boulder County renters were "severely housing cost-burdened," spending more than 50% of their income on housing.

At its most basic, housing challenges can threaten a person's health, safety, and economic wellbeing. Evidence shows a direct link between positive health outcomes and stable, affordable housing. Across Boulder County, many communities have made strong investments in affordable and attainable housing, and other supports for homeless individuals. While no agency on its own can completely solve the problem, Boulder County's network of nonprofits helps many people improve their housing situation.



**Homelessness:** Temporarily homeless and chronically homeless individuals and families need sheltering options, particularly during life-threatening weather conditions. Chronically homeless individuals often have a disability and have been homeless for long periods of time, whereas some families and individuals who are homeless intermittently are making do by "couch-surfing" or living with other families. Worthy Cause-supported nonprofits offer a number of services designed to minimize the hazards and impacts of homelessness, and transition people to more stable housing. This may include temporary overnight shelter, meals, homeless prevention programs, and outreach to help connect people to available assistance. To help transition the chronically homeless into safe housing environments, Worthy Cause has supported permanently supportive housing programs that provide housing in conjunction with ongoing wrap-around services. [See page 9]



**Homeless prevention:** For many families and individuals in Boulder County the high cost of housing makes paying for other expenses particularly difficult. Housing cost-burdened households have less income available for nutrition, health care, education, child care, transportation, and savings funds may be reduced, meaning these other important areas of wellbeing may suffer. Households struggling to meet all of these needs are at risk for missing rent payments, mortgage or insurance payments, property tax payments, or other housing costs. Worthy Cause has supported programs that help keep individuals and families housed, preventing the more costly interventions that come with homelessness.

**Affordable Housing:** The soaring cost of housing is pricing out low-income residents and middle-income residents alike. Across Boulder County, more than 9,000 market rate homes that were once affordable to low-, moderate-, and middle-income households are no longer affordable due to price inflation. Non-profit agencies and housing authorities play a critical role in preserving affordable housing, and providing housing options for special populations who may have a harder time finding housing. The Boulder County Regional Housing Partnership is recommending a regional goal of 15,000 to 22,000 diverse affordable housing units for low- and middle-income households by 2035, and Worthy Cause has been integral to achieving this goal.

# Housing & Homelessness

## Boulder Shelter for the Homeless: 4869 Broadway St., Boulder CO

The Boulder Shelter for the Homeless built a new facility in north Boulder in 2003, replacing a decaying facility that could no longer meet the homeless service needs of Boulder County. Today, the new facility offers shelter, hot meals, and other services to 160 homeless individuals per day, between October and April of every year. The Shelter also provides slots/beds to help address the needs of other communities across the county. Worthy Cause III has helped the Shelter pay off the debt on its building, allowing current grant funding and donations to be used to directly serve the needs of the homeless. Worthy Cause contributed nearly $200,000 for security, energy efficiency, and other improvements at the facility. The investments include improved fencing and lighting upgrades, and modifications designed to minimize environmental impacts and reduce operating costs. These upgrades resulted in significant increases to the Shelter's efficiency and expanded the facility's photovoltaic capacity.

### Housing & Homelessness Worthy Cause Recipients

- Agape
  **2015** | $150,000
- Attention Homes
  **2016** | $500,000
- Boulder County Housing Authority
  **2009** | $200,000 • **2010** | $200,000 • **2012** | $160,000 • **2013** | $270,000 • **2014** | $350,000 • **2015** | $1,000,000 • **2017** | $400,000
- Boulder Housing Coalition
  **2013** | $150,000
- Boulder Housing Partners
  **2009** | $100,000 • **2017** | $400,000
- Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
  **2009** | $25,000 • **2010** | $25,000 • **2011** | $50,000 • **2013** | $58,000 • **2015** | $62,100 • **2016** | $100,000 • **2017** | $25,000
- Bridge House
  **2015** | $300,000
- Habitat for Humanity
  **2017** | $100,000
- Inn Between
  **2009** | $32,000 • **2013** | $290,000 • **2014** | $100,000 • **2017** | $200,000
- Thistle Community Housing
  **2011** | $50,000 • **2013** | $29,100 • **2014** | $200,000

## Inn Between: 250 Kimbark St., Longmont, CO

The Inn Between's mission is to provide supportive housing, comprehensive case management, and life skills training for diverse homeless families and individuals. As a housing provider, the Inn Between has significant capital needs associated with obtaining and maintaining housing units. Worthy Cause has provided more than $600,000 to help the Inn Between improve upon existing buildings, and purchase of 17 apartment units at 230 Coffman Street in Longmont. Funding also supported significant renovations for the new units, including cabinets, countertops, appliances, carpet and paint. Approximately 160 people reside in the Inn Between units at any time, with 270 individuals residing in the Inn Between housing units over the course of a year. Clients also receive case management, job and life skills support, and linkages to basic needs and other services to help transition individuals and families to self-sufficiency. The Inn Between's vacancy rate is consistently less than 2%.

Spotlight on Innovation

# Permanent Supportive Housing

The broad challenge of combating homelessness includes many complicated components, including the fact that the condition of homelessness itself often exacerbates or perpetuates specific problems. Sleeping on the street exposes the homeless to danger, incarceration, and/or the court system. The uncertain nature of homelessness can also affect a person's ability to get or keep a job, stay in programs addressing drug or alcohol abuse, properly care for their own health, or have a sense of personal stability. Many chronically homeless individuals experience a disability, which may include mental health or substance use issues.

With the above factors in mind, the Housing First model has been identified nationally as a promising strategy for reducing the impacts of chronic homelessness. Housing First clients are provided with affordable housing without special prerequisites or requirements, giving them a dependable home base from which to deal with other needs and challenges. For an example of a local development based on Housing First principles, a 31-unit "Permanent Supportive Housing" (PSH) project located at 1175 Lee Hill Road opened in November 2014. (The project was funded in part through Worthy Cause II funds.)

