



COLORADO CENTER
on LAW & POLICY

2011

ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friend of the Colorado Center on Law and Policy,

The Colorado Center on Law and Policy makes waves. Our mission is to advance the health, economic security and well-being of low-income Coloradans and that doesn't happen without making waves – legislative waves, administrative waves, waves in public awareness, sometimes even courtroom waves. In 2011, we rode a number of waves to important and impressive gains. We could not have done it without your support.

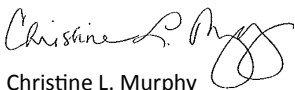
CCLP's Health Program worked with a coalition of unusual suspects in support of SB11-200, which established Colorado's Health Benefit Exchange. The Exchange and its workings are central to our continuing focus on health reform implementation in Colorado. As part of our longtime role in protecting and improving the state's public health insurance programs, we also led the successful fight against significantly increased cost-sharing in the Child Health Plan Plus program because of the large number of children who would likely lose health coverage if higher fees were demanded. See page 3.

The Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute led the charge in a statewide campaign to increase state revenues, Proposition 103, which was one chapter of our drive for a more adequate and equitable state revenue system. Proposition 103 was unsuccessful but engaged thousands of citizens in recognizing the need to raise revenues for public services and community investments in Colorado. One small measure: over 500 volunteers from more than 100 communities were part of our Ballot or Bust direct democracy effort that got Prop. 103 on the ballot using an innovative online tool. See page 2.

Our Family Economic Security program published the 2011 Self-Sufficiency Standard for Colorado and the Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Colorado. Both provide reliable benchmarks against which to measure programs and initiatives helping Coloradans achieve economic health. We also launched the Take Action 2019 campaign to re-engage Coloradans in the fight for effective public policies supporting economically vulnerable families. See page 4.

We will continue to fight for justice and economic security for low-income Coloradans. We will do it with partners from all over Colorado. We will continue to make the right kind of waves, and with your support we will continue to achieve victories. Thank you for fighting with us.

Sincerely,


Christine L. Murphy
Executive Director

About the Colorado Center on Law and Policy

The Colorado Center on Law and Policy (CCLP) has more than a decade of experience as one of Colorado's leading advocacy organizations dedicated to promoting justice, economic security, access to health care and sound fiscal policies.

CCLP is a leader in the advocacy community. We provide policymakers, opinion leaders, nonprofit organizations and the general public with research and education about issues of import to lower-income Coloradans; we advocate in the legislature and before executive decision makers on behalf of those issues; and we litigate them when necessary.

CCLP provides:

- Research and independent legal and policy analysis.
- Education and civic engagement with diverse communities.
- Advocacy on behalf of lower-income Coloradans.
- Litigation and legal action for systemic change.

Helping shape the statewide discussion of responsible, fair tax and budget policy

In 2011, the Fiscal Policy Institute led an effort to give voters an option to avoid additional cuts in essential community services. Working through various coalition efforts, COFPI provided information, analysis, and leadership to make the Colorado revenue system more adequate and more equitable. After months of negotiations on a major revenue reform effort, it became clear that reform was not possible in 2011 so COFPI joined with Senator Rollie Heath is his effort to raise more money for schools by returning the state sales and income tax rates to their 1999 levels.

COFPI coordinated the effort that resulted in collection of 144,000 signatures to put the education tax measure, Proposition 103, on the ballot in November 2011. Our unique Ballot or Bust signature campaign initiated an innovative online tool for distributing petitions for signatures. This new tool allowed 500 volunteers to participate in our unique brand of direct democracy. These volunteers from over 100 communities engaged in conversations about the role of taxes in supporting community services.

Ultimately, voters rejected Proposition 103 and its approach to increasing funding for schools. The effort increased understanding of our state revenue crisis; it solidified the commitment to raise revenue for public services for thousands of Coloradans. It pushed many community leaders to take seriously the task of addressing how many more cuts our communities can afford.

In the 2011 legislative session, COFPI played an important role in protecting community services through an intensive push to defeat tax credit and tax giveaway legislation that reduced general fund collections.

2011 was a big year for other legislative measures that impact state finances. Tax transparency is an essential component of increasing confidence in our public sector. In 2011, with leadership from Rep. Mark Ferrandino and Sen. Pat Steadman, after almost 10 years of trying, the legislature passed tax

expenditure reporting legislation that will provide Colorado taxpayers with details on the cost of tax credits and who takes advantage of those credits. Another measure to make sure taxpayers know what they are giving up when taxes are cut, so-called Pay-Go legislation, did not pass even with courage and tireless leadership from Rep. Dickie Lee Hullinghorst and Sen. John Morse.

