

Colorado Voices for Coverage 5th Annual Conference
November 28, 2012



**Full Steam Ahead: Constructing Colorado's Health Care Future
Speaker Biographies**

Polly Anderson is the Chief Policy Officer for the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN). Polly joined CCHN in 2004. She provides leadership and partnership to the chief executive officer in the administration and execution of CCHN's strategic plan. This includes oversight of CCHN's public affairs agenda, oversight of community development and health center assistance, and resource and partnership development. Polly has worked in the non-profit arena since 1990. She came to CCHN from the Health District of Northern Larimer County, where she was the policy analyst/lobbyist. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Iowa in journalism with a minor in political science.

Elisabeth Arenales has been the Director of the Colorado Center on Law and Policy's Health Care Program since 1999. She is a recognized expert on Medicaid and other public health insurance programs and has been very engaged in the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in Colorado. Elisabeth was the founding Board Chair of the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, served as a consumer advocate on Colorado's Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Reform and has been recognized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as a Community Health Leader.

John Barela joined the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange as Health Plan Manager in April 2012. John became Implementation Manager in November 2012 and supports the design of the technology systems and back-office operations to ensure a well-functioning Exchange. He most recently served as an Actuary at the Colorado Division of Insurance, where he analyzed rate filing documents to ensure adherence to Colorado statutes and regulations and worked with multiple organizations to develop data standards and other rate-related outreach. He is an Associate of the Society of Actuaries and holds a master's degree in mathematics from the University of Illinois, a Bachelor of Science in mathematics, and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of Colorado Denver.

Cody Belzley is the Vice President of Health Initiatives for the Colorado Children's Campaign, the leading non-partisan, non-profit child advocacy organization in Colorado. In this capacity, she establishes and advances the organization's health policy agenda. Prior to joining the Children's Campaign, Cody served as Senior Health Policy Analyst for Colorado Governor Bill Ritter Jr. Cody was integrally involved in the successful 2009 state legislation to provide health insurance to more than 100,000 uninsured Coloradans, the 2006 city ballot campaign to make preschool accessible for all Denver four-year-olds and the 2004 statewide tobacco tax initiative that is generating over \$170 million annually for health programs in Colorado. Cody and her family live in northeast Denver and enjoy hiking and traveling.

Melanie Herrera Bortz was born and reared in Colorado's San Luis Valley. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Denver and her Master of Public Administration degree with an emphasis in health policy from the University of Colorado. Melanie has over 20 years experience in the non-profit sector conducting policy analysis, community policy and advocacy development, conducting social research, organizational development, health education and leadership development. Melanie is the Principal at MHB Consulting, LLC where she is currently managing

projects for the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative to ensure effective and consumer focused implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in Colorado. She is also the co-director of Adelante con la Salud: Latino Health Care Engagement Project aimed at increasing awareness in the Latino community about health care reform.

Adela Flores-Brennan joined the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange in November 2012 as the Navigator Manager. She comes to the Exchange from the Colorado Center on Law and Policy where she spent the past 5 1/2 years on a range of health policy, federal policy and legal issues including health reform implementation, Medicaid and CHIP eligibility and enrollment issues. Adela has over ten years of experience in law and public policy in Colorado and is a graduate of the University of Colorado School of Law. She also received bachelors and masters degrees in International Relations from the University of Denver.

Dave Chandra is a Senior Policy Analyst at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in the Health Policy Department. In this role, he supports state efforts in implementing national health reform as well as preserving and strengthening existing health care programs for low-income populations. Prior to joining the Center, Chandra was the Director of the Office of Health Care Innovation at the DC Department of Health Care Finance, which included management of Health Insurance Exchange planning activities for the District of Columbia. He also served in the Executive Office of the Mayor and in the Director's Office at the DC Department of Health. Chandra received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology from Brown University.

Carrie Cortiglio is the Deputy Director of Policy and Communications at the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing where she oversees the Department's legislative and policy agendas. Prior to her current role, she was the Department's legislative liaison. Before joining the Department, Carrie worked as a policy analyst for the Health District of Northern Larimer County. Her work there focused on all aspects of health care policy and she lead the Health District's efforts to create a community-wide strategy to reduce consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages. Carrie holds a Master of Science from the Harvard School of Public Health and a bachelor's degree from Dickinson College. She is a graduate of 2010 Advanced Leadership Training Program Regional Institute of Health and Environmental Leadership (RIHEL).

Jo Donlin joined the Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI) in 2008 as the Director of External Affairs. As Director of External Affairs, Ms. Donlin serves as the Division's main contact with the Colorado General Assembly as well as a variety of other outside groups including insurance carriers, employers, non-profits, foundations, advocates and professional associations. She helps develop DOI's legislative initiatives and implementation strategies, and conducts policy research and analysis on a variety of insurance issues. Jo is responsible for the Division's outreach efforts to educate both consumers and industry, and promote the Division's mission of consumer protection. A native of Wyoming, Jo graduated from The Colorado College and holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Colorado.

Jaymie Gustafson provides marketing and outreach experience focused on strategic media relations, branding, event planning, social media outreach and crisis communications at Spitfire Strategies. She has strong experience in new media, having designed social media strategies to engage bloggers and key online stakeholders, developed online identities to help organizations connect with outside audiences and engaged expert spokespeople to provide content directly to consumers using social media channels. She previously worked to promote milk to moms as a key source bone-building calcium on behalf of the National Milk Mustache "got milk?" Campaign, and educated consumers about the health benefits of

tart cherries for the Cherry Marketing Institute. A graduate of Miami University in Ohio, Jaymie holds a B.A. in political science.