According to Boulder Housing Partners' first-year report, 75% of the original residents still lived at 1175 Lee Hill after one year. Its residents had access to Medicaid/Medicare (25 residents); Supplemental Security Income (11 residents); Aid to the Needy and Disabled (7 Residents); and Social Security Disability Insurance (7 residents). Also, 13 partner agencies provided a wide variety of programs, such as art classes, cooking classes, mental health support, and meals.

Building and managing permanent supportive housing is an expensive endeavor, but it saves communities significant amounts of money when considering the costs of serving the same individuals through law enforcement, incarceration, and emergency services. In the first year at the new location, nine residents at the location on Lee Hill were defined as justice system "high utilizers," and were challenged with significant mental health and/or addiction problems. At the end of 10 months, however, eight of these nine individuals remained housed.

In general, Housing First research suggests that supportive housing significantly lowers emergency services utilization, including interaction with the criminal justice system, for high-need homeless individuals. For example, a recent study in Denver found that it costs an average community roughly $43,300 per year for each chronically homeless person living on the streets, while it costs about $11,700 to house and provide case management for that individual in a Housing First setting.

Worthy Cause will continue to support expansion of permanent supportive housing options in Boulder County. In 2015, the Boulder County Housing Authority was awarded $1 million to add five PSH units for individuals and 15 units for families at the Kestrel development in Louisville. In 2016, Attention Homes in Boulder received a $500,000 grant for supportive housing units for youth. In both 2016 and 2017 $500,000 were set aside for permanently supportive housing in Boulder County, for project(s) that were not identified at the time of this report.

All studies and statistics aside, at its base, permanent supportive housing provides human beings the dignity of a stable living environment and an opportunity to build a better life.

# Health & Well-being

In Boulder County, we've made great strides in improving health coverage and access to healthcare. The rate of uninsured residents has dropped from 11.8% to 5.2% between 2013 and 2015, thanks to the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion. With increased coverage, more families and individuals are accessing preventive care, receiving wellness exams, and getting the tools they need to prevent small health issues from becoming life-threatening. In addition, fewer families are experiencing financial crises due to an illness. However, access to healthcare (including physical, mental, behavioral, and specialty care) is still not always available, and we continue to face uncertain times in our healthcare landscape. Physician availability and low Medicaid reimbursements remain a challenge for healthcare providers, and socioeconomic barriers such as transportation, communication, and lack of after-hours care create barriers for patients. When care can be accessed, it may not always be affordable, even for the insured.

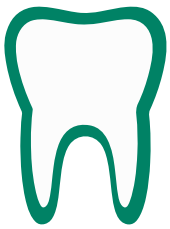
In Boulder County, a strong system of health providers is in place to extend care for low-income and vulnerable residents. The Worthy Cause program has helped local healthcare nonprofits expand services through capital improvements, providing quality facilities for clients and increasing organizations' capacity to serve more patients.

**Primary Care:** When a patient has a single doctor or location designated for providing primary care, they are more likely to have regular preventive and coordinated medical care. A lack of financial resources or affordable healthcare coverage can keep individuals and families from accessing the comprehensive and preventive care they need. Both insured and uninsured Boulder County residents can access services such as prenatal care, physical exams, immunizations, cancer screenings, pharmaceutical services, mental health support, and so much more through the network of local nonprofits who support health and primary care services.

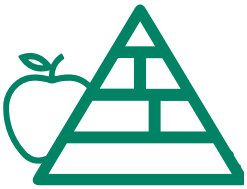
**Reproductive Health & Family Planning:** A lack of specialized family planning services can impact a family's ability to plan for their future, and their economic outcomes. Access to reproductive health information and services, including contraception, reduces the numbers of unwanted pregnancies. Boulder County has substantially fewer teen births (ages 15-19) when compared to statewide figures, but there were still 8.8 births per 1,000 teen girls in Boulder County in 2013. Through affordable health providers, women and men can access affordable reproductive healthcare services including disease prevention, Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) methods, cancer screenings, complex gynecological treatments, comprehensive sexuality education, counseling, and more.

**Mental Health:** Mental health is an integral part of overall health and well-being. The World Health Organization defines positive mental health as a state of well-being in which every individual realizes their own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to their community. A recent survey of Boulder County residents affirmed that many of our residents struggle with episodic and ongoing mental health or substance use issues. The survey showed that most residents (95%) report that they or someone they know has struggled with mental health or substance use issues, many reported seeing a therapist (69%) or psychiatrist (47%) for support, and others reported getting support from family (40%) or friends (40%). Accessible mental health services are important to those who experience mental health conditions, individuals in crisis situations, as well those struggling to maintain healthy mental well-being throughout life's ups and downs.

# Health & Well-being



**Oral Health:** Accessible oral health services demonstrate the strong benefits of early detection. Identifying a cavity and addressing it early can save a person from major oral surgery or possibly losing the tooth. However, the cost of dental care may put seeing the dentist at a low priority, especially for those who lack dental insurance. In Boulder County, residents can access affordable oral health services, including exams, cleanings, fillings, braces, crowns, root canals, and more through Worthy Cause supported non-profit care providers.



**Nutrition:** Quality nutrition is key to proper physical development in children, good health among adults, and productivity in students and employees. However, statistics show that stable nutrition is an issue in Boulder County. About 43,000 Boulder County residents suffered from food insecurity in 2016, including roughly 11,000 kids. Food insecurity is defined by the USDA as not having access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy lifestyle. As a result, 28,914 Boulder County residents received some form of food assistance during 2016, and Worthy Cause-supported nonprofits were among the agencies helping to make sure residents had access to adequate nutrition.

**End-of-Life Care:** Quality end-of-life care can provide comfort for the individual and for their family members, yet financial status can determine the quality and location of care. Thanks to various forms of financial support, including Worthy Cause, it is possible for a Boulder County patient with low income to access affordable end-of-life care, whether it's home-based, in a nursing facility, or in an assisted living community.

