**Speaker Biographies**

**Linda Archer, RN, MSN, CNS**

*Poster: Public Health Work: Making A Lifetime of Difference*

Linda Archer works for the Prenatal Program in the Women’s Health Unit at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. She worked for the El Paso County Department of Health and Environment as a Community Perinatal Case Manager and for Kaiser Permanente in Colorado Springs as a Quality Assurance Specialist. She is a master’s prepared registered nurse and is board certified as a Public/Community Health Clinical Nurse Specialist through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) and the Colorado State Board of Nursing.

**Christine Billings, MPH**

*Speaker: One Fish in the Sea: What to Expect & How to Manage as an Attendee at APHA 2010 in Denver*

Christine Billings received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Denver in 1999 and a Master of Public Health from the University of Michigan in 2002. She has worked at the United States Air Force Academy on injury and illness surveillance and for Jefferson County Public Health as an Epidemiologist. Her current role is as an Emergency Response Planner for the health department. Christine, her husband, and three children reside in Castle Rock, CO.

**Greg Bogdan, Ph.D.**

*Poster: Colorado’s Health Emergency Line for the Public (CO HELP): Public Health’s Information Partner*

Gregory M. Bogdan, PhD is the Research Director and Medical Toxicology Coordinator for the Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Center (RMPDC) at Denver Health. He has been leading the RMPDC Research Division since 1995, which specializes in analgesics toxicity, antidote development, public health surveillance and community disaster preparedness and response. He is on the faculty of the Rocky Mountain Center for Medical Response to Terrorism, Mass Casualties and Epidemics and has been the administrator for the Denver Metropolitan Medical Response System program since 1997. Dr. Bogdan has been awarded two Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality task orders to develop models for utilizing medical call centers to respond to public health emergencies. This work has lead to the development of the
Colorado Health Emergency Line for the Public (CO HELP). Dr. Bogdan is a member of the American Association of Poison Control Centers, Society of Toxicology, National Environmental Health Association and served as president of the Colorado Public Health Association (2005-2006). He is currently serving on the Colorado Hospital Preparedness Advisory Committee. He has been the lead or contributing author on 30 peer-reviewed publications while at RMPDC.

Jeff Bontrager, MSPH

Speaker: Keynote Session - What Healthcare Reform Means for Public Health

Jeff Bontrager joined the Colorado Health Institute (CHI) as a research analyst in March 2005. Throughout his tenure at CHI, Jeff’s analytic activities have focused on estimating the size of Colorado’s uninsured and underinsured populations and their sociodemographic characteristics. As a senior research analyst, Jeff also has contributed to a wide array of CHI projects including the development and implementation of the 2008-09 Colorado Household Survey, analysis of children’s health insurance status in Colorado and CHI’s compendium of Web-based county data indicators. In January 2009, Jeff assumed leadership responsibilities as the program manager for CHI’s new Center for the Study of the Safety Net. In this role, he coordinates CHI’s data collection and analyses related to monitoring the changing dynamics of Colorado’s health care safety net. Jeff also serves as coordinator of CHI’s Safety Net Indicators and Monitoring System (SNIMS).

A native of Denver, Jeff earned a master of science in public health degree from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 2004.

Emily Burns, M.D., MSPH

Speaker: The Exploding Demand for Undergraduate Public Health Programs: Opportunities for Students, Universities, and Public Health Organizations

Dr. Burns is the Executive Director of the new Southwestern Area Health Education Center (AHEC) in Durango Colorado. She is also an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology in the Colorado School of Public Health where she conducts smoking cessation research. During the past year, she has consulted with Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado to help develop the new curriculum and degree in undergraduate public health which was approved in spring 2010.
Andrea Dwyer

Poster: The Twists and Turns of Colorectal Screening: The Role of the Patient Navigator

Andrea Dwyer is the Patient Navigation team lead for the Colorado Colorectal Screening Program, a statewide screening Program which relies heavily upon screening navigation to facilitate colorectal cancer screening. As a Colorado native, she is dedicated to working with community, particularly in the area of rural health and is a manager on a variety of breast and colorectal research programs. Ms. Dwyer recently became the Project Director for the Colorado, Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network-a joint collaboration of the National Cancer Institute and the Centers for Disease Control to specifically work in translation research and dissemination of best practices in Cancer prevention and Control.

