



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 20, 2024

The Honorable Jason Crow
U.S. House of Representatives
1323 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Mobile Vaccination Van

Dear Representative Crow,

The Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to support a funding application for a Mobile Vaccination Van for the County's Public Health Department. The department seeks to acquire a fully equipped van to serve as a mobile vaccination clinic and is expected to offer many benefits to the Arapahoe community.

The initiative seeks to increase equitable access to vaccines by engaging underserved communities in the County who face barriers to accessing traditional healthcare facilities. It would improve vaccine coverage rates that can lead to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, and it can assist in community health outreach and education.

Mobile clinics play an important role in promoting health equity by ensuring all communities have access to vaccination services. A mobile van would help reduce disparities in access and narrow the gap in health outcomes between different socioeconomic groups. By bringing services directly to communities, mobile clinic staff can engage with individuals who may not proactively seek out vaccinations, thereby protecting the health of all community members.

After the dissolution of the Tri-County Health Department, Arapahoe County was tasked with creating its own single-county public health department amid tight budget reserves. The County was able to use funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to offset some of these costs but some services, such as a mobile vaccine clinic, were put on hold due to insufficient funding. This request would allow the department to buy, outfit and deploy a full-service mobile vaccine clinic without additional overhead expenses associated with brick-and-mortar locations.

As demonstrated by COVID, vaccine access is a critical component of keeping Arapahoe County residents healthy. A new mobile vaccine clinic will help expand our efforts and allow us to rapidly deploy clinics for emerging public health needs. This is important work within our community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully Chair of the Board

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