WiFi Instructions
Locate and connect to the network named Hilton Denver Inverness. You should be taken to a login page in your browser. Scroll down past sign-in and click on the Guest WiFi Connect button, then click “I have a promotional code.” Enter the code hotissues2018. Happy surfing!

Livestreaming
We will be livestreaming portions of the conference for those who are unable to join us in person. Interested viewers may find the video stream on CHI's website, coloradohealthinstitute.org.

Stay in Touch with CHI All Year

SUMMIT UP
CHI’s new biweekly newsletter, covering our latest work, recent health news and good reads from the quickly changing world of health policy.

Subscribe now for Hot Issues recaps next week

colo.health/podcast  colo.health/newsletters
Welcome to Hot Issues in Health.

Last month’s elections changed Colorado’s political leadership, sweeping Democrats into power in all statewide offices.

But our challenges in health policy have not changed. Care and coverage are expensive for individuals, employers, and our state. We have gaping needs for mental health and substance abuse treatment. And not all Coloradans have a fair and equal opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

At CHI, we believe that better health policy, based on sound evidence and analysis, is a key to better health for all. But we also know that developing policy is a complex task that involves our beliefs and values as well as our brains.

That’s why we’re so glad you’re here at Hot Issues in Health. The information shared here and the conversations that take place — on stage, in sessions, at breakfast, in the hallways — help us build a deeper understanding of the issues and of one another. Together, we can consider the values that drive us while we contemplate health policy options.

This kind of civil discourse is so important in 2018, when political divides can make it harder than ever to connect and when the challenges that face us can seem more daunting than ever. All of us at the Colorado Health Institute have been working to put together a program that touches on many aspects of health in our state.

This year, we’re excited to welcome some of Colorado’s outgoing, incoming, and ongoing political leaders: Governor John Hickenlooper, Lieutenant Governor-elect Dianne Primavera, and Senator Michael Bennet will share their takes on health policy in Colorado and beyond. You’ll hear from our speakers about how and where cooperation is working and where it’s a challenge. You’ll see and participate in presentations about substance use policy, the cost of care, the links between climate and health, and the ways health care clinics and communities connect.

Please join me in thanking our sponsors for their support, without which Hot Issues would not be possible. Rose Community Foundation, our founding sponsor, has supported this conference since its inception. Thanks also to Diamond Sponsor SCL Health, Platinum Sponsor COPIC, Gold Sponsor Colorado Hospital Association, and Silver Sponsors Cigna, Delta Dental, Anthem, and UnitedHealthCare. We’re also grateful to the Colorado Health Foundation, which supports a number of scholarships that help make Hot Issues accessible to more people.

Thanks also to the elected officials who are joining us today. Your presence here each year attests to your commitment to the health of all Coloradans. And thanks to each of you for contributing your time and your perspective to Hot Issues in Health. You are the people who will be leading the conversation about health policy in our state, and we appreciate each of your voices and your commitment to better policy and better health for all.

To your health,

Michele Lueck
President and CEO,
Colorado Health Institute
The Colorado Health Institute’s mission is to support efforts to make Colorado the healthiest state by providing nonpartisan and unbiased analysis, data, and expertise. We assist leaders across the political spectrum.

Our team of health policy experts brings decades of experience analyzing and interpreting a broad range of complex health-related issues, focusing on legislative services, behavioral health, community health, payment reform, and the safety net.

Every year, the Colorado Health Institute establishes a research agenda focused on the themes and trends of greatest urgency for Colorado decision-makers. We respond to research and information requests from legislators, their staff, and the public.

In addition to our core research agenda, we consult for numerous Colorado organizations that share our aim to improve health for all, including health systems, state agencies, foundations, and local public health agencies.

CHI was created in 2002 by three major Colorado health foundations: The Colorado Trust, Caring for Colorado Foundation, and Rose Community Foundation. The goal? To fill a gap for reliable and nonpartisan data to help leaders craft informed health policy.

From our beginning to the present, CHI has evolved into an authoritative organization that plays an important role in Colorado’s health and health care community. We have hosted the Hot Issues in Health conference since 2004.
Thank You to Our Sponsors

The Hot Issues in Health conference is made possible in part by funding and support from generous sponsor organizations. The Colorado Health Institute acknowledges and thanks these sponsors, who exhibit a clear commitment to fostering productive policy conversations and moving the needle on important health and health care issues in Colorado through their financial support of the conference.

