

2024 Annual Report



COLORADO **HEALTH** INSTITUTE

coloradohealthinstitute.org

To our community,

For the Colorado Health Institute, 2024 was a year of clarity.

We clarified our mission statement:

CHI strengthens communities and systems with trusted analysis and collaborative solutions to improve health.

As a nonprofit, nonpartisan public health institute serving the Mountain West, we answer critical questions, make sense of complex issues, and support others to reach actionable solutions. In short, CHI works to improve health for all.

In 2024, CHI clearly demonstrated how we use evidence and analysis in smart, sensitive ways to lift the voices of communities that are often overlooked. In this annual report, you can read about three projects that illustrate how we provide trusted analysis and collaborative solutions to improve health:

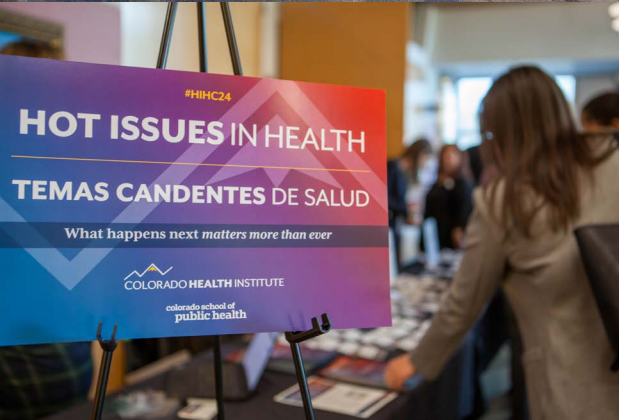
- ▶ The **2023 Colorado Health Access Survey**, which revealed the effects of COVID policy choices on Coloradans' well-being
- ▶ The **Colorado Lotus Project**, in partnership with the Colorado AAPI Giving Circle, which integrated data and storytelling to paint a detailed picture of Colorado's diverse Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander communities
- ▶ **The Colorado Belonging Barometer**, in partnership with Belonging Colorado, which surveyed state residents to see how connected they feel to their workplaces, schools, and communities

This is the type of work the community can expect from CHI as we move into an unpredictable year. CHI is your reliable partner. We are a source of trustworthy data, analysis, and sensemaking. We provide spaces to have challenging conversations.

CHI is here to help. Please call us to talk about how we can work together to improve health for everyone.



Sara Schmitt
President and CEO
Colorado Health Institute



2024 By the Numbers



39
Public-Facing
Reports



7
Blogs



9
Webinars



1,440+
Webinar
Attendees

Social Media
Followers



4,592



1,962



1,721



89,171

Website Users

198,650

Website Views

Hot Issues in Health

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- ▶ **181** In-Person Registrations
- ▶ **292** Online Registrations
- ▶ **3** Presentations
- ▶ **3** Colorado News Editors
on Our Media Panel



Media panel from Left:
Luige Del Puerto, Colorado
Politics; Megan Verlee,
Colorado Public Radio;
Stephanie Daniel, KUNC

Operating
Fundors





CHI's Strategic Direction

CHI has served many roles since our founding more than 20 years ago. We have been a data repository, an incubator for programs like Connect for Health Colorado, and a convener of health policy experts.

In 2024, we adopted a strategic plan that builds on the skills and reputation we have earned over the past two decades to set out a clear direction for CHI in the coming years.

Our values underlie our strategic direction. The work we do forms our three pillars, which hold up our vision and mission.

We move into 2025 with a clarity of purpose — we want to provide the greatest value and have the greatest impact for the people of our state and country.



At the end of 2024, we promoted longtime CHler **Karam Ahmad** to a new role at CHI, Managing Director of Partnerships and Development. Karam's role is to work with longtime partners and new friends to see where CHI can add value to their work.

Please share your ideas with Karam:
ahmadk@coloradohealthinstitute.org or 720.382.7089



OUR VISION

All people have what they need to be healthy.

OUR MISSION

CHI strengthens communities and systems with trusted analysis and collaborative solutions to improve health.

The Colorado Health Institute is a nonprofit, mission-driven public health institute. Our work is built around three strategic pillars:



We answer critical questions.



We make sense of complex issues.



We support others to reach actionable solutions.

OUR VALUES

Accessibility. We communicate clearly and aim to make sense of issues in a way that invites participation and understanding.

Collaboration. We engage with others in a spirit of authenticity, transparency, and respect.

Curiosity. We ask questions because we don't pretend to know everything in advance — and because learning is fun.

Equity. We work to build systems that put people first, internally and in our work with others.

Integrity. We are committed to truth and accuracy in our research and in our partnerships.

