

Arapahoe County
PUBLIC HEALTH



**COMMUNITY HEALTH
IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

2026 Community Health Improvement Plan Update

August Arapahoe County Board
of Health Meeting

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Priorities



Economic Wellbeing



Safety

2026

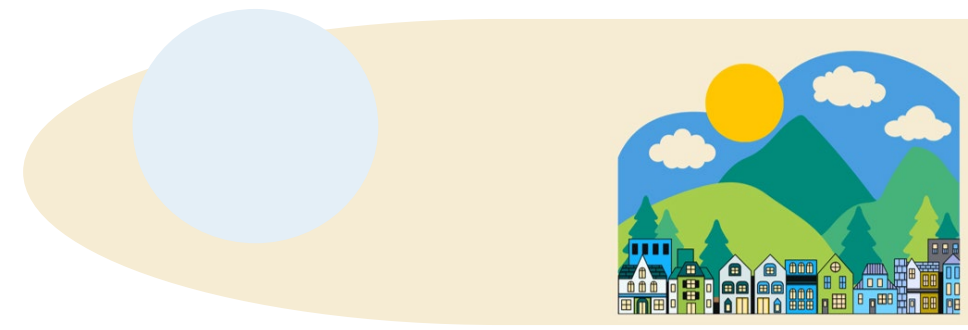
Connecting the Dots

Background

 A Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) priority is a specific, data-backed health issue chosen by a community.

What priorities mean in action:

- Focuses on relevant community needs impacting health and wellbeing.
- Gathers people in our County to work together in addressing those needs.
- Uses data from the community to look at how things are changing for that community.
- Monitors current changes to the needs of a community and has potential for discovery of emerging needs.

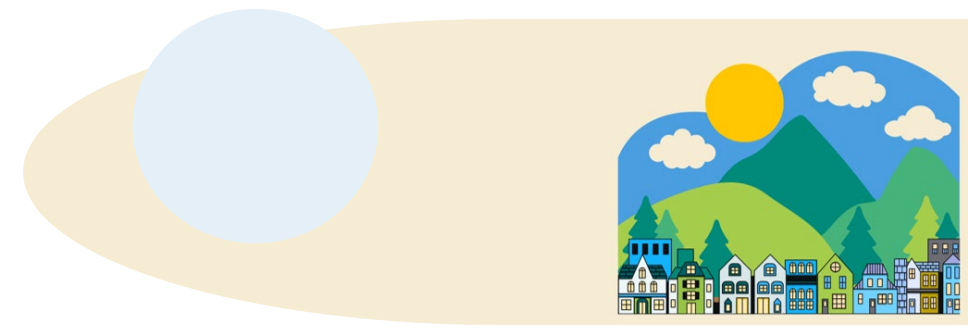


Connecting the Dots

- Our CHIP objectives address **social determinants of health**.
- **Social determinants of health** directly shape people's **Economic Wellbeing** and **Safety**.
- When basic needs aren't met, individuals are more likely to experience chronic illness, miss work, or struggle with productivity, which reduces earnings and increases financial strain.
- In addition, they are less likely to build positive social connections and more likely to engage in unsafe behaviors which may impact others.
- Investing in these upstream factors can improve health outcomes and strengthen **Economic Wellbeing** and **Safety** for individuals and communities.

Celebrating Successes

Safety



To strengthen capacity for injury and violence prevention, ACPH applied and was selected as the sole national recipient of a technical assistance grant from Safe States Alliance. Findings from the recent assessment of internal infrastructure, data capacity, and community partnerships will inform an upcoming year of learning and enhancements.

