



Linked Information Network of Colorado (LINC)

GOAL

LINC is a state collaborative that supports timely and cost-efficient research, evaluation, and analytics using integrated data across state agencies. LINC is designed to securely share data to a centralized linking hub in state government to produce anonymized datasets for approved end users. LINC development is partially supported by seed funds and staff commitment from the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab.

CHALLENGES ADDRESSED

- Frontloads the legal and data security decisions so they aren't revisited for each use case
- Allows agencies to answer questions to improve policies and programs with cross-system data
- Limits transfer of personal identifiers to a centralized linking hub in state government
- Relieves burden on agency staff to coordinate cross-agency responses to data requests
- Relies on a fee-for-use model where agencies recoup costs associated with data contribution

Supported by the Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab

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POTENTIAL USE CASES

- Targeting housing vouchers to vulnerable multisystem utilizers who would benefit most from housing stability
- Increase college success by identifying ways to better support student parents in the higher education system
- Uplifting unemployed Coloradans by strategically targeting those who would benefit most from reemployment program services

ANTICIPATED PROGRESS BY THE END OF 2019:

- At least 5-7 government partners
- At least 1 completed and 5-10 active LINC projects
- Sustainable funding strategy identified