

# Annual Report 2025 Impact



# Dear Institute Supporter,

Colorado BioScience Institute cultivates and diversifies Colorado's life sciences workforce—from classroom, to campus, to career. In 2025, we built upon a foundation of strong community partnerships to deliver even greater impact. This year, the Institute deepened its collaboration with employers, educators, and industry leaders to ensure Coloradans have access to meaningful, high-paying careers that advance health innovation and strengthen our state's growing life sciences ecosystem.

## OUR 2025 IMPACT

### Launching the Life Sciences Employer Talent Collaborative

The Colorado BioScience Institute launched the Life Sciences Employer Talent Collaborative, a strategic, employer-led initiative. Supported by a grant from the [ZOMA Foundation](#), with facilitation support from SyncUp Colorado, and developed in partnership with [Colorado Succeeds](#), the initiative builds a shared strategy among leading life sciences employers to map talent needs, co-design solutions, and align training and education programs to high-demand roles. Using the nationally recognized Talent Pipeline Management® (TPM) framework, this effort drives employer-led, data-informed workforce development across the state and ensures a strong, skilled, and diverse workforce for Colorado's future. Sixteen Colorado life sciences companies are already engaged in the Collaborative, and we look forward to seeing the next generation of talent and leadership that emerges from this work.

### Launching the Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs (QA/RA) Certificate Program

In 2025, the University of Colorado Denver and the University of Colorado Anschutz, in partnership with Colorado BioScience Institute, received nearly \$1 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to expand the Quality Assurance (QA) and Regulatory Affairs (RA) Certificate Program.

Led by Associate Professor Chelsea Magin, PhD, the collaboration—developed with industry input—prepares more Coloradans for high-paying, in-demand life sciences careers. As a core partner and sub-awardee, the Institute supports program leadership, recruitment, mentorship, and career connections across Colorado's growing life sciences sector.

This partnership reflects the power of collaboration among academic institutions, federal agencies, nonprofits, and employers—creating a sustainable model to build, train, and elevate Colorado's life sciences workforce.

### Strengthening Workforce Readiness

From K-12 classrooms to executive leadership programs, the Institute continued to nurture talent across every level of the workforce pipeline. Our programs engaged teachers and students through hands-on STEM experiences, supported college learners through mentorship and career exploration, and empowered professionals through leadership training aligned with industry needs.

### Discover Our Mission



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT – VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

The Institute's mission thrives because of the nearly 200 life sciences professionals who volunteered in 2025, helping bring classroom, campus, and career programs to life. Your expertise and generosity make it possible for learners across Colorado to access meaningful opportunities in science and innovation.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to our Institute Board, the Colorado BioScience Association Board, and the many donors who contributed to BioScience on Tap and Colorado Gives Day. Your continued support sustains our programs and amplifies our reach statewide.

## BOARD AND TEAM UPDATES

### Board of Directors – New Board Members and Leaders

We welcomed one new board member in 2025, Zaragoza Briseño Jr., Vice President of Operations at TriSalus Life Sciences. Zaragoza brings a strong background in life sciences and valuable perspectives from his years of supporting the Institute and its programs. We are excited to continue expanding our reach and partnerships thanks to the dedication and leadership of all our board members.

### Team Changes

We celebrate Lisa Wilder, who transitioned to the Colorado BioScience Association team as Member Success & Events Manager. Her dedication strengthened the Institute's partnerships and outreach, and we're thrilled to continue working alongside her in this new role.

The Institute proudly welcomed Rachael Schowalter as our new Program Manager. Rachael brings strong experience in program operations, stakeholder engagement, and community collaboration—already contributing to the Institute's growing impact.

### Leadership Transition

This year also marks a meaningful transition for Meg John, who has made the difficult decision to step away and begin exploring new opportunities. Meg shares that it has been a privilege to grow alongside the Institute and to witness firsthand the tremendous impact it has made across Colorado's life sciences community.

She expresses deep gratitude to our board members, many partners, and the collaborative life sciences community for their ongoing collaboration and shared dedication to our mission.