We extend our gratitude to the following organizations:

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![The Colorado Health Foundation](image)
# CONFERENCE AGENDA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 A.M.</td>
<td>REGISTRATION AND BUFFET BREAKFAST</td>
<td>COLUMBINE RESTAURANT</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 A.M.</td>
<td>WELCOME / ALPINE BALLROOM</td>
<td>Ruth Benton Board Chair, CHI</td>
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<td>8:35 A.M.</td>
<td>OPENING REMARKS / ALPINE BALLROOM</td>
<td>Michele Lueck President, CHI</td>
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<td>8:45 A.M.</td>
<td>KEYNOTE ADDRESS / ALPINE BALLROOM</td>
<td>Molly Ball National Political Correspondent, TIME</td>
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<td>9:45 A.M.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>Joe Hanel and Allie Morgan CHI</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 A.M.</td>
<td>PANEL: WHAT’S NEXT FOR MEDICAID / ALPINE BALLROOM</td>
<td>Marko Vujicic Chief Economist and Vice President, American Dental Association Health Policy Institute</td>
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<td>Kay Ramachandran Executive Director, MarillicaHealth</td>
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<td>Rob Valuck Director, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse</td>
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<td>Gretchen Hammer Founder, Public Leadership Consulting Group</td>
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<td>11:45 A.M.</td>
<td>BUFFET LUNCH AND NETWORKING / COLUMBINE RESTAURANT</td>
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<td>1 P.M.</td>
<td>BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND ONE</td>
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<td>Behavioral Health: Uniting the Head and the Heart / ALPINE 1</td>
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<td>Innovative Health Care in Colorado’s Safety Net / ALPINE 2-3</td>
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<td>Two-Generation Approaches: All in the Family / ALPINE 4</td>
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<td>Climate Change and Health in Colorado / CONFERENCE ROOM E</td>
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<td>2 P.M.</td>
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<td>2:15 P.M.</td>
<td>BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND TWO</td>
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<td>Aging and Housing: When Trends Collide / ALPINE 1</td>
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<td>Cost Control: Is the Price Right? / ALPINE 2-3</td>
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<td>Community Connections: Live Long and Prosper / ALPINE 4</td>
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<td>3:30 P.M.</td>
<td>PLENAKY ADDRESS / ALPINE BALLROOM</td>
<td>Vic Vela Radio reporter and host</td>
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<td>4:15 P.M.</td>
<td>RECEPTION SPONSORED BY SCL HEALTH / UPPER MOUNTAIN VIEW</td>
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*Non-alcoholic options available*
OPENING REMARKS:  
*Changing the Tone, Holding on to Our Values*  
Rhetoric in Washington has been ugly, but Colorado's health leaders can reset the tone starting today by improving health in our state through policy choices that align evidence and values.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: *The Next Wave*  
Molly Ball has covered national politics since 2010 and joins us after reporting on an unusually intense midterm election. Ball will discuss what the complex results of the midterm election mean for Colorado, health policy, and the 2020 election—which, like it or not, is already under way.

2019 LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW:  
*Local View: Promoting Behavioral Health*  
Representative Leslie Herod will give a brief overview of what to expect from the successful Caring 4 Denver ballot question to fund behavioral health services.  

*Legislative View: A Watershed Year for Health*  
The election left Democrats firmly in charge of state government for the first time in four years. With a new governor and four years of pent-up ideas, 2019 could be a watershed year for health policy. CHI's legislative team will lay out the new political landscape and examine bills that are already percolating.

MEDICAID PANEL:  
*Expanded Benefits, Expanded Populations, Now What?*  
Colorado Medicaid has seen growth in both enrollment and benefits over the past decade. Michele Lueck will moderate a discussion with panelists representing oral health services, substance use services, safety net populations, and a state Medicaid perspective to discuss what we can expect for the program and its members under a Polis administration.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND ONE:  
*Innovative Health Care in Colorado’s Safety Net: Four Live Vignettes on Improving Access to Care*  
Jeff Bontrager and Eli Boone CHI  
Colorado’s safety net clinics have an innovation imperative: use scarce resources to provide needed services for rural and underserved Coloradans. The safety net is often at the forefront of creative and technologic solutions. Back by popular demand, CHI’s master thespians will leave you with a real-world understanding of these important innovations. Four vignettes explore how these advances address Colorado’s access to care challenges.

