



COLORADO CENTER
on LAW & POLICY

Justice and Economic Security for *all* Coloradans

REAL SOLUTIONS FOR REAL PEOPLE
WITH REAL PROBLEMS

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

CCLP: Research. Education. Advocacy. Litigation. Results.

The Colorado Center on Law and Policy employs a unique combination of policy and legal research, education, advocacy and litigation to accomplish its mission. We are dedicated to reshaping state policies so that all Coloradans, particularly lower-income Coloradans, have equal access to justice, economic security, and opportunity. We act and we get results.

Lower-income people, including working individuals, families, immigrants and other vulnerable citizens, are often put at a disadvantage due to government failures or misguided priorities. It doesn't have to be that way.

While the solutions to these problems will not be resolved quickly or easily, we believe we can find ways to foster greater self-sufficiency, guarantee access to affordable and quality health care, and advance responsible public policies for all Coloradans.

CCLP HISTORY

In 2009, CCLP will celebrate its 10th anniversary as one of Colorado's leading advocacy organizations dedicated to promoting justice, economic security, access to health care, and sound fiscal policies. The agency has come a long way since its creation, evolving over time to become a stronger voice for the vulnerable, a watchdog for taxpayers, and a fierce advocate for justice.

CCLP is the only organization that provides critical advocacy formerly provided by Colorado's federally funded legal services programs. In 1995 and 1996, Legal Services Programs suffered significant losses due to federal budget cuts, and new federal laws that prohibited many forms of administrative and legislative advocacy and barred legal aid programs from participating in class action litigation. The laws severely restricted critical legal advocacy and representation of the poor by Colorado's Legal Services Programs.

The Colorado Lawyer Trust Account Foundation (COLTAF) provided funds to establish an independent non-profit to continue the work that federally funded legal services agencies could no longer do, thereby forming the Colorado Center on Law and Policy in 1999.

Since then, CCLP has become a leader in the advocacy community and in working with key policy stakeholders. Through its work on health care, welfare reform, fiscal policy and other critical issues, CCLP has gained a strong reputation in providing litigation, research, education, and advocacy services to lower-income Coloradans, policymakers, opinion-leaders, non-profit organizations and the general public.

COLORADO FISCAL POLICY INSTITUTE

The Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute (COFPI) is a nonpartisan project of the Colorado Center on Law and Policy. As both a resource and catalyst, COFPI works for changes in public policy through timely, credible and accessible fiscal policy analysis, education, advocacy and coalition-building.

In Colorado, state fiscal policies are largely dictated by formulas, rather than priorities. A knot of constitutional and statutory requirements leave little if any latitude to account for evolving priorities, leaving Colorado to consistently lag behind in key areas of public investment like health care, education, and more.

Likewise, voters in Colorado play a truly unique role as tax policymakers. Because of the ballot initiative process, voters are directly involved with fiscal policy, which makes COFPI's mission all the more critical to Colorado's future.

As Colorado faces mounting fiscal challenges, COFPI is dedicated to taking on those challenges and finding innovative ways to create a better, fairer fiscal landscape for all Coloradans.



■ INTRODUCTION: MAUREEN FARRELL-STEVENSON, ESQ., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ■

As CCLP moved through 2007, we were fortunate to grow as an agency, to work toward solving some of Colorado's most pressing challenges, and to welcome several new members to our team – bright, talented people who care deeply about our mission and who demonstrate that talent and commitment through their work

Liz Feder joined CCLP early in 2007 as part of our growing health policy staff. As the Health Policy Analyst, Liz brings tremendous experience in policy research, local and state government, and higher education.

Adela Flores-Brennan returned to CCLP this year, after having worked here from 1999 to 2002. For much of 2007, she served as Federal Budget Analyst, before moving to the Health Care Attorney position.

We were able to expand our health care capacity thanks to the generosity of the Colorado Health Foundation, as well as the ongoing support of the Rose Community Foundation and The Denver Foundation.

Scott Downes joined CCLP in early 2007 as our first full-time Communications Director, coming to us from the political arena. His work has made an extraordinary difference in getting out the important information and work of CCLP and COFPI.

Tracey Stewart was brought on to serve as Self-Sufficiency Project contractor and then as full-time Project Coordinator, where she's led the charge to get the innovative VisionKEI Self-Sufficiency Calculator up and running. She is now embarking on a statewide education

and outreach effort to promote the 2008 Colorado Self-Sufficiency Standard and the Calculator to key stakeholders. You can access this tool yourself by going to our website at www.cclponline.org.

