The Colorado Health Institute dedicates the 2016 Hot Issues in Health Care conference to Sheila Bugdanowitz, a driving force behind our founding and an ongoing source of support and wisdom throughout the years. In 2002, she joined two other health foundation CEOs — Chris Wiant of the Caring for Colorado Foundation and John Moran of The Colorado Trust — to launch CHI. She inspired us with her clear-eyed leadership, her big heart and her compassion.
Welcome to Hot Issues in Health Care 2016. You are about to experience a much different conference than the one we had been planning since last summer.

Few of us thought before the night of November 8 that we would be talking about repeal of the Affordable Care Act — and what might replace it. But the day after the election, the Colorado Health Institute swung into action to adjust the Hot Issues agenda to the new political reality in Washington. We will be talking about the future of Medicaid and Connect for Health Colorado, the ways that new political coalitions will affect health policy, and where the health reform movement goes from here.

We have an agenda packed with the experts most qualified to help us navigate through uncertain times. Don’t miss our keynote speakers:

• **Sarah Kliff** of Vox.com, one of the country’s leading health policy journalists.
• **Lieutenant Governor Donna Lynne**, who will lead Colorado’s health reform efforts for the next two years.
• **Dr. Patricia Gabow**, former head of Denver Health and a nationally recognized expert in the reform of care delivery.

If we’ve learned — or re-learned — anything in the past month, it’s that public policy is not a spectator sport. Neither is this conference. We’ve done our best to identify the most important topics as we head into the Trump Administration. But the magic of Hot Issues is you and your fellow attendees. This conference brings together Colorado’s best minds in health care. We can all learn a lot from each other — in the conference rooms, in the hallways and while roasting s’mores on the patio. Now is not a time to be shy.

Issues in health care have never been hotter. We hope you leave with the perspective and energy to tackle the important work ahead of us.

To your health,

Michele Lueck
President and CEO
Colorado Health Institute
DAY ONE: Wednesday, December 14

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Registration and Buffet Breakfast
Lower Lobby

9:00 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.
Welcome
Arthur Davidson, MD, MSPH
Director of Public Health Informatics, Epidemiology and Preparedness at Denver Public Health, Denver Health
Outgoing Chair of the Colorado Health Institute Board of Trustees
Colorado Ballroom

9:05 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
OPENING REMARKS
Ready, Set, Colorado! Making Sense of Health Policy in a Time of Uncertainty
Michele Lueck, President and CEO, Colorado Health Institute
Colorado Ballroom
A Trump administration raises many questions about health and health care policy in Colorado and across the nation. Michele Lueck will set the stage for two days of discussions about the future of the Affordable Care Act and other health reform efforts. President-elect Donald Trump, who campaigned as an outsider and populist with the stated goal of eliminating Obamacare, may govern as a traditional Republican administration. Or he may not. Michele will help define the changes we should anticipate, the questions we should ask and the opportunities we should not ignore.

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
KEYNOTE ADDRESS ONE
On the Front Lines of Change: Analyzing the Trump Election
Sarah Kliff, Senior Editor, Vox.com
Colorado Ballroom
From a front row seat in Washington, D.C., noted journalist Sarah Kliff analyzes the presidential election and its potential impact on health policy and offers thoughts on what to expect in 2017 and beyond. She will break down the details and the politics of Republican Obamacare replacement plans, including the “Better Way” proposal from House Speaker Paul Ryan. A veteran of the drama around passage of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, she is now covering the next chapter for this historic law.

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Picking Up the Pieces: An Election Review and 2017 Legislative Forecast
Allie Morgan, Legislative Director and Policy Analyst, Colorado Health Institute
Joe Hanel, Senior Communications Expert, Colorado Health Institute
Colorado Ballroom
The turmoil of the 2016 election is still fresh, but legislators must get back to work after the tense and bitter political season. CHI’s legislative team will look at what Colorado voters decided in 2016 and how a continued partisan split in the legislature could affect the 2017 session. Issues from previous years will be back again, including the increasing cost of health insurance, the Hospital Provider Fee and freestanding emergency rooms. And new issues are headed this way from Washington, where big changes are brewing.