With new grants secured and innovative programs underway, Meg is confident the Institute is well-positioned for continued success. She will remain one of our strongest champions, cheering for the Institute as it continues to build Colorado's life sciences workforce and expand opportunities across the state.

## LOOKING AHEAD

As we look to 2026 and beyond, the Colorado BioScience Institute remains steadfast in its mission to cultivate and diversify Colorado's life sciences workforce. With the Life Sciences Employer Talent Collaborative underway and the NSF-backed QA/RA Certificate Program expanding, we are creating clear, equitable pathways from the classroom to high-impact careers.

We are grateful to our volunteers, partners, and donors for their enduring support. Together, we're nurturing innovation, growing opportunity, and ensuring Colorado's life sciences ecosystem continues to thrive.

## Meet Our Team



**ELYSE BLAZEVICH**  
President  
Colorado BioScience Institute



**MEG JOHN**  
Vice President  
Colorado BioScience Institute



**RACHAEL SCHOWALTER**  
Program Manager  
Colorado BioScience Institute

Thank you for making 2025 a year of remarkable growth and partnership.

**ELYSE BLAZEVICH**  
President

**MEG JOHN**  
Vice President

## Board of Directors



**MICHAEL MESTEK, PH.D.**  
Board Chair  
Medtronic, Patient Monitoring



**CHELSEA MAGIN, PH.D.**  
Board Vice Chair  
University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus



**MARIA MAZIN, PH.D.**  
Board Secretary  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science



**JIM WILSON**  
Board Treasurer  
EY



**ZARAGOZA BRISENO JR.**  
TriSalus Life Sciences



**ANIL MATHAI**  
Quality and Regulatory Affairs Leader



**LINDA TOMBERLIN, SPHR**  
Eon Health



**MATT WIGGINS**  
Boulder Chamber

# Classroom

Sparking an interest in STEM for K-12 students and teachers from diverse backgrounds.

## Teacher Trainings

Provides teachers with practical knowledge and hands-on experiences to enhance content knowledge, classroom practice, and bridge to the real-world skills students need.

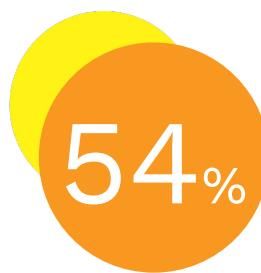
2025 IMPACT



TEACHERS



STUDENTS



UNDER-  
REPRESENTED  
STUDENTS

2025 SPONSOR

**AMGEN**



# Classroom

## Pathways to Early College High Schools (P-TECH)

Accelerates career opportunities for underserved high school students through participation in a biotech manufacturing degree program supported by local biotech companies and mentors.

### 2025 IMPACT



### 2025 EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

Frederick High School  
St. Vrain Valley School District  
Aims Community College

### 2025 INDUSTRY PARTNERS



“ Students are going to college before anyone else in their families, graduating without debt, and getting a head start in great careers. It’s a huge jump start for people who want that advantage.

Gabriel Zierlein  
P-TECH Alumni  
Manufacturing Chemist  
Agilent



[Read the Full Story](#)

# Classroom

## Research Experience for Teachers

Collaborates with middle and high school teachers to expand on real-world experiences and equip them to translate that experience and new knowledge into the classroom.