Jan Gascoigne, Ph.D., CHES

Speaker: Connecting Community & Students: Colorado School of Public Health’s Practice-Based Learning

Dr. Gascoigne is an instructor in Community and behavioral Health and the MPH Practicum Coordinator for the Colorado School of Public Health. In this role, she serves as a liaison between community organizations and students, with a goal of providing public health practice experiences for university students. Additionally, in 2005, Jan launched INUKSHUK consulting, a health coaching and consulting firm (www.INUKSHUKconsulting.net) dedicated to inviting people to their possibilities through healthy living. Prior to joining the School, Dr. Gascoigne served as the Director for Health Promotion at The BACCHUS Network, an international non-profit dedicated to young adult health and safety issues. In this organization, she developed the sexual health and the tobacco control programs. She was responsible for numerous Federal, State and Local grants all focused on building healthy campus environments. Additionally, she was an invited panelist on two CDC expert panels focused on

Diane Ernst, RN, Ph.D

Poster: Effectiveness of monthly health promotion nursing clinics for community-dwelling older adults

Diane Ernst, RN, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Loretto Heights School of Nursing at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Ernst has extensive experience in public health including working as a public health staff nurse and as a Director of Public Health Nursing for a county public health department. Presently, she teaches community health nursing in the online RN-BSN program at Regis University.
young adult tobacco control. Dr. Gascoigne earned her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Health Education from Kent State University. In addition, she is a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) and has coaching certifications from the following organizations: Intrinsic Health Coaching (Level 1), Coach Training Alliance Certified Coach (CTACC) and Wellness Mapping 360 Coach training.

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Karen Gieseker, Ph.D., MS

*Poster: Colorado 2009-2010 Influenza Deaths: The Importance of Collaboration and Data Source Flexibility*

Karen E. Gieseker, PhD, MS is an Infectious Disease Epidemiologist contracted to be the Managing Director for Influenza Surveillance for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for the 2009-2010 Influenza Season.

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Valerie Hagedorn

*Poster: PRO-Fit Lifestyles: A Community-based Weight Reduction Program Based on the Diabetes Prevention Program*

Valerie Hagedorn has been the Diabetes Patient Navigator for two years and the PRO-Fit Program Coordinator for 3 years. She has a bachelor of Arts in Communications with an Emphasis in Conflict Management.

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Steve Holloway

*Speaker: Keynote Session - What Healthcare Reform Means for Public Health*

Stephen Holloway is Director of the Primary Care Office at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. He has worked in public health for more than nine years and has had assignments in Maternal and Child Health, newborn screening, and public health system assessment and evaluation. Stephen is also a past-President of the Colorado Public Health Association.

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Cerise Hunt, MSW

*Speaker: Training and Tools for Professional Development in Public Health*

Cerise earned her Master in Social Work from the University of Denver. She is currently a community outreach coordinator for Colorado School of Public Health's Center for Public Health Practice. She is also an instructor at Metropolitan State College of Denver's Health Professions
Program in which she teaches Health Disparities in the U.S. Cerise serves as an Executive Committee Founding Member of the Academy for Health Equity. Cerise’s areas of interest include: racial and ethnic health disparities, cultural competency, community partnerships and workforce diversity.

Freddie L. Jaquez, MA

Speaker: What the Heck is AHEC?

Freddie Jaquez is the Executive Director of the San Luis Valley Area Health Education Center in Alamosa, CO. He supervises four SLV-AHEC staff. Some of the programs Mr. Jaquez is currently supervising are: Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Substance Abuse Treatment workshop, Interactive Health Communication Cardiovascular Assessment Kiosk Program, Health Professions Initiative Technical Assistance to Adams State College Nursing Program, Pueblo Community College Medical Imaging Department and Kiowa Hospital District in Eads, CO, Epilepsy Resource Library, Bio-Terrorism Preparedness Program, In-Home Chores Program and a Summer Health Careers Institute. Mr. Jaquez has experience in community networking with San Luis Valley Human Service Agencies and also Health Care Professional Networks. He is a former Executive Director of the Alamosa County Department of Social Services and a Field Services Representative of the Workforce Investment Act through Rocky Mountain SER Jobs For Progress/Inc.in Alamosa, CO. Freddie is a native of the San Luis Valley, has one daughter and three grand children. He is a musician of thirty five years and active in organizing mariachi conferences enabling youth to have another avenue of self expression.