*Uniting the Head and the Heart: A Framework for Substance Use Disorder Policymaking*  
Alex Caldwell and Jalyn Ingalls CHI  
Our world is not driven by evidence alone. If it were, chronic substance use disorders would be treated like diabetes, everyone would have a primary care provider, and a Flat Earth Truth Twitter handle would not have 8,000 followers. Policymakers should anticipate the politics, context, and values that influence policymaking—especially when it comes to substance use disorders. This session presents a framework to guide the discussions coming in 2019.

All in the Family: A Two-Generation Approach for a Stronger Colorado  
Sara Schmitt and Tamara Keeney CHI  
We know that helping our families thrive means meeting the needs of parents and children with a coordinated approach. In this session, we’ll talk about why a two-generation approach is a bipartisan opportunity to make a real impact on the health of our families. We’ll also share some of the challenges in this approach and how Colorado has begun to address them, including on-the-ground perspective from Rose Community Foundation’s Whitney Gustin Connor.

Climate Change and Health in Colorado: Introducing CHI’s Health and Climate Index  
Chrissy Esposito and Karam Ahmad CHI  
What parts of the state have more people vulnerable to health problems from a changing climate? The answer might surprise you. This session debuts CHI’s new Health and Climate Index—a local look at how climate can affect health in regions across Colorado.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROUND TWO:  
*Is the Price Right? Comparing Cost Control Opportunities*  
Edmond Toy and Joe Hanel CHI  
It takes money to save money. Legislators who have tried to bring down health care costs for their constituents know there are trade-offs and upfront costs. This session compares several options for controlling costs to see if the price is right.

*Live Long and Prosper: Community-Clinical Solutions to the Problems that Kill Us*  
Ashlie Brown and Rebecca Rapport CHI  
Join Colorado’s Regional Health Connectors as they boldly go beyond the comforts of the clinic walls, seek out the social determinants of health, and explore fascinating communities that are creating innovative solutions to health problems.

*When Trends Collide: Healthy Aging and the Housing Crisis for Older Coloradans*  
Emily Johnson and Liana Major CHI  
There’s great news for all Coloradans—we are living longer, healthier lives. At the same time, there’s some not-so-great news: Affordable housing in the state is getting harder to find. Join us for a discussion of how these trends intersect and what communities, legislators, and other policymakers can do to help Coloradans age in place.

PLENARY ADDRESS:  
*Notes from a Recovering Journalist*  
Longmont native Vic Vela managed to hide his cocaine addiction for years while working in high-profile television and print journalism jobs in Colorado and across the southwest. His story of recovery is a powerful reminder of why we focus so much on substance use policy and the vast needs that still aren’t being met by the health system.
CONFERENCE AGENDA

7 A.M.  REGISTRATION AND BUFFET BREAKFAST / COLUMBINE RESTAURANT

8:15 A.M.  WELCOME / ALPINE BALLROOM
Jamie Smith President, SCL Health St. Joseph Hospital

8:30 A.M.  A CONVERSATION WITH SEN. MICHAEL BENNET / ALPINE BALLROOM
U.S. Senator Michael Bennet
Michele Lueck President, CHI

9 A.M.  LEGISLATIVE PANEL / ALPINE BALLROOM
David Jones Boston University
Representative Dominique Jackson
Senator Jim Smallwood
Introduction by Dr. Ted Clarke Chairman and CEO, COPIC; Dr. Gerald Zarlengo Incoming CEO, COPIC

10 A.M.  BREAK

10:15 A.M.  HOSPITALS IN THE HOT SEAT / ALPINE BALLROOM
Richard Hammett President, Swedish Medical Center/HealthONE
Jamie Smith President, SCL Health St. Joseph Hospital
Heidi Baskfield Vice President for Population Health and Advocacy, Children’s Hospital Colorado
Katherine Mulready Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, Colorado Hospital Association
Moderator: Christine Woolsey Vice Chair, CHI Board of Trustees

11:15 A.M.  THE HANDOFF / ALPINE BALLROOM
Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper
Colorado Lt. Gov.-Elect Dianne Primavera
Introduction by Lindy Eichenbaum Lent CEO, Rose Community Foundation

12 P.M.  CLOSING REMARKS AND PRIZE DRAWING / ALPINE BALLROOM

12:15 P.M.  BUFFET LUNCH / COLUMBINE RESTAURANT
Optional, with to-go lunches available
DAY 2 SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

A CONVERSATION WITH SEN. MICHAEL BENNET:
Colorado’s senior U.S. senator will share his insights into working in Colorado and Washington and talk about the prospects for progress on health at the federal level, including bipartisan solutions.