2025 IMPACT



TEACHERS



STUDENTS



TEACHER  
EXTERNSHIP  
HOURS WORKED

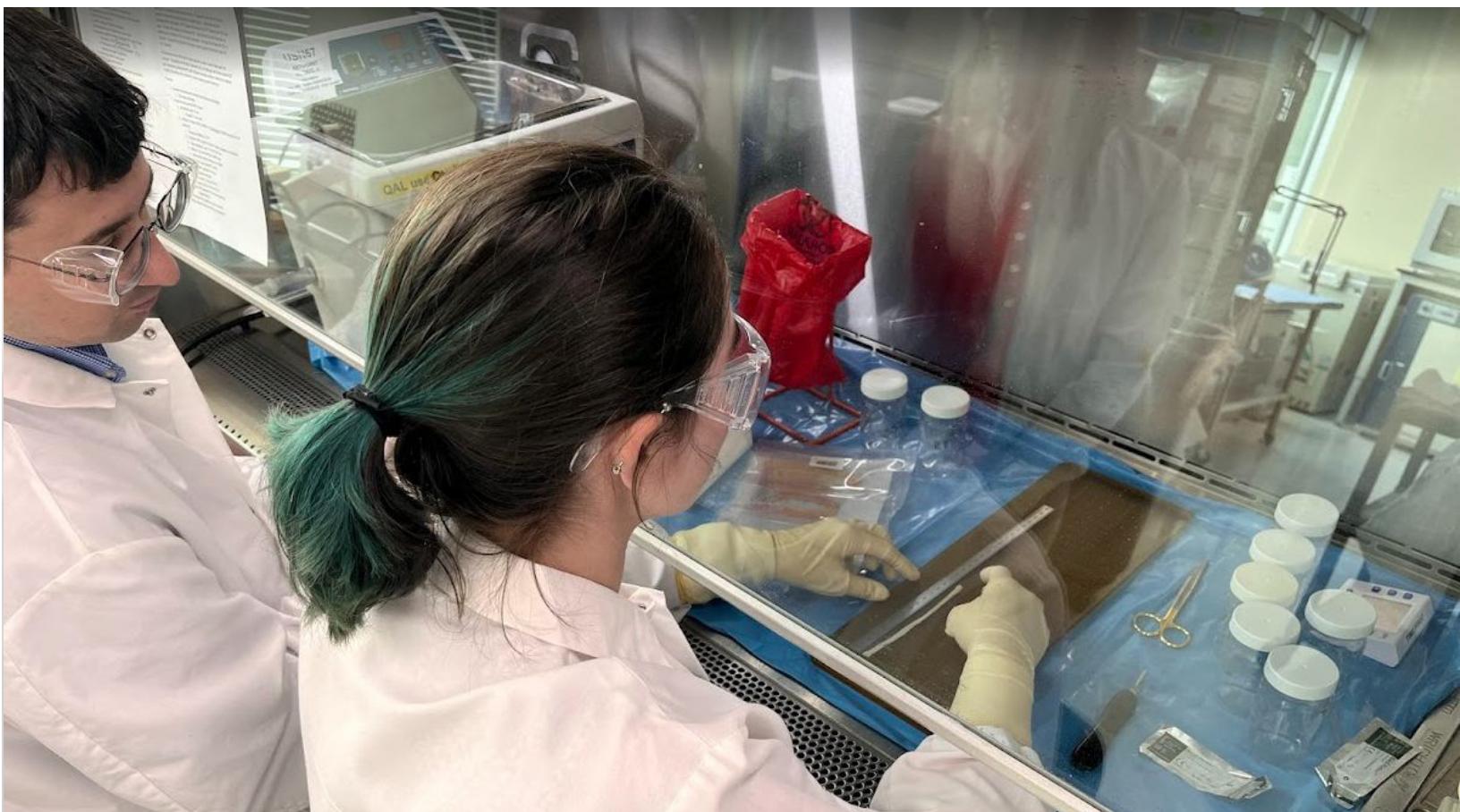
2025 SPONSORS



Safety | Transparency | Availability | Quality



[Read the Full Impact](#)