Leanne Jeffers, MPH

Speaker: Cultivating Our Leaders of Tomorrow: Practical and Affordable Strategies for your Organization

Leanne Jeffers, MPH, is the Public Health Training Manager for the Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership (RIHEL). Leanne earned her Master of Public Health from the University of California Los Angeles (1995), and is a graduate of both the National Public Health Leadership Institute (2005), and the RIHEL Advanced Leadership Training Program (2007). For over 20 years, she has worked in the health and public health sectors, with an emphasis on health promotion. Currently, Leanne manages the RIHEL Advanced Leadership Training Program and other continuing education workshops offered through the Institute. In addition to the RIHEL leadership program and training activities, Leanne is also working to build professional and community capacity in the area of healthy
community planning and design. In 2007, Leanne co-authored the Planning Active Community Environment (PLACE) Training, and has delivered a number of workshops and presentations to public health, environmental health, planning and transportation professionals on the links between public health and the built environment.

Sarah Lampe, MPH

Poster: School outdoor built environment and curriculum affects on physical activity

Sarah Lampe, MPH, has been the Research Coordinator for the Colorado Center for Community Development and the Learning Landscapes Program for 1 year. She currently is the project manager for the multi-year research study outlined within this abstract.

David Loffert, B.S., M.H.S., Ph.D. Candidate

Poster: A Look At The Lasting Health Effects of The Toxic Dust Cloud Resulting From The Collapse of The World Trade Center Buildings on September 11, 2001

Peer reviewed journal publications. 55 Medical research papers for conference presentations and/or publication. Graduate thesis dissertation on respiratory medicine. Advertisements and essays in public health.

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**Lorenz Meinhold**

*Speaker: Keynote Session - What Healthcare Reform Means for Public Health*

Lorenz Meinhold serves as the Senior Policy Analyst for Health in the Office of Policy and Initiatives for Colorado Governor Bill Ritter Jr. In this capacity she helps establish and advance the Governor's health agenda, analyzes and advises on health-related legislation and coordinates the administration's policy efforts around health reform and other initiatives. Lorenz was recently appointed by the Governor to serve as the Director of Health Reform Implementation for the state. As states assume the critical role of implementing multiple aspects of reform, the director and newly formed board will recommend specific strategies for putting national reform into practice in Colorado. Prior to joining the Ritter administration, Lorenz worked on state and federal policy for the Colorado Health Foundation.

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**Richard Miech, Ph.D., MPH**

*Speaker: The Exploding Demand for Undergraduate Public Health Programs: Opportunities for Students, Universities, and Public Health Organizations*

For the past four years Richard Miech has been Chair of the Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Colorado Denver. Prior to that he was an Assistant and Associate Professor at the Bloomberg School of Public Health of Johns Hopkins University. As Chair he oversaw the development of an undergraduate major in Public Health, which debuts this fall. It is projected to quickly become one of the largest majors in the College.

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**Jennifer Miles, MSW**

*Speaker: Legislative Update & Keynote Session - What Healthcare Reform Means for Public Health*

Jennifer Miles has 15 years experience working as a health care policy expert and lobbyist. She is the President of her own lobbying and government relations consulting firm, Miles Consulting, Inc. represents health and human services nonprofit organizations, including All Kids Covered, community health centers, public health organizations, the Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved, nurse midwives, and
social workers. Jennifer is an expert in health care policy, human services issues, and issues affecting nonprofit organizations. She holds a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Denver.

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Nia Mitchell

Poster: Determining the Effectiveness of Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS): Can a nonprofit weight loss program help people lose weight?

Education University of Colorado (Denver, CO), Master of Public Health, 2010 Washington University (St. Louis, MO), Doctor of Medicine, 2005 University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA), M. S. Chemical Engineering, 1996 Tulane University (New Orleans, LA), B. S. Chemical Engineering, 1994 Medical Training Primary Care Research Fellowship, University of Colorado Denver 2008-2010 Internal Medicine Residency, University of Colorado Denver 2005-2008

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Robyn Mobbs

Poster: The AC Wellness Council - a model of interorganizational collaboration

Robyn Mobbs is currently working toward her Ph.D. in Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver School of Public Affairs. Ms. Mobbs was an Instructor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine for almost seven years, holding leadership roles in various state and federal level grants, as Head of Administration and Finance of Colorado WIN Partners and previously as Acting Administrator and Health Administration Discipline Director for JFK Partners. Prior to joining the University of Colorado, Robyn was at the University of Wollongong in Australia as a Policy Officer, where she worked with the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) to coordinate early preparations for the university-wide quality assurance audit. Ms Mobbs has a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Southern Queensland in Australia and an undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of Colorado Boulder.

