



2018 **ANNUAL REPORT**  
COLORADO **HEALTH** INSTITUTE





# FROM THE CEO

Dear friends of CHI,

We often hear that we are living in a “post-truth” culture, fed by fake news and a choose-your-own-reality outlook.

I don't buy it. And neither do a lot of you. I know this because the Colorado Health Institute is in the business of proving evidence-based analysis and independent thinking to decision-makers in Colorado. And business is booming.

I'm pleased to report that CHI is a healthy and growing organization. We began in 2002 as a foundation-funded provider of health data and analysis. We have grown to be a trusted thought leader and thought partner in the health policy world. Now we're growing even more to meet the demand for reliable research, analysis, and strategic thinking.

We continue to fulfill our mission and vision by bringing independent analysis to policy matters throughout the state. Our contributions to substance use disorder, vaping, and Medicaid transformation helped set the course for state and local policy decisions and legislation.

We're sustaining this mission and vision by taking on more consulting work. We're proud of the clients we serve, because we know they share our vision of improving health for all Coloradans through evidence-based policymaking. For instance, we helped the Office of Behavioral Health develop the state's first-ever strategic plan for prevention of substance abuse, and we analyzed Colorado investment's in children's well-being for the Office of Early Childhood.

This is essential work, and it's the kind of work CHI is perfectly suited to do. Colorado can count on CHI to continue to be a trusted partner and leader as we work to make sure all people who live here have the opportunity to live a healthy life.

On behalf of my CHI colleagues, I offer our thanks to you for joining us in this mission.

To your health,

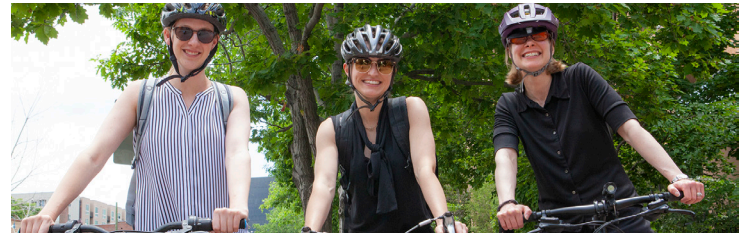
Michele Lueck  
President & CEO



# WHAT WE BELIEVE



At the Colorado Health Institute, we believe everyone should have the opportunity to lead a healthy life. We believe that **better health policy** can support that opportunity. And we believe that the best policy is made by applying **sound evidence and solid analysis**.



CHI is here to provide that evidence and analysis.



We work with people at all levels, from community groups to large health systems, who want to improve health for Coloradans. **We are committed to sustaining the vision of our founders to work in pursuit of better health policy and decision-making.**







# WHAT WE DO

CHI's team can support health decision-making in a number of ways, from turning data into plans and plans into results.



**Strategic Planning:** We help you understand the competitive market and prioritize resources.



**Facilitation:** CHI specializes in results-driven facilitation. We can provide the data and analysis your group needs to make an informed decision.



**Research and Analysis:** Our first question is “what does the evidence say?” We answer by reviewing literature and best practices and undertaking quantitative and qualitative analysis.



**Legislative Services:** We offer counsel to elected officials — free of charge and free of partisan bias.



**Modeling:** Who will your project help? What will it cost? CHI helps answer these questions with evidence-based financial modeling.



**Project Management:** CHI helps you reach your milestones without losing sight of the destination.



**Evaluation:** Our experienced evaluators know how to ask and answer the right questions to produce an evaluation that helps you learn, improve, and implement.



**Strategic Communication:** Our graphic artists and GIS experts can turn data into pictures worth a thousand spreadsheets.

# WHAT WE KNOW

CHI analysts are experts in a variety of health subjects.



**Behavioral Health:** We analyze the landscape and opportunities in mental health and substance use, including suicide prevention policies, trends in substance use disorder, and the ways to promote mental health in children and youth.



**Health Equity for Coloradans:** Our work in health equity builds on more than a decade of quantifying and explaining health disparities. We focus on policies to address inequities.