LEGISLATIVE PANEL:
Policymaking in Partisan Times
What can Colorado teach other states about civil discourse and compromise? How can elected officials make sure they’re talking to each other, rather than past each other? And how can our state move forward on complicated policy issues amid dramatic differences in perspectives, including about the role of government? A public health researcher and two current state legislators explain.

HOSPITALS PANEL:
Hospitals in the Hot Seat
Insurance carriers, state agencies, and others are making headlines with their scrutiny of hospital prices. It’s a fact: Hospitals are major employers and economic drivers in their regions that have also benefited substantially from the Affordable Care Act and other recent policy reforms. Christine Woolsey will moderate a discussion with hospital executives from around Colorado.

THE HANDOFF:
Transition in the Governor’s Office
From Medicaid expansion to marijuana legalization, Governor John Hickenlooper has overseen momentous changes in the state’s health system. He will share what the country could learn about health from Colorado.

The incoming administration has big goals for health, outlined in a 100-Day Roadmap and ambitious plans shared on the campaign trail across Colorado. Lieutenant Governor-elect Dianne Primavera will speak about these goals and the Polis administration’s values around health.
Molly Ball is the National Political Correspondent for TIME, covering campaigns, the White House, political personalities, and policy debates across America. She is also a political analyst for CNN and frequent television and radio commentator. She previously wrote for The Atlantic, Politico, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and others. Ball has received numerous awards for her political coverage. She grew up right here in Colorado and attended Cherry Creek High School. Her extensive experience and insightful commentary come into play as she debriefs election results and discuss their implications nationally and in our state.

U.S. Senator Michael Bennet has represented Colorado in the United States Senate since 2009. Recognized as a pragmatic and independent thinker, he is driven by an obligation to create more opportunity for the next generation. Senator Bennet has built a reputation of taking on Washington dysfunction and working with Republicans and Democrats to address our nation’s greatest challenges — including education, climate change, immigration, health care, and national security. Before serving in Congress, Senator Bennet worked to restructure failing businesses and helped create the world’s largest movie theater chain. As superintendent of Denver Public Schools, he led one of the most extensive reform efforts in the country, resulting in substantial, sustained academic improvement for Denver’s children. He lives in Denver with his wife and three daughters.

Governor John Hickenlooper is a lifetime entrepreneur who ran as a “dark horse” to become Mayor of Denver in 2003. He led the campaign to pass FasTracks, the largest regional transportation initiative in U.S. history. In 2011, having run on his history of collaboration for community good, he became the first Denver mayor to be elected governor in 150 years. He also became the first brewer to become a governor since Sam Adams in 1792. As governor, his goal was to create the most pro-business state government, but with the highest environmental and ethical standards. He is a great believer that governors, far more than Congress, can revive American democracy.
David Jones is a professor at Boston University’s School of Public Health whose research examines the politics of health reform and social determinants of health. He will discuss lessons from his recent report, “Views from the Heartland: Prospects for Bipartisanship in Health Reform,” based on interviews with legislators in Colorado and Kansas, before moderating a conversation with current state lawmakers from both parties. Jones has been awarded AUPHA’s John D. Thompson Prize for Young Investigators, AcademyHealth’s Outstanding Dissertation Award, and the BU School of Public Health Excellence in Teaching Award. He is also the author of the recent book “Exchange Politics: Opposing Obamacare in Battleground States.”

Lt. Governor-elect Dianne Primavera served four terms in the Colorado House of Representatives, representing Broomfield, Superior, and parts of Erie. She is known for her success working across the aisle to promote Colorado small businesses, lower prescription drug costs, and expand access to affordable health care. Primavera has fought cancer four times and survived, which inspired her to make it her life’s work to ensure every Coloradan has access to the health care they need when they need it. Most recently, she has served as the CEO of Susan G. Komen Colorado, a chapter of one of the largest organizations in the country dedicated to breast cancer prevention, treatment, research, and education. She was born in Denver and attended both Regis University and the University of Northern Colorado.