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Lisa O'Reilly, MA

Speaker: Training and Tools for Professional Development in Public Health

Lisa is an elearning instructional designer, web developer and technical consultant for the CPHP. In addition to designing and developing online courses, tutorials and websites, she is a doctoral student conducting research in online learning.
Justin Park

**Poster: Employing Faith Based Coalitions to reach Latino communities with Healthy-Eating, Active-Living Initiatives** and

**Freiker: Students ZAP to and from School: A study of how the Freiker system has turned the commute to and from school into the most anticipated physical activity of the day.**

Justin began working for Learning Landscapes as a volunteer in June, 2009. Soon afterwards he became and intern, and in December, 2009 he was hired on full-time as the Marketing and Outreach Coordinator. He received his MBA in Marketing from Bentley College, in Massachusetts and is also TESOL certified. Prior to moving to Denver, Justin worked for the Maryland State Parent Information & Resource Center, was the English Program Director at Centro Panamericano de Idiomas in Monteverde, Costa Rica, and taught English in Seoul, South Korea. In addition to his international work experience, he has traveled throughout Southeast Asia, India, the Philippines, and Central America.

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Rebecca Persing, RN, DNP

**Poster: Improving Health Decisions in At-Risk Families: Nurse Home Visits, BrainWise and Technology**

Rebecca Persing, RN, DNP received her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from The Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing-Case Western Reserve University. With over 20 years of nursing experience in direct care, case management, education, management and research, the focus of her clinical experience is in the areas of women/infant care and corrections nursing. She has held faculty positions at Case Western Reserve University and The University of Colorado Denver Schools of Nursing. Currently she supervises the Jefferson County Public Health Nursing/Human Services Collaboration Program.

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Susan Rein, BSN, RN

**Poster: Colorado Colorectal Screening Program Efforts to Prevent Cancers and Avert Treatment Costs**

Susan Rein is currently the Clinical Services Coordinator for the Colorado Colorectal Screening Program at the University of Colorado Denver. She manages the colorectal cancer cases diagnosed through the program and coordinates the activities of the Medical Quality Assurance Committee. Ms Rein also provides medical eligibility guidance and expertise to the safety net
clinics participating in the Program regarding endoscopic screening, quality indicators and standardized reporting for colonoscopy. Susan is a registered nurse who earned her BSN from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in 1995. She is certified as a Clinical Research Coordinator from the Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) and a member of the Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates. Prior to joining the Colorado Colorectal Screening Program, she has worked with the Department of Gastroenterology at the University of Colorado, School of Medicine involving chemoprevention trials for the prevention of colorectal cancer. She is a member of the Colorado Cancer Coalition (Colorectal Task Force).

Betsy Risendal

Poster: Cancer Prevention and Control Research Network: Colorado as a Partner in the National Network

Betsy C Risendal, PhD Dr Risendal is a Cancer Epidemiologist, holding the title of Assistant Professor in the Colorado School of Public Health, Department of Community and Behavioral Health. Dr Risendal is a Principal and Co-Investigator on a variety of breast and colorectal cancer research studies and involved in patient navigation efforts at the state and national level.

Benjamin Robison, MPH

Poster: Tri-County Health Department H1N1 Public/Private Vaccination Response, Fall 2009

Benjamin Robison is an Emergency Preparedness Planner with Tri-County Health Department (TCHD). He has a Masters in Public Health Administration with a concentration in crisis management and policy analysis. Prior to his work at TCHD, he served as an evaluator of the emergency preparedness and response program for the state of Colorado as a consultant with the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO). He has extensive experience in coalition building, political campaigning, and crisis communication. During the 2009 H1N1 vaccination campaign he worked as the Liaison Officer for TCHD, serving as the single point of contact for more than 150 individuals from nearly 75 agencies, organizations and entities.

Alyson Shupe, Ph.D.

Poster: Disparities in environmental health behaviors among Colorado adults and Emergency Preparedness in Colorado: Results from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and
The Association Between Health Related Behaviors in Adults and Children Living in the Same Household (by Ricky Tolliver)

Dr. Shupe earned her Master’s Degree in Social Work in 1989 and her Ph.D. in public health from the Johns Hopkins University in 1997. Dr. Shupe worked as the health planner for the Boulder County Health Department for four years where she provided technical assistance and training to health department staff and community groups around program planning, research, and evaluation. Since March of 2001, Dr. Shupe has been the Chief of the Health Statistics Section at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment where she provides scientific and management oversight of the Vital Statistics Unit, Maternal and Child Health Surveillance Unit, Survey Research Unit, and Public Health Informatics Unit.