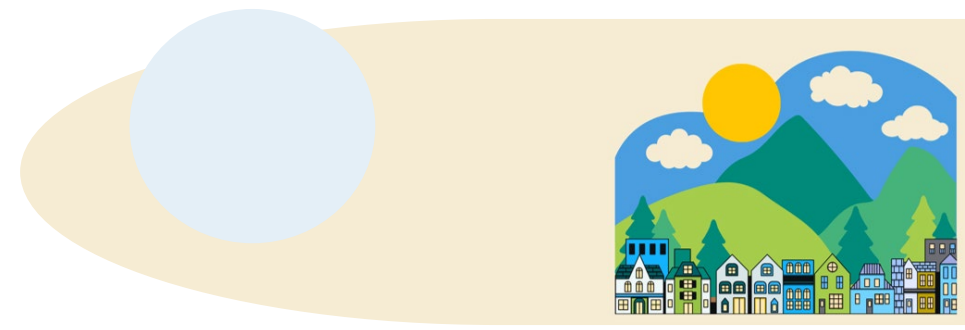


Older adults in Byers cultivated resilience, connectedness, and purposeful aging through participation in a 10-session Aging Mastery Program. Participants appreciated the free opportunity to gain tools for aging well and form bonds through shared learning. A self-led alumni group continues to meet!



Postpartum families now can join in-person and virtual meetups and a WhatsApp chat to connect, learn, and access resources through activities like singalongs and practical presentations on transportation. Called Aquí Juntos/Here Together, the program was co-designed and is co-facilitated in Spanish by a program alum.

Celebrating Successes



Safety



The health and safety of Aurora residents was prioritized through passage of a local tobacco retail licensing ordinance curbing youth vaping following educational efforts by Aurora Partners for Thriving Youth with support from Aurora Public Schools and Adams and Arapahoe County health departments.

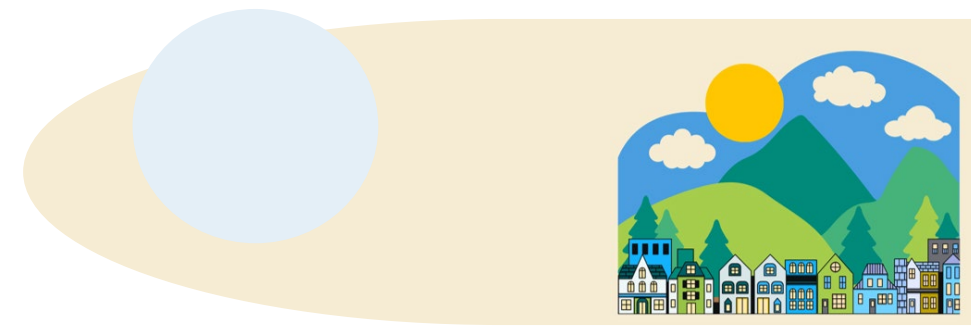


Denver Metro residents received information on secure firearm storage, firearm safety resources, and mental health support via a coordinated social media campaign and official public statement by 13 area local public health agencies and hospitals.



Young people and their families enjoyed free games, snacks and fun at 6 youth-led summer Safe Zones events, with support and engagement from partners like ACPH and Aurora Police Department.

Celebrating Successes



Economic Wellbeing



Over 137 visits to postpartum families were provided through Family Connects, including home safety assessments; screening for perinatal mood disorders, substance use, and intimate partner violence; and referrals to resources.



Resources to launch Family Connects were increased by \$112k thanks to partnership with Colorado Access.



Clients of ACPH and Colorado Access are being provided clear, consistent messaging on upcoming changes to Medicaid.

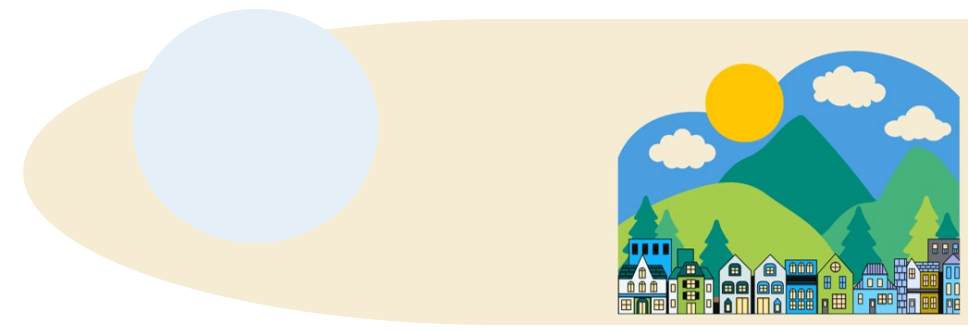


44,290 families were credited back \$126,332M through promotion of the Family Affordability Tax Credit (for taxes filed in 2025).