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Break

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Markets That Matter:
Sessions with Colorado Health Institute Analysts and Community Partners (Choose one of three)

1. The Colorado Health Insurance Exchange: On Life Support or a Healthy Prognosis?
   • Colorado Health Institute Analyst: Jeff Bontrager, Director of Research on Coverage and Access
   • Community Partner: Amy Stephens, Principal, Public Policy and Regulation Practice, Dentons; former Colorado House Majority Leader
   Arkansas/Platte
   Connect for Health Colorado, the state’s online marketplace for health insurance, has been a flashpoint of both hope and controversy since its launch in 2013. Still, it has prevailed despite rising premiums, fewer carriers and faltering exchanges in other states. But it now faces the biggest uncertainty of all: the potential rollback of Obamacare. Join Jeff Bontrager and former Representative Amy Stephens, a driving force behind Colorado’s state-based exchange, as they look back and look ahead.
2. The Middle on the Edge: Health Insurance, Affordability and the Middle Class — Before and After the Election

- Colorado Health Institute Analyst: Edmond Toy, Director
- Community Partner: Tamara Drangstveit, Executive Director, Family & Intercultural Resource Center, Summit County

Rio Grande/Gunnison

How have the Obamacare years treated the middle class when it comes to affordable health insurance? And what can members of the middle class expect from a Trump administration? Both answers may surprise you. Edmond Toy has delved into the data to begin answering these questions. Tamara Drangstveit will present the view from the front lines in Summit County, where many residents are struggling to find affordable health insurance.

3. Medicaid Midstream: The Impact of Expansion So Far and a Look at Options for the Future

- Colorado Health Institute Analyst: Emily Johnson, Senior Policy and Statistical Analyst
- Community Partner: Ross Brooks, CEO, Mountain Family Health Centers, Glenwood Springs, Basalt, Edwards and Rifle

White River

Medicaid expansion was explosive beyond all expectations on both the state and local levels. In Colorado, the influx of Medicaid enrollees is the primary reason for the state's historically low uninsurance rate of 6.7 percent. The bottom line? More demand, more costs — but also more people getting health insurance and health care, some for the first time. Learn about the Coloradans who got covered and the impact on the state budget. We'll also look ahead at potential policy changes on the horizon for Medicaid. Ross Brooks, CEO of Mountain Family Health Centers, will talk about what Medicaid expansion has meant for the network of federally qualified health centers serving low-income rural mountain communities.

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Buffet Lunch and Networking

Mountain View Dining Room

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

The Results Are In: Where Do We Go from Here?

Audience Participation Sessions Moderated by Colorado Health Institute Staff (Choose one of four)

1. Koffee with Kliff

- Panelist: Sarah Kliff, Senior Editor, Vox.com
- Moderator: Deborah Goeken, Vice President of Communications

Executive Presentation Room (Amphitheater)

Wondering about the back story of the presidential election? Curious about whether the Affordable Care Act's days are numbered? Hearing about potential changes in the Medicaid and Medicare programs? What about Ryancare? Block grants? The budget reconciliation process? Interested in the mindset in Washington? And data, polling and the media? Sarah Kliff will fill us in on her view of health policy history. Come armed with your questions for this give-and-take conversation.

2. End-of-Life Options in Colorado: The Delicate Task of Implementing Proposition 106

- Panelist: Daniel Handel, M.D., Chief of Division, Denver Health Palliative Care
- Panelist: Megan Schrader, editorial writer, The Denver Post Editorial Board
- Panelist: Kat West, J.D., National Director of Policy & Programs, Compassion & Choices
- Moderator: Alex Caldwell, Policy Analyst

Arkansas/Platte

Voters approved the state’s End-of-Life Options Act by a margin of 65 percent to 35 percent, making Colorado the sixth state with a medical aid in dying law. The change will be far-reaching for health care providers, patients and their families. What happens next as Colorado prepares for this new law to take effect in January? What safeguards will be in place? Our panel of experts will discuss the practical, strategic and ethical decisions that physicians, hospitals, regulators and others are now facing.