Evette Simmons holds a bachelors and masters degree in psychology and has been involved in research since 1997. Most of her research efforts have been in academic research resulting in several publications in peer-reviewed psychology journals. Before moving to Colorado in 2007, she spent several years doing health care market research for businesses around the United States. At Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association she is currently serving as researcher for a HRSA Planning Grant and is also an outreach specialist for public health insurance programs as well as the local Client Assistance Program.

Chuck Smedly

Poster: Real-Time Public Health Partner Communications: 2009 H1N1 as a Continuous Quality Improvement Opportunity

Manager of Denver Public Health Preparedness Division past 6 years. Has been involved in Public Health in the City and County of Denver for 29 years.

Shelly Thiessen, B.S.

Poster: Central Colorado AHEC’s Pathway of Public Health Across the Generations

BS Health and Exercise Science Health Promotion concentration
Chris Torizzo, MPH

Poster: Kaiser Permanente’s Total Health and Productivity Program: Innovative Data Reporting and Strategies to Reduce Workforce Health Care Cost

Christina L. Torizzo, M.P.H. Chris has been working in the field of health and wellness for over a decade and specifically in worksite health promotion for five years. She has a B.A. in Psychology and Masters Degree in Public Health. Before joining Kaiser Permanente in 2009, Chris was the Worksite Coordinator for the Colorado Physical Activity and Nutrition (COPAN) Program at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. In this position Chris led the COPAN Program Worksite Task Force to plan, implement and evaluate strategies offering training, tools and funding to worksites state-wide. Chris also implemented the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment’s onsite worksite wellness program. Other experiences include working with the Metro Denver Health and Wellness Commission to design a worksite wellness strategic plan for the region, and working with the American Cancer Society to lay the groundwork for HealthLinks, a regional worksite wellness technical assistance program for small businesses. Chris is passionate about working with organizations to develop tailored wellness programs that inspire healthy behaviors and ultimately enhance the quality of life for employees.

Janine Vanderburg

Speaker: Leading & Volunteering to Build a Healthy Community

A lawyer, community activist and social entrepreneur, Janine Vanderburg is the founder and president of JVA Consulting (www.jvaconsulting.com), the leading research and consulting firm in the intermountain West focused on community and social change. Janine has extensive experience in starting nonprofits, developing policy and programs, coaching nonprofit leaders, and assisting government agencies and foundations in their work. She especially loves working with individuals who are passionate about making their corner of the universe a better place to be. Janine led the business planning of the public health organizations that came together to form the Public Health Alliance of Colorado, as well as its subsequent sustainability planning as well, and JVA has also worked with the Colorado Public Health Association and other county-based public health groups in the state. A frequent and engaging presenter, in the last year Janine has facilitated sessions at the conferences of the Alliance for Nonprofit Management, Social Enterprise Alliance, Grantmakers in Aging, National Association of Regional Councils, Council on Foundations, and numerous local and regional conferences. Janine has trained thousands of people across the country in creating sustainable organizations, creating new social enterprises,
social media and communications, and engaging others in your work.

Lisa VanRaemdonck, MPH, MSW

Speaker: One Fish in the Sea: What to Expect & How to Manage as an Attendee at APHA 2010 in Denver

Lisa VanRaemdonck has worked with CALPHO and the Public Health Alliance since 2008 and was recently hired as the Executive Director of both organizations. Her work focuses on building and improving state and local public health relationships, and supporting and building capacity of local public health agencies and workforce.

Adrienne Veyna, MPH

Poster: Evaluation of the Administration of Public Health 101 Training Course

Adrienne Veyna attended Colorado State University for her undergraduate degree. She recently received her Master’s in Public Health from the Colorado School of Public Health. Her practicum experience and capstone project with CSPH provided the information provided in this poster presentation. She was an intern with The Public Health Alliance from May 2009 - April 2010. Adrienne currently works as a Professional Research Assistant at The University of Colorado, Barbara Davis Center for Childhood Diabetes on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Katharine vonRueden, MPH

Poster: Health disparities in Colorado: What can we learn from geographic information systems?

Katharine Anne vonRueden is a 2010 MPH graduate from the Colorado School of Public Health, with a concentration in Epidemiology. She received her BA from the University of Notre Dame.

Kristina Wenzel, RN, MBA

Speaker: Health Care Policy 101

Center Director of the Central Colorado Area Health Education Center, working within the 11 counties surrounding and including Denver since 2002, and the incorporation of this not for profit organization. Holds UCD/ SON and SOM appointment. Programs within the center focus on students, community and partnerships to support the development of today’