Marty Esquibel started as a Fiscal Analyst with COFPI in December 2007...the same week he and his wife had a brand new baby boy!

Along with Rita Young, Nilmini Hecox, Carol Hedges, Elisabeth Arenales, Kathy White, and Ed Kahn, we've grown in both staff and scope. Our people make our programs that much stronger. We know we provide a unique voice in Colorado, and the biggest challenge we face is making sure people hear it. Our focus is sharper, our resolve stronger, and our work and its results are slowly but surely instigating the kind of change we all want and hope for in Colorado.

For a nearly a decade now, we have wrestled with the question of what kind of Colorado do we want to live in and have our children inherit? What kind of health care system do Coloradans need, and how do they best access it? And what will it take to ensure that all Coloradans can pay for their basic needs?

At CCLP, we strive to play a central role in answering these vital questions, and in finding solutions to the very real problems that impact Coloradans. When families are facing the kinds of challenges they now face, with huge increases in food and gas prices, transportation and utility costs, and health care and housing prices, something must be done.

We have played an integral role in trying to help solve some of Colorado's biggest challenges, whether it's shaping the debate about health care reform, developing comprehensive fiscal reform, or promoting policies that move more people toward economic self-sufficiency. We have a seat at the table and we're making our voice heard.

None of the progress we must make will happen by accident. It will take the work of all of us, the coordination of our important coalition partners, and the tremendous support of all of you. As Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals."

At CCLP, we honor and thank all the dedicated individuals, including all of our generous donors, supporters, volunteers, and wonderful partners, that we are so fortunate to work with every day to make Colorado a better place.

Sincerely,

Maureen Farrell-Stevenson, Esq.
Executive Director



WE'RE MOVING!

.....

OUR NEW ADDRESS
FOR FALL 2008!

**789 SHERMAN, #300
DENVER, CO 80203**

■ LETTER FROM JEAN E. DUBOFSKY, ESQ., CCLP BOARD PRESIDENT ■

As CCLP approaches its 10th anniversary, I can't help but think back to its origins, with just two or three staff members in a cramped office, and a firm belief in the mission of working toward justice and economic security for all Coloradans.

Since then, we've seen tremendous growth in the capacity, the influence, and the results of CCLP's work. In what started with a few smart, talented, and passionate people has evolved into one of Colorado's leading advocacy organizations.

Whether it's critical work to address our state's constitutional fiscal mess, leading the way in the health care reform debate, or taking an innovative approach to fighting poverty and moving more Coloradans toward economic self-sufficiency, we have sought not only to provide help to those who need it, but also to reshape how our state and our communities address issues that affect lower-income Coloradans. CCLP and the Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute consistently provide a voice for the voiceless and a vehicle for smart, progressive policymaking.

One of my first jobs was serving as an attorney for a legal services program in a rural community. I saw firsthand how important timely help really is for someone in need with nowhere else to turn. I also saw how lower-income individuals and families were consistently put at a disadvantage by flawed public policies.

That's where CCLP and COFPI come in. Because behind every fact and figure, every

bit of research and every report, there is a family that is struggling to make ends meet and a person who is not getting a fair shake.

I am proud to be a part of an organization that's sole purpose is to make sure that more families can make ends meet and more people can get a fair shake. We've come a long way toward that goal in less than a decade. We could not do the work that we do without the amazing help of so many wonderful people. Yet, there is so much more to be done.

Thank you for your past support for CCLP. We all look forward to our ongoing work together and hope that you will continue to be a part of it well into the future.

Sincerely,

**Jean Dubofsky
CCLP Board President**



■ 2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS ■

Health Care

- Elisabeth Arenales, Health Care Program Director, served on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Healthcare Reform, where she was co-Chair of the Communications and Outreach Committee. In January 2008, Arenales, along with three other members of the Commission, presented the Commission's full slate of recommendations to the Colorado Legislature.

Legislative Action

- CCLP played a key part in passing legislation that provided Medicaid for young adults leaving the foster care system and helped on legislation to eliminate health status rating for small business groups in Colorado.
- CCLP and COFPI worked to push Colorado's congressional delegation to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The proposal was ultimately vetoed by the president.
- CCLP played a lead role in working to mitigate the impact of state and federal Citizen Documentation Requirements through the rulemaking process, so citizens were not denied critical health care services.

Self-Sufficiency

- CCLP and COFPI, along with key partners, released a groundbreaking demographic report titled *Overlooked and Undercounted: Struggling to Make Ends Meet in Colorado*

which took a detailed look at how many families live below the Self-Sufficiency Standard and who those families are.