3. The Long Game: Universal Health Care and Other Questions in a Changing World

- Panelist: T.R. Reid, reporter, author, ColoradoCare campaign leader
- Moderator: Michele Lueck, President and CEO, Colorado Health Institute

Rio Grande/Gunnison

It’s back to the drawing board for ColoradoCare, the proposed constitutional amendment that would have made Colorado the first state with universal health care. And that’s not the only health policy that’s up in the air following the November election. But health care expert and journalist T.R. Reid is surprisingly upbeat about not only the future of universal health care in Colorado but about health care under President-elect Trump. Join this thought-provoking conversation between Reid and Michele Lueck as they discuss health care policy in a changing world.
4. Colorado’s New Map:
Trump Rewrites the Playbook
- Panelist: Steve House, State Chair, Colorado Republican Party
- Panelist: Ian Silverii, Executive Director, ProgressNow Colorado
- Moderator: Joe Hanel, Senior Communications Expert

White River
Donald Trump made gains in traditional Democratic strongholds, including Pueblo and Adams County. But in the process he drove away many supporters. Are political coalitions changing before our eyes? Join Steve House and Ian Silverii for a lively discussion about the 2016 campaign — and what it says about building constituencies for health policy in Colorado in 2017 and beyond.

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Break

3:00 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.
Introduction of Dr. Patricia Gabow
Whitney Gustin Connor,
Senior Program Officer – Health, Rose Community Foundation
Colorado Ballroom

3:05 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
KEYNOTE ADDRESS TWO
Should Health Care Institutions Be the Epicenter for Health?
Patricia Gabow, M.D.
Colorado Ballroom
From her role leading the turnaround of Denver Health to her national reputation as a leader in delivery system innovation and the care of vulnerable populations, Dr. Gabow has plenty to say about the issues facing American health care. She will talk about ensuring that patients have the right care at the right time at the right cost. And she will discuss the state levers and federal levers available to make that happen.

DAY TWO: Thursday, December 15

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Breakfast for Legislators
Featuring the Colorado Health Institute’s Legislative Monitors
- Michael Beasley, President, 5280 Strategies
- Diana Protopapa, Partner, Frontline Public Affairs
Location: Remington II
9:00 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.

**Introduction of Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne**

Ruth N. Benton, MBA  
Co-founder and Chief Business Officer, New West Physicians  
Incoming Chair of the Colorado Health Institute  
Board of Trustees  
Colorado Ballroom

9:05 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS THREE**

From the Lieutenant Governor’s Office: Critical Health Care Issues in the 2017 Legislative Session

Donna Lynne, Lieutenant Governor of Colorado  
Colorado Ballroom

Donna Lynne brings a wealth of health care, business and government acumen to her role as Colorado’s 49th lieutenant governor. When she was tapped by Governor John Hickenlooper as his second in command and chief operating officer earlier this year, she was serving as executive vice president of the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals. She had previously spent 20 years working in New York City government. Now, she’s relying on that expertise to help lead Colorado through the next two years. She will reveal her take on the hottest health care issues of the 2017 session and how they will feature in the broader state agenda.

9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

**Chaos and Disruption: Before and After the Election**

Amy Downs, Vice President, Colorado Health Institute  
Colorado Ballroom

The health care market was in the throes of disruption, from freestanding emergency departments to narrow networks to stubbornly high insurance premiums, before the election. But we were seeing signs of stabilization. Now, with a new administration and an expected pivot in health policy, Amy Downs talks about the future of health policy priorities, and the possibility of even more chaos as business models are disrupted and state policymakers face new decisions on Medicaid and other programs.

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

**Break**

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

**Working for Colorado’s Health: Big Ideas and On-the-Ground Efforts: Sessions with Colorado Health Institute Analysts and Community Partners (Choose one of three)**

1. **It Takes Two to Tango: Healthier Parents and Healthier Kids**
   - **Colorado Health Institute Analyst:** Tamara Keeney, Policy Analyst  
   - **Community Partner:** Lisa Jansen Thompson, Executive Director, Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County (ECPAC)  
   - **Arkansas/Platte**
     
     Early childhood is a critical time to establish life-long health. Interventions targeting children are important. But we won’t have healthy children without healthy parents. A two-generation approach to policy meets the needs of children and the adults in their lives. In this session, you will learn about the tie between child and parental health and how to use a two-generation framework to discuss the policies that support healthy families. Lisa will share how the families at ECPAC benefit from programs targeted at both their child’s well-being and their own basic needs.