Vic Vela is a veteran Colorado journalist with experience in radio, newspapers and television. He has been legislative editor for Colorado Community Media; a sports anchor and reporter for an NBC affiliate in Amarillo, Texas; and a reporter for The Daily Record in Cañon City and the Albuquerque Journal. He is now a weekend host and reporter for Colorado Public Radio. Before coming to CPR, Vela maintained an award-winning career in journalism despite frequent cocaine use for most of his adult life. He has been sober for nearly four years and speaks and writes about recovery to encourage others struggling with substance use. Vela’s work has garnered two regional Edward R. Murrow awards, plus awards from the Colorado Press Association, the New Mexico Press Association, and the Society of Professional Journalists.
Heidi Baskfield serves as the Vice President for Population Health and Advocacy at Children’s Hospital Colorado. Her responsibilities include oversight of the Child Health Advocacy Institute, leading the hospital’s population health strategy, and developing the hospital’s advocacy and legislative efforts to influence child health policy at the local, state, and federal levels. Baskfield served under Governor Bill Ritter’s administration as legislative program manager for the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, where she developed and implemented a natural resources policy and legislative agenda. She earned a law degree from California Western School of Law and a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Fort Lewis College in Durango.

Ruth Benton co-founded New West, a primary care group practice, in 1994. The company has 80 physicians and mid-level providers and 250 employees at 16 locations in the Denver metro area. She is chair of CHI’s Board of Trustees. Benton has an MBA from Colorado State University and has been named a Distinguished Alumna and Entrepreneur in Residence at the CSU College of Business. She has been a regular member of the Denver Business Journal’s “Most Influential Health Care Leaders in Colorado” list.

Dr. Ted Clarke was named COPIC’s chairman and CEO in 2005 and has served on its board since March 2002. During his tenure, COPIC reinforced its role as an industry leader in patient safety and risk management, expanded services into multiple states, and successfully grew the COPIC Medical Foundation to support health care initiatives.

Whitney Gustin Connor directs Rose Community Foundation’s health program area, which supports efforts to promote a health care system that is more coordinated, affordable and accessible. Prior to joining the foundation, Connor was a consultant to Cape Cod Healthcare’s school-based health center program in Massachusetts. Before then, she served as a nonpartisan policy analyst for the Colorado General Assembly and staffed the legislature’s committees on health and human services. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Colby College and a master’s degree in health policy from the University of Colorado.

Richard Hammett has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of HCA/HealthONE’s Swedish Medical Center in Englewood since August 2016. Hammett has a 25-year career in executive hospital leadership and has served within HCA Healthcare since 2005. He was CEO of The Medical Center of Aurora and Centennial Medical Plaza from 2012 to 2016. Hammett serves on the board of the Colorado Hospital Association, most recently as its chairman. A Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, Hammett received a Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Health Administration from the University of Alabama-Birmingham. He received his Bachelor of Science from the University of Alabama.
Gretchen Hammer has, for over two decades, served as a public leadership consultant, non-profit executive and senior government official focused on improving the health and well-being of Colorado communities. Most recently, she served for nearly four years as the Medicaid Director at the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. In November 2018, she returned to consulting, launching the Public Leadership Consulting Group, where she is working with clients focused on developing innovative approaches to improving health, early childhood development, and economic prosperity for all. Hammer is a graduate of the Colorado College and the University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine.

Representative Leslie Herod serves House District 8 (Northeast Denver) in the Colorado House of Representatives. She is the first African American LGBT candidate elected to the State Legislature. Representative Herod has served on multiple community boards and commissions, including as a gubernatorial appointee to the state’s Judicial Performance Commission and a mayoral appointee to Denver’s Cultural Affairs Commission. She is a co-founder of New Era Colorado, the state’s leading organization focused on the engagement of young people, and she served as President of Colorado Black Women for Political Action. In 2018, Representative Herod championed the successful campaign for the Caring 4 Denver ballot initiative, which will provide an estimated $45 million annually for behavioral health services in the city.

Representative Dominique Jackson, a Democrat from Aurora, represents House District 42 in the Colorado State House of Representatives. She was first elected in 2016. Representative Jackson has run bills pertaining to affordable housing, sexual assault and domestic violence prevention, renter protections, and a variety of health-related issues. A champion for health care, she has supported efforts to ensure access to quality, affordable care, including a bill to help bring down the cost of prescription medications. She sits on three legislative committees, including Health, Insurance, and Environment. Prior to taking office, she worked as a communications consultant and served on Aurora’s Citizens Advisory Committee for Housing and Community Development. She spent 20 years as a television news journalist.

Lindy Eichenbaum Lent joined the Rose Community Foundation as President and CEO in November 2017. She previously spent nearly nine years as executive director of the Civic Center Conservancy. She also served as then-Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper’s communications director. In 2007, she was named senior advisor to the mayor and subsequently served as the City and County of Denver’s director of communications for the 2008 Democratic National Convention. Lent received her bachelor’s degree in political science with honors from Stanford University and her master’s degree in journalism from Northwestern University.
Katherine Mulready is the Chief Strategy Officer and Vice President for Legislative Policy for the Colorado Hospital Association. Prior to joining CHA, Katherine served as the Senior Policy Advisor on Health to Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper, where she was responsible for coordinating the administration’s health policy initiatives. She holds joint degrees in Law and Healthcare Leadership from the University of Denver and a bachelor’s degree from Lafayette College.