Aubrey Hill has spent several years advocating for those without a voice in order to bring about important change. At the Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved, she combines her deep understanding of Colorado's health care policy world with her strong drive to make the legislative process more inclusive and to effectively implement beneficial health care laws. She is passionate about connecting policymakers and community networks in order to improve Colorado's health care system. A New Orleans native, she holds a bachelor's in sociology from Spring Hill College and a master's in public policy from the University of Denver.

Lindy Hinman joined the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange as Chief Operating Officer in August 2012, directing policy implementation and business operations. Lindy previously served at Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, where she coordinated the company's preparations for and responses to national health care legislation. Prior to that, Lindy served as Vice President of Policy at America's Health Insurance Plans, a national organization representing the health insurance industry. She has also held positions with the White House Office of Management and Budget and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in Washington DC. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in history/biology from Washington University in St. Louis and a Masters of Health Services Administration from the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan.

Danny Katz has been the Director of CoPIRG and the CoPIRG Foundation since 2008. Since that time, he has successfully led efforts to increase food safety standards for schools lunches, pass Amendment 65 directing our elected officials to get big money out of politics, and engaged nearly 1,000 Coloradans around the creation of the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange through forums across the state. He also oversaw the launch of CoPIRG's Energy Service Corps program, a joint project with AmeriCorps working to reduce energy use across Colorado – saving money and the environment. Since 2010, Energy Service Corps has educated 16,000 K-12 kids and trained 1500 residents on energy savings tips. Mr. Katz graduated from the University of Virginia in 2001 with his Bachelors and is a native from Boulder, Colorado.

George Lyford joined The Colorado Center on Law and Policy in January 2012 as an attorney for the Health Care Program. He previously worked as a staff attorney for the Health Care Access Program at Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest and as an attorney for Mary Kay Hansen Law & Mediation. Lyford earned a law degree from the University of Nebraska College of Law.

Gretchen McGinnis, MSPH is the Sr. Vice President of Public Policy and Performance Improvement for Colorado Access, a Colorado based non-profit managed care company that serves a large portion of the state's public sector programs including CHP, Medicare and Medicaid. Colorado Access is the Regional Collaborative Care Organization in 3 of the state's 7 regions. Mrs. McGinnis has been with Colorado Access for over 12 years and oversees the RCCO and CHP programs, the company's quality and member and family services departments as well as managing public policy and government relations. Mrs. McGinnis received her undergraduate degree at Vassar College and her masters' at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

R. Mauricio Palacio, M.S. has been the director of the Office of Health Disparities since July 2005 and has been with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for more than 20 years. He has a master's degree in health education and a bachelor's degree in health care management from Southern Illinois University. His experience in minority health projects, task forces and initiatives throughout his public health career includes work in HIV/STD field investigations, HIV/STD education

and training, AIDS-Ryan White Care Act administration and viral hepatitis prevention. Mauricio served as Colorado's hepatitis C coordinator for four years prior to assuming his current position as director of the Office of Health Disparities. His most recent work focuses on eliminating health disparities in Colorado by fostering systems change and capacity building through collaborations with agencies and sectors impacting the determinants of health.

Bob Semro, a native of Denver, worked in the private sector for more than 25 years but switched to policy work after a family illness left him concerned with the state of the health care system. He was selected as a member of the vulnerable populations task force for the Colorado Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Reform. Bob was the project manager for the Colorado Alliance for Health and Independence, a home-centered pilot health care program for persons with disabilities, and served as the Policy Associate for the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI) from November 2008 to August 2010. He currently serves on the Cost Shift Data Workgroup for the Hospital Provider Fee Oversight and Advisory Board. In August 2010, Bob was selected as one of the consumer representatives on the HCPF All Payer Claims Database Committee.

Pat Steadman was elected to the Colorado State Senate in 2009. Mr. Steadman got started in politics during law school by working to fight ballot issues that targeted the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities. He has worked extensively as a lobbyist and is actively engaged in his community. He was appointed by Mayor Webb to the Denver Women's Commission and by Governor Hickenlooper to the Denver GLBT Commission, and was the first person to chair the Advisory Board for Denver's Agency for Human Rights and Community Relations. As a senator, Mr. Steadman continues to fight for progressive causes and give voice to those communities and issues that have been marginalized and under-represented in the state legislature.

Roxane White was appointed Chief of Staff to Mayor Hickenlooper in 2009 and served as Chief of Staff through the campaign, election, and transition into the Governor's Office. Prior to that time, she served as Manager of the Denver Department of Human Services and served as a member of the Mayor's Cabinet until 2008. Ms. White is well known for her dedication to community and public service, her diverse experiences in the public and private sectors, and her passion and expertise in efficient and effective leadership. As Chief of Staff to Governor Hickenlooper, Ms. White works directly with all of the cabinet members to oversee the daily and financial operations of state government.

Nathan Wilkes is a small business owner. He is the Founder and Principal Consultant for Headstorms Inc., an IT firm. Mr. Wilkes currently serves as one of the nine voting board members for the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange. A personal family health crisis in 2003 caused Mr. Wilkes to enter into the world of health care reform and since then he has become a recognized leader in health care related community advocacy. He has served as a Past President of the Hemophilia Society of Colorado and Vice President of the Health Care for All Colorado Foundation. In addition, Mr. Wilkes was a member of the Business Task Force to the 208 Commission and is currently on the All Payer Claims Database Advisory Committee and Data Release Review Committee.