2. **Home is Where the Heart is: Unpaid Caregivers and Aging in Place**
   - **Colorado Health Institute Analyst:** Natalie Triedman, Policy Analyst  
   - **Rio Grande/Gunnison**
     
     Nursing homes are no longer the default for older Coloradans. Instead, aging in place has become a better option for many. But even staying at home or in the community will carry high costs with the wave of aging Baby Boomers. Informal caregivers can help to mitigate the expected economic challenges. This session will focus on promising strategies that policymakers, providers, employers and advocates can take to support Colorado’s informal caregivers.

3. **From the Ground Up: Improving Health at the Local Level**
   - **Colorado Health Institute Analyst:** Sara Schmitt, Director of Community Health Policy  
   - **Community Partner:** Jeff Zayach, Executive Director, Boulder County Public Health  
   - **White River**
     
     The rate of adult smokers in Adams County doesn’t say much about the rate of adult smokers in the county’s northwest Aurora section. Communities working to improve health and implement policies and programs need local data to target help where it’s most needed. In this session, learn about the innovative tools being developed in Colorado to transform our understanding of health in communities and spur cross-sector collaboration. Jeff Zayach will tell you about exciting efforts underway in Boulder County to link the work of public and private partners in improving health.
11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Buffet Lunch and Networking**

Mountain View Dining Room

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Gifts, Grants and Donations:**

**Funding Your Ideas, Funding Your District**

- **Panelist: Ned Calonge, M.D., MPH**  
  President and CEO, The Colorado Trust
- **Panelist: Cari Davis**  
  Executive Director, Colorado Springs Health Foundation
- **Panelist: Amy Latham**  
  Vice President of Philanthropy, Colorado Health Foundation
- **Panelist: Chris J. Wiant**  
  President and CEO, Caring for Colorado Foundation
- **Moderator: Michele Lueck**  
  President and CEO, Colorado Health Institute

**Colorado Ballroom**

Do you want to bring physical activity to every school in your district? Hoping to add a health policy subject matter expert at the capitol? Interested in creating a commission to study health care access? Many healthy ideas started with legislators but have been funded by "gifts, grants and donations." That's state budget shorthand for funding that doesn't involve the state coffers. Colorado is fortunate to have committed philanthropical foundations focused on health. Our panel of foundation leaders will share their ideas about how and what they are funding to help improve the health of Coloradans. Their views are important for legislators and policymakers alike.

2:30 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**

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 data, analysis and expertise. We support leaders across the political spectrum.

Our team of health policy veterans brings decades of experience analyzing and interpreting a broad range of complex health-related issues, focusing on health coverage and the uninsured, new models of care, the health care workforce, legislation and policy, community health and the safety net.

Each January, the Colorado Health Institute – known as CHI – 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 members and the public.

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. Those foundations continue as core funders, along with The Colorado Health Foundation.

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 Care conference since 2004.
Patricia Gabow, M.D.

Patricia Gabow, M.D., MACP spent her medical career at Denver Health, leading it as CEO for 20 years before retiring in 2012. She is a professor emerita of medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and has written more than 160 articles, book chapters and books, including “The Lean Prescription: Powerful Medicine for Our Ailing Healthcare System.” Dr. Gabow was a founding member of the federal Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission and currently serves on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Board of Trustees, the Seton Hill University Board of Trustees, the Leadership Consortium for Value and Science-Driven Health Care of the National Academy of Medicine and the Aspen Group.

Sarah Kliff

Sarah Kliff, one of the nation's leading health care reporters, is Senior Editor at Vox.com, where she manages the data and graphics team and co-hosts Vox’s policy podcast, The Weeds. Before joining Vox in February 2014, Kliff was a reporter at The Washington Post, where she covered health policy and was a founding member of Wonkblog, a blog focusing on policy, including health care. She has received fellowships from the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Association of Health Care Journalists. Besides the Post, her writing has appeared in Newsweek, the BBC and National Geographic. Kliff is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis and currently resides in Washington, D.C.

Lieutenant Governor Donna Lynne

Donna Lynne, DrPH, was sworn in as Colorado’s 49th Lieutenant Governor and Chief Operating Officer on May 12, 2016. Dr. Lynne previously served as the executive vice president of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, and as group president responsible for its Colorado, Pacific Northwest and Hawaii regions. Earlier in her career, she spent 20 years in various positions in New York City government. Dr. Lynne holds a bachelor’s degree in economics and political science and a master’s degree in public administration. She earned a Doctor of Public Health degree from Columbia University.
Lynn Bartels worked as a journalist for 35 years, including 16 years at the Rocky Mountain News and six years at The Denver Post, before retiring in 2015 to become the spokeswoman for the Colorado Secretary of State’s Office. Post readers in 2012 named Bartels the fifth most influential woman in Colorado. The South Dakota native said she never dreamed that growing up with a Republican father and a Democratic mother would provide such great training for a career covering politics.