Lata (Kay) Ramachandran has served as Executive Director of the Marillac Clinic in Grand Junction since January 2013. The clinic, established in 1988, provides comprehensive primary care and dental care to low-income and middle-income individuals and families in Mesa County. She serves on CHI’s Board of Trustees. Before coming to Marillac, she was the CEO of Urban Peak in Denver, a nonprofit that provides services to homeless youth. Ramachandran had previously worked in Canada for a large home health care organization as well as a large for-profit health care company. Born in India, she has lived in Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada, Boulder, and Denver. She has a master’s degree in history from the University of Pune.

Senator Jim Smallwood represents Senate District 4, which covers much of Douglas County including Parker, Castle Rock, Sedalia, and Larkspur. Senator Smallwood learned about public service at an early age from his father. He earned his B.B.A. in finance from Fort Hays State University, where he met his wife, Jodi. At 23, Senator Smallwood started his first business in Colorado – an insurance brokerage firm specializing in employee benefits. In 1996, Senator Smallwood moved to Parker where he, his wife and their three sons are active members of the community. Senator Smallwood champions affordable and accessible health care for Coloradans and will continue to fight skyrocketing premiums while working to ensure that all Coloradans have access to quality health care.

Jamie Smith has served as president of St. Joseph Hospital since 2015. Previously, Smith worked for Centura Health in various leadership roles since 2008. Prior to that, he worked with Tenet Healthcare for five years as Vice President, Operations at Frye Regional Medical Center in Hickory, N.C., and as Associate Administrator at Atlanta Medical Center in Atlanta. Earlier in his career, he was a Medical Platoon Leader in the 1st Calvary Division at Fort Hood, Texas. He also served as the Administrator of the Department of Pediatrics at Walter Reed Army Medical Center for nearly two years. Smith is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE). He earned a master’s degree in business administration in 2002 from the University of Texas at Austin, and a bachelor’s degree in economics from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas.
Robert J. Valuck is a professor in the departments of Clinical Pharmacy, Epidemiology, and Family Medicine at the University of Colorado Schools of Pharmacy, Public Health, and Medicine at the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. He is Director of the Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention, created by Governor Hickenlooper to address the prescription drug abuse problem with a collaborative, statewide approach. The Consortium has evolved over the past four years to include nine work groups, with over 400 members across the state, focusing on key areas relating to education, prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery. The Consortium has gained recognition as a model for the development of collaborative, coordinated responses to the opioid overdose epidemic in the United States.

Marko Vujicic is the Chief Economist and Vice President of the American Dental Association’s Health Policy Institute. He is responsible for overseeing the Institute’s policy research activities. Prior to joining the American Dental Association in 2011, he was Senior Economist with The World Bank in Washington D.C., where he directed the global health workforce policy program. He was also a Health Economist with the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. Vujicic obtained his Ph.D. in economics from the University of British Columbia and a bachelor’s degree in business from McGill University in Montreal.

Christine Woolsey is vice chair of the Colorado Health Institute Board of Trustees. She was recently senior vice president and chief communications and marketing officer of SCL Health, where she oversaw strategic communications, brand management, and federal advocacy for the $2.5 billion health system operating eight hospitals in Colorado, Kansas and Montana. Previously, she was senior vice president of Hill & Knowlton’s Midwest Healthcare Practice, counseling Fortune 500 clients on corporate communications, issues and crisis management, media relations and brand building. A veteran journalist, Chris spent the first 20 years of her career in Chicago working in print, radio, and broadcast. She has a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Dr. Gerald Zarlengo will become CEO of COPIC in 2019. He is the founding partner of Midtown Obstetrics & Gynecology in Denver. He has served as the Medical Director of Perinatal Services at Sisters of Charity Leavenworth Health System and Medical Director of Women’s and Children’s Services at Saint Joseph Hospital. He sits on the Board of the Colorado Physician Health Program, served as an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Colorado Health Science Center, and is on the board of the Zarlengo Foundation, which supports families with learning disabled children.
**COLORADO HEALTH INSTITUTE SPEAKERS**

**Karam Ahmad**, a policy analyst at the Colorado Health Institute, researches environmental and public health issues, hepatitis C, substance use prevention, climate change, and more. Before joining CHI in May 2017, Karam was a public health geospatial analyst for federal agencies.

