



COLORADO

Department of Public
Health & Environment

April 4, 2025

Kelly Flenniken
Executive Director
Colorado Counties, Inc.
Via E-mail Correspondence

RE: Temporary Restraining Order on Federal Termination of Temporary COVID-19 Funding

Dear Kelly,

Thank you for sharing this letter with CCI membership. I'm writing to provide an important and encouraging development. A federal judge has granted a temporary restraining order blocking the federal government from terminating four major preparedness and recovery grants:

- Advancing the Centers of Excellence in Newcomer Health
- National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities
- Immunization and Vaccines for Children (IP19-1901)
- Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC CARES and Enhancing Detection awards)

These grants, totaling approximately \$200 million for Colorado, are critical to public health work that is led by counties. In response to the federal government's original termination notice on March 24, 2025, CDPHE issued Stop Work Orders to subrecipients funded by these grants, which may have impacted work in your county. In alignment with the temporary restraining order, we are terminating the Stop Work Orders that were issued on March 27 effective today, April 4. Formal notification regarding this action will be sent to all recipients of this funding, including county public health agencies.

This is a major and reassuring step as we work to protect the resources and programs that serve Coloradans across the state. Note that we will update you as this case continues to go through the legal system, including any relevant orders such as any changes to the temporary restraining order or other impactful decisions. The court's decision on April 3 to issue a temporary restraining order is the first legal step in that process. A hearing on a preliminary injunction — which could extend the pause on the CDC's actions — may happen as soon as April 16.

We will continue to monitor developments closely and will keep you informed as we learn more. Thank you for your continued leadership, partnership, and tireless service to the people of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Jill Hunsaker Ryan,
Executive Director

