Transforming Safety
Colorado’s HB 17-1326
Justice Reinvestment Crime Prevention Initiative

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Founded in 1999 as a community nonprofit organization

**Mission:** To eliminate the overuse of the criminal justice system and advance community health and safety

Statewide coalition - 7,000+ members and 115 organizations

Majority of Board and staff have been directly impacted by crime and/or the criminal justice system.

CCJRC has been involved in the successful passage of numerous “justice reinvestment bills”.

For us, it’s not enough to advocate for reform moving forward. We also have to engage in efforts that attempt to repair some of the harm done by mass incarceration in communities most impacted.
Colorado spends over $1 billion every year to incarcerate adults and juveniles but neighborhoods that experience higher rates of crime and criminal justice involvement have seen little or no improvement.

**CCJRC asked itself what would it look like to try something different.**

**4 qualities**
New approach to crime prevention that focuses on economic and community development in specific neighborhoods

Empower local community members to identify priorities and solutions

Prison savings reinvested into the community – not to cj system

Private sector approach – not new govt initiative – that braids both for-profit and non-profit strengths
HB17-1326 legislative sponsors

Rep Pete Lee (D –Colo Spgs)  
Chair, House Judiciary Cmte

Senator Bob Gardner  (R –Colo Spgs)  
Chair, Senate Judiciary Cmte

Senator Daniel Kagan  
D-Aurora/Arapahoe

Rep. Tony Exum  
D-Colo Spgs

Senator Mike Merrifield  
D-Colo Spgs

Rep. Jovan Melton  
D-Aurora

Senator Kevin Priola  
R-Aurora/Arapahoe
What HB17-1326 did

- Made reforms to parole laws that generated savings in the state Department of Corrections budget

- Those savings from the prison budget were reinvested to launch the crime prevention initiatives in both N Aurora and SE Colorado Springs

- Provided $4 million in funding ($2m per city) for SE Colo Spgs & N Aurora Small business lending program Grant program

- Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) will oversee

- 3 years of funding with a sunset review by the Legislature in 2020

- Signed by Governor on June 6, 2017 and went into effect August 9th
Getting money from the state into the community takes a little engineering
On or before 9/10/17, DOLA selects the CDFI that will make the small business loans.

Max loan size: $50k  
Max term: 60 months

CDFI retains interest and principal payments go to DOLA
Community Foundation

Legislature

DOLA

$1.5 million per city ($3 million total)

By 9/10/17, DOLA will select one or more Community Foundations to manage the grant program and help facilitate the local planning team process in each city.

Local planning team develops the crime prevention priorities that inform the grant guidelines.

Each City Council approves the application process for the local planning team but the community foundation selects the people.

Local planning team set up in both N. Aurora & SE Colorado Springs

Develop crime prevention priorities
Grants funds can be used for

• **Academic achievement**
  school readiness, reducing expulsion and suspensions in schools, increasing high school graduation, college enrollment and retention rates, and promoting school-parent-student engagement

• **Community-based direct services**
  strengthen families, promote recovery from trauma, provide support to crime survivors, increase employment and reduce recidivism, or other similar community needs

• **Neighborhood connections**
  community engagement and local leadership development

• **Increasing the safety and usability of common outdoor-spaces**

• **Technical assistance** related to data collection, data analysis and evaluation
Who is eligible to apply for grant funds

• Nonprofit organizations
  Must be in good standing and registered with the IRS and the CO Secretary of State

• Local government

• Schools (public, private, charter)
CDFIs - Community Development Financial Institutions

Colorado Legislature

DOLA - CO Department of Local Affairs

Status & Performance Report

$3 million

$1 million

Independent Evaluator

Community Foundation

Local stakeholder groups in both N. Aurora & SE Colorado Springs
develop crime prevention priorities

CDFIs

Small business lending in SE Colorado Springs and N Aurora

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Small business lending in SE Colorado Springs and N Aurora

DOLA-CO Department of Local Affairs

CDFIs-Community Development Financial Institutions
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DOLA Summary of the Community Crime Prevention Initiative
https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola/community-crime-prevention-initiative-ccpi

To read the text of HB17-1326