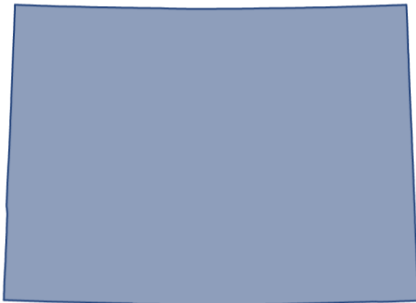


Colorado & The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research



FY20 Total Funding: **\$7,155,501**

Number of Institutions Funded: **4 (Colorado State University; Keystone Symposia; University of Colorado; University of Colorado, Denver)**

Number of Grants Awarded: **31**

Number of Congressional Districts with NIDCR Grants: **3**

Improving Colorado's Oral Health Through NIDCR Funding:

- The University of Colorado Denver received \$1.2 million to establish the Center for Native Oral Health Research which will focus on the oral health disparities for American Indians and Alaska Natives. The initial projects will focus on caries (tooth decay) and periodontal disease among pregnant women on a northern plains reservation; treating periodontal disease in Southwestern American Indians who have Type 2 diabetes and the application of fluoride varnish to 3-5 year old children and their parents enrolled in American Indian Head Start Programs.
- The University of Colorado Denver is also conducting research on molecular mechanisms of head and neck cancers. Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) is the 6th most common cancer worldwide. Patients with HNSCC have a poor prognosis and invasion and metastasis are the major causes of mortality. This research hopes to find molecular mechanisms of HNSCC that would allow for identification of biomarkers and therapeutic targets that will be directly translated into clinical applications for treating head and neck cancer patients.

