

an objective
information resource
addressing the need for
leadership on health
nurturing statewide
partnerships
harnessing the **power of data**
and information

2005 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) was established in 2002 as a nonprofit organization to serve as an independent source of objective, nonpartisan health information for Colorado decisionmakers in the public and private sectors. CHI was established and funded through a memorandum of understanding between The Colorado Trust, the Caring for Colorado Foundation and Rose Community Foundation.

board of trustees



Seated, from left:

Donald W. Fink, MD Arnold Salazar, MSW
Retired Physician Executive Director
The Colorado Trust SyCare, LLC
 Caring for Colorado Foundation

Chris J. Wiant, MPH, PhD
Board Chair
President and CEO
Caring for Colorado Foundation

Standing, from left:

Stephen H. Shogan, MD Sheila R. Bugdanowitz Jean Jones John R. Moran, Jr., Esq.
Colorado Neurosurgery Associates Vice Chair President and CEO
Rose Community Foundation President and CEO
 Rose Community Foundation The Colorado Trust



Carol Plock, MSW
Executive Director
Health District of
Northern Larimer County
Caring for Colorado Foundation



Martin "Lucky" Shore, Esq.
Hopp & Shore, LLC
Rose Community Foundation



CHI has demonstrated an impressive ability to bring value to health policy conversations in Colorado. It has been a pleasure to chair the CHI board this past year and see firsthand how the institute has matured into a respected source of objective policy analysis and timely information about health and health care in our state.

Chris Wiant, PhD
Chair, Board of Trustees
President & CEO, Caring for Colorado Foundation



CHI has become a vital resource for Colorado policymakers and is exceeding the expectations of the funding foundations in advancing health in Colorado.

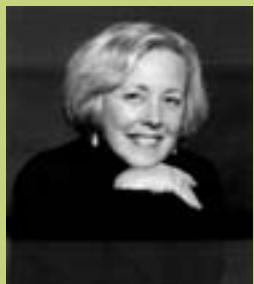
John R. Moran, Jr. Esq.
Past Chair (2002-04) and Treasurer
President & CEO, The Colorado Trust



The Colorado Health Institute is becoming a reliable, objective and trusted resource for Colorado's health policymakers. The original funders are proud of CHI's early accomplishments.

Sheila R. Bugdanowitz
Vice Chair, Board of Trustees
President and CEO, Rose Community Foundation

FROM THE president



In three short years, the Colorado Health Institute (CHI) has evolved from a vision statement crafted by its three founding foundations to a thriving information clearinghouse and respected source of analysis and strategic leadership in the health policy decisionmaking process. In 2005, CHI staff provided sound analysis to a broadening circle of constituents, including legislators, business leaders, state agencies, health care professionals, foundations and others seeking an independent, nonpartisan source of Colorado health and health care information.

As we look to our future, I am increasingly attuned to the importance of being relevant, responsive and accountable to the foundations that made a long-term commitment to support the CHI mission of "advancing the overall health of the people of Colorado by serving as an independent and impartial source of reliable and relevant health-related information for sound decisionmaking." This mission statement has guided us through the first three years and will continue to shape and guide our work into the future.

Later in 2006, CHI will be evaluated by an external evaluator to assess its fidelity to the mission and vision of its founding partners. In preparation for this evaluation, and as a real-time source of feedback from the community we serve, we have asked some of our constituents to reflect on the institute's work during the past year as our way of providing an annual report of activities to the community. I have been heartened and encouraged by these testimonials. They speak to progress and responsiveness, but most important, they speak to relevance by providing examples of how CHI has embraced numerous opportunities for leadership in health policy discussions.

It has been my greatest pleasure to serve as CHI's founding president and chief executive officer during these first three years. It is my goal, as we move into our second funding cycle in 2008, that CHI will continue to be a learning organization that takes its cues from the community it serves.