## TRU Community Care: 2594 Trailridge Drive East, Lafayette

TRU Community Care, founded originally as Boulder County Hospice in 1976, offers specialized end-of-life, supportive, and bereavement services. The aging population residing in the TRU PACE service area (all of Boulder County and southwest Weld County) is projected to grow by 69% in the next 25 years, creating an urgent need to support this population with appropriate services. Worthy Cause III contributed funds toward the construction of a new 22,582 square foot day services facility in Lafayette, where it will house its TRU PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) program and its Grief Services department. Scheduled to open in early 2017, TRU PACE coordinates and provides all preventive, primary, acute, and long-term care services so that individuals can continue living safely in their community. TRU PACE is an innovative model that enables individuals who are 55 years or older and certified by the state to need nursing home care to live as independently as possible. The $6.5 million facility includes a medical clinic, three daytime activity rooms with patios, a rehabilitation gym, kitchen, showers, laundry facilities, conferencing space for the organization, and grief counseling offices including the children's Healing Circles art therapy room. In 2015, TRU served 1,376 patients and families with medical, emotional, and spiritual support services. More than 2,500 individuals (adults and youth) access grief services from TRU, through individual and group sessions using both paid and unpaid staff. The programs are free and open to the community-at-large.

# Health & Well-being

## Clinica Health Services: People's Medical Clinic 2525 13th St., Boulder & 1735 S. Public Road, Lafayette

Clinica Health Services' mission is to provide medical, behavioral health, and dental care for low-income and other underserved people in Boulder, Broomfield, and Adams counties. The demand for affordable health care has led Clinica to expand its scope of operations significantly, along with its facilities. In 1977, the original Clinica office was in a 500-square-foot house in Lafayette, but today the organization has five medical offices, two dental clinics, and an administration building spread out across the three counties the agency serves. Worthy Cause III provided funds toward the development of Clinica's new $9.2 million family health clinic project in Boulder, including a project to convert a conference room into a group visit room. In 2016, Worthy Cause contributed to the purchase of 7 acres of property in Lafayette which will house a new 65,000-square foot clinic serving eastern Boulder County. Clinica estimates the new facility will expand its service capacity in eastern Boulder County from 7,000 to 10,500 active patients, and it will allow Clinica to provide dental services to east Boulder and Broomfield County patients for the first time. Clinica intends to staff the new building with three medical teams, a dental team, a pharmacy, and administrative offices. Mental Health Partners and Boulder County Public Health will both have offices within the new facility as well.

### Health & Wellness Worthy Cause Recipients

- Boulder Valley Women's Health
  **2009** | $200,000 • **2009** | $195,000 • **2013** | $50,000 • **2014** | $35,000
- Center for People with Disabilities
  **2014** | $42,000 • **2015** | $25,000
- Clinica Campesina
  **2009** | $300,000 • **2013** | $63,000 • **2016** | $500,000
- Dental Aid
  **2009**| $123,008 • **2011** | $90,000 • **2015** | $106,215
- Medicine Horse
  **2009** | $25,000
- Mental Health Partners
  **2012** | $600,000 • **2013** | $800,000
- Salud Family Health Center
  **2013**| $800,000
- TRU Community Care
  **2016** | $300,000

# Community Safety

Community safety includes a broad range of services, including law enforcement and the criminal justice system. But there are many other services that focus on keeping children, families and vulnerable adults safe from harm. Worthy Cause has long supported nonprofits that provide safe services for community members at risk, and also educate the community about child and elder abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes that affect the safety of vulnerable populations.

As is true in any community, Boulder County experiences some instances of child abuse and neglect, elder abuse, domestic violence, and other crimes against vulnerable populations. Boulder County's nonprofit network includes partners who are focused on reducing and preventing acts of abuse or violence, and when traumatic events do occur, they are equipped to help people move forward into healthy, productive lives.

**Domestic Violence Services:** The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence estimates that in a typical year, between two million and four million women experience abuse at the hands of their spouses or partners. An incidence of violence or abuse might require a family or individual to move from their current situation unexpectedly. The availability of emergency shelters gives abused spouses or partners - and possibly their children - a short-term safe place to stay, along with other services that might include case management, counseling , legal services and assistance finding safe, long-term housing.

**Education:** The protection of at-risk populations requires the involvement of the entire community. There may be signs of abuse, neglect, or exploitation that could be detected by individuals who interact with victims. Through training or education to help people recognize signs of abuse, community members might be able to identify children who are at risk before the danger becomes critical. In addition, sexual assault and abuse may be prevented by educating children and young adults about strategies to keep themselves safe and out of harmful situations. Several Worthy Cause-supported nonprofits offer classes designed to help prevent this type of crime.

## Blue Sky Bridge, 2617 Iris Hollow Place, Boulder, CO

Blue Sky Bridge provides prevention and intervention services for child abuse or neglect and child sexual abuse. As the primary provider of forensic interviews with children experiencing trauma from abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse, and with the growing demand for prevention and education services around child safety, Blue Sky Bridge has struggled to meet the demand for services countywide. To meet the increased need, Blue Sky Bridge made a plan to expand its facilities, and Worthy Cause funding helped make that expansion possible. Worthy Cause contributed $400,000 over three years to support the remodeling and expansion of Blue Sky Bridge's facility in Boulder. As of February 2017, a project was underway that would more than double Blue Sky Bridge's facility - from 2,200 square feet to 5,300 square feet. The facility will include a new room for specialized medical exams for child victims of sexual abuse. Currently, clients in need of these exams must travel to Arvada or Loveland. The new facility will also include a forensic interview room, play rooms for children, rooms for therapy services, space for detectives and case workers, extra office space, a staff break room, and a conference room for larger meetings. The space will expand Blue Sky Bridge's capacity to handle larger volumes, but perhaps more importantly will reduce waiting time for children who require specialty services.