NOTABLE WORK:

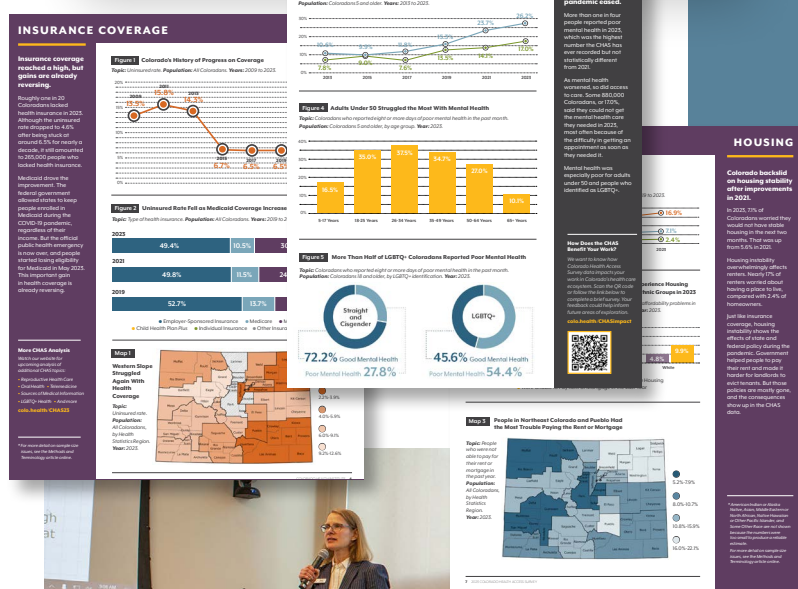
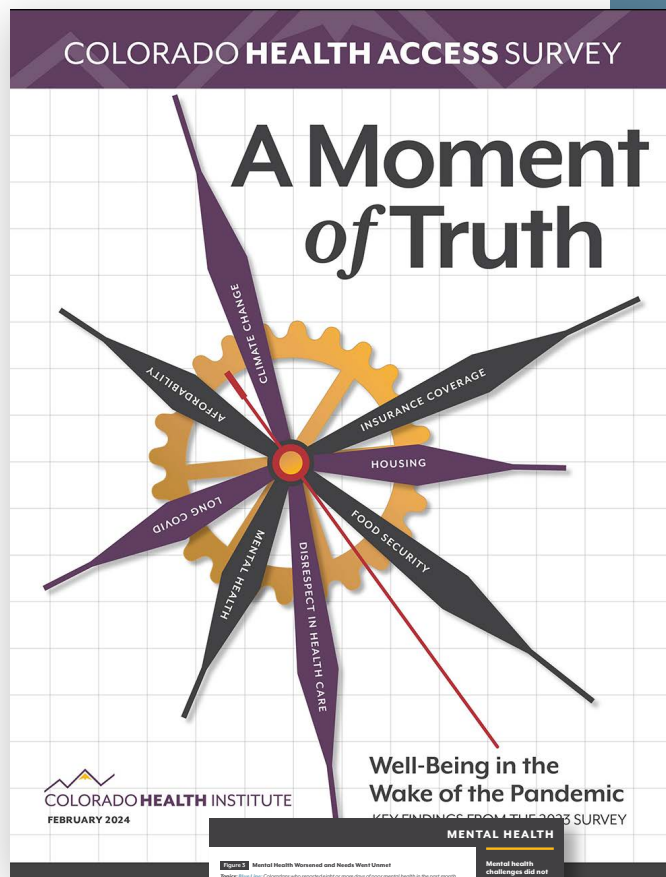
Colorado Health Access Survey

In February, CHI published the full results of the 2023 Colorado Health Access Survey (CHAS). The eighth edition of the biennial CHAS revealed substantial changes in health, health access, and economic issues stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic and the government's response to it.

CHI analysts spent the year exploring CHAS data in depth. We published briefs with interactive graphics on topics including housing stability, LGBTQ+ health, and a detailed look at Hispanic and Latino identities.

In addition to the main report, CHI produced:

- **22 topical briefs** — the most CHI has ever published from a single CHAS
- **8 data workbooks** to make the numbers accessible to anyone
- **A public use file** to allow anyone to explore CHAS data at no cost
- **Fact sheets** for all 100 legislative districts and 21 Health Statistics Regions
- **8 Behind the Numbers stories** that explore the data through real-life experiences
- **An interactive dashboard** that lets users build their own graphics using 14 years of CHAS data
- **30 responses** to information requests from community organizations, government agencies, and researchers



CHI Data and Analysis Manager Lindsey Whittington, left, and President and CEO Sara Schmitt present findings from the 2023 Colorado Health Access Survey.



See everything at
colo.health/CHAS23



NOTABLE WORK:

Colorado Lotus Project

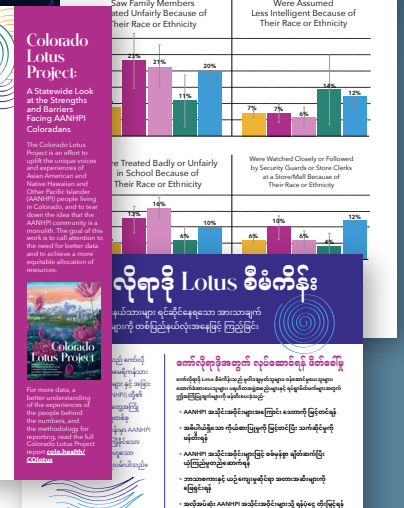
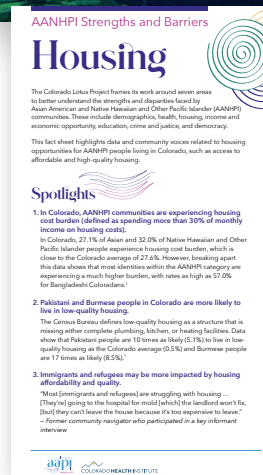
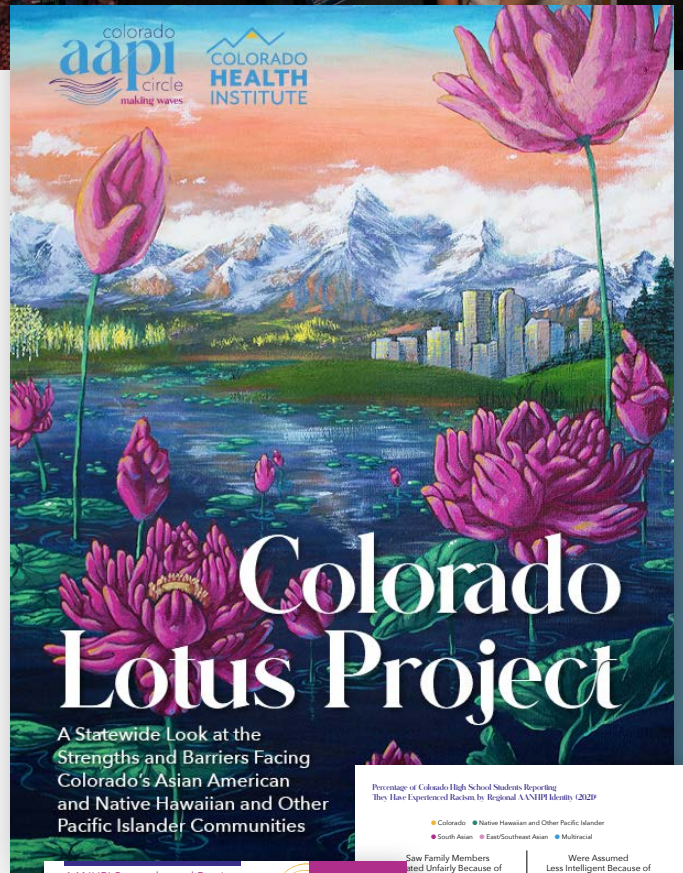
The Colorado Lotus Project is a groundbreaking effort to uplift the unique voices and experiences of Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (AANHPI) people living in Colorado. This project was created by the Colorado AAPI Circle and the Colorado Health Institute. In partnership with the community, including an advisory group of 10 AANHPI community members and leaders, the Colorado Lotus Project highlights the diverse experiences of Colorado's AANHPI communities, refuting the idea that they are one monolithic group.

In addition to the main report, CHI produced:

- ▶ **Seven fact sheets** on topics such as health, housing, and education
- ▶ **An overview flyer translated** into Burmese, Marshallese, Nepali, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Urdu, and Vietnamese
- ▶ **A data metric inventory** to help community leaders understand data about AANHPI people in Colorado
- ▶ **The Colorado Lotus Project Thought Exchange**, a survey of community members about their greatest strengths and challenges
- ▶ **An interactive state map** for Lotus Project partners to explore data by AANHPI identities



Explore all Lotus Project materials at colo.health/COlotus





Colorado Belonging Barometer

Belonging Colorado, housed at The Denver Foundation, is using the Barometer to inform a major philanthropic campaign that aims to make Colorado a place where everyone belongs.



Making a Difference for Coloradans

Most of CHI's work happens behind the scenes, in partnership with others who share our vision of a world where all people have what they need to be healthy. We use our skills in facilitation, strategic planning, evaluation, analysis, and communication to make our partners' work better.

Here are some of the many organizations that partnered with us in 2024.

► **Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing:** Cover All Coloradans.

CHI set up and managed a community ambassador program to promote Cover All Coloradans, the no-cost health coverage program for children and pregnant/postpartum people whose immigration status keeps them from receiving Medicaid.



► **Colorado Division of Insurance:** Wildfire Risk, Our Homes, and Our Health.

With support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, CHI conducted a multiyear research project to help policymakers, local and state agencies, and residents to better prepare for and respond to climate-change driven disasters.

► **Colorado Gives Foundation:** Strategic Planning.

CHI helped this Jefferson County-focused foundation develop a theory of change to guide its work. We also gathered and analyzed data to help the foundation measure its impact.

- **Change Matrix**
- **Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials**
- **Colorado Department of Human Services**
- **Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment**
- **CommonSpirit Health**
- **Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation**
- **Denver Department of Public Health and Environment**
- **Intermountain Health**
- **John Snow Inc./Environmental Protection Agency**
- **Kaiser Permanente Colorado**
- **Milbank Memorial Fund**
- **Speak Our Minds**
- **The Colorado Health Foundation**
- **The Denver Foundation**
- **Youth Healthcare Alliance**



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