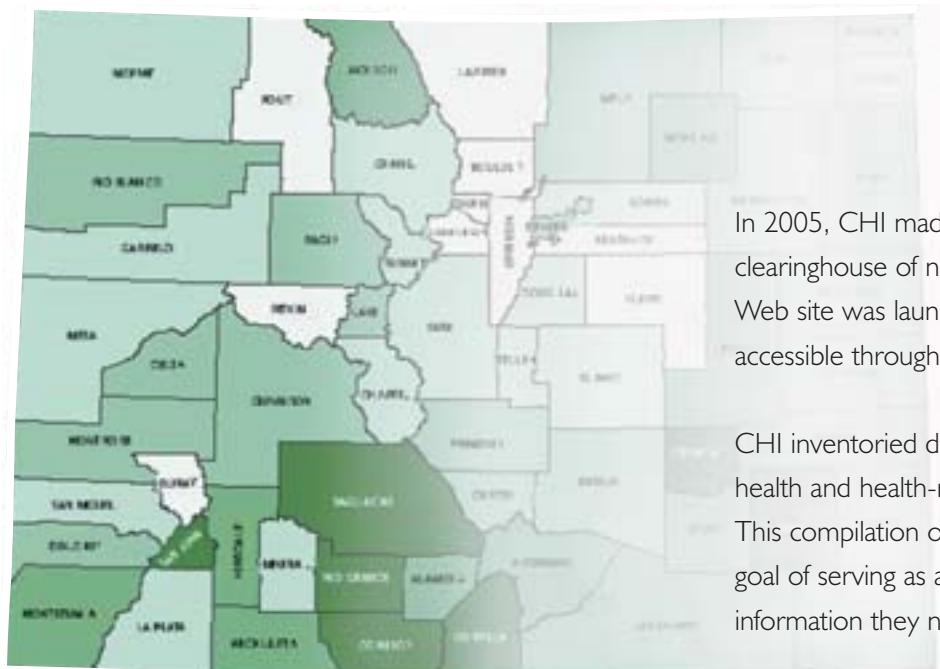
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela Hanes". Below the signature, there are four small, horizontal, dashed lines for a signature line.

Pamela Hanes, PhD
President and Chief Executive Officer

HEALTH information RESOURCE

“CHI’s materials on the issues facing Colorado policymakers provide a thoughtful, objective perspective that is often missing in the debates surrounding health care. I have benefited from CHI’s information as I have attempted to broaden my understanding of the health policy issues facing the state. I have then used this broader understanding with legislators, the policy leaders at the Denver Metro Chamber and the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry.”

Bill Lindsay, President, Lockton Companies



In 2005, CHI made significant strides toward its goal of being a respected “go to” clearinghouse of national, state and local health-related information. Phase II of CHI’s Web site was launched in 2005, making a growing array of health information accessible through its new and improved user-friendly navigational tools.

CHI inventoried dozens of national and state databases containing Colorado-specific health and health-related indicators, providing Web users easy access to online data. This compilation of resources will grow rapidly in 2006 and move CHI closer to its goal of serving as a trusted gateway for Coloradans to gain access to the health information they need.

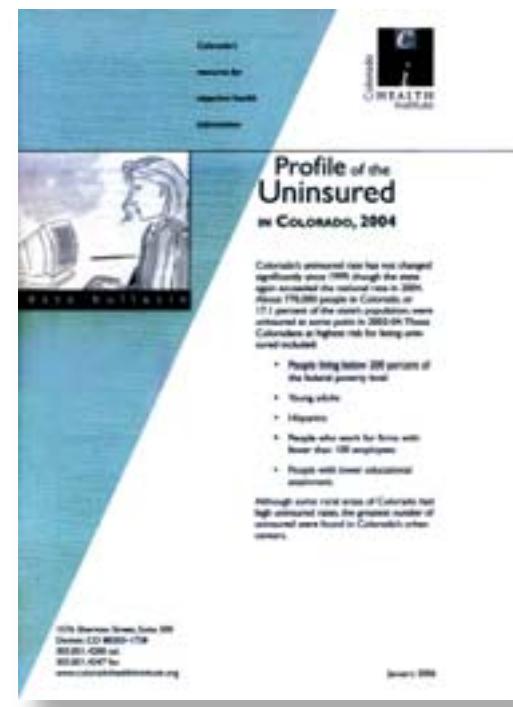
“The Immunization White Paper was a masterful document! CHI was able to focus policymakers on the key items that would make a difference in the immunization rates, assure them that we didn’t have rampant disease problems, and offer them simple, low-cost solutions that would change the situation in Colorado – that’s a win-win if I ever saw one.”