### Community Safety Worthy Cause Recipients

- Blue Sky Bridge
  **2015** | $200,000 • **2016** | $50,000 • **2017** | $150,00
- Safehouse Progressive Alliance
  **2011** | $50,000 • **2013** | $85,000 • **2014** | $250,000 • **2016** | $50,000 • **2017** | $25,000
- Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
  **2012** | $50,000 • **2014** | $15,400

Spotlight on Innovation

# Sustainability in Focus

When Worthy Cause III was approved by the voters in 2008, Boulder County integrated into the program and application criteria a desire to support projects that improve the environmental sustainability and energy efficiency of nonprofit facilities throughout Boulder County. Through Worthy Cause, numerous nonprofits have been able to improve the sustainability of their existing facility, or pursue new facilities and improvements that greatly reduced their environmental impact. The goal was to align Worthy Cause investments with Boulder County's broader sustainability goals, improve the agencies' resiliency in the face of climate change, and to assist nonprofits in reducing operating expenditures so that they may invest more of their budgets in direct services for clients in need.

Following are examples of how Worthy Cause has improved the sustainability of nonprofits in the community – and contributed to meeting energy reduction goals:

**Renewable Energy:**
In an effort to reduce building energy consumption, and the operating costs of human services nonprofits, Worthy Cause has supported investments in on-site solar photovoltaic systems for some agencies. **Teens, Inc.** capitalized on the sunny days in Nederland by adding a solar array to their facility. **Boulder Shelter for the Homeless**, already fully equipped with on-site solar, received an award to increase its solar capacity through a community solar garden.

**Energy Efficiency:**
Many agencies have leveraged Worthy Cause funds to reduce energy consumption, and in turn the use of fossil fuels, by making improvements and upgrades to their facilities. **Boulder County Housing Authority** applied for Worthy Cause funds to improve the individual efficiency of some apartment units in Lafayette. In addition, the Josephine Commons and Kestrel housing developments supported through Worthy Cause were designed to exceed local sustainability and energy efficiency requirements. **Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN)** received funding to complete energy efficient upgrades to their outreach center, including replacing six 19-year-old furnaces and air conditioner units with 80% efficient equipment, replacing the water heater with an Energy Star unit, and the installation of low flow toilets.

**Climate Change Preparedness & Resilience:**
Climate change preparedness is another important aspect of sustainability. In the face of climate change, community partners recognize the need to adapt to conditions that may adversely affect vulnerable populations. Whether working with children, the elderly, homeless, or individuals with a disability these vulnerable members of our community will require ongoing, or even enhanced services during a disaster or other impacts of changing climate conditions. As an example, **Via** used Worthy Cause funding to become a resilience hub in Boulder. The purchase of a solar array, installation of battery storage, a natural gas generator and engineering control software will allow Via to go completely off-grid indefinitely. This is great news for community members who rely on Via in times of disaster. These investments will help support Via's role as a second responder in Boulder County's Emergency Management Plan, so they are able to help evacuate vulnerable residents during times of need.

# Worthy Cause Fund Recipients by Year

## 2009

Boulder County Housing Authority
Boulder Housing Partners
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Boulder Valley Women's Health
Clinica Campesina
Dental Aid
Inn Between
Medicine Horse
Sister Carmen Community Center
Via (Special Transit)
Wild Plum Center/Long. Childrens

## 2010

Aspen Grove (Over the Rainbow)
Boulder County Housing Authority
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Children's House Preschool
OUR Center
Sister Carmen Community Center
Via (Special Transit)

## 2011

Acorn School
Boulder Day Nursery Association
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Dental Aid
Immigrant Legal Center
OUR Center
Safehouse Progressive Alliance
Thistle Community Housing
Wild Plum Center/Long. Childrens

## 2012

Acorn School
Boulder County Housing Authority
Boulder Day Nursery Association
Community Food Share
Longmont YMCA
Immigrant Legal Center
Mental Health Partners
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Sister Carmen Community Center
Wild Plum Center/Long. Childrens

## 2013

Boulder County Housing Authority
Boulder Housing Coalition
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Boulder Valley Women's Health
Clinica Campesina
Emergency Family Assistance Association
Family Learning Center
Inn Between
Mental Health Partners
Safehouse Progressive Alliance
Salud Family Health Center
Sister Carmen Community Center
Teens, Inc.
Thistle Community Housing
Wild Plum Center/Long. Childrens

## 2014

Allenspark Community Cultures Council
Boulder County Housing Authority
Boulder Valley Women's Health
Center for People with Disabilities
Emergency Family Assistance Association
Imagine!
Inn Between
Intercambio De Comunidades
OUR Center
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Safehouse Progressive Alliance
Teens, Inc.
Thistle Community Housing
Wild Plum Center/Long. Childrens
YWCA of Boulder

# Worthy Cause Fund Recipients by Year

## 2015

Agape
Aspen Grove (aka Over the Rainbow)
Blue Sky Bridge
Boulder County Housing Authority
Boulder Day Nursery Association
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Bridge House
Center for People with Disabilities
Dental Aid
Ed & Ruth Lehman YMCA
Emergency Family Assistance Association
Family Learning Center

