



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



COLORADO CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN



*Colorado Children's Campaign founders at our 40th Anniversary Celebration in September 2025.
L-R: Barbara O'Brien, Elaine Gantz Berman, Anna Jo Garcia Haynes and Paul Melinkovich, M.D.*

FORTY YEARS OF CHANGE FOR COLORADO'S KIDS

When kids' needs are met, they get the chance to just be kids.

That's why the Colorado Children's Campaign exists. **Since 1985, passionate, talented advocates have worked tirelessly so that every child in Colorado has what they need to thrive.**

Colorado has grown and changed in the last 40 years. But some things don't change. Children need and deserve a great education. Quality health care. Support for their development in early childhood. A safe place to live and healthy food to eat.

The Campaign has built a legacy of powerful, evidence-based policies and services to improve kids' lives. The Campaign's advocacy has helped Colorado create strong systems that support children's health, education, and well-being from early childhood on.

The Colorado Children's Campaign is a champion for kids at the Colorado State Capitol and in communities across the state. For 40 years, The Campaign has made sure that kids have a seat at the table when decisions are being made that affect their lives. **And we are committed to being there for the next 40 years and beyond.**



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear friends and advocates,

Forty years ago, a group of passionate Coloradans came together with a simple but powerful belief: that every child in this state deserves the chance to thrive. As I reflect on this milestone anniversary, I am filled with gratitude for the founders who planted that seed, the advocates who have tended it, and the communities across Colorado who remind us every day why this work matters.

2025 brought meaningful wins for Colorado's kids. Families struggling to make ends meet benefited as the state protected child care subsidies and made a cost-of-living increase in basic cash assistance. The Family Affordability Tax Credit — projected to give Colorado the lowest child poverty rate in the nation — was preserved. The state committed to a new school funding formula that will direct resources to the students who need them most, including children from low-income families, English learners, students with disabilities, and those in rural communities. These victories happened because of our dedicated team and because of our community, who showed up, spoke out, and refused to let kids be an afterthought.

We also know that challenges remain. Too many Colorado children still face barriers to quality early childhood programs, consistent health coverage, and well-resourced schools. Economic pressures on families are real, and the political landscape continues to create uncertainty. That reality is what drives us forward.

The next 40 years of the Colorado Children's Campaign start now. Thank you for being in this work alongside us.

WITH GRATITUDE,

HEATHER TRITTEN
PRESIDENT AND CEO



Early Childhood

Universal Preschool (Budget Win!): The legislature approved a funding increase for the Universal Preschool Program that will increase provider rates, support Local Coordinating Organizations, and expand capacity to meet growing demand for the program.

Child Care Access & Affordability (SB25-004 & Budget Win!): Legislators protected child care subsidies (CCCAP); cut burdensome fees and improved financial transparency for families searching for child care.

The Tony Grampas Youth Services (TGYS) Program (SB25-197): The 31-year-old TGYS program was updated to help more community-based programs access critical funding to prevent youth crime, violence, and child abuse and neglect.

Economic Security

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) (HB25-1279 & Budget Win!):

Families with very low incomes who receive basic cash assistance through TANF will see a cost-of-living increase beginning July 2025. Legislators also passed a bill that will improve data collection for this program, ensuring any future changes are grounded in accountability and real-world impact on kids.

Family Affordability Tax Credit (HB25-1335 & Budget Win!):

The Family Affordability Tax Credit is a refundable, means-tested tax credit providing up to \$3,200 per child under 6 and \$2,400 per child aged 6 to 16 for eligible families. Legislation protected this vital credit, which is projected to make Colorado's child poverty rate the lowest in the country and 40% lower than the second-lowest state.



Vice President of Policy Sarah Barnes (Right) worked closely with Representative Rebekah Stewart and other state legislators to help pass a bill that improves data collection practices for the state TANF program.

Health

Cover All Coloradans (Budget Win!): Colorado will increase public health coverage for undocumented children and pregnant individuals. More than 16,000 people are already enrolled in coverage through this initiative, which took effect in January 2025.

Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) (Budget Win!): CHP+, which provides coverage for more than 90,000 children and pregnant individuals who have low incomes but are not eligible for Medicaid, was fully funded for the 2025–26 fiscal year.

Continuous Coverage for Young Children (Budget Win!): Beginning in 2026, children who are enrolled in Medicaid or CHP+ will not have to reapply for coverage between the ages of 0 and 3, preventing disruptive gaps in care during the most critical years for child development beginning.

K-12 Education



HB25-1320 bill sponsors and Colorado Children's Campaign staff.

New School Funding Formula (HB25-1320 & Budget Win!):

Colorado will begin using a new formula to fund public schools that prioritizes students from low-income families, English learners, students with disabilities, and rural communities. This shift will help target resources to where they are needed most.

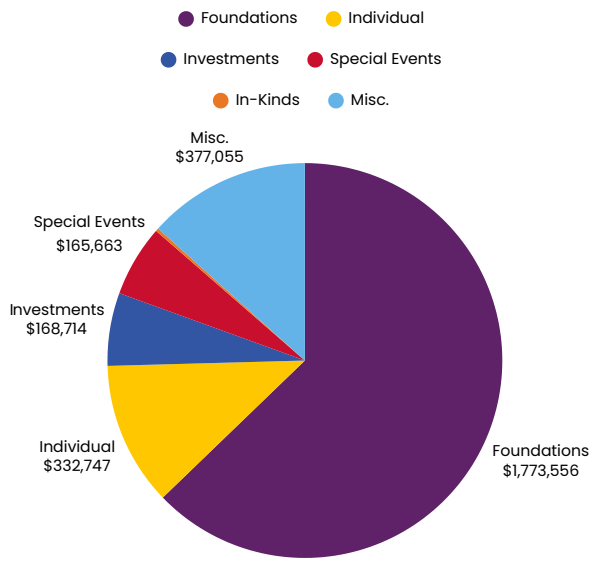
Healthy School Meals for All (HB25-1274): In November 2025, Colorado voters will consider two measures that would help the state fund the Healthy School Meals for All program. One would allow the state to retain additional revenue from Prop FF. The other would adjust income tax deductions to increase funding.

Funding Equity for Public Charter Students (Budget Win!): State-authorized public charter schools will continue to receive the same funding per pupil as school districts. Preserving this policy ensures all public schools receive the resources they need to support their students.

School Climate (HB25-1248): Schools will have new guardrails and clearer data reporting requirements related to restraint and seclusion as part of the state's continuing effort to understand and improve schools' climates.

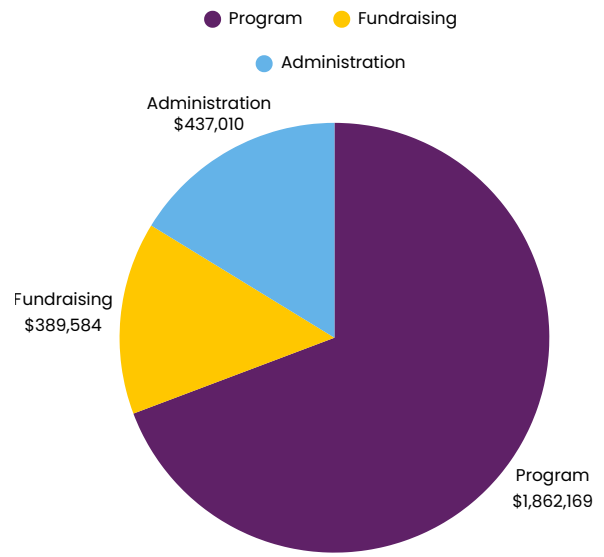
2025 FINANCES

Sources of Income



TOTAL: \$2,824,717

Expenses



TOTAL: \$2,688,763

SPEAK UP FOR KIDS DAY!

In 2025, we partnered with Clayton Early Learning to hold our annual Speak Up for Kids Day advocacy event. Hundreds of people from across Colorado gathered at the Colorado State Capitol to receive advocacy training from our policy experts, connect with legislators, and make their voices heard in support of kids.



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***AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025**

COLORADO CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN



FOR EVERY KID. FOR 40 YEARS.

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