Maybe the biggest accomplishment of the legislative session came in the form of improvements to the unemployment insurance system. Working in coalition with business, labor and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, COFPI played an instrumental role in improving the solvency and long term viability of the state unemployment trust fund that finances cash benefits for unemployed workers. The reforms contained in this bill were heralded nationally and more importantly assured that cash benefits will continue to be available to Colorado workers who lose their jobs.

In late 2011, COFPI released the third edition of our Aiming for the Middle report that compares Colorado spending on essential services with spending in other states. As noted in the report, Colorado is still a long way from even the middle of the pack in community investments as we rank 48th among states in total spending. The Aiming for the Middle analysis is one of COFPI's numerous publications documenting economic conditions and the role of public investments in the economy including the monthly Recovery Watch analysis.



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Gov. John Hickenlooper signs Senate Bill 11-184 on June 3, 2011. Looking on is Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute Deputy Director Kathy White (left).

Leading the fight for affordable, accessible, high quality health care for all Coloradans

In 2011, the Health Program focused on implementation of health reform in Colorado and worked to protect and expand access to Medicaid and other public health insurance programs.

Among our successes: CCLP initially took the lead in opposing Senate Bill 11-213 which would have increased cost-sharing for participants in the Child Health Plan Plus. Our analysis was that 13 percent of children in families required to pay higher fees would likely lose access to insurance. Governor John Hickenlooper vetoed the bill and more limited increases in cost sharing were implemented by rule. Those increases were much less than what had been proposed through the legislative process.

We strongly supported the passage of Senate Bill 11-200 establishing Colorado's Health Benefit Exchange (COHBE). We paid particular attention to the structure of the Exchange including the obligation to adhere to Colorado's sunshine laws. We were concerned when a majority of insurance industry and industry-affiliated people were appointed to the Exchange Board. We led the Health Advocates Alliance in developing a set of governance principles to present to the Board and worked to ensure the adoption of strong by-laws and conflict of interest policies. We advocated on virtually all aspects of the development of the Exchange as well as on conflicts issues.

We worked with advocacy partners on a project that assessed Colorado consumer needs and expectations for the development of the Exchange through focus groups and community forums around the state. (The project culminated in a well-received final report authored by CCLP that was issued in 2012.)

We submitted comments on draft federal regulations that addressed health reform related changes to the Medicaid program, creation of Exchanges, and delivery of new premium tax credits for the purchase of health care.

We developed substantial expertise on Colorado's Medicaid Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC) project. The path to quality improve-

ment and cost containment in the Medicaid program is through payment and delivery system reform. The ACC model being implemented by the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is promising. CCLP worked to ensure that client needs are met throughout the implementation process.

When the Colorado Health Foundation proposed that its ownership interest in the HealthOne hospital system be sold to Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), CCLP analyzed whether or not the proposed transaction fit within the hospital conversion statute and, if not, whether the transaction was subject to review by the Colorado Attorney General. CCLP concluded the statute did not cover the transaction, but that it should be reviewed under the criteria in the statute as if it had been applicable. The Attorney General agreed with CCLP's analysis and approved the transaction.

CCLP also monitored the proposed lease of Colorado Springs Memorial Hospital and successfully urged the city council not to lease to an entity (such as certain religiously-based hospitals) that would restrict services. We continued to monitor the legal challenge to the takeover of Exempla by Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health Systems, which limited access to certain medical procedures.

Finally, we continued to publish our Health Law and Policy update weekly and make presentations on health reform to a diverse set of audiences.

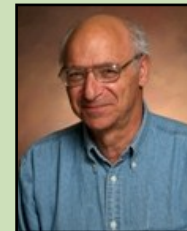
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Former health insurance executive Wendell Potter, left, talks with CCLP Health Program Director Elisabeth Arenales during a meeting with health advocates in Denver on March 23, 2011.

Promoting a deeper understanding of poverty, advancing policies that support economic security

The Family Economic Security Program published *"The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Colorado"* in July 2011. We declared Colorado's involvement in the national Elder Economic Security Initiative the "Independent for A Reason" movement and we became a lead stakeholder in the campaign to support our elders as they age in community with dignity. We joined a broader coalition of caregivers, service providers, government agencies and foundations all struggling with the big question: "How do we ensure that maintaining economic self-sufficiency throughout the work life provides us with financial stability in the post-work retirement life?" Thirty-two presentations later, we have more questions than answers and at least 200 more people willing to work on the solutions. Colorado seniors and their families now have a new benchmark for measuring their financial health.

The Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Colorado is a great addition to the economic security toolbox. It supports the ongoing work of Dr. Diana Pearce, who introduced Colorado to the economic self-sufficiency report. This year we released the fourth revision of *"The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Colorado"* (2011) in November. This publication is the foundation of the Family Economic Security Program and every launch marks a turning point for our work. The new data, outlining the number and types of occupations paying self-sufficiency wages, was exceptionally timely as we work with policy makers targeting job support legislation.