## 2016

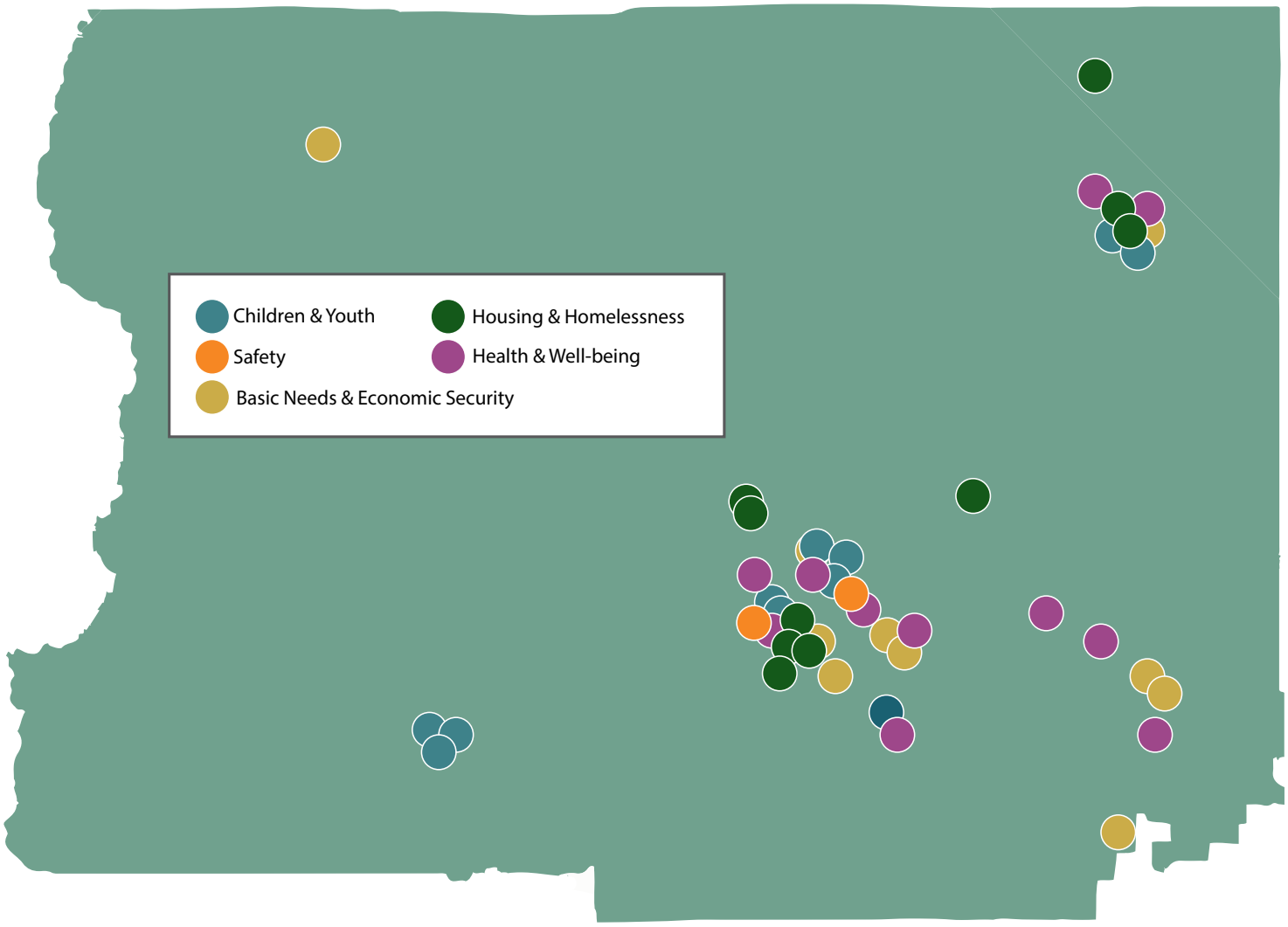
Attention Homes
Blue Sky Bridge
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Clinica Campesina
Community Cycles
Emergency Family Assistance Association
Family Learning Center
I Have A Dream Foundation
Intercambio De Comunidades
Safehouse Progressive Alliance
TRU Community Care
Wild Plum Center/Long. Childrens

## 2017

Blue Sky Bridge
Boulder County Housing Authority
Boulder Housing Partners
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Community Cycles
Longmont YMCA
Family Learning Center
Habitat for Humanity
I Have A Dream Foundation
Inn Between
Meals on Wheels Boulder
OUR Center
Safehouse Progressive Alliance
Sister Carmen Community Center
Via (Special Transit)
Wild Bear Learning Center

# Worthy Cause Fund Recipient Locations

** In many cases, agencies serve multiple communities within Boulder County, or the entire county. This map represents the physical location of the agency and not necessarily the community served.*




**Boulder**
Acorn School
Attention Homes
Blue Sky Bridge
Boulder Day Nursery
Boulder Housing Coalition
Boulder Housing Partners
Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
Boulder Valley Women's Health
Bridge House
Center for People with Disabilities
Children's House Preschool
Clinica Campesina
Community Cycles
Dental Aid
EFAA
Family Learning Center
I Have a Dream Foundation
Imagine!
Immigrant Legal Center
Meals on Wheels Boulder
Medicine Horse
Mental Health Partners
Safehouse Progressive Alliance
Thistle Community Housing
Via (Special Transit)
YWCA of Boulder

**Lafayette**
Boulder Day Nursery
Clinica Campesina
TRU Community Care
Boulder Housing Authority
Sister Carmen Community Center

**Longmont**
Agape
Boulder Valley Women's Health
EFAA
Habitat for Humanity
Inn Between
Intercambio De Comunidades
Longmont YMCA
OUR Center
Safehouse Progressive Alliance
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
Salud Family Health Center
Thistle Community Housing
Wild Plum Center

**Louisville**
Boulder County Housing Authority
Community Food Share
Dental Aid
EFAA

**Mountain Communities**
Allenspark Comm. Cultural Council
Aspen Grove
Boulder County Housing Authority
Teens, Inc.
Wild Bear Learning Center

# Worthy Cause Fund Recipient Agencies

### Acorn School
**2011** - Purchase of building - Wilderness Place | $200,000
**2012** - Purchase of building - Wilderness Place | $700,000
**2012** - Debt reduction for Wilderness Place | $30,000

### Agape
**2015** - Development of emergency shelter site in Longmont | $150,000

### Allenspark Community Cultures Council
**2014** - Capital improvements to Allenspark food bank/clothing bank | $50,000

### Aspen Grove - Over the Rainbow
**2010** - Purchase of new childcare building in Nederland | $125,000
**2015** - Debt reduction on Nederland building | $50,000