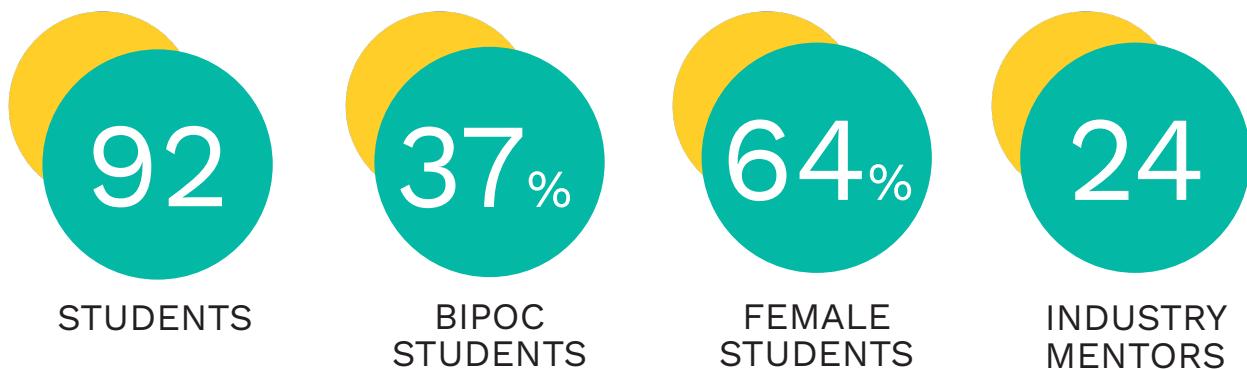
# Campus

Connecting students and instructors with professionals and career opportunities in our community.

## Mentor Program

Expands the state's talent pipeline by connecting students at Colorado's academic institutions with life sciences companies through networking and an introduction to career pathways.

2025 IMPACT



“ I gained so much from this program that I felt a responsibility to give back. I remember what it meant to have someone just a few steps ahead of me, helping me figure out the path. Now I get to be that person for someone else.

Ginger Gonzales  
Mentor and Former Program Participant  
Quality Engineer  
Highridge Medical



# Campus

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## Industry Showcase

Expands the state's talent pipeline by connecting students and recent graduates with career opportunities and exposure to Colorado's life sciences companies.

2025 IMPACT



STUDENTS



COMPANIES

2025 COMPANIES



## Student Events

Increases exposure to life science careers and supports career readiness of students through networking events, industry tours, and resume seminars.

2025 IMPACT



STUDENTS



EVENTS

2025 HOSTS



# Career

Advancing professional careers in life sciences, from early career to executive education.

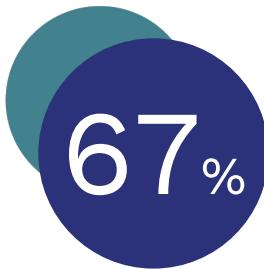
## Leading From Within: Driving Transformational Change

Empowering participants to explore fundamental questions about leadership and begin articulating their leadership style and goals in order to guide their organizations through moments of change successfully.

2025 IMPACT



EXECUTIVES



FEMALE  
EXECUTIVES



COMPANIES

2025 HOST

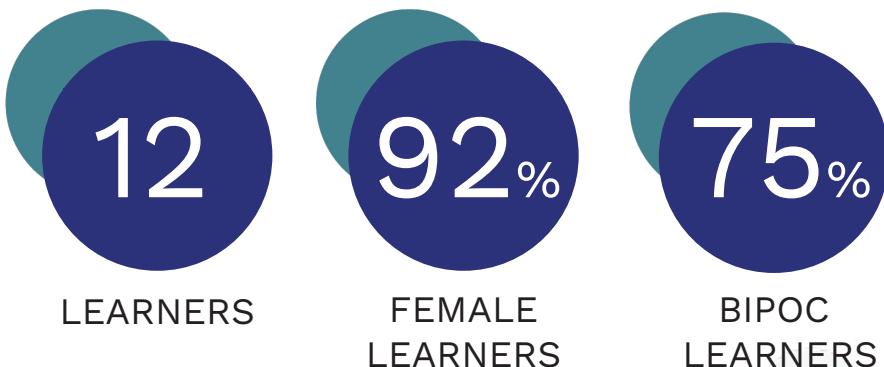


# Career

## Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs (QA/RA) Certificate Program

Provides an accessible pathway for learners to upskill or reskill in the life sciences sector.

2025 IMPACT



2025 UNIVERSITY PARTNER



University of Colorado  
Denver | Anschutz

2025 FUNDING PARTNER



“ We are building and upskilling a workforce ready to ensure quality, safety, and innovation in the development of lifesaving and life-changing medicines, tests, and technologies for patients.

Chelsea Magin, PhD

Associate Professor of Bioengineering, Pediatrics, and Medicine  
University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus



This work was supported in part by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) Experiential Learning for Emerging and Novel Technologies (ExLENT) initiative.