Former Leg. Norma Anderson

Norma Anderson, a Republican from Lakewood, served as a representative and senator in Colorado’s state legislature from 1987 to 2006. She was House Majority Leader in 1997 and 1998 and Senate Co-majority Leader in 2003 and 2004 – the first woman to serve as majority leader in either chamber. Senator Anderson sponsored many important pieces of legislation during her tenure, including the School Finance Act of 1994 and the bill creating the Colorado Department of Transportation. She garnered respect from both sides of the aisle during her time in the legislature.

Senator Larry Crowder

Larry Crowder is a Republican from Alamosa. Since 2012, he has represented Senate District 35, which includes southeastern Colorado and is the state’s largest senate district. He was reelected this fall. Senator Crowder serves on the Senate Health and Human Services and Local Government Committees. He is a U.S. Army veteran who served in Vietnam and was honorably discharged in 1971. He is a small business owner, farmer and rancher. Senator Crowder is known at the Capitol for being an independent thinker who has crossed party lines on major health care issues such as Medicaid expansion and reclassifying revenue from the Hospital Provider Fee.

Representative Joann Ginal

A bioscientist, health care professional, community leader and longtime Fort Collins resident, Dr. Joann Ginal has represented House District 52, which includes eastern and central Fort Collins and parts of unincorporated Larimer County, since 2012. She was reelected this fall. A Democrat, she serves on both House health committees and will chair the Health, Insurance and Environment Committee in 2017. Representative Ginal is an avid outdoorswoman and has made health care and the environment her legislative priorities. She recently sponsored state bills to allow medical aid in dying and to require greater transparency in pharmaceutical pricing.

Former Leg. Paul Weissmann

A Colorado native, Democrat Paul Weissmann served in both chambers of the Colorado state legislature from 1992 to 2010, including as House Majority Leader, where he gained a reputation for being fair and efficient. After being term-limited, Weissman was selected as chief of staff for the minority caucus based on his knowledge of pivotal issues and the legislative process and his commitment to bipartisan work. He was elected as Boulder County Treasurer in 2014. Last year, Weissmann retired from the Blue Parrot, an Italian restaurant where he worked as a bartender and manager for almost 27 years. He resides in Louisville.
Cari Davis is the Executive Director of the Colorado Springs Health Foundation, a grantmaking organization formed from the lease of Memorial Health System to UCHealth. Her professional passions are health and social justice. Over the course of her career, Davis has explored core principles of leadership, management and teaching/coaching as ways to make positive community impacts. Her previous professional experiences include working as faculty for Yale University’s Global Health Leadership Institute in Rwanda and Ethiopia; directing communications and marketing for Memorial Health System; leading TESSA, a gender-based violence victim services agency; and providing quality- and performance-improvement consulting to hospitals. Davis has master’s degrees in public health and business administration from Yale University, and she received her undergraduate degree from Vassar College. She loves dogs and birds; to pedal and run trails; and to travel almost anywhere, especially the continent of Africa.

Dr. Calonge became President and CEO of The Colorado Trust in 2010. Previously, he served as Chief Medical Officer of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and Chief of the Department of Preventive Medicine for the Colorado Permanente Medical Group. He also was a family physician for 10 years. Currently, he is an Associate Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Colorado Denver (UCD) School of Medicine and an Associate Professor of Epidemiology at the Colorado School of Public Health. Dr. Calonge earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from The Colorado College, a master’s degree in public health from the University of Washington and a Medical Doctorate degree from the University of Colorado.

Amy Latham is the Vice President of Philanthropy at the Colorado Health Foundation. She leads the staff of the Foundation’s three philanthropy teams; Healthy Living, Health Coverage and Health Care in their work investing in nonprofits throughout the state. She has been with the Foundation since 2008, serving as the Portfolio Director for Health Care and Coverage. Amy moved to Colorado from Missouri, where she was director of communications and public policy for Missouri Family Health Council, a nonprofit health care organization. She began her career as a newspaper reporter and later did public relations and strategic communications for a telecommunications company before entering the nonprofit world. Amy holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Tulane University and a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Missouri.