- Led the charge in the legislature to require the Department of Local Affairs to post the Self-Sufficiency Standard for Colorado on its website, as well as continued implementing the VisionKEI Self-Sufficiency Standard Online Calculator, which was officially launched in March 2008.
- Conducted dozens of trainings and outreach events on the self-sufficiency standard, resulting in more businesses, counties, and higher education institutions utilizing the standard.
- Partnered with the Colorado Anti-Hunger Network to sponsor the highly successful 2007 Food Stamp Challenge, in which state and local officials like Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper, along with CCLP staff, took up the challenge of eating on \$3.57 per day for a week, in conjunction with National Hunger Awareness Day.

Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute

- Published more than 40 different writing projects, including groundbreaking research reports such as *Aiming for the Middle*, which outlined how Colorado lags behind other states in key areas of public investment, and *Looking Forward*, which was a collaborative project with the Bell Policy Center and the Colorado Children's Campaign that assessed what will happen to Colorado's fiscal landscape after the five-year TABOR timeout from Referendum C.

- Hosted more than 150 advocates, public officials, nonprofit operatives, and foundation representatives at the annual Budget Works forum, where attendees got their first look at comprehensive post-Referendum C fiscal analysis.
- Worked with legislators and other state and local policymakers to move forward on and advocate for key issues like restoring the state Earned Income Tax Credit, implementing a rainy day fund, incorporating more fiscal transparency and accountability, and creating a fairer, more equitable tax system.
- Organized the second Paycheck Away Tour with a coalition of other nonprofits and advocacy groups, traveling around the state to discuss and address poverty issues and economic barriers in local communities and how public policymakers can do better to help. Following the tour, a 15 minute documentary was produced based on the tour.
- Hosted or presented at more than 120 community forums around the state on issues such as the estate tax, minimum wage, state budget, Referendum C, TABOR, Earned Income Tax Credit, Self-Sufficiency, hunger, poverty, and more.
- Coordinated with the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and other national partners to defeat TABOR-like proposals in other states around the country.



2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONTINUED

Litigation

- In December 2007, CCLP and plaintiffs' lawyers reached agreement with lawyers for the State of Colorado to settle the September 2004 lawsuit involving the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS). CCLP has assumed a watchdog role in monitoring the State's compliance with the settlement and progress towards fixing CBMS to ensure timely processing of applications and distribution of accurate benefit amounts.
- CCLP assisted on pending litigation in Boulder District Court that aimed to stop a proposed sale of two Denver-area Exempla hospitals to a Catholic health care group. The proposed sale would severely restrict access for Jefferson and Boulder county residents to both routine and critical health care treatment, in particular with reproductive and end-of-life procedures.

Administrative

- Increased staff to record-number of 12 employees
- Hired first full-time Communications Director
- Strengthened and diversified funding resources

Development

Individual Fundraising

- Surpassed the previous year's total for individual donations by more than \$30,000, attracted nearly a dozen new major donors, increased the number of gifts from the Holiday Appeal by 35 percent, and expanded the online fundraising program.

Events

- CCLP hosted numerous fundraising events in 2007 including donor receptions, donor briefings, and a Young Professionals fundraising event with special guest, State Treasurer Cary Kennedy. The Young Professionals event attracted nearly forty new prospective donors.

Communications

In the News

- Stories featuring CCLP, COFPI, and key issues the agency works on appeared in more than two dozen media outlets, including the Denver Post, Rocky Mountain News, 9News, 7News, CBS4 Denver, Univision, Associated Press, Colorado Public Radio, KGNU, Public News Service, Denver Business Journal, Denver Daily News, Pueblo Chieftain, Durango Herald, Alamosa Valley Courier, Colorado Springs Gazette, Fort Collins Coloradoan, Greeley Tribune, Grand Junction Sentinel, Aspen Daily Times, Montrose Daily Press, Boulder Daily Camera, and more.

Online Media

- Increased presence online by appearing on news web sites and blogs such as ColoradoPols.com, Colorado Confidential, and ProgressNow Action blog, and increasing email distribution list tenfold for contacts who receive a monthly e-newsletter (*Policy Matters*), Action Alerts, Issue Bulletins, and other materials.