### Attention Homes
**2016** - Development of youth housing in Boulder | $500,000

### Blue Sky Bridge
**2015** - Renovation and construction of addition to Boulder offices | $200,000
**2016** - Renovation and construction of addition to Boulder offices | $50,000
**2017** - Renovation and construction of addition to Boulder offices | $150,000

### Boulder County Housing Authority
**2009** - Development of affordable housing Aspinwall/Josephine Commons in Lafayette | $200,000
**2010** - Development of affordable housing Aspinwall/Josephine Commons in Lafayette | $200,000
**2012** - Debt reduction on housing units for SPAN clients | $160,000
**2013** - Renovations on housing units in Lafayette | $270,000
**2014** - Development of affordable housing - Kestrel in Louisville | $350,000
**2015** - Development of permanently supportive housing units at Kestrel in Louisville | $1,000,000
**2017** - Development of affordable housing units in Nederland | $400,000

### Boulder Day Nursery
**2011** - Debt reduction on Boulder childcare building | $50,000
**2011** - Purchase of land for Lafayette center | $300,000
**2012** - Purchase of land and building for Lafayette Early Childhood Center | $200,000
**2012** - Purchase of land for Lafayette center | $700,000
**2015** - Debt retirement on Boulder child care center | $278,000

### Boulder Housing Coalition
**2013** - Purchase of building for cooperative housing | $150,000

### Boulder Housing Partners
**2009** - Development of Broadway East Community Center in Boulder | $100,000
**2017** - Development of affordable housing units - Palo Parkway in Boulder | $400,000

### Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
**2009** - Debt reduction on Boulder Shelter | $25,000
**2010** - Debt reduction on Boulder Shelter | $25,000
**2011** - Debt reduction on Boulder Shelter | $50,000
**2013** - Debt reduction on Boulder Shelter | $58,000
**2015** - Renovations to Boulder Shelter | $62,100
**2016** - Energy efficiency measures for Boulder Shelter | $100,000
**2017** - Renovations to Boulder Shelter | $25,000

### Boulder Valley Women's Health
**2009** - Renovation of Boulder Clinic | $200,000
**2009** - Purchase of Longmont Clinic | $195,000
**2013** - Debt retirement on Boulder Clinic | $50,000
**2014** - Powell building improvements |$35,000 (shared facility)

### Bridge House
**2015** - Purchase of housing units in Boulder | $300,000

### Center for People with Disabilities
**2014** - Capital improvements to Boulder office | $42,000
**2015** - Debt reduction on Boulder office | $25,000

### Children's House Preschool
**2010** - Expansion of Boulder preschool | $100,000

### Clinica Campesina
**2009** - Purchase/remodel of Boulder People's Clinic | $300,000
**2013** - Creation of new group health rooms at Boulder Clinica | $63,000
**2016** - Development of Lafayette People's Clinic | $500,000

### Community Cycles
**2016** - Purchase of building in Boulder | $50,000
**2017** - Purchase building in Boulder | $150,000

### Community Food Share
**2012** - Purchase and renovation of building in Louisville | $275,000

### Dental Aid
**2009** - Renovation/Equipment for Boulder Clinic | $123,008
**2011** - Renovation/Energy efficiency for Louisville Clinic | $90,000
**2015** - Construction of new clinic space in Louisville | $106,215

### Emergency Family Assistance Association
**2013** - Renovations to Emergency family shelter in Longmont | $68,300
**2014** - Development of family housing units in Boulder | $400,000
**2015** - Renovation of family housing units in Louisville | $200,000
**2016** - Capital improvements to housing units in Boulder | $51,000

### Family Learning Center
**2013** - Renovations/Addition for Boulder facility | $75,000
**2015** - Capital improvements for Boulder facility | $50,000
**2016** - Renovation/Addition to Boulder facility | $60,000
**2017** - Renovation/Addition to Boulder facility | $70,000

# Worthy Cause Fund Recipient Agencies

### Habitat for Humanity
**2017** - Purchase of office building in Longmont | $100,000

### I Have a Dream Foundation
**2016** - Purchase of building in Boulder | $100,000
**2017** - Renovations for building in Boulder | $50,000

### Imagine!
**2014** - Capital improvements on Boulder residential facility | $49,000

### Immigrant Legal Center
**2011** - Purchase of office space in Boulder | $150,000
**2012** - Debt reduction on Boulder office | $50,000

### Inn Between
**2009** - Renovations on office in Longmont | $32,000
**2013** - Purchase of housing units in Longmont | $290,000
**2014** - Debt reduction on housing units in Longmont | $100,000
**2017** - Development of housing units in Longmont | $200,000

### Intercambio De Comunidades
**2014** - Purchase and renovation of Longmont office | $150,000
**2016** - Debt reduction on Longmont office | $50,000

### Longmont YMCA
**2012** - Renovations to childcare center | $60,000
**2015** - Outdoor shelter and kitchen area | $202,652
**2017** - Renovations to childcare center | $150,000

### Meals on Wheels Boulder
**2017** - Purchase of land and building for Boulder center | $75,000

### Medicine Horse
**2009** - Debt reduction on Boulder facility | $25,000

### Mental Health Partners
**2012** - Purchase and renovation of clinic in Boulder | $300,000
**2013** - Purchase and renovation of clinic in Boulder | $600,000

### OUR Center
**2010** - Purchase of land and building for Longmont center | $365,000
**2010** - Capital improvements to childcare center | $35,000
**2011** - Purchase of land and building for Longmont center | $300,000
**2014** - Purchase of land and building for Longmont center | $350,00
**2017** - Debt reduction on Longmont center | $150,000

### Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley
**2012** - Capital improvements to Longmont Shelter facility | $50,000
**2014** - Improvements to building in Longmont | $15,400

### Safehouse Progressive Alliance
**2011** - Debt reduction on Longmont building | $50,000
**2013** - Capital improvements to Boulder outreach center | $85,000
**2014** - Debt retirement on Boulder shelter facility | $250,000
**2016** - Capital improvements to Boulder outreach center | $50,000
**2017** - Capital improvements to Boulder shelter | $25,000