**Jeff Bontrager**, a director at the Colorado Health Institute, coordinates research related to health insurance, the uninsured, and Colorado’s health care safety net. Jeff develops and oversees many of CHI’s program evaluation efforts and is the principal investigator on the Colorado Health Access Survey. He joined CHI in 2005.

**Eli Boone**, a research analyst at the Colorado Health Institute, focuses on Medicaid innovation and coordinates the Colorado Health Access Survey (CHAS), the premier source of information on health insurance coverage, access to health care, and use of health care services. He joined CHI in February 2018.

**Ashlie Brown**, a director at the Colorado Health Institute, leads the Colorado Regional Health Connectors program in close collaboration with the Trailhead Institute and dozens of key partners across the state. She joined CHI in January 2016.

**Alex Caldwell**, a director at the Colorado Health Institute, researches behavioral health, access to specialty care, and other issues. Caldwell works closely with foundations, state agencies, and others to conduct evaluations, needs assessments, and strategic planning. She joined CHI in August 2016.

**Chrissy Esposito**, a data visualization and policy analyst at the Colorado Health Institute, conducts research on how climate change impacts the health of Coloradans. She also creates interactive dashboards and maps as a member of CHI’s communications team. She joined CHI in May 2016.

**Joe Hanel**, managing director of communications at the Colorado Health Institute, leads CHI’s public outreach efforts and helps plan the editorial calendar. He worked 19 years as a journalist before joining CHI in May 2014.

**Jalyn Ingalls**, a research analyst at the Colorado Health Institute, focuses on behavioral health research and analysis. She has reported on a variety of issues, including the opioid epidemic and the policy and health considerations associated with e-cigarettes. She joined CHI in January 2018.
Emily Johnson, a director at the Colorado Health Institute, researches health care coverage, access, and related policy issues. Her recent work includes an economic analysis of federal health reform legislation and a cost-benefit analysis of inpatient substance use disorder treatment in Medicaid. She joined CHI in May 2015.

Tamara Keeney, an adviser to the Colorado Health Institute, consults on projects related to early childhood mental health. Before leaving for graduate school, Tamara conducted research on behavioral health and was lead analyst on CHI’s team supporting the Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care. She joined CHI in October 2013.

Michele Lueck, president and CEO of the Colorado Health Institute, consults with leading academic organizations, helps diverse groups achieve their strategic goals, and gives presentations around the state and country. In her 20-plus years of health and health care experience, she has held leadership roles in two other nonprofits, consulted with many more, and worked in account management in the private sector. She joined CHI in November 2010.

Liana Major, a policy analyst at the Colorado Health Institute, works on healthy aging policy as well as the social determinants of health. Currently, she is co-leading a housing and aging project funded by the NextFifty Initiative. She joined CHI in January 2018.

Allie Morgan, a director at the Colorado Health Institute, manages legislative relations and provides research, presentations, and commentary on developments at the state Capitol. She also oversees the annual Hot Issues in Health conference. She joined CHI in July 2014.

Rebecca Rapport, a program manager at the Colorado Health Institute, leads operations, training, and technical assistance for the Colorado Regional Health Connectors program in close collaboration with the Trailhead Institute and dozens of key partners across the state. She joined CHI in April 2016.

Sara Schmitt, a managing director at the Colorado Health Institute, leads research and evaluation on the social and environmental determinants of health. She works closely with public health agencies, health care providers and community organizations. She joined CHI in January 2012.

Edmond Toy, a senior adviser to the Colorado Health Institute, is an economist who applies his analytic and quantitative modeling expertise across a wide range of health policy topics. He joined CHI in 2016 after a 15-year career as an economic, financial, and strategy consultant.
ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED BY ATTENDEES

