

Older Adults, Family Caregivers & Retirement Security

Preparing Colorado for an Aging Future

Colorado should be a place where people can work hard, raise a family, retire with dignity, and remain active members of their communities. Older Coloradans are our parents, grandparents, veterans, teachers, business owners, volunteers, and mentors. They continue to strengthen our communities every day, and public policy should reflect the respect they have earned.

Colorado is changing. Today, more Coloradans are over the age of 60 than under the age of 18, and the number of older adults will continue to grow over the coming decades.

For many older Coloradans, the greatest challenge isn't aging itself, it's affordability. Rising housing costs, healthcare expenses, transportation needs, insurance premiums, and the high cost of long-term care are making retirement less secure than previous generations expected. At the same time, thousands of working families are balancing careers, raising children, and caring for aging parents.

Colorado must meet these challenges with practical, fiscally responsible solutions that strengthen independence, support caregivers, and help every generation thrive.

My Priorities

- Promote independence, dignity, and healthy aging.
- Support family caregivers who make aging in place possible.
- Improve affordability for older adults and working families.
- Invest taxpayer dollars wisely in programs that produce measurable results.

Supporting Independence

Most older adults want to remain in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. Whenever it can be done safely, aging in place provides a better quality of life while often costing significantly less than institutional care.

I support:

- Expanding effective home- and community-based services.

- Helping older adults remain independent through practical home modifications such as ramps, grab bars, improved lighting, and accessibility improvements.
 - Improving transportation options that allow older adults to reach medical appointments, grocery stores, community events, and places of worship.
 - Supporting nutrition and wellness programs that reduce more expensive healthcare needs later.
 - Reducing unnecessary bureaucracy that makes services difficult to access.
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Standing with Family Caregivers

Millions of Americans quietly care for aging parents, spouses, relatives, friends, and neighbors every day. These unpaid caregivers provide one of the greatest public services in Colorado.

Increasingly, many Coloradans belong to the "sandwich generation" raising children while simultaneously caring for aging parents. Public policy should recognize these realities rather than making families navigate complex systems alone.

Colorado should make it easier to care for loved ones.

I support:

- Expanding caregiver education and training.
- Increasing access to respite care.
- Improving navigation of Medicare, Social Security, long-term care, and other public programs.
- Strengthening partnerships between healthcare providers and family caregivers.

Supporting caregivers strengthens families, reduces costs, and helps older adults remain where they most want to be, at home.

Affordable Healthcare & Long-Term Care

Healthcare should help people live healthier, longer, and more independent lives.

Colorado must prepare now for growing demand for:

- Primary care
- Behavioral health
- Dementia care

- Home health services
- Rehabilitation
- Long-term care

I support:

- Expanding access to affordable healthcare.
- Strengthening Colorado's healthcare workforce.
- Supporting home health providers and long-term care facilities.
- Encouraging innovative models of care that improve outcomes while controlling costs.
- Reducing unnecessary administrative burdens that delay treatment.

Preparing for Colorado's aging population today will reduce crises tomorrow.

Mobility & Transportation

Transportation is about much more than getting from one place to another.

For many older adults, transportation determines whether they can:

- Visit their doctor.
- Pick up prescriptions.
- Buy groceries.
- Volunteer.
- Attend church.
- Stay connected with family and friends.

I support strengthening partnerships with local governments, nonprofits, and transit providers to improve transportation options, particularly in rural communities where mobility challenges can quickly become healthcare challenges.

Helping people stay mobile helps them stay independent.

Retirement Security & Affordability

After a lifetime of work, older Coloradans deserve financial security.

Colorado should focus on reducing the everyday costs that place the greatest strain on retirees:

- Housing
- Property taxes
- Utilities
- Homeowners insurance
- Healthcare
- Prescription drugs
- Everyday necessities

I support targeted tax relief that helps seniors who need it most while protecting Colorado's long-term fiscal stability.

Sound fiscal policy means providing meaningful assistance where it has the greatest impact rather than promising benefits the state cannot sustainably afford.

Older Adults in the Workforce

Many older Coloradans choose—or need—to continue working.

Their experience, judgment, reliability, and institutional knowledge strengthen Colorado's economy.

I support:

- Combating age discrimination.
- Expanding lifelong learning through community colleges and workforce centers.
- Supporting retraining and career transitions.
- Encouraging employers to recognize the value of experienced workers.

Colorado's workforce shortages also create an opportunity. Employers who value experienced workers gain talented employees who mentor younger workers and strengthen their organizations.

Opportunity should be based on ability, not age.

Digital Access & Technology

Reliable internet access has become essential infrastructure.

Healthcare, government services, banking, employment opportunities, and communication increasingly depend upon digital access.

No older Coloradan should become isolated because they cannot afford internet service or lack the skills to use modern technology.

I support:

- Expanding affordable broadband access.
- Supporting digital literacy training through libraries, schools, and community organizations.
- Expanding telehealth where appropriate while preserving access to in-person healthcare.
- Protecting older adults from online fraud and identity theft.

Technology should connect people—not leave them behind.

Protecting Older Adults

Financial scams and fraud cost older Coloradans millions of dollars every year.

I support:

- Strong consumer protection laws.
- Aggressive prosecution of criminals who target older adults.
- Public education on emerging scams.
- Partnerships among financial institutions, law enforcement, and community organizations.
- The bipartisan legislation allowing financial institutions to temporarily delay suspicious transactions when elder financial exploitation is suspected.
- Responsible safeguards for artificial intelligence in employment, healthcare, and other high-impact decisions.

Prevention, education, and enforcement are the best tools for protecting older Coloradans.

Planning for an Aging Colorado

Colorado's changing demographics require long-term planning—not short-term reactions.

State government should prepare today for tomorrow's needs by ensuring we have:

- Enough healthcare professionals.
- Sufficient long-term care capacity.
- Housing that meets changing needs.
- Transportation systems that promote independence.
- Support for family caregivers.
- Modern technology infrastructure.

Colorado should continue pursuing every federal dollar available while reducing unnecessary dependence on unpredictable federal decisions.

Responsible budgeting, economic growth, and careful stewardship of taxpayer dollars will help Colorado build a stronger, more resilient future for every generation.

My Commitment

A society is measured by how it treats its older adults and those who care for them.

My goal is not simply to create more government programs. It is to build a Colorado where people can afford to grow older with dignity, remain active members of their communities, and continue contributing throughout every stage of life.

That means practical solutions—not partisan slogans—that strengthen families, support caregivers, protect taxpayers, and prepare Colorado for the opportunities and challenges of an aging population.