With the generous support of the Kresge Foundation, we have established the **TAKE ACTION** 2019 outreach and marketing campaign. The singular goal of the campaign is to re-engage Coloradans in the policy conversation. Through a series of actions and activities we intend to remind as many people as possi-

ble about the impact policy has on their lives, while supporting those who want to return the favor and have impact on the policy makers. We are using all the tools in our arsenal to translate research into action.

Throughout 2011, as the lead stakeholder group for the legislature's Economic Opportunity Poverty Reduction Task Force, CCLP continued to "take action" coordinating public input events for advocates, members of the general public and low-income households affected by public policy changes. In the past, CCLP has provided in-kind administrative support for the task force and its coordinator and this year we welcomed Shaivy Wilson to the Family Economic Security team. The task force met 8 times and created the foundation for the strategic plan to increase the number of Colorado households attaining economic self-sufficiency while reducing poverty in Colorado by half by 2019. Legislative members then chose to utilize their limited legislative bill slots to submit five legislative proposals for the 2012 session.

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"Economic power will flow more and more to those who create, synthesize and deploy rather than to those who just know."

—Dave Maney, EcoManey.com

"Large-scale social change requires broad cross-sector coordination..."

—"Collective Impact," John Kania & Mark Kramer

CCLP can't achieve our mission of justice and economic security for all Coloradans by working in isolation. Much of the Family Economic Security Program's work is in collaboration with others including our tireless volunteers.

Why 'Family Economic Security'?

The Colorado Center on Law and Policy's Family Economic Security Program seeks to reduce the number of Coloradans living in poverty by promoting economic security through the following strategies:

- Monitoring policies and programs that improve access to resources that give every Coloradan the opportunity to work toward economic stability and security.
- Educating state leaders and communities on the importance of helping Coloradans on the road to economic self-sufficiency through the use of critical tools and resources.

- Providing research to inform Colorado businesses, governments and communities on the progress Colorado is making in its poverty reduction efforts.

Family economic security isn't about welfare. Just the opposite, it's about the economic continuum through the lifespan, including childhood, working years and retirement. We focus on the opportunities a family needs to be economically secure through all phases of life.

To break cycles of poverty and increase cycles of wealth, there are several points at which advocates can intervene to promote a healthy childhood, good opportunities for work and a chance to age in place with dignity. That's where we come in.

Spotlight on Pillars of CCLP's History



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on LAW & POLICY

CCLP would like to recognize two visionary leaders who have played invaluable roles in guiding the growth and the scope of the work at CCLP — Ed Kahn and Frank Brainerd.

Edwin Kahn



Few people have done more to advance the goals of CCLP than Ed Kahn. As a past president of CCLP's Board of Directors and as the long-time special counsel for the organization, Mr. Kahn has helped establish CCLP as a leading voice for low-income Coloradans in both the legal and legislative communities.

Ed believes the mission of CCLP to be "vitally important" and "fundamental to a decent society." CCLP has provided an opportunity for service to the community that "represented an effective way to use [his] legal and social abilities," he said. Ed spearheaded the CBMS case, which successfully challenged the state for failing to process applications for Medicaid, CHP+ and food assistance as required by law. He recalls it as one of the more difficult and important cases he encountered while at CCLP.

In 2008, Ed's lifetime contribution to Colorado was recognized by the Colorado Bar Association when it bestowed on him its highest honor, the Award of Merit.

Frank J. Brainerd

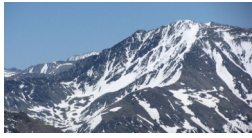


As a former Treasurer of the CCLP Board of Directors, Frank Brainerd played a critical role in guiding the organization for many years. His commitment to improving the lives of low-income Coloradans is reflected in his years of service.

Frank considers CCLP to be an "organization of love." He greatly appreciated his time on the board with "driven and intelligent" co-workers, and specifically thanks Jon Asher and Ed Kahn. Frank believes the importance of organizations working systemically is often overlooked, and is proud of what CCLP has accomplished for Colorado.

We couldn't do our work without you

CCLP depends on generous donors to continue our work for justice and economic security for all Coloradans. To show your support, visit www.cclponline.org/donate.