Chris Want has served as President and CEO of the Caring for Colorado Foundation since October 2000. Prior to joining the Foundation, he was the Executive Director of the Tri-County Health Department, serving more than one million residents in Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas counties. Wiant has more than 30 years of experience in public health, working on issues of national, state, and local health and environmental policy. He holds a PhD in public administration from the University of Colorado at Denver, Graduate School of Public Affairs. His master of public health is from the University of Illinois at the Medical Center, School of Public Health. Wiant also holds a master’s degree in health services administration from the University of Illinois-Springfield and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Illinois State University.
Tamara Drangstveit became Executive Director of the Family and Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC) in Summit County in September of 2008. She brings more than eight years of nonprofit, government and political management experience to this assignment. She has led the development of several organizations, including the FIRC, in strengthening programs, building financial stability and growth, and strategic planning. Drangstveit is a graduate of Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and holds a master’s degree in nonprofit management from Regis University.

Deborah Goeken is Vice President of Communications for the Colorado Health Institute, overseeing the production and dissemination of CHI’s research and analysis. Goeken is a lifelong journalist and had been managing editor of the Rocky Mountain News for 10 years, leading newsroom operations, before it closed in February 2009. She earned a master’s degree in public health, with a focus on epidemiology, from the Colorado School of Public Health in May 2011. She joined CHI two months later, in July 2011, as senior director of communications and operations. She has a bachelor’s degree in communications from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois.

Daniel Handel is the founding Chief of Palliative Medicine at Denver Health, which serves patients with advanced illness through its interdisciplinary inpatient and outpatient services. Dr. Handel previously held a senior clinical staff appointment at the National Institutes of Health, where he founded and directed one of the first accredited fellowship training programs in Palliative and Hospice Medicine. After receiving his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1978, Dr. Handel completed a Family Practice residency at the University of Minnesota in 1981. He holds board certifications in Family Practice and Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Diplomate status in American Academy of Pain Management, and Fellowship status in the American Academy of Family Practice and American Society of Clinical Hypnosis. Dr. Handel is a professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.
Emily Johnson
Emily Johnson is a Senior Policy and Statistical Analyst at the Colorado Health Institute. At CHI, she researches and provides analysis on health care coverage, access and related policy issues. Her recent work includes a financial analysis of the ColoradoCare proposal for universal health care, a review of the questions and concerns around medical aid in dying and an assessment of the costs and benefits of Medicaid expansion. Johnson holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and a master’s degree in health services research from the University of Colorado. She joined CHI in May 2015.

Tamara Keeney
Tamara Keeney is a Policy Analyst at the Colorado Health Institute. Her work focuses on behavioral health and substance use in Colorado. Keeney also focuses on researching trends in the opioid epidemic and strategies to decrease overdose deaths. She is the lead analyst for CHI’s work with the Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care. Keeney holds a bachelor’s degree in behavioral neuroscience from Northeastern University. She joined CHI in October 2013.

Michele Lueck
Michele Lueck is the President and CEO of the Colorado Health Institute. Her work includes consulting with leading academic organizations, facilitating diverse groups to achieve their strategic goals, and giving presentations around the state and the country. Lueck brought nearly 20 years of health and health care experience when she joined CHI in November 2010. She has held leadership roles in two other nonprofits, consulted with many more and worked in account management in the private sector. Lueck holds a bachelor’s degree from Harvard University and a master’s degree in political science from the University of Melbourne, Australia.
Megan Schrader
Megan Schrader is a columnist and editorial writer for The Denver Post. She has covered local and state politics for newspapers in Missouri, Florida and Oklahoma. She covered politics for The Gazette in Colorado Springs for four years before joining the Post in September 2016. She grew up in Grand Junction fishing, camping and skiing.

Ian Silverii
Ian Silverii began his career in Colorado politics in 2008 as a legislative aide in the Colorado House of Representatives after graduating from Rutgers University in New Jersey. Since then, Silverii has worked on dozens of successful campaigns at the Colorado House Majority Project, rising to Executive Director for the 2014 election cycle. Ian also has served the Colorado House Democratic caucus since 2010 in a variety of press and policy roles, including as Media Director, Legislative Director and finally as Chief of Staff to Speaker Dickey Lee Hullinghorst during the 70th General Assembly. Silverii is an avid reader, a terrible guitar player and an aspiring skier.

