Funding & Technical Assistance

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Program
Colorado Parks and Wildlife has funding for private landowners who want to protect important wildlife habitat on their property or private wildlife-related recreational access to the public. Deadline: May 31. More info here.

Small Business Funding Programs
Looking for funding options for your small business? Lender Match is a free online referral tool that connects small businesses with participating SBA-approved lenders. Get matched.

Town of Blue River Grants for Local Groups and Non-Profits
For projects which benefit the residents of Blue River. Deadline: June 14. More info here: Colorado.gov/TownofblueRiver. or bit.ly/2jmm4yn

Funds Available to Assist Communities with High Energy Costs
Department of Agriculture. The Assistance to High Energy Cost Communities program provides support to communities to acquire, construct, or improve energy generation, transmission, or distribution facilities. Eligible projects also include on-grid and off-grid renewable energy projects and the implementation of energy efficiency and energy conservation projects. The application deadline is June 24, 2019.

Prizes Honor Nonprofit Revenue Generating Efforts in Five States
The Eide Bailly Resourcefullness Award recognizes nonprofit organizations in Arizona, Colorado, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Utah that have created impactful initiatives to generate sustainable streams of revenue. Each submission will be evaluated on the following categories: Creativity, Implementation, Impact, Sustainability, and Overall Impression. One Grand Prize of $10,000 and two Runner-Up Prizes of $2,500 will be awarded in each participating state. Nonprofit organizations in any field are eligible to apply. The application cycle will open on June 13 and close on July 12, 2019.

Grants Promote Community Bike Park and Pump Track Projects
PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program offers funding for important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the United States. Grants of up to $10,000 are provided for bicycle infrastructure projects and targeted advocacy initiatives that make it easier and safer for people of all ages and abilities to ride. Letters of interest for the fall 2019 grant cycle will be accepted from June 17 to July 26, 2019; full applications will be due October 18, 2019. Visit the PeopleForBikes website to review the grant guidelines for the fall 2019 cycle.

Main Street Redevelopment through Outdoor Recreation Initiatives
Recreation Economy for Rural Communities is a new planning assistance program from the U.S. Forest Service, the Northern Border Regional Commission, and EPA to help communities develop strategies and an action plan to revitalize their Main Streets through outdoor recreation. Outdoor activities are increasingly popular across the United States. Communities can take advantage of this trend to revitalize Main Streets. By conserving forests and other natural lands and making them available for outdoor recreation, small towns can boost air quality and water quality and focus development
Karma for Cara Foundation: Microgrant Program for Youth Community Service Projects
Supports youth volunteerism and community service efforts throughout the United States. Youth 18 years of age or younger may apply for grants ranging from $250 to $1,000 to complete service projects in their communities. Funded projects include turning a vacant lot into a community garden, rebuilding a school playground, and helping senior citizens get their homes ready for winter. It is the Foundation's intent that grants fund the nuts and bolts of projects so stipends, facility rentals, and transportation costs are not funded. Application deadlines are quarterly throughout the year, and the remaining deadlines for 2019 are July 1 and October 1. Visit Karma for Cara Foundations website to apply online.

Serve Colorado AmeriCorps State Planning Grant
Funding in support of community partnerships that will engage AmeriCorps members to meet state and local challenges through service and volunteer action. Deadline: May 17. For more information, visit the Serve Colorado website and click the 2019-2020 Planning Grant Request for Applications link under Funding Opportunities.

Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program
Offered by USDA Rural Development. More info here. The program helps improve economic conditions in rural areas by helping individuals and businesses start, expand or improve rural cooperatives and other mutually-owned businesses. Nonprofit corporations and institutions of higher education are eligible to apply. Grants may be used to develop and operate a rural cooperative development center that could provide the following technical assistance and other services to rural businesses: Conducting feasibility studies; Developing business plans; and providing leadership and operational improvement training. Deadline: June 3.

Funding for Safe and Crime-free Communities
Department of Justice - The Community Policing Development Program supports projects that develop knowledge and increase awareness of effective community policing strategies, increase the skills and abilities of law enforcement and community partners, and increase the number of law enforcement agencies using proven community policing practices. The application deadline is May 28, 2019.

Funding for Disadvantaged Rural Groups - Department of Agriculture
The Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grant program offers support to provide technical assistance to groups in rural areas. Socially-disadvantaged groups include those whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. The application deadline is June 3, 2019, for electronic applications, and June 7, 2019, for paper applications.

USDA Funding to Spur Economic Development in Rural Communities
Deadline: June 5 - more info here
USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for grants to support economic development in rural communities. The grants are being made available through USDA's Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) Program in order to strengthen the rural economy. Qualified intermediary organizations receiving RCDI grants will provide technical assistance and training to help nonprofit organizations and communities develop their capacity to undertake housing, community facility, or economic development projects. USDA also encourages applications that will support efforts to combat substance use disorders, including opioid misuse, in high-risk rural communities by strengthening their capacity to address prevention, treatment, and/or recovery needs.

Advanced Industries (AI) Export Accelerator Grant Program
Deadline: Rolling
Funding Available to offset international business development and marketing costs
These grants are for current and aspiring Colorado exporters in the Advanced Industries who are looking to offset international business development and marketing costs. Grants are available for up to $15,000 for eligible costs for small and medium-sized AI businesses in aerospace, infrastructure engineering, advanced manufacturing, energy and natural resources, bioscience, electronics, and technology and information. Grants can be used to help cover the costs of trade missions and trade shows, translation services for a contract or official document, intellectual property protection, conducting due diligence or credit reviews on potential buyers or distributors, and production and design of international marketing materials. Grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis until
Support for Environmental and Financial Literacy Programs

The Cornell Douglas Foundation is dedicated to advocating for environmental health and justice, encouraging stewardship of the environment, and furthering respect for sustainability of resources. The Foundation provides grants ranging from $10,000 to $50,000 to nonprofit organizations throughout the United States that address one or more of the following areas of interest: environmental health and justice, land conservation, sustainability of resources, mountaintop removal mining, watershed protection, and K-12 financial literacy. Introductory letters are reviewed throughout the year. Visit the Foundation’s website for information on developing and submitting an introductory letter.

