

# Announcing the launch of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona Foundation for Community & Health Advancement

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Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of Arizona (BCBSAZ) announces the launch of the Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of Arizona Foundation for Community & Health Advancement. The Foundation builds upon the work of BCBSAZ's public health initiative, Mobilize AZ, and expands efforts to tackle the state's toughest health challenges.

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Focusing on mental health, health equity, chronic health conditions, and substance use disorder, the Foundation will work to mobilize, uplift, and advance Arizona's communities. It will amplify impact through cross-sector partnerships, and by providing grants that support programs and applied research.

## The Foundation commits \$5 million to mental health

With a flagship focus on mental health, the Foundation will commit \$5 million over three years to address a wide range of mental health issues. The Foundation has recently accepted proposals for its first competitive grant opportunity, which closed on April 4, 2022. Grants providing funding for mental health will be awarded for programs and/or applied research that target issues such as provider shortage and access, telehealth, suicide prevention, youth mental health, intersection of mental health and substance use disorder, and the COVID-19 effect. [Additional discretionary grant cycles](#) for the Foundation's four health focus areas will be available in 2022 for Arizona-based organizations.

“We’ve always had a strong commitment to improving the health of Arizonans, and the Foundation is the framework that will allow us to take that commitment one step further,” said Dr. Christine Wiggs, President and Board Chair for the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona Foundation for Community & Health Advancement.

For more information about the Foundation, to join our mailing list, or to apply for upcoming grants, visit [azbluefoundation.org](http://azbluefoundation.org).

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The Blue Cross® Blue Shield® of Arizona Foundation for Community & Health Advancement is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

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Our members can take a digital ID card with them wherever they go with the MyBlue AZ<sup>SM</sup> mobile app.

