



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

Caring for Denver Foundation Agreement

Wednesday August 7th, 2019
Safety, Housing, Education, and
Homelessness Committee

FOR CITY SERVICES VISIT | CALL
DenverGov.org | **311**

- Introductions
- Background
 - Timeline
 - Ordinance
- Caring for Denver Foundation
 - Board
 - Function
- Contract
 - Overview
 - Accountability



Initiated Ordinance 301 passed November 6, 2018

Authorizes sales and use tax increase by one-quarter of one percent (25 cents on a \$100-dollar purchase) to be used to fund:

- Mental health services and treatment for children and adults;
- Suicide prevention programs;
- Opioid and substance use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery programs;
- Facilities and programs, for those with mental health and substance abuse needs, including: housing, joint efforts of first-responders and mental health experts, and training for first-responders; to reduce homelessness, improve long-term recovery, and reduce the use of jails and emergency rooms

Funding to the City:

- At least 10% of Caring for Denver tax revenue annually shall be directed to the City, as decided by the board of Caring for Denver for:
 - Funding for a facility and staffing to create alternatives to jail for people with mental health and/or substance use disorder needs,
 - Fully funding a co-responder program for mental health experts to ride along with Denver police,
 - Training for first responders, including paramedics and fire response, on how to properly assess and work with people with mental health and/or substance use disorder needs.
- An additional 10% for the first two years shall be used for developing the facility that creates alternatives to jail for people with mental health and/or substance use disorder needs.
- A portion of administrative budget

Additional Details & Requirements:

- Funds shall not supplant existing funding sources for mental health programs
- No more than 5% of the tax revenue in any year spent on administrative expenses
- Grants from the new fund shall be made through a non-profit entity whose board members are appointed by the Mayor, District Attorney, City Council President
- The CFD Board shall be subject to specific accountability and transparency

Caring For Denver Foundation

A non-profit with a Board of Directors comprised of thirteen (13) members appointed by the Mayor of Denver, Denver District Attorney, and the President of the Denver City Council as set forth in the Ordinance.

Name	Role	Appointed By...
Bob McDonald	ED of DDPHE (or designee)	Mayor
Don Mares	ED of DDHS (or designee)	Mayor
Kristin Bronson	City Attorney (or designee)	Mayor
Carl Clark	CEO of MHCD (or designee)	Mayor
Robin Wittenstein	CEO of DHHA (or designee)	Mayor
Beth McCann	Denver District Attorney (or designee)	Mayor
Regina Huerter	Juvenile Justice System Rep.	Denver District Attorney
Leslie Herod	Advocate for those with mental health needs or substance use disorders in the criminal justice system	Denver District Attorney
Gabriella Rodriguez	Person with Lived Experience	Denver City Council
Dellena Aguilar	Mental Health or Substance Treatment Provider	Denver City Council
Christina Carlson	A Person with Expertise in Child and Youth Mental Health Services	Denver City Council
Frank Locantore	Rep. with Commercial Business Interests in CCD	Denver City Council
Kate Stigberg	Rep. with experience addressing mental health and/or substance use needs of underserved populations	Denver City Council



- Oversees the distribution of the voter approved sales tax to increase resources for Denver's mental health and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts
- Caring for Denver Foundation will reach out to communities from September to December, 2019 to develop an initial strategic plan to identify additional funding priorities.
- Anticipated that initial grants will be made in first quarter of 2020

- DDPHE is the expending authority under the ordinance
- DDPHE will contract with a spending agency (Caring for Denver Foundation)
- Contract Agreement Highlights
 - Recites many of the ordinance requirements and prescriptions
 - Duration: August 1, 2019 – December 31, 2023
 - Contract Value:
 - City collects sales tax on spending agency's behalf
 - DDPHE distributes funds to spending agency
 - No contract maximum because amount will vary annually based on sales tax collections.
 - CFD participates in annual budget process through DDPHE; creates spending plan
 - **Estimated 2019 value is approximately \$36,000,000**

- Scope of Work Highlights
 - CFD will appoint a Liaison to the City
 - CFD will establish grant-making policies in alignment with applicable City fiscal rules, ordinances, and executive orders; fund balance and conflict of interest policies.
 - CFD will create a strategic plan
 - Outlines DDPHE responsibilities and administrative allocation

Strategic Plan. The Board shall develop a strategic plan to determine funding priorities as outlined in the Ordinance.

Annual Public Reports. CFD will provide annual reports to include:

- Audited financial statements for CFD, conducted by an independent auditor, including full reports on expenditures for the prior fiscal year and anticipated budgets and work plans for the ensuing fiscal year of how the funds were spent in the City;
- An annual report that sets forth, at minimum, a strategic plan progress evaluation, the grants made in each of the funding areas identified, the names of the grantees, the dollar amounts granted to each grantee, the boards of directors and officers of each grantee, and the purposes and proposed City impacts of those grants; and
- Additional reports as requested

Open Meetings and Open Records. Meetings of the Board shall be treated as public meetings subject to the provisions of Chapter 2, Article III, D.R.M.C. Information shared at Board meetings and final grant awards shall be treated as public records and subject to the provisions of the Colorado Open Records Act, §§ 24-72-201, *et seq.*, C.R.S., as amended.

Mayor-Council

August 13, 2019

August 19, 2019

City Council

Lorez Meinhold

Executive Director

Caring For Denver Foundation

Will Fenton

Legislative Liaison

Department of Public Health & Environment