5280 Strategies
Alzheimer’s Association: Colo. Chapter
Amgen
Aptone & Busam Public Affairs
Arapahoe County Human Services
Aurora Health Alliance
BakerHostetler
Baskett, LLC
Beacon Health Options
Benefits in Action
Boston University
Boulder Community Health
Boulder County Area Agency on Aging
Boulder County Health Improvement Collaborative
Boulder Valley Women’s Health Center
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Caring for Colorado Foundation
Cedar Gate Technologies
Centennial Area Health and Education Center for Health Progress
Central Colorado Area Health Education Center
Centura Health
Children’s Hospital Colorado
Chronic Care Collaborative
Cigna
City and County of Broomfield
Clinica Family Health
Colorado Academy of Family Physicians
Colorado Access
Colorado Alliance for Health Equity and Practice
Colorado Ambulatory Surgery Center Association
Colorado Association for School-Based Health Care
Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials
Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence
Colorado Center on Law and Policy
Colorado Children’s Campaign
Colorado Children’s Healthcare Access Program
Colorado Community Health Alliance
Colorado Community Health Network
Colorado Consumer Health Initiative
Colorado Counties Inc.
Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition
Colorado Dental Association
Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies
Colorado Governor’s Office
Colorado Hospital Association
Colorado House of Representatives
Colorado Legislative Council
Colorado Medical Society
Colorado Nurses Association
Colorado Regional Health Information Organization
Colorado Rural Health Center
Colorado School of Public Health
Colorado Senate
Colorado Senate Democrats
Colorado Springs Health Foundation
Colorado State Innovation Model
Commonwealth Fund
Community Associations Institute
Community Care Alliance
Community Health Partnership
Connect for Health Colorado
CoPIC
DaVita
Dear Friend Designs
Delta Dental of Colorado
Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation
Dentons US
Denver Health Foundation
Denver Public Health
Disruptive Medical Solutions
Eagle County
Early Milestones Colorado
ECHO Colorado
El Paso County Public Health
Evolution Communications Agency
Family and Intercultural Resource Center
Family Star Montessori
Foothills Medical Society
Frontline Public Affairs
Gary Community Investments
Grand County
Health Action Council
Health District of Northern Larimer County
Health Policy Institute – American Dental Association
Healthcare Strategies, LLC
Healthier Colorado
Health Resources and Services Administration
Jefferson County Public Health
John Snow, Inc.
Kaiser Permanente
LeadingAge Colorado
Liver Health Connection
Lolita, Inc.
Mental Health Center of Denver
Mental Health Partners
Mesa County Public Health
Metro Community Provider Network
Milliman
Montrose County
Monument Health
Nexus Policy Group
North Colorado Health Alliance
Northeast Colorado Health Department
Oral Health Colorado
Otero County
Otero County Health Department
Otowi Group Consulting
Park County
Pinnacol
Pitkin County
Politicalworks
Polisinei PC
Project Angel Heart
Public Consulting Group Human Services
Public Leadership Consulting Group
Quality Health Network
Rocky Mountain Health Plans
Rootstock Solutions LLC
Rose Community Foundation
Saint Joseph Hospital Foundation
San Juan Basin Public Health
San Miguel County
SCL Health
Segue Consulting, Inc.
South Carolina Institute of Medicine and Public Health
Stapleton for Colorado
Steadman Group
Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging
Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado
Summit County
SummitStone Health Partners
Sunrise Community Health
The Bell Policy Center
The Center for African American Health
The Center for Personalized Education for Physicians
The Colorado Health Access Fund
The Colorado Health Foundation
The Colorado Trust
The Denver Foundation
The Flahive Group LLC
The Kenney Group
The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
Tri-County Health Department
UCHealth
UnitedHealthcare
UnitedHealth Group
University of Colorado
University of Colorado, College of Nursing
University of Colorado, Department of Pediatrics
University of Denver
Wynne Health Group
Zoma Foundation
In lieu of giving out pens, tote bags, or stress balls, the Colorado Health Institute will donate to the Eating Recovery Foundation, the foundation arm of the Eating Recovery Center. We invite you to learn more about this deserving organization by visiting eatingrecoverycenter.com. We are thrilled to support their work.

What is the Eating Recovery Foundation?
The Eating Recovery Foundation is a catalyst to change how eating disorders are viewed, treated and prevented. It provides education and prevention programs, supports research, and shares resources for those afflicted with, or at risk for eating disorders, as well as their families, caregivers, and treating professionals. Since its inception it has positively impacted thousands of lives through our programs that raise levels of awareness, advance research and provide access to care for those in financial need.

CHI thanks the wonderful staff of the Eating Recovery Center for the support, care, and healing they provided to the family of our Director of Finance and Administration, Tim Dunbar, after his daughter was diagnosed with an eating disorder earlier this year.
The Colorado Health Institute is a trusted source of independent and objective health information, data and analysis for the state's health care leaders. The Colorado Health Institute is funded by the Caring for Colorado Foundation, Rose Community Foundation, The Colorado Trust and the Colorado Health Foundation.

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