### Salud Family Health Center
**2013** - Expansion of Longmont Clinic | $800,000

### Sister Carmen Community Center
**2009** - Purchase and renovation on Lafayette facility | $430,000
**2010** - Renovation of Lafayette facility | $200,000
**2012** - Debt reduction on Lafayette facility | $100,000
**2013** - Debt reduction on Lafayette facility | $100,000
**2017** - Debt reduction on Lafayette facility | $75,000

### Teens, Inc.
**2013** - Renovations/energy efficiency for Nederland facility | $64,588
**2014** - Addition to Nederland facility | $100,000

### Thistle Community Housing
**2011** - Debt retirement on Boulder Office | $50,000
**2013** - Renovations to housing units in Longmont | $29,100
**2014** - Debt reduction on housing units in Longmont | $200,000

### TRU Community Care
**2016** - Development of Lafayette senior care facility | $300,000

### Via (Special Transit)
**2009** - Construction of new facility in Boulder | $500,000
**2010** - Construction of new facility in Boulder | $200,000
**2017** - Energy efficiency measures for Boulder facility | $100,000

### Wild Bear Learning Center
**2017** - Purchase of new building in Nederland for preschool | $50,000

### Wild Plum Center
**2009** - Debt reduction on Longmont building | $50,000
**2011** - Debt reduction on Longmont building | $50,000
**2012** - Debt reduction on Longmont building | $50,000
**2013** - Debt reduction on Longmont building | $50,000
**2014** - Powell building improvements | $12,950
**2016** - Purchase of new child care center in Longmont | $250,000

### YWCA of Boulder
**2014** - Capital improvements/security improvements | $32,545

# What's Next for Worthy Cause?

The current voter-approved Worthy Cause III tax sunsets on Dec. 31, 2018. The Boulder County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has the option to propose a new Worthy Cause extension as a ballot measure for a future election, as it did in 2003 and 2008.

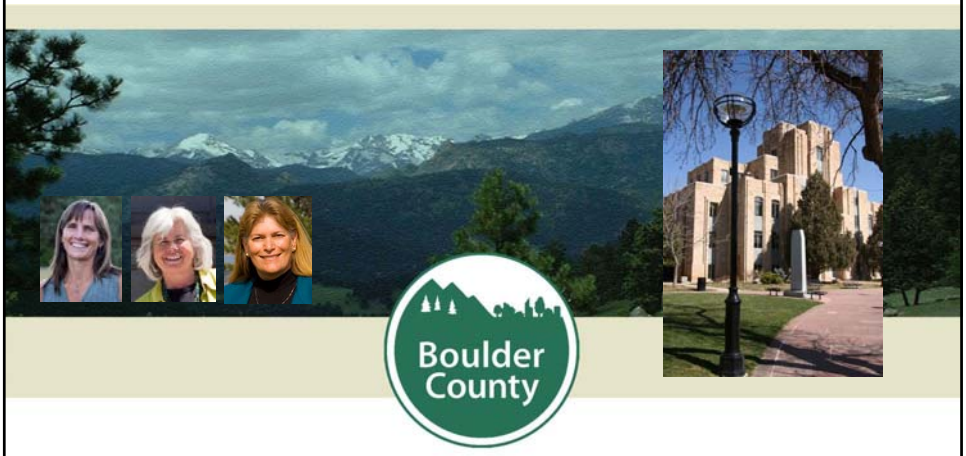
If the commissioners decide to propose a Worthy Cause extension, they will hold public hearings to gather additional input before finally voting for or against adding the measure to the next ballot. If they decide to go forward, the measure would go before voters during a regular November election, and would pass if it receives simple majority voter support.

Do you have an opinion on the Worthy Cause program? Should Worthy Cause funding focus more or less on addressing certain community values? Does the Worthy Cause tax provide the proper amount of funding, or does it need an adjustment? How long should an extension of the tax last? The answers to these questions could influence the text of a possible future ballot measure.

Worthy Cause

As it stands today, there is no identified funding to replace Worthy Cause if the current tax is allowed to sunset at the end of 2018. Nonprofit agencies interested in grants for 2018 will need to apply by August 2017. Potential applicants can find the Worthy Cause webpage by visiting **www.BoulderCounty.org** and searching for Worthy Cause, or contacting the Boulder County Commissioners' Office at 303-441-3562 for more information.

# WORTHY CAUSE III: PROGRAM REVIEW




## Board of County Commissioners

Presentation to Louisville City Council
July 11th, 2017

# WORTHY CAUSE OVERVIEW

- What is Worthy Cause?
- Program structure
- How the WC III funds have impacted Boulder County and the City of Louisville
- Next steps for Worthy Cause

## WHAT IS WORTHY CAUSE

- .05% countywide sales tax
- Supports capital projects for non-profit human services agencies in Boulder County
- Agencies providing health care, child care, aging services, disability services, housing and more
- In place since 2003

Board of County Commissioners

## HISTORY OF WORTHY CAUSE

- 2000 - voters *approve* the conversion of a .05% sales tax from emergency services to human services non-profit capitol investments, called Worthy Cause
- 2003 - voters *extend* Worthy Cause for five years (Worthy Cause II)
- 2008 – voters again *extend* Worthy Cause for ten years (Worthy Cause III)

Board of County Commissioners

# 2008 WORTHY CAUSE III BALLOT LANGUAGE

COUNTV ISSUE IB (Worthy Cause 0.05% County-wide Sales and Use Tax Extension Issue): WITH NO INCREASE IN ANY COUNTY TAX, SHALL THE COUNTY'S EXISTING 0.05% SALES AND USE TAX FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BE EXTENDED TO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 31, **2018 FOR THE PURPOSES OF FUNDING CAPITAL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR NON-PROFIT HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES AND HOUSING AUTHORITIES WITHIN BOULDER COUNTY PROVIDING HEALTH, TRANSITIONAL AND AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING, AND OTHER HUMAN SERVICES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CHILDCARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, BASIC NEEDS SUCH AS FOOD AND CLOTHING. AND SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:** AND SHALL THE EARNINGS ON THE INVESTMENT OF THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE; ALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS" RESOLUTION NO. 2008-88?