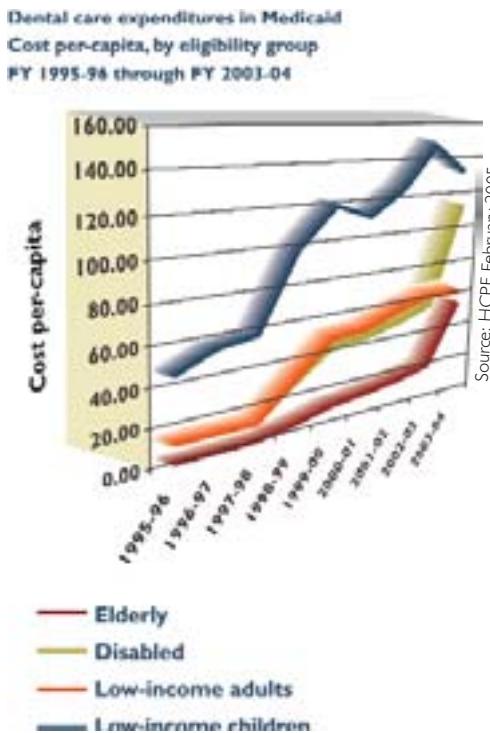
Phyllis Albritton, Executive Director, Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation.

In 2005, CHI sought to untangle and reveal the real story behind a global statistic. In 2002-03, Colorado ranked last among states for childhood immunizations. CHI’s analysis of this ranking uncovered the reasons behind the statistic and got the attention of more than a dozen media outlets across the state, as well as health and health care leaders.

In addition, an update of its 2004 data bulletin on the uninsured in Colorado was released in time to assist legislators in understanding the problem and identifying solutions. CHI staff dug deep into the data to identify factors that put Coloradans at risk of being uninsured. Because such a large number of uninsured adults in Colorado are employed, a supplement on employment was added to the bulletin in 2006.

POLICY analysis FOR SOUND decisionmaking





CHI produced an oral health environmental scan for a funding collaborative including the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, The Colorado Trust, Rose Community Foundation, HealthONE Alliance (now the Colorado Health Foundation) and Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation. The project identified best practices, inventoried Colorado oral health initiatives, examined the oral health status of Coloradans and reported on the utilization of publicly funded programs.

The health care safety net is an integral element of Colorado's health care delivery system, serving roughly 25 percent of the state's population. With funding from the Colorado Health Foundation, CHI initiated a process to describe and monitor the safety net and the populations it serves. CHI will integrate the safety monitoring system into its ongoing core functions to serve as a readily available resource to policymakers in the public and private sectors.

Funding from The Colorado Trust is enabling CHI to build and maintain a comprehensive health professions workforce database. This database will inform policymakers and the philanthropic community about workforce issues as they relate to the supply and demand for health professionals in Colorado's communities.

"The Colorado Health Institute has been an exceptional resource for the Colorado Primary Care Office (PCO). Using their staff expertise, the PCO was able to complete two important projects that have been on the back burner for several years. CHI developed a database of primary care physicians and dentists...which will enable us to create reports that provide a clearer picture of health care provided to the low-income population. Without the assistance of CHI, the data most likely would never have been entered into a system for analysis."

Kitty Stevens, RN, MSN, Director, Primary Care Office
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

"CHI's work on oral health is groundbreaking for Colorado. I don't think we funders had any idea how much activity was occurring. The data review was helpful to ground all of our thinking on what really needs to be done. In fact, since the Oral Health Project was completed, there is a growing amount of activity in the oral health arena, and funding partnerships are flourishing. I do not believe these partnerships would have happened without the momentum the Oral Health Project provided. "

Phyllis Albritton, Executive Director, Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation.

“The staff at CHI is thorough. I am most hopeful that the ClinicNet Data Assessment Project will bring the clinics closer together and place us in a position to be stronger voices for the medically underserved, and help us advocate to the funding community for our technology needs. CHI’s assessment of the needs of the clinics around the state brings many small voices together into one louder and more consistent voice. As part of a group of clinics talking about similar needs, we will share our knowledge and hopefully avoid mistakes.

“[CHI’s] safety net project is really exciting. If we begin to understand the motivations, needs and access issues of the people we serve, then it will become apparent how we can use Colorado’s health care dollars to meet these needs. We spend lots of time talking about the problems, but CHI is positioning itself to talk about the solutions.”

Bebe Kleinman, Executive Director, Doctors Care Clinic



“The Colorado Health Institute continues to prove itself as an invaluable, reliable and objective treasure trove of information and expertise on Colorado health care data and policy. Over the past year, the Colorado Medical Society has relied on CHI to not only provide cutting-edge information but also enable informed decisionmaking by our physician members on pressing policy issues, including the transformation of Medicaid, health information technology connectivity and comprehensive health care reform.

“CHI breathes new life into the often overused but underappreciated phrase ‘trusted resource,’ by delivering the information and expertise I need to do my job.”

