

Request for Proposal

2017 Grant Opportunity

Enhanced Home Visitation

Introduction

Community First Foundation is pleased to announce a three-year grant opportunity to support home visitation programs in the Denver metropolitan area. The Enhanced Home Visitation grant opportunity aims to improve the effectiveness of early childhood professionals delivering home visitation programming for families in the area of social-emotional development and to improve outcomes for children and families receiving home visitation services.

Strong candidates for this grant opportunity will be able to demonstrate the following:

- A record of accomplishment operating an evidence-based or evidence-informed home visitation program in the seven-county Denver metropolitan area.
- Readiness and desire for home visitors to receive regular reflective supervision/consultation and coaching from mental health consultants.
- A commitment to developing the skill sets of home visitors over a three-year period in the areas of mindfulness training, specialized infant mental health training/coursework and/or participating in the [Infant Mental Health Endorsement® \(IMH Endorsement®\) application process](#).

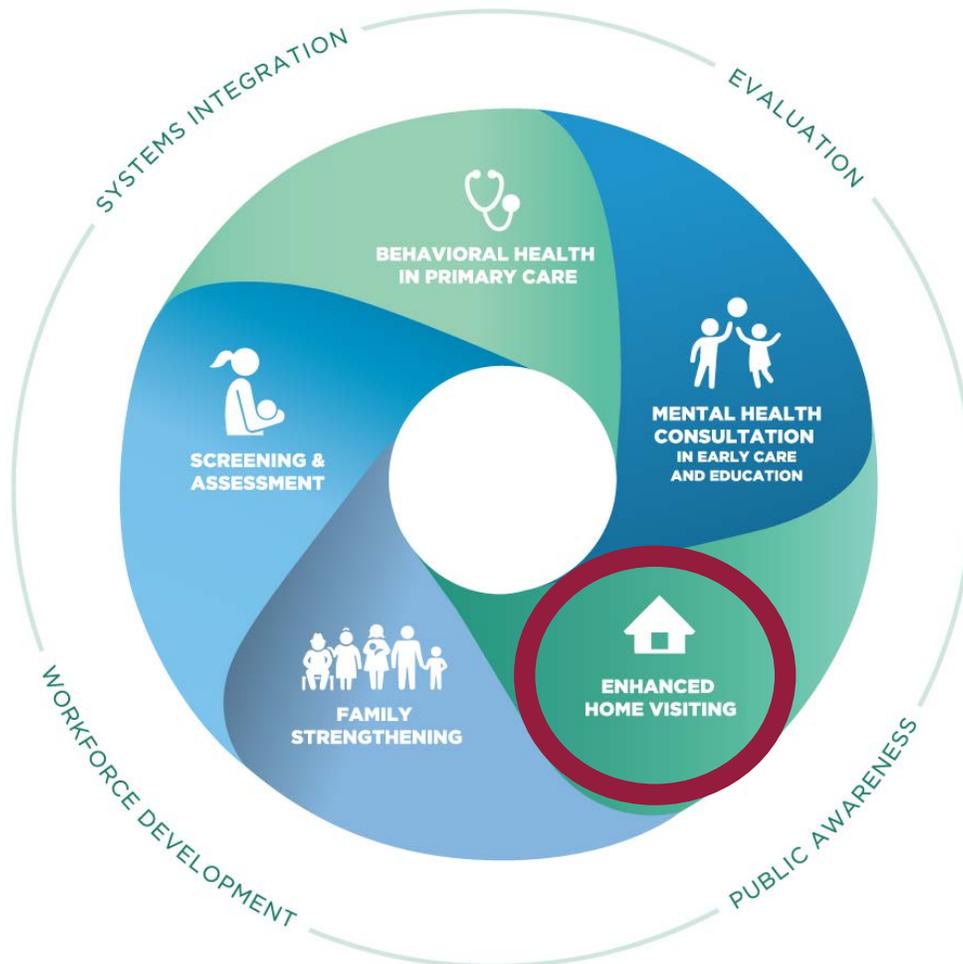
An Enhanced Home Visitation grant will provide funding for three years and includes both operating/program funds and targeted funds to support the professional development of home visitors.

Background and Overview

Home visitation is a service delivery model that provides early education and support to families who are often hard to reach, providing them with linkages to critical services in their communities. Home visitation serves children and families by addressing issues involving maternal and child health, child development, parenting strategies and links to community services. Many families served by these programs struggle with severe issues that affect the quality of services delivered. These issues include mental health challenges, trauma and partner violence, among others.

Community First Foundation aims to maximize the impact of this evidence-based approach to support the well-being of children and families. Through grantmaking in this area, the Foundation seeks to enhance the efforts of existing home visiting programs. This delivers on the Foundation's [strategic focus](#) on investing in infant and early childhood mental health programs that cultivate resilience and prevent the onset of mental health problems.

Community First Foundation’s funding strategy for Early Childhood Mental Wellness is guided by the [Project LAUNCH Framework](#) for integrating behavioral health in early childhood systems of care (see diagram below).



According to the [National Project LAUNCH](#) site, effective strategies to enhance mental health supports in home visitation programs include:

1. Training of home visitors on social-emotional well-being and behavioral health of young children and families.
2. Integration of social-emotional and behavioral health screening into home visiting programs.
3. Provision of regular reflective supervision/consultation and case consultation for home visiting staff.
4. Brief intervention, including mental health consultation and crisis intervention, prior to a warm handoff for additional services and supports.
5. Increased coordination and information sharing across home visiting programs.

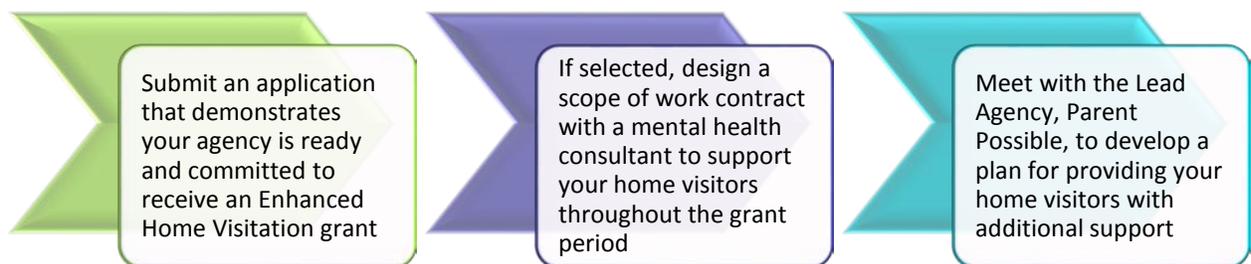
Enhanced Home Visitation Grant Opportunity

The Enhanced Home Visitation grant opportunity will support qualified home visitation programs serving families in the seven county Denver metropolitan area (Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties).

The Enhanced Home Visitation opportunity is a three-year grant program. All grantees selected for the initiative will commit to providing their home visitation staff with mental health consultation throughout the three-year grant period.

Grantees selected for the initiative will then work with [Parent Possible](#), a Denver-based nonprofit providing parent education programs and the Lead Agency for this grant initiative, during the first six months of the grant period. With Parent Possible, grantees will develop a plan for their home visitation staff to receive one or more of the following:

1. Mindfulness training
2. The Colorado Foundations of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Course (newly developed by [CoAIMH](#))
3. The [Infant Mental Health Endorsement](#)[®]



Timeline and Deliverables

Selection Process

April 17, 2017	Request for Proposals Released
June 12, 2017	Proposal Deadline
Aug.-Sept. 2017	Grant Decisions and Awards

Year 1 Activities

September 2017-August 2018

- Grantees contract with a mental health consultant. (September/October 2017)
- Home visitors receive regular reflective supervision/consultation from mental health consultant. Mental health consultants receive regular reflective supervision/consultation from an early childhood mental health specialist. (October 2017-August 2018)

- Grantees work with Parent Possible to coordinate data collection for evaluation and develop a plan for home visitors to engage in mindfulness training, the Colorado Foundations of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Course and/or the Infant Mental Health Endorsement®. (September 2017-February 2018)
- Optional: Grantees begin implementation of plans for home visitor training, training/coursework or the IMH Endorsement®. (February 2018-August 2018)
- Grantees submit interim progress reports for continued funding. (August 2018)

Year 2 Activities

September 2018-August 2019

- Home visitors continue with regular reflective supervision/consultation from mental health consultant. Mental health consultants continue regular reflective supervision/consultation from an early childhood mental health specialist.
- Grantees continue work with Parent Possible to collect data for evaluation.
- Grantees begin/continue implementation plans for home visitor training, coursework, or the IMH Endorsement®.
- Grantees submit interim progress reports for continued funding. (August 2019)

Year 3 Activities

September 2019-August 2020

- Home visitors continue with regular reflective supervision/consultation from mental health consultant. Mental health consultants continue reflective supervision/consultation from early childhood mental health specialist.
- Grantees continue work with Parent Possible to collect data for evaluation.
- Grantees continue implementation plans for home visitor training, coursework, or endorsement.
- Grantees submit final reports. (September 2020)

Lead Agency

Community First Foundation has selected [Parent Possible](#) as Lead Agency to support the success of this grant initiative. In its role as Lead Agency for the Enhanced Home Visitation grant initiative, Parent Possible will work closely with Community First Foundation and the selected grantees to oversee evaluation, reporting and coordination of activities.

Parent Possible promotes and oversees the delivery of a handful of research informed and evidence-based home visitation/parent engagement programs throughout Colorado. Parent Possible acts as an intermediary organization for the successful deployment of these programs across many agencies statewide on behalf of large funders such as the State of Colorado, private foundations and other sources. Parent Possible's strengths include programmatic oversight, training and technical assistance, as well as advocacy and evaluation.

Available Funds

The Foundation will provide a maximum of \$255,000 per home visitation agency grantee, as follows:

- Up to \$15,000 per year, over three years, earmarked for expenses related to contract with mental health consultant and training/endorsement work for home visitors. Contracts with mental health consultants are expected to be in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range. Expenses related to mindfulness training, the Foundations Course in Infant Mental Health and/or the Infant Mental Health Endorsement® are expected to be in the \$5,000 range.
- Up to 10% of operating or program budget for home visitation program, not to exceed \$70,000 per year for each year of the three-year grant period. Examples include:
 - Scenario 1: Agency A's annual home visitation program budget is \$215,000. Agency A would receive a grant award in Year 1 of \$36,500-\$15,000 for earmarked activities and \$21,500 (10%) of annual program budget.
 - Scenario 2: Agency B's annual home visitation program budget is \$1,000,000. Agency B would receive a Year 1 grant award of \$85,000-\$15,000 for earmarked activities and \$70,000 (maximum award) for annual program budget.

Eligibility

Organizations wishing to apply to the 2017 grant opportunity must meet the following criteria.

- **Services in Denver metropolitan area.** Organizations must be providing home visitation services in Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, or Jefferson counties.
- **Registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit or government equivalent.** Eligible applicants must be recognized by the IRS as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3), government equivalent, or fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity. The following are not eligible for grants from Community First Foundation:
 - Individuals
 - For profit organizations
 - Fundraising events
 - Private foundations
 - Other nonprofits that distribute money to recipients of its own selection
 - Endowments
 - Organizations that practice discrimination of any kind
 - Organizations that do not have fiscal responsibility for the proposed project
- **Willing to share data.** The Foundation intends to use the information about the organizations who apply to inform a broader collective impact approach that is in development in Jeffco. Applicants must be willing to allow the Foundation to use or

share information contained in the grant application to inform community-level data initiatives and establish a network that will be accessible to a public audience.

Application Procedures

Qualified applicants are encouraged to submit an application for the Enhanced Home Visitation grant opportunity through the Foundation's online application portal at:

app.smarterselect.com/programs/39649-Community-First-Foundation

Deadline to Apply

Organizations who meet eligibility requirements may submit applications no later than: **5:00 p.m. MDT on Monday, June 12, 2017.**

Additional Information

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Paul Mulligan, grants and donor services manager, at pmulligan@CommunityFirstFoundation.org or 720.898.5918.

About Community First Foundation

Since 1975, Community First Foundation has been helping generous donors and innovative nonprofits come together to improve the quality of life and create positive change in Jefferson County, the Denver metropolitan area and beyond. We serve as a connector, partner, collaborator and resource to fuel the power of community for the greater good. We are proud to use our energy, leadership and trusted stewardship of financial resources to energize giving across our state, strengthen nonprofits, support donors and find new ways to address community needs. For more information, visit CommunityFirstFoundation.org.