Website

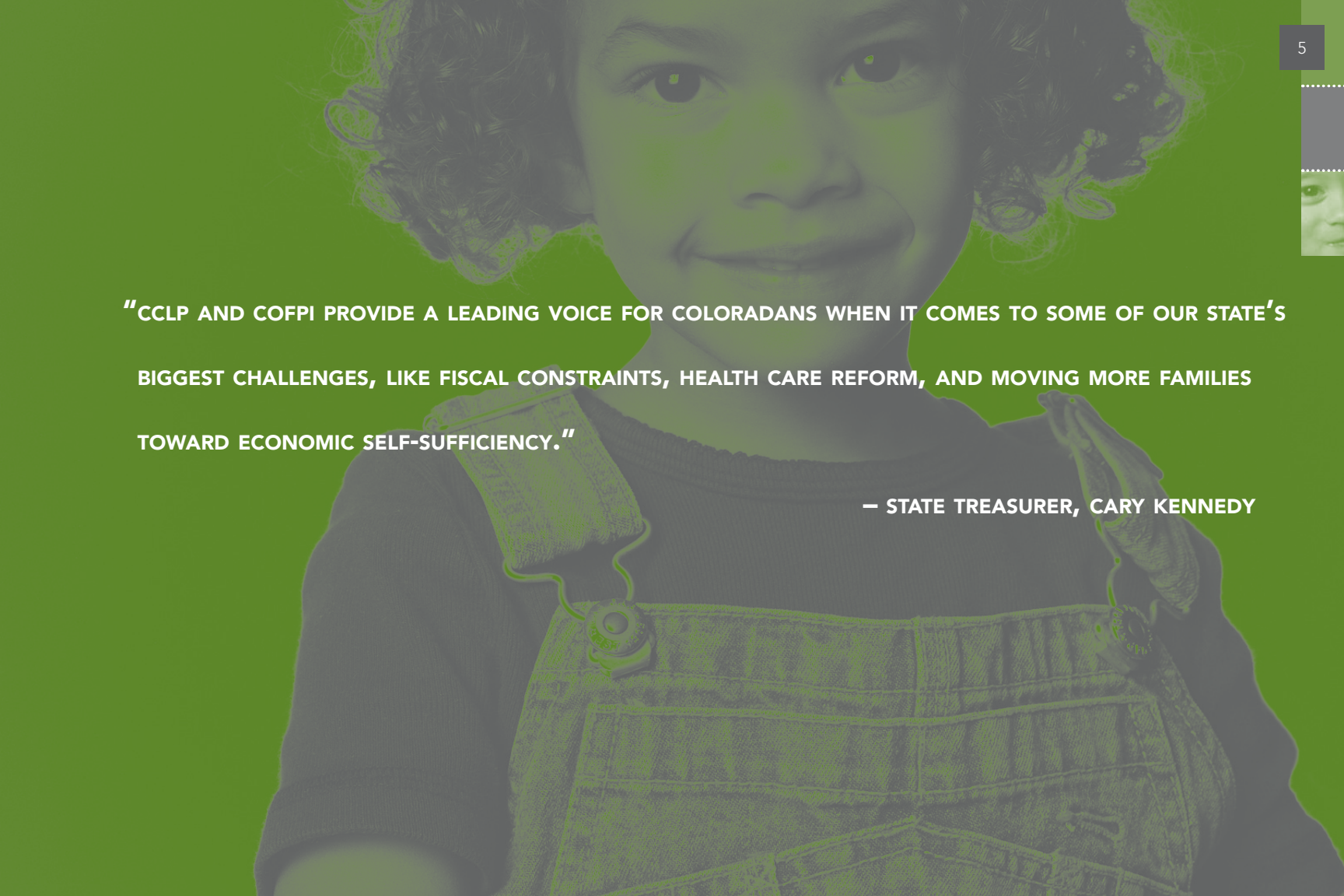
- CCLP's website underwent a large-scale redesign in 2007 that organized the content, modernized the look of the site, and averaged nearly 300 hits each day.

Communications Outreach

- CCLP and COFPI have worked on communications and outreach projects with dozens of partners and coalitions including the EITC Coalition, the SCHIP Coalition, the Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Reform, the Self-Sufficiency Coalition, the Paycheck Away Project, and many more.

Publications Released:

- Annual Report
- Overlooked and Undercounted
- Aiming for the Middle
- Looking Forward
- State of Working Colorado 2007
- Budget Primer 2007
- Annual Poverty Day Data
- Dozens of Fact Sheets, Issue Briefings, Action Alerts, and other materials



"CCLP AND COFPI PROVIDE A LEADING VOICE FOR COLORADANS WHEN IT COMES TO SOME OF OUR STATE'S
BIGGEST CHALLENGES, LIKE FISCAL CONSTRAINTS, HEALTH CARE REFORM, AND MOVING MORE FAMILIES
TOWARD ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY."

