

# BoulderCounty

## HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Everyone needs health care, including regular visits to a doctor.

### Access to Health Insurance

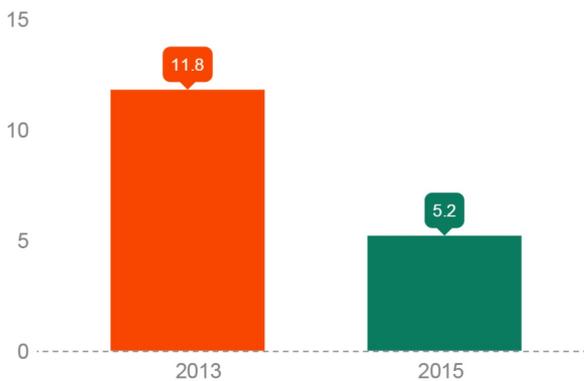
Over the past several years, Boulder County has experienced a significant reduction in its uninsured population. Much of this decline is due to the recent Medicaid expansion and the creation of Connect for Health Colorado, the state's health insurance marketplace.



BOULDER COUNTY  
**HOUSING  
& HUMAN  
SERVICES**



Hope for the future, help when you need it.



UNINSURED RATE IN BOULDER COUNTY  
2013 vs. 2015

Recent Colorado Health Institute (CHI) survey data estimates Boulder County's uninsured rate at 5.2%, down from 11.8% in 2013.



BOULDER COUNTY ENROLLMENT IN  
MEDICAID AND CHP+

Since January 2009, enrollment in Medicaid and the Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) has increased 202%.

As of October 2015, 18% of residents were covered by Medicaid or CHP+. While enrollment for all ages has increased, adults 21 & over have seen the greatest growth thanks to expanded Medicaid eligibility.

In addition to increased enrollment in Medicaid and CHP+ (at right), almost 12,700 Boulder County residents gained coverage through Connect for Health Colorado during the 2014-2015 enrollment period.

### Access to Health Care Services

Despite great strides in expanding access to health insurance, we have more work to do to ensure that everyone in our community has access to quality health care when they need it.



Increasingly, we don't have as many primary care physicians and specialists as we need - a trend expected to continue here and nationwide.



Medicaid typically pays less than other insurers, leading some doctors to limit the number of Medicaid patients they accept.



Medicaid patients may face non-health related barriers to care, too - e.g., communications, transportation, and lack of after-hours care.

# BCDHHS Strategic Priority: Access to Health Coverage

We believe affordable health care is a crucial part of our community's well-being. Through our work connecting people with public health coverage such as Medicaid and CHP+ and with private plans through the state's health insurance exchange, we're helping ensure all Boulder County residents can get quality, affordable care. Through our collaborations with community partner organizations and a focus on data sharing, we've been able to reach and enroll thousands of additional people across Boulder County in health coverage. This is making our community healthier in many ways: people with health insurance are much more likely to get preventive care and much less likely to have a financial crisis related to an illness; More coverage for Boulder County's residents means much less charity care for clinics and hospitals, allowing them to invest in more prevention-focused supports; And the additional health care funds are giving a significant boost to the local economy.

## What We're Doing

Of Colorado's "Big 10" Counties, Boulder County ranks

# 1st

in per-capita C4HCO enrollment.

While Boulder County accounts for just 5.8% of Colorado's overall population, almost 9% of Connect for Health Colorado enrollees are Boulder County residents.

Boulder County's uninsured population now stands at

# 5.2%

compared to the national rate of 9 percent.

CHI estimates that Boulder County's uninsured rate in 2015 is 5.2%, down from 11.8% in 2013. Nationwide, the uninsured rate is estimated at 9%, down from over 13% in 2013.

The number of Medicaid claims in the county has increased

# 71%

over the past two years (June 2013 to June 2015).

Growth in services is tied to growth in coverage, with almost 60,000 residents now covered by Medicaid or CHP+. Dollar-wise, Medicaid claims totaled \$21.3M in June 2015 vs. \$10.9M in June 2013.

In the 2014-2015 open enrollment, our Healthy Kids team enrolled

# 2,577

Boulder County residents into Medicaid or CHP+.

Healthy Kids aims to improve child health by linking eligible children, families and pregnant women to available health benefits. We have 11 eligibility technicians within county offices and at partner locations.

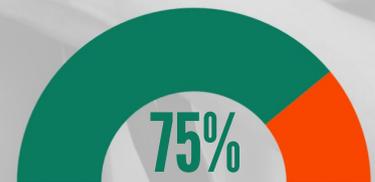
**Our Self-Sufficiency Matrix tracks family progress across 21 domains. Recent health domain data shows:**



88% of clients starting out without medical coverage and with difficulty accessing care were subsequently moving toward self-sufficiency (i.e., coverage and access to care).



78% of clients with chronic medical conditions & inconsistent care at their first evaluation were subsequently managing their illness and receiving routine care.



Three quarters of clients who needed but were unable to access mental health services at their first evaluation were subsequently accessing mental health services.

## Why We're Still Working

Boulder County's well-being is dependent on the health of our residents. And their health is boosted by more than just medical care: 80% or more of health outcomes are determined by things like social behavior, economic stability, and education. So when we look at what our clients need, we take a full-circle approach. We know that the returns on many of our investments will have long-term positive effects on health and well-being. There is more to do, so we're working to find new ways to collaborate with our partners to make these investments. This is the Community of Hope we're striving toward, where our neighbors have all the supports they need to live happy, healthy, and fulfilling lives.