**Policy Know-How:** We know the ins-and-outs of policymaking at the state and local level.



**Care in Our Communities:** While insurance coverage in Colorado has expanded, access and outcomes have not followed suit. Our researchers seek to understand why.



**Cost, Affordability, and Payment Reform:** State government is moving toward solutions that drive down health care prices. CHI supports this work and identifies the risks inherent in making changes to the complex health economy.



**Community Health:** We identify policies that address the social determinants of health.

**We are proud to partner with groups across Colorado in their efforts to improve health for everyone.**

In 2018, we helped the Colorado Office of Behavioral Health create the state's first **Strategic Plan for Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse**. (<https://colo.health/SPPPSA>)

We also worked with the Office of Early Childhood to write **Risk, Reach, and Resources: An**

**Analysis of Colorado's Early Childhood Mental Health Investments**. (<https://colo.health/RRR>)

We also helped foundations chart investment strategies on behavioral health. And we're working with **SCL Health** to examine the financial stress associated with cancer treatment.



# OUR WORK IN 2018

*Our reports addressed the most important health policy topics of 2018.*

Coloradans are rising to address the need for better behavioral health. CHI dug into data from the Colorado Health Access Survey to provide a comprehensive look at behavioral health issues in Colorado, including reported mental health challenges and the barriers that prevent people from accessing care.

<https://colo.health/UnmetChallenge>



More Colorado teens use e-cigarettes than in any other state. This report looks at the science and risks of vaping and policies to address it.

<https://colo.health/ecigs>



Health care is changing for more than one million Coloradans who use Medicaid. CHI provided a deep yet lucid look at the new system, which integrates physical and behavioral health care under Regional Accountable Entities.

<https://colo.health/2A1gRvO>



CHI provided a first-ever look at health access for African Americans in Colorado before and after the Affordable Care Act. It found that African Americans achieved parity in coverage with all other Coloradans after lagging for years.

<https://colo.health/2NiX7Lx>



End-of-life care is often expensive and unsatisfying for patients and their families. This brief examines new data from the Colorado Health Access Survey to identify priority populations for expanding the use of advance care directives.

<https://colo.health/2ylqjBs>



CHI mapped the boom in freestanding emergency rooms and found they cluster in some of the Denver area's wealthiest neighborhoods.

<https://colo.health/FSED>



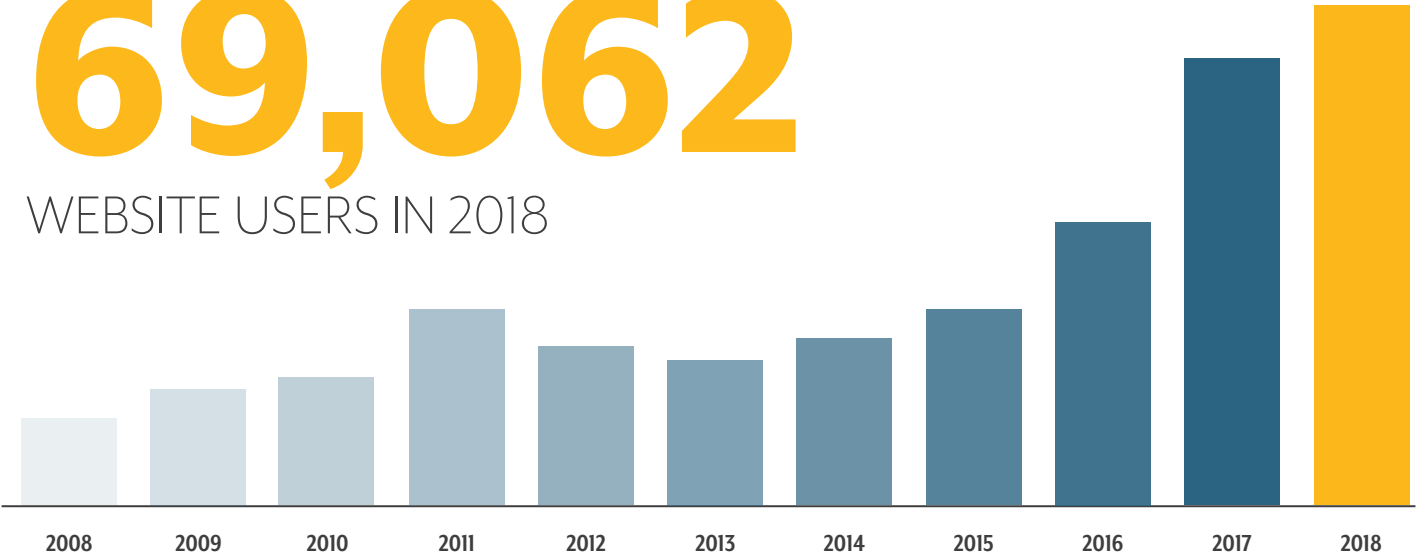
CHI found that if providers who can prescribe medication-assisted treatment for opioids expanded their current services, they could nearly fill the unmet demand for this evidence-based treatment.