Amy Stephens
Amy Stephens, a former state legislator, now leads the Denver office for Government Affairs of Dentons, a global law firm with world-wide health care, energy, insurance, transportation, hotel and real estate practices. Stephens, a Republican, was elected to the legislature in 2006 and served as the Colorado House Majority Leader from 2010 to 2012. She carried the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange legislation in 2011, which established Connect for Health Colorado, the state’s exchange for the individual and small business market.
Edmond Toy
Edmond Toy is a Director at the Colorado Health Institute. He is an economist who applies his analytic and quantitative modeling expertise across a wide range of health policy topics, such as insurance, cost containment and health care reform. Toy joined CHI in 2016 after a 15-year career as an economic, financial and strategy consultant in the private sector and as an analyst in the White House Office of Management and Budget. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Stanford University, a master’s degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a PhD in Health Policy from Harvard University.

Natalie Triedman
Natalie Triedman is a Policy Analyst at the Colorado Health Institute. In this role, she leads the organization’s work on aging and long-term services and supports. She also manages the administration, analysis and dissemination of the Colorado Health Access Survey. Triedman joined CHI in 2012 after earning a bachelor’s degree in global health from Colorado College.

Kat West
Kat West, National Director of Policy and Programs for Compassion & Choices, is an attorney and program director with more than 15 years of policy and program development experience with government and nonprofit organizations. West is responsible for developing the organization’s policy and directing its programs, including the End-of-Life Resource Center, which serves as the hub for direct end-of-life consulting services to terminally ill people, and the six Access Campaigns to implement medical aid-in-dying in authorized states including Oregon, Colorado and California. West is an expert on medical aid-in-dying policy and implementation. She previously served as a governmental department director and a federal enforcement attorney.

Jeff Zayach
Jeff Zayach is the Executive Director for Boulder County Public Health in Boulder, Colorado. He has served in his current role for eight years and has worked in public health for 26 years. He has a master’s degree in management with an emphasis in organizational leadership, and an advanced leadership certificate from the Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership. Zayach serves on multiple state and local advisory boards. He supported the development and passage of the Colorado Public Health Act of 2008.
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Integrated Community Health Partners
It’s All About Health, LLC
Jefferson Center for Mental Health
Jefferson County Public Health
John Snow, Inc. (JSI)
Kaiser Permanente
Lockton Companies
Mental Health Partners
Mesa County
Mile High Health Alliance
Mountain Family Health Centers
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
New West Physicians, PC
Newpoint Healthcare Advisors
North Colorado Health Alliance
Oral Health Colorado
Otero County Health Department
PCG Health Services
Peak Vista Community Health Centers
Physicians for a National Health Program
Pikes Peak Area YMCA
Pikes Peak Suicide Prevention
Polsinelli
ProgressNow Colorado
Pueblo Triple Aim Corporation
Quality Health Network
Regis University

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Rocky Mountain Health Plans
Rocky Mountain Rural Health
Rocky Mountain Youth Clinics
Rose Community Foundation
Saint Joseph Hospital Foundation
SCL Health
Seniors Matter / The Aging Evolution The Aging Revolution
Servicios de La Raza
Summit County
Sunrise Community Health
The Bell Policy Center
The Colorado Health Foundation
The Colorado Trust
The Denver Post
The Independence Center
The Kenney Group
Tri-County Health Department
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Senator Cory Gardner’s Office
UCHealth
University of Colorado — Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Denver College of Law
University of Denver Healthcare Leadership Program
Vox.com
Witt/Kieffer
WorkSmart Partners
CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN RESORT MAPS

Main/Lobby Level

Conference Level
Our Charity Donation: Hope House

In lieu of giving out conference pens, tote bags or stress balls, the Colorado Health Institute will donate needed items to the Hope House of Colorado. We invite you to stop by the designated table near registration to learn more about how Hope House supports teen mothers as both parents and community members. Hope House provides free residential and community programs for teen moms in metro Denver, equipping them for long-term independence and economic self-sufficiency. Programs include a GED Lab, college and career support, classes on parenting and healthy relationships, life skills workshops, mentoring and certified counseling. We are thrilled to support the work of this deserving organization during the holiday season.