— STATE TREASURER, CARY KENNEDY

■ CCLP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY | YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 ■

SUPPORT & REVENUE	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
<i>Contributions</i>	\$175,607	\$714,650	\$890,257
<i>In-kind contributions</i>	\$64,930	\$0	\$64,930
<i>Earned income</i>	\$180	\$0	\$180
<i>Dividend and interest income</i>	\$15,023	\$0	\$15,023
<i>Net assets released from restrictions</i>	\$451,091	(\$451,091)	\$0
<i>Other income</i>	\$3,016	\$0	\$3,016
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$709,847	\$263,559	\$973,406
<i>Expenses COFPI program</i>	\$448,436	\$0	\$448,436
<i>Welfare program</i>	\$90,754	\$0	\$90,754
<i>Health care program</i>	\$315,686	\$0	\$315,686
<i>Management and general</i>	\$128,558	\$0	\$128,558
<i>Fundraising</i>	\$36,910	\$0	\$36,910
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,020,344	\$0	1,020,344
<i>Change in Net Assets</i>	(\$310,497)	\$263,559	(\$46,938)
<i>Net Assets Beginning of year</i>	\$541,232	\$247,753	\$788,985
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	\$230,735	\$511,312	\$742,047

■ CCLP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION | YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007 ■

ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$481,139
Accounts receivable	\$0
Current portion of grants receivable	\$210,000
Deposits and prepaid expenses	\$0
Net property and equipment	\$2,080
Grants receivable, net of current portion	\$65,000
TOTAL ASSETS	\$758,219

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$16,172
Accounts payable pass-through grants	\$0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$16,172
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$230,735
Temporarily Restricted	\$511,312
TOTAL ASSETS	\$742,047
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$758,219



"CCLP AND COFPI ARE TREMENDOUS PARTNERS IN THE EFFORT TO ADVANCE SOME OF THE MOST VITAL ISSUES FACING OUR STATE TODAY, PARTICULARLY WHEN IT COMES TO THE CRITICAL WORK OF MOVING MORE COLORADO FAMILIES TOWARD ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR ALL THEIR WORK AND LOOK FORWARD TO A STRONG PARTNERSHIP INTO THE FUTURE."

— CHRISTINE BENERO, CEO, MILE HIGH UNITED WAY

Volunteers and Friends

Muriel Arvay
 Robin Baker
 Andy Bardwell
 Joe Barela
 Michelle Dally
 Lucy Dwight
 Joanne Esch
 Pam Hennessey, Esq.
 Rich Jones
 Ed Kahn, Esq.
 Bryan Lee
 Todd Macey
 Willow Meyer
 Chaka Mzee
 Mary Anne Zanella Nickle
 Noah Patterson
 Tom Swanson
 Carolyn Siegal
 Karen Tomb, Esq.
 Les Young

And a special thanks to two long-time CCLP staff members, Suzette Tucker-Welch and Jim Zelenski, who left our team in 2007 for other pursuits. We wish them well in all their endeavors ahead.



2007 Board of Directors

From the entire CCLP staff, a special note of thanks to our Board of Directors for their continued hard work, support, and commitment toward our mission.

Jean Dubofsky, Esq.,
 Board President
 Molly Ryan, Esq.,
 Secretary
 Frank Brainerd, Esq.,
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 Jonathan D. Asher, Esq.
 Nan Morehead
 Jean C. Townsend, M.A.
 James E. Scarboro, Esq.
 T.A. Taylor-Hunt, Esq.
 Irene Taylor Kawanabe, Esq.
 Michael A. Valdez, Esq.
 Cynthia Delaney, Esq.
 David Butler, Esq.

Staff List

Maureen Farrell-Stevenson, Esq.,
 Executive Director
 Elisabeth Arenales, Esq.,
 Health Care Director
 Scott Downes,
 Communications Director
 Nilmini Senanayake Hecox,
 Development Director
 Rita Young,
 Director of Administration
 Adela Flores-Brennan, Esq.,
 Health Care Attorney
 Elizabeth Feder,
 Health Care Policy Analyst
 Kathy White,
 Project Director
 Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute
 Carol Hedges,
 Senior Fiscal Policy Analyst,
 Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute
 Tracey Stewart,
 Self-Sufficiency Project Coordinator,
 Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute
 Marty Esquibel, Esq.,
 Fiscal Analyst,
 Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute
 Ed Kahn, Esq.,
 Special Counsel



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Justice and Economic Security for all Coloradans



727 E. 16TH AVENUE, MAIN SUITE
DENVER, COLORADO 80203-2003

TELEPHONE: 303-573-5669

FAX: 303-573-4947

WEBSITE: www.cclponline.org

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