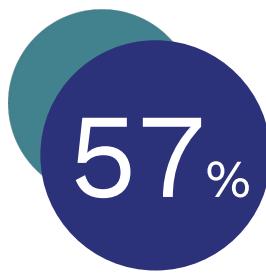
## Foundations of Leadership Program

Establishes critical leadership skills for professionals new to management roles with interactive personal and professional sessions.

2025 IMPACT



LEADERS



FEMALE  
LEADERS



COMPANIES

2025 HOST

**HATCH**spaces 



# Reaching New Heights

Talent champions and new initiatives – The Institute excels at building community support that drives life science innovation.

## Community Support

Expands accomplishments, reach, and impact based off the generous financial support and incredible volunteer contributions of the community.

2025 IMPACT

COLORADO GIVES DAY

**84%**

Fundraising Goal Reached

**100%**

Board Donation Rate

DEDICATED COMMUNITY

**190**

Volunteers

**3,570**

Volunteer Hours



# Reaching New Heights

## Life Sciences Employer Talent Collaborative

Colorado BioScience Institute and Colorado BioScience Association announced the Life Sciences Employer Talent Collaborative, a new strategic initiative to strengthen Colorado's life sciences workforce. With support from ZOMA Foundation and SyncUp Colorado, and in collaboration with Colorado Succeeds, the new Life Sciences Employer Talent Collaborative builds pathways to mission-driven, high-paying jobs.

2025 SPONSORS

**ZOMA**Foundation

**Sync  
Up**  
COLORADO

2025 FACILITATION PARTNER

**COLORADO  
SUCCEEDS**  
Great Schools are Good Business

By the end of 2025, these 16 companies will have participated in at least five planning sessions to identify life sciences talent needs and solutions.

