15 Forever was established at the Community Foundation Boulder County in 2006 to promote civic engagement and leadership among Boulder County youth. Since that time, this youth-driven program has granted over $200,000. The intention of 15 Forever is to address the needs and concerns of Boulder County youth from a peer perspective. Students involved in 15 Forever learn about philanthropy and local issues by managing their own grant cycle over the course of the school year. Students raise funds for nonprofits addressing community issues that they have prioritized. 100% of funds raised by students will go directly to nonprofits.

This year’s 15 Forever Youth Advisory Committee is now accepting grant proposals to address youth homelessness in Boulder County. To be eligible for this funding, applicants must currently be recognized as a 501(c)(3) public charity in the United States, including governmental, educational, and religious institutions. Groups or organizations that do not have such designation may only apply in partnership with an IRS-qualified entity as a fiscal sponsor.

**YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN BOULDER COUNTY**

The 15 Forever YouthBoard has decided to focus our attention on youth homelessness, because it disproportionately affects LGBTQ Youth and contributes to food insecurity and education inequality. According to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, there were 23,014 homeless students in Colorado in 2018, 2,034 of whom were unaccompanied. It is our job to recognize and respond to this homelessness crisis, and to ensure that homeless youth in our area get access to basic resources and support.

*Geographic Restrictions:* The organization applying must provide homelessness intervention and/or prevention services within Boulder County for the benefit of Boulder County youth residents between ages 0-18.

*Other notes:* The 15 Forever YouthBoard wants to fund organizations that provide either homelessness intervention and/or prevention services. The universe of eligible intervention and prevention services is diverse and broad. Eligible services may include, but are not limited to, medical, career development, financial literacy, or housing support. Funding can be used for a project, program, or general operating support.

Please read further for more information and thank you in advance for applying,

- The 15 Forever Youth Advisory Committee
Eligibility Requirements:
Projects and/or organizations must meet this year’s funding priorities, providing services or conducting the proposed activities within Boulder County for the benefit of Boulder County residents.

Applicants must currently be recognized as a 501(c)(3) public charity in the United States, including governmental, educational, and religious institutions. Groups or organizations that do not have such designation may only apply in partnership with an IRS-qualified entity as a fiscal sponsor.

The Community Foundation does not make grants to organizations where grant money from our unrestricted or field of interest funds would be used to advance a particular political or religious doctrine.

The Community Foundation values inclusive and transformational leadership, and we’ve institutionalized diversity and inclusivity in our grantmaking. As such, diversity, equity and inclusion at all levels of the organization, and its program, are a crucial part of our application review.

Anti-Discrimination Statement
Community Foundation Boulder County prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, sex, age, marital status, national origin, mental or physical disability, political belief or affiliation, veteran status, gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation and any other class of individuals protected from discrimination under any municipal, state, or federal law in any aspect in its programs and activities.

Thank you for your time and effort in completing this application. For more information, please contact the 15 Forever Program at 15forever@youthroots.org.

March 15, 2020 - Due date: Applications must be submitted online using the online grant application at www.commfound.org/grants/get-grant/15-forever. We encourage new applicants to view the online training video for instructions on registering and applying online. Applications received after midnight will not be accepted. Once the application has been submitted, an automatic email receipt will be sent confirming that all application materials were successfully received. If your organization submitted an application and received funding from the Community Foundation in the past 12 months, you are required to complete the Progress Report section of the online application form for each grant awarded.

April 3, 2020 - Grant Finalists notified: You will be notified by the 15 Forever Committee if you are a finalist by this date.

April 14, 2020 - Finalist Presentation date: If you make it to the finals, you will be asked to present to the 15 Forever Committee on April 14, 2020. The presentations will be 10-15 minutes long and given anytime between 5:00-8:00pm at the main Boulder Library. The presentations will be a brief summary of your organization and program with time left for a Q & A session.

Late April - Announcement date: You will be notified of the 15 Forever Committee’s final decisions by the end of April.

April 28, 2020 - Year-End Celebration: Grant Winners are invited to attend and be celebrated at our year-end event.

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 is the funding period. A final grant report is due by August 31, 2021.