*Chet Seward, Director, Division of Health Care Policy,
Colorado Medical Society*

LEADING learning AND SHARING

The number of opportunities for learning from others, sharing experiences and brainstorming solutions increased in 2005. CHI made numerous presentations to and/or collaborated with a variety of groups across the state, including the legislature, state and local agencies, the business and health care sectors, and local communities.

The Hot Issues in Health Care luncheon series drew nearly 300 attendees, including legislators, their staffs and other policy leaders, to learn about Medicaid and long-term care, the preferred drug list and the small group market. Other presentations focused on issues such as reinsurance, Colorado's uninsured population, auto insurance, health indicators, immunization and Medicare Part D.



"CHI has been an invaluable resource for legislators. Their factual testimony and in-depth luncheons on key health policy topics have helped us make much more informed decisions in the Colorado Legislature."

Steve Johnson, Assistant Senate Minority Leader

"I look to CHI to provide up-to-date information on new innovations in health care policy as well as the day-to-day issues that Colorado faces."

Dave Owen, Senator and Member, Joint Budget Committee

"I commend CHI for providing technical support to the work of the bipartisan Interim Task Force for the Study of Alternative Health Programs. This work resulted in an exemplary process for conducting a data-driven analysis of alternative health care coverage expansion options using sophisticated simulation modeling techniques. This is the kind of professional health policy support the State of Colorado has come to rely on."

Anne McGihon, Chair, House Health and Human Services Committee

“I have found that both the quality and quantity of work done by CHI is extremely beneficial to the health care community, generally, and to this department, specifically. As new executive director at the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, I have put to good use the CHI Web site, CHI reports, CHI-sponsored events and contacts with individual staff members of the institute. Every interaction has resulted in very positive outcomes.”

Steve Tool, Executive Director, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

“I think CHI will be the nonpartisan voice of reason within the much politicized environment of our state legislature on health care. CHI has proven so far to be thorough in their collection of data and interpretation of the information that is gathered. On a personal note, I believe CHI has done a remarkably good job of being inclusive of all the information, of all the players and of all contradicting opinions. They have included the smallest providers among us, including Doctors Care, and for this I am most grateful. The people we serve have representation, something most often overlooked.”

Bebe Kleinman, Executive Director, Doctors Care Clinic

“The Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce enjoys a strong working relationship with the Colorado Health Institute. The data and analysis they provide on the important health issues of the day have been both informative and helpful in our policy-related discussions.”

Joseph B. Blake, President and CEO, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

Colorado Health Institute

Statement of Activities

Years Ended December 31, 2005 and 2004

	2005	2004
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Changes in unrestricted net assets:

Revenue and Support:

Grants	\$ 63,875	38,506
Contracts	221,431	35,196
In-kind contributions	17,871	—
Interest income	3,737	3,563
Miscellaneous income	6,616	7,870
Net assets released from restrictions	1,110,000	1,202,500
 Total revenue	 1,423,530	 1,287,635

Expenses:

Program services:		
Health information	1,498,891	973,959
Total program services	1,498,891	973,959
Supporting services:		
Management and general	218,391	198,390
Total supporting services	218,391	198,390
Total expenses	1,717,282	1,172,349
Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets	(293,752)	115,286

Changes in temporarily restricted net assets:

Revenue and Support:

Contributions—amortization of discount on contributions receivable	83,722	113,942
Other contributions	277,095	—
Net assets released from restrictions	(1,110,000)	(1,202,500)

Decrease in temporarily restricted net assets	(749,183)	(1,088,558)
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Change in net assets	(1,042,935)	(973,272)
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Net assets at beginning of year	4,051,585	5,024,857
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Net assets at end of year	\$ 3,008,650	4,051,585
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FINANCIAL highlights



Jo Donlin, Sherry Freeland Walker, Kathy Helm, Jessica Dunbar, Amy Downs, Mark Gray, Reid Reynolds, Rose Rahman



CHI
team



Pamela Dinkfelt, Pamela Hanes, Jeff Bontrager, Michele Christiansen, Kindle Morell, Erik Nesse, Michael Boyson, Susan Stantejsky, Lynn Dierker

Credits:

Graphic Design: David Baker Design
B&W Photography: Katy Tartakoff

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CHI would like to thank Erik Nesse, Colorado College Fellow working for CHI during this past year, for the uniquely Colorado photos appearing on the cover and financial page of this report. These pictures were taken as Erik traveled the length and breadth of Colorado to interview 44 rural health clinics for CHI's Safety Net Monitoring Project.



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