Training, Workshops, & Events

Northwest Colorado Small Business Development Workshops
Join SBDC in the Vail Valley for these workshops - more info and register at www.northwestsbdc.org:
- Startup Essentials - June 6
- Writing a Business Plan - July 11
- Finance Essentials for Small Business - August 8
- Startup to Scale Up - September 13-14

Vail Valley Business Forum: Healing What Ails Us... Affordable Healthcare in Our Community
June 13 | CMC Edwards Campus | Doors open at 8 a.m.; Program 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Insurance premiums in Eagle County are among the highest in the country. Healthcare is not a discretionary expense. Whether it is an annual check-up, a sports injury, or a serious illness, healthcare and access to it impacts everyone in our valley. However, the cost of well-being can be more painful than the symptoms it treats. Vail Symposium, in conjunction with the Vail Valley Partnership, will host a healthcare panel featuring the primary stakeholders in healthcare delivery in the valley. Listen to, and have the opportunity to question, representatives from Vail Health, Centura and Kaiser as well as elected officials.

One Valley Healthcare Program Q&A
June 6 | 2-4 pm | Location: TBD
Do you have questions about the One Valley Healthcare Program? Are you currently enrolled and want to find out more? The Vail Valley Partnership is pleased to offer monthly in-person Q&A sessions as a forum to learn about the program, ask questions, understand how it works in the real world, and decide if the program is right for you.
Q&A sessions are open to everyone - you do not need to be a Vail Valley Partnership member to attend. Both prospective and current program participants are encouraged to attend. All participants are required to watch the One Valley Healthcare Program webinar prior to the session. The webinar provides the best introduction to the program and will allow us to make the most of our time! The webinar and supporting program documents can be found here: www.onevalleyhealthcareprogram.com.

Census 2020: Identifying Hard to Count Populations - ROAM and HTC2020 tools
Webinar: June 27 noon - 1:00 p.m.
SDO will be hosting a webinar demonstrating the use of the Response Outreach Area Mapper (ROAM) and the Hard to Count 2020 (HTC) tools to identify hard to count populations. This webinar will demonstrate these two tools and discuss strategies for reaching low-response census tracts. You can participate in the webinar by following the link below:
Please join the webinar from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/954571013
Join the conference call: Local (720) 279-0026; Toll-Free (877) 820-7831; Participant Passcode 830653
Western Slope Rural Philanthropy Days 2019
Eagle, Pitkin, Garfield, Mesa and Delta Counties
June 12-14 | Hotchkiss & Paonia |
Click here for more info and to register. Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) is a three-day conference that convenes nonprofits, funders and local governments to share ideas and develop collaborative opportunities in order to build the capacity of local organizations and communities to address regional social issues. If you live, work, or are looking to fund in the Western Slope then RPD is for you.

Colorado Municipal League 97th Annual Conference
June 18-21 in Breckenridge, Colorado
For more info please visit www.cml.org

10th Annual Colorado SBDC Women's Small Business Conference: "Building for the Future"
July 18, 2019 at the Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, CO - more info here
Learn from our business experts at our variety of breakout sessions, sign up for one of our free, confidential consulting sessions, get inspired from our engaging keynote speaker, or take advantage of our community of small business owners/experts and network!

Affordable Nonprofit Financial Leadership Training
July 11 | 9:00am - 4:00pm | Leadville
Offered by the Community Resource Center and Lake County Community Foundation. Strengthen your financial leadership skills and your organization. Build your organizational capacity around nonprofit accounting practices, financial oversight, and internal controls. Join us for an overview of the critical components of financial management for nonprofit organizations. This workshop will provide participants with an understanding of basic financial management terminology, policies and best practices for success. More info and register here.

Campsight Breck
Sept. 22-24
An innovation and marketing unconference for outdoor industry brands, adventurous visionaries and bold storytellers. More info here!

Drive, Lead, Succeed Conference - Economic Development Council of Colorado
October 9 - 11 at Cheyenne Mountain Resort, Colorado Springs CO - more info here
This annual conference aims to provide the knowledge, tools, and connections that are vital to foster a growing Colorado economy: Gather the industry's top influencers and thought leaders together to share knowledge and answer questions that no one else can; offer new and vital tools and solutions to pressing economic issues facing Colorado's professional economic development community; Facilitate quality collaboration and opportunity to exchange fresh, new ideas among Colorado's leading Economic Development professionals, business and non-profit leaders, government officials and more.

State Demography Summit
November 1st at Arapahoe Community College
Save the date for the 37th Annual State Demography Summit. This one-day summit will present updates to SDO population estimates and forecasts, and provide up-to-date information for county and municipal planners, data analysts, economic development professionals, and others. This year's summit will offer continuing education credits for real estate appraisers, real estate brokers and members of the American Institute for City Planners (AICP). Registration will open September 2, 2019.

Resources

Encore Entrepreneurs
If you’re thinking about starting a business after earlier career endeavors, launch SBA's FREE self-paced online training for tips and resources. Launch the course

How to do a Practical Lean Business Plan in Four...
Easy Steps
One of the most common reasons for business owners not getting the benefit of business planning is putting off doing a plan because it seems too hard. People still think of a business plan as a big formal document, hard to do, and - sadly - not worth the effort. Read more