2025 EMPLOYER PARTNERS

  
**Agilent Technologies**

  
**Ambrosia Biosciences**

  
**biodesix**

  
**Cerapedics**  
Repairing bones. Healing lives.

  
**Corden Pharma**

  
**corgenix**

  
**Edgewise**  
THERAPEUTICS

  
**enveda**

  
**KBI**  
BIOPHARMA

  
**Medtronic**

  
**STANDARD**  
BIOTOOLS

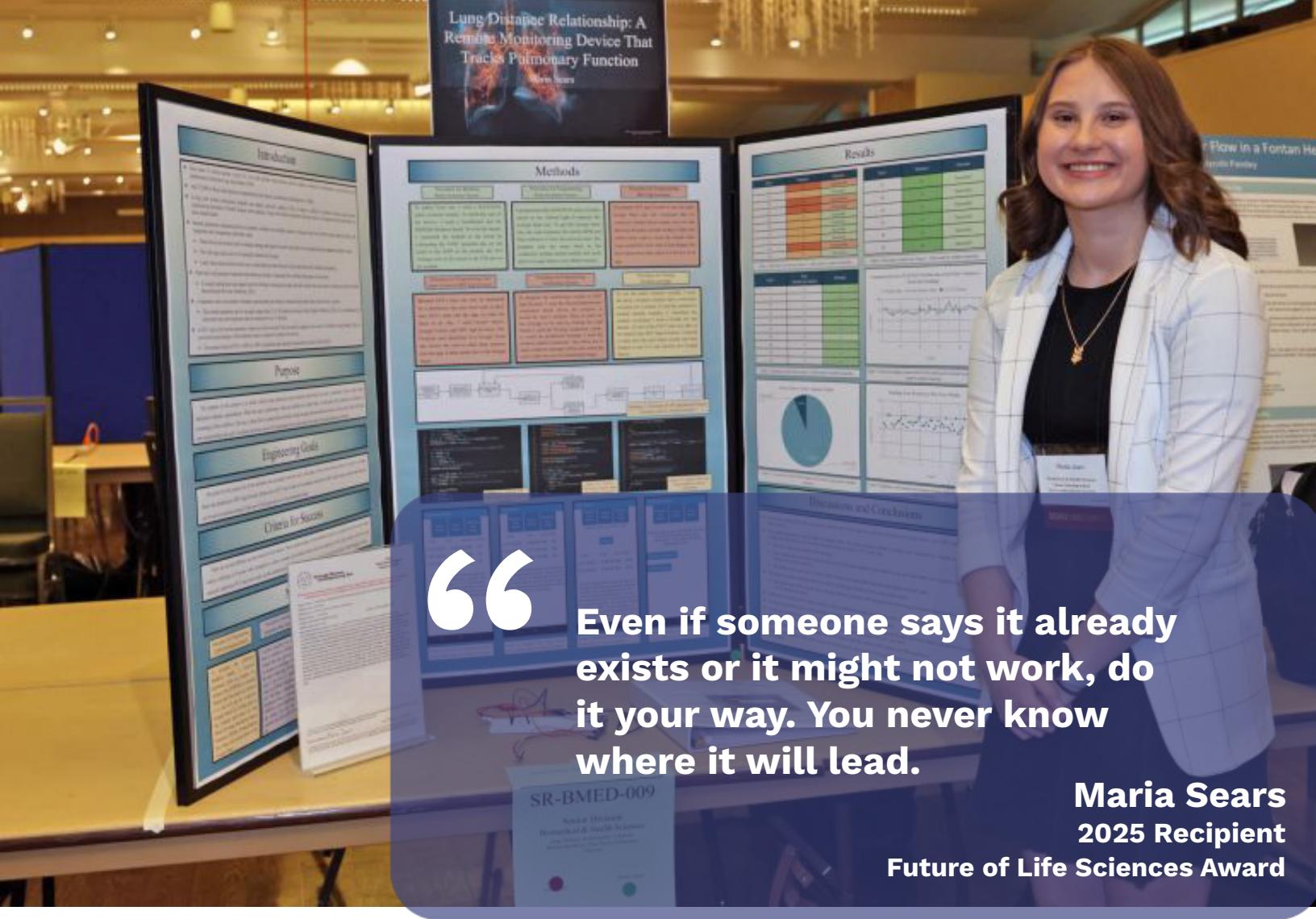
  
**S.T.A.Q**  
PHARMA  
Safety | Transparency | Availability | Quality

  
**TERUMO**  
BLOOD AND CELL  
TECHNOLOGIES

  
**TriSalus**

  
**tolmar**

  
**Umoja**  
BIOPHARMA  
Your Body. Your Hope. Your Cure.



“

**Even if someone says it already exists or it might not work, do it your way. You never know where it will lead.**

**Maria Sears**  
**2025 Recipient**  
**Future of Life Sciences Award**

Future of Life Sciences Award

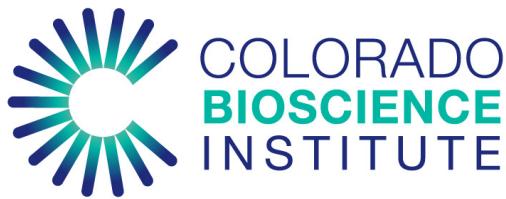
## From Monte Vista to Medical Innovation

We're proud to recognize Maria with the Future of Life Sciences Award and highlight how Colorado BioScience Institute's Classroom programs empower the next generation of innovators.

As a student, Maria designed and coded a wearable device to monitor pulmonary function, drawing on her own experiences with asthma and her family's health challenges. Her innovation has the potential to make a real difference for patients in rural areas by catching warning signs before they become emergencies.

Now headed to college to study business administration, Maria hopes to combine her passion for science with a deep understanding of entrepreneurship. Her long-term goal? To bring new ideas to life and maybe even one day earn a patent of her own.

[Read the Full Story](#)



## Thank You to Our Funding Partners



**Agilent**

**AMGEN**

 **Edgewise**  
THERAPEUTICS

 **fisher**scientific  
by Thermo Fisher Scientific

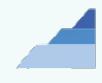
 **KBI**  
BIOPHARMA

 **Nordson**



 **S-T-A-Q**  
PHARMA

Safety | Transparency | Availability | Quality

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Up

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Your Body. Your Hope. Your Cure.

**WILSON**  
**SONSINI**  
FOUNDATION

 **ZOMA**Foundation