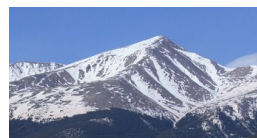


La Plata Peak Level 14,336 feet \$1 to \$99.99

Anonymous
9to5 National Association of Working Women
Andrew Peters
AARP Colorado
Alec Harris
Alice Applebaum
Alison Mickelson
Alyssa Lasseter
Amanda Gregg
Angela Brew-Glissmann
Ann and Dave Hocking
Ann Hargett
Anne Kinney
Ashley Wheeland
Audrey Deal
B. elyse Tipton
Becky Long
Benjamin Bielak
Beth Klepper
Beth Stump
Beverly Hirsekorn
Bonnie and Scott Philo
Calvary Baptist Church of Denver
Carlie McCullough
Carlton Hargett
Carol Plock
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Chaer Robert
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Chris Mootz
Christine Tesdall
Cindy Robertson
CO League of Women Voters
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Faith Gross
Family Voices
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Gonder Public Relations
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Helen Bushnell
Herbert Homan
Hunger Free Colorado
Immigrant Legal Center of Boulder County
James Bailey
James Jacobs
James Laurie
Janice McIntosh
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Jeanette Hensley
Jeff and Judi Neuman-Lee
Jen Caltrider
Jennifer Adler Fischer
Jennifer Hunt
Jennifer Politi
John and Adela Flores-Brennan
John Kefalas
John McCullough
Judith Blair
Judy McKenna
Julie Schumaker
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Kelley Rider
Kelley Vandamme
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Legal Aid Foundation of CO
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National Association of Counsel for Children
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Valerie Stone
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Vivian McCullough
Wayne Knox



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David Butler

Foundations

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Colorado Bar Foundation
Community First Foundation
The Colorado Health Foundation
The Colorado Trust
Colorado Lawyer Trust Account Foundation
The Denver Foundation
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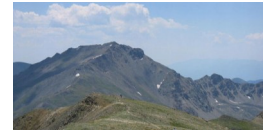
EMSA Fund
Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado
General Services Foundation
Gill Foundation
Good Jobs First
Hill Family Foundation
The Humphreys Foundation
JP Morgan Chase Foundation
The Kresge Foundation
Lederer Foundation
Mile High United Way
Theodore and Chandos Rice Foundation
Rose Community Foundation
Spring Inst. For Intercultural Learning
Women's Foundation of Colorado



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Alan & Barbara Charnes
Ann Marie Duenas
Annie Wohlgenant
Barbara Flores
Bill and Mary Degroot
Bill Kirton
Bill Prakken
Brook eMcKinley
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Interfaith Alliance of CO
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Margaret O'Keefe
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Michael Scanlon
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Nancy Hoffmaster
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Rollie Heath
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T.A. Taylor-Hunt
Terrance Kelly
Walter Garnsey
William Toasperm
William Walters



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Frederick Yu
Jane Wasson
Jerome DeHerrera
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Larry and Cheryl Volmert
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Norman Mueller and Christine L. Murphy
Robert Benson



Mt. Massive Level 14,421 feet \$1000 to \$10,000

Barbara Yondorf
Bruce Madison
Cars for Charity, Inc.
Lisa Reynolds
Robert Connery
Sara Michl
Support Schools for a Bright CO
Coley/Forrest—Jean Townsend
Jeffrey and Jessica Pearson
Jeremy Shamos
Bruce Sattler

CCLP statement of financial activity

Year ended Dec. 31, 2011

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
Contributions	\$474,515	\$994,476	\$1,468,991
In-kind contributions	\$230,726	-	\$230,726
Dividend and interest income	\$358	-	\$358
Other income	\$16,412		\$16,412
Legal fee reimbursement	\$76,283		\$76,283
Net assets released from restrictions	\$1,372,247	(\$1,372,247)	—
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$2,170,541	(\$377,771)	\$1,792,770
Expenses COFPI program	\$863,909	-	\$863,909
Family Economic Security Program	\$226,414	-	226,414
Health Care Program	\$372,146	-	\$372,146
Management and general	\$194,045	-	\$194,045
Fundraising	\$98,951	-	\$98,951
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,755,465	-	\$1,755,465
Change in net assets	\$415,076	(\$377,771)	\$37,305
Net assets beginning of year	\$87,910	\$717,714	\$805,624
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	\$502,986	\$339,943	\$842,929

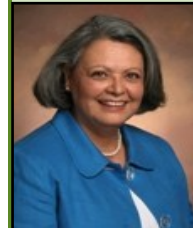
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$863,016
Accounts receivable	-
Grants receivable	\$10,711
Deposits and prepaid expenses	\$14,046
Net property and equipment	\$30,927
TOTAL ASSETS	\$918,700

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$28,226
Grants payable	\$47,545
Total liabilities	\$75,771
Net assets	
Unrestricted	\$502,986
Temporarily restricted	\$339,943
Total net assets	\$842,929
Total liabilities and net assets	\$918,700

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Stay in touch with us. Start by signing up to receive e-mail updates at www.cclponline.org.

Check out our materials. Hundreds of research papers, publications and background documents are available on our website to help you get up to speed on issues that matter most.

Tell a friend. Pass this report to someone you know who cares about justice and economic security for all Coloradans.

Donate. We can't do our work without the generous financial support of our donors. Give online by visiting www.cclponline.org/donate.