# WORTHY CAUSE III – ANNUAL REVENUES

| Worthy Cause III Revenues | |
|---|---|
| Year | Total |
| 2009 | 1,782,371.88 |
| 2010 | 1,869,588.65 |
| 2011 | 1,936,870.08 |
| 2012 | 2,068,096.12 |
| 2013 | 2,208,662.41 |
| 2014 | 2,413,322.72 |
| 2015 | 2,479,824.77 |
| 2016 | 2,679,493.17 |
| 2017 Projected | 2,682,437.00 |
| Total | 20,120,666.80 |

## WORTHY CAUSE III FUNDING

- Pool funding available in each year
- Designated agencies received funding in the first five years (2009 – 2013) of WC III
- Annual application process for eligible agencies

Board of County Commissioners

## WC III INVESTMENTS

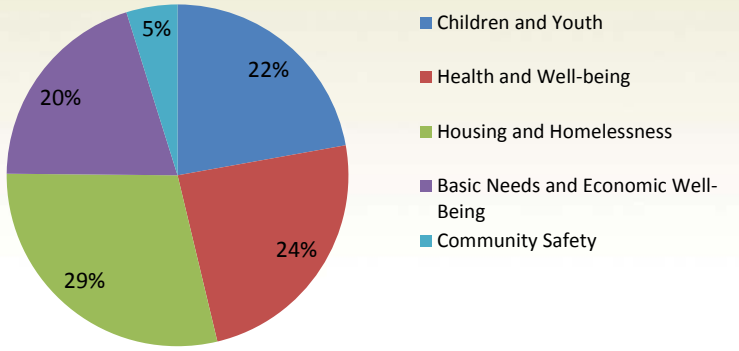
- WC III has awarded 113 awards to 43 agencies between 2009 – 2017
- Total funds awarded during the same years = $19,119,858
- $1 million set-aside in 2016 and 2017 for permanently supportive housing (not yet awarded)

**With the match funding, an estimated $50 million has been invested in our community non-profits as a result of Worthy Cause***

* Worthy Cause requires a 100% match, but for most projects WC makes up between 25 – 50% of the total project cost, or less.

Board of County Commissioners

# PROJECT/SERVICES FUNDED THROUGH WORTHY CAUSE III

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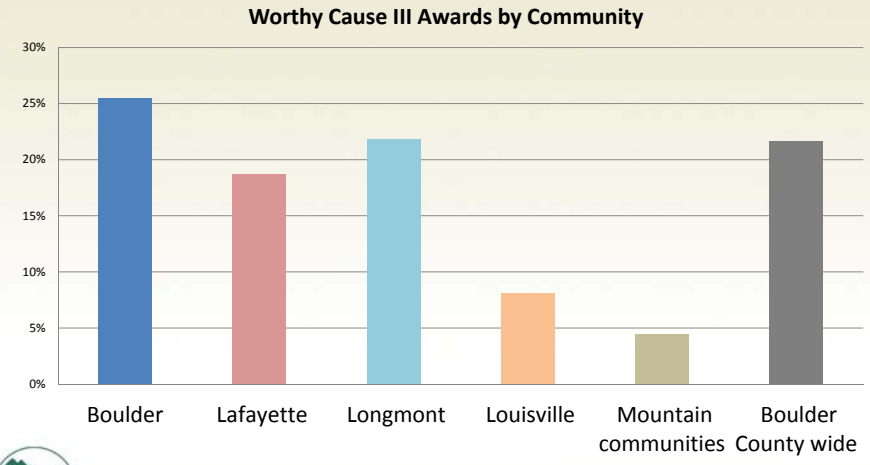
# WORTHY CAUSE III INVESTMENTS ACROSS BOULDER COUNTY

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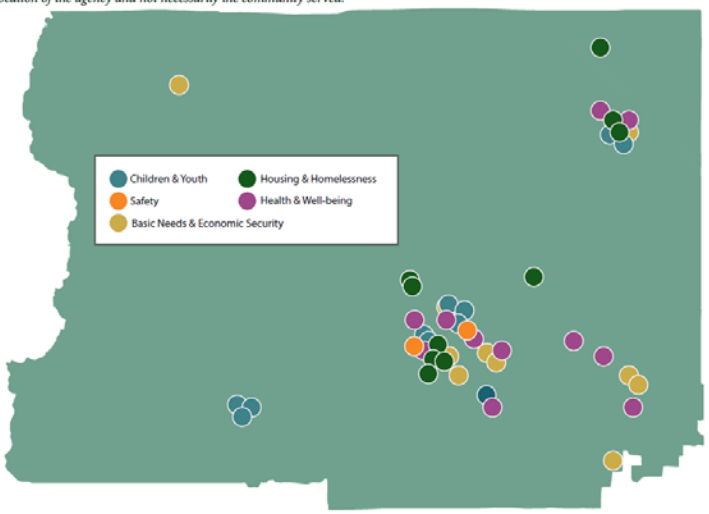
# Worthy Cause Fund Recipient Locations

** In many cases, agencies serve multiple communities within Boulder County, or the entire county. This map represents the physical location of the agency and not necessarily the community served.*






# INVESTMENTS IN LOUISVILLE

- Boulder County Housing Authority
- Community Food Share
- Dental Aid
- EFAA

## COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

- Increased and improved the type of services available
- Increased number of clients able to be served
- Strengthened connections between providers
- Strengthened providers

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## NEXT STEPS – WORTHY CAUSE IV?

- Worthy Cause III set to expire in 2018
- Polling around community support for continuation of the program
- Determine specifics of the ballot resolution (project needs, designated agencies, etc.)
- BOCC consider tax extension no later than August

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## QUESTIONS?

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