<https://colo.health/MAT>



# 69,062

## WEBSITE USERS IN 2018



### OUR 2018 WORK PRODUCT

**37** Research Reports    **47** Public Presentations    **67** Blogs

### MOST VIEWED REPORTS OF 2018



**5,709** Page Views



**1,617** Page Views



**1,615** Page Views



**1,151** LIKES



**5,472** FOLLOWERS



**1,172** FOLLOWERS

### TOP LINKING SITES

*Excluding social media and search engines*

- COLORADO PUBLIC RADIO
- DENVER POST
- REDDIT
- MENTAL HEALTH COLORADO
- COMPLETE COLORADO
- COLORADO TRUST
- COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS
- WESTWORD



### Top Cities By Website Users

DENVER	<b>16,369</b>
NEW YORK CITY	<b>1,343</b>
ASHBURN, VA	<b>1,189</b>
WASHINGTON, D.C.	<b>971</b>
DALLAS	<b>640</b>



# HOT ISSUES IN HEALTH

Hot Issues in Health is Colorado's essential health policy gathering, and the 2018 event was the best attended and best reviewed ever.



U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet engaged the audience Friday morning with his view of how education, living standards, and health connect — and the urgent need to improve them all.

## ATTENDEES REPRESENTED A WHO'S-WHO OF COLORADO'S HEALTH DECISION-MAKERS.

- 27** Clinics and Providers
- 26** Consulting and Law
- 30** Elected Officials
- 80** Foundations and Nonprofits
- 41** Government
- 26** Hospitals
- 27** Insurers and Regional Accountable Entities
- 22** Public Health



## “Everyone in health care in Colorado is there.”

*CHI distills complex topics down into easy-to-understand pieces, and there is a nice sense of humor and fun injected into the whole conference.”*

2018 HOT ISSUES IN HEALTH ATTENDEE



Outgoing **Gov. John Hickenlooper** passed the baton to incoming **Lt. Gov. Dianne Primavera** as both talked about continuing efforts to make Colorado the healthiest state.



Colorado Public Radio's **Vic Vela** told a rapt audience his story of drug addiction and recovery.



# OUR TEAM

## CHI BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Ruth Benton (Past Chair)
- Romana Hasnain-Wynia (Chair)
- James Beaudry
- Beth Perez
- Kay Ramachandran
- Nathan Schacht
- Dr. Shale Wong

## CHI STAFF



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POLICY ANALYST



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AND ADMINISTRATION



**CHRISSE ESPOSITO**  
DATA VISUALIZATION  
AND POLICY ANALYST



**BECK FURNISS**  
PROGRAM MANAGER



**ADRIANA GOMEZ**  
RESEARCH ANALYST



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RESEARCH ANALYST



**PAUL PRESKEN**  
SENIOR CONSULTANT



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RESEARCH, EVALUATION  
AND CONSULTING



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**ALEC WILLIAMS**  
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# OUR NUMBERS