3 hunger relief providers improved nutritional quality of food and beverages distributed in Englewood, Littleton, and Sheridan through revised policies and practices.

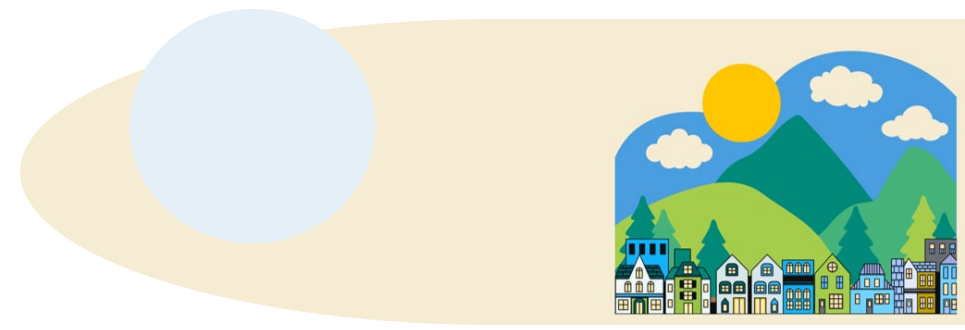
Celebrating Successes



Economic Wellbeing

- ✱ \$42,762 in RTD bus tickets were distributed to residents through a joint effort among Arapahoe County's departments of public health, human services, and community resources.
- ✱ January - June, 4,514 vaccines were administered during 1,597 client encounters (majority uninsured and Medicaid clients), helping families prevent missed days from school and work.
- ✱ Continually verified resources from 470 organizations now searchable through the Collaborative Resource Hub, enabling trusted, accurate resources and referrals for clients.
- ✱ \$1,000 Human Milk Feeding Supportive Funding award for Baby Café services is expected to boost participation, helping generate additional Medicaid reimbursement revenue to support operations.
- ✱ CHIP efforts to support chronic disease prevention and management are being supported by new state grant funding, beginning summer 2026.

Celebrating Successes



Cross-Cutting



ACPH contributed to 12 community events with a specific focus on CHIP cross-cutting objectives, such as:

- Senior resource fair in Byers
- Islamic health fair in Aurora
- Soccer City event for McKinney-Vento families in Aurora
- Meet & greet events with Littleton City Council
- Juneteenth celebration with the NAACP
- Seasonal workers' resource fair



Local youth are directly engaged with staff and community members in advancing multiple safety and economic security objectives.

NEW Safety Objectives



Increase the capacity of the Family Connects home visitation program to connect families with newborns to essential community resources.



Develop resources and guidance to support school districts with safely disposing confiscated vapes.

Continuing Safety Objectives



Increase capacity to support initiatives that prevent firearm-related injury.



Implement at least 3 initiatives to enhance safety for youth and families, informed by the leading causes of child fatalities.

NEW Economic Wellbeing Objectives



The Arapahoe County Food Coalition will expand overall membership, member engagement, and diversity of member experience/background.



Increase ACPH community presence related to economic mobility and identify cross agency/coalition collaboration opportunities.

NEW Economic Wellbeing Objectives



Increase access to economic supports for families in Arapahoe County by securing funding or improving workflows.



Develop a plan to share ongoing access to the ACPH Resource Finder with at least 2 community-facing organizations.



Increase access to postpartum support and empower families to achieve their breastfeeding goals by offering an additional Baby Café location.

Continuing Economic Wellbeing Objectives



Develop a food hub model designed to strengthen the capacity of Arapahoe County hunger relief providers.



Participate in state and local collaboratives related to the Family Affordability Tax Credit.



95% of kindergarteners last seen by a provider at Altura or Englewood will be current on MMR vaccines.



Raise Arapahoe County MMR vaccination rate for K-12 students from 92.8% (24/25 school year) to 93%.



Identify and engage in policy and advocacy opportunities that inform and influence health.

Cross-Cutting Objectives



Carry out community engagement activities within both priorities.



Carry out community engagement activities within both priorities in rural Arapahoe County.



Collect, analyze, and communicate priority-relevant data using data equity principles.



(NEW) Assess all CHIP objectives to identify and encourage age-friendly practice opportunities.

Paused Objectives



Economic Wellbeing

Assess and define the role of ACPH in policy efforts to enhance tenant rights and ability to file complaints without fear of eviction or retaliation.



Safety

Increase capacity of students and staff in ≥ 1 school district to advance social connections and wellness through use of local Healthy Kids Colorado Survey data.

Transitioning or Sunsetting Objectives



Safety: Increase ACPH capacity to grow community connection opportunities across Arapahoe County by seeking supportive grant funding and leveraging existing resources.



Safety: Implement 4 upstream systems change activities to improve coordination of services and supports that promote social and emotional wellbeing of children and families.



Economic Wellbeing: Increase ACPH capacity to partner with others and implement efforts that improve housing affordability, accessibility, and habitability.



Crosscutting Aging: Increase capacity to incorporate healthy aging efforts, such as cognitive health promotion strategies.

Completed Economic Wellbeing Objectives



Expand strategies with the Arapahoe County Regional Accountable Entity to increase access to physical and behavioral health care and social resources.



Align and improve economic wellbeing initiatives through community-centered collaboration among entities implementing financial health strategies.



Establish at least 2 action teams to address barriers of social determinants for screening, resource, and referral.



Offer at least 1 home visit from a nurse and connection to community resources to families with a new baby through Family Connects.

Completed Safety Objectives



Develop a rapid response model for providing multiple health services at once (e.g., 1-day, onsite event for apartment complex residents).

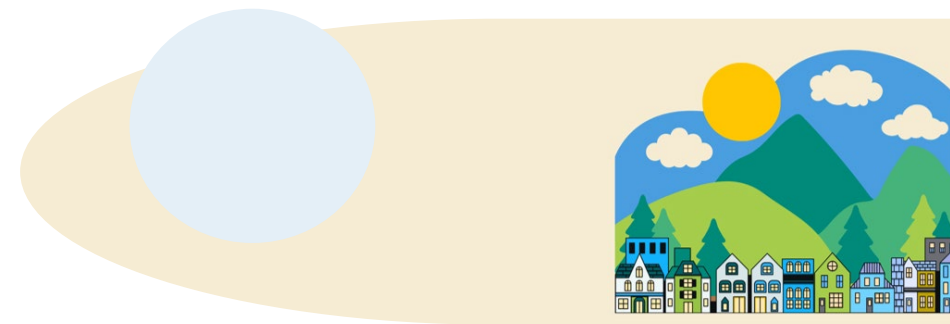


Implement at least 3 initiatives or activities as part of the Aurora Place Based Crime Prevention Collaborative.



Collaborate with at least one organization to pilot a program to improve social connectedness.

Looking Forward



- Ensure CHIP is relevant and impactful.
- Bolster growing efforts, such as injury and violence prevention.
- Support and increase CHIP-engaged FTE (e.g., Healthy Building Specialist).
- Extend age-friendly initiatives.
- Promote social connectedness through hospital and public health system collaboration.

- Increase CHIP visibility among public and partners.
- Continual community input to inform adaptations.
- Welcome new internal and external CHIP partners.
- Foster intentional learning and innovation.
- Transparent sharing of opportunities and achievements.