## Statements of Activities: Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

### Changes in unrestricted net assets:

<b>Revenue and Support:</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Contract revenue	\$ 3,875,485	\$ 2,899,317
Grant revenue	\$ 353,000	\$ 377,000
Investment return	\$ 12,438	\$ 52,082
Conference income	\$ 153,698	\$ 119,568
Miscellaneous income	\$ 3,421	\$ 8,975
Net assets released from restrictions	\$ 2,499,313	\$ 3,841,396
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ 6,897,355</b>	<b>\$ 7,298,338</b>

### Expenses:

#### *Program services:*

Health information	\$ 6,674,755	\$ 6,119,086
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>\$ 6,674,755</b>	<b>\$ 6,119,086</b>

#### *Supporting services:*

Management and general	\$ 545,626	\$ 359,576
Fundraising	\$ 190,235	\$ 181,635
<b>Total supporting services</b>	<b>\$ 735,861</b>	<b>\$ 541,211</b>

<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,410,616</b>	<b>\$ 6,660,297</b>
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Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets	(\$ 513,261)	\$ 638,041
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### Changes in temporarily restricted net assets:

#### Revenue and Support:

Grants and contributions	\$ 3,027,605	\$ 464,823
Net assets released from restrictions	(\$ 2,499,313)	(\$ 3,841,396)
Increase (decrease) in temporarily restricted net assets	\$ 528,292	(\$ 3,376,573)
Change in net assets	\$ 15,031	(\$ 2,738,532)
Net assets at beginning of year	\$ 4,537,125	\$ 7,275,657
<b>Net assets at end of year</b>	<b>\$ 4,552,156</b>	<b>\$ 4,537,125</b>



## Statements of Financial Position December 31, 2018 and 2017

<b>Assets:</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 124,325	\$ 1,282,309
Accounts receivable	\$ 421,576	\$ 603,220
Prepaid expenses	\$ 49,785	\$ 27,743
Contributions receivable	\$ 1,646,101	\$ 1,180,680
Investments	\$ 1,755,725	\$ 1,755,725
Leasehold improvements	\$ 2,622,480	\$ 212,478
<i>Property and equipment:</i>		
Leasehold improvements	\$ 212,478	\$ 212,478
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 310,243	\$ 303,210
Office equipment and computer software	\$ 659,851	\$ 651,678
Website	\$ 51,075	\$ 41,950
Total property and equipment	\$ 1,233,647	\$ 1,209,316
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	\$ 1,005,104	\$ 859,027
Net property and equipment	\$ 228,543	\$ 350,289
Deposits	\$ 13,946	\$ 13,946
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 5,106,756</b>	<b>\$ 5,213,912</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets:</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 305,267	\$ 79,598
Accrued payroll liabilities	\$ 137,542	\$ 94,420
Deferred rent	\$ 84,172	\$ 143,962
Deferred revenue	\$ 27,619	\$ 358,807
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 554,600</b>	<b>\$ 676,787</b>
<b>Net assets:</b>		
<b>Without donor restrictions:</b>		
Board designated	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
Undesignated	\$ 1,186,088	\$ 1,699,349
Total net assets without donor restrictions	\$ 2,186,088	\$ 2,699,349
With donor restrictions	\$ 2,366,068	\$ 1,187,776
Total net assets	\$ 4,552,156	\$ 4,537,125
<b>Commitments:</b>		
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 5,106,756</b>	<b>\$ 5,213,912</b>



# COLORADO HEALTH INSTITUTE

The Colorado Health Institute is a trusted source of independent and objective health information, data, and analysis for the state's health care leaders. CHI's work is made possible by generous supporters who see the value of independent, evidence-based analysis. Those supporters can be found on our website [coloradohealthinstitute.org/about-us](https://coloradohealthinstitute.org/about-us)

303 E. 17th Ave., Suite 930, Denver, CO 80203 • 303.831.4200  
[coloradohealthinstitute.org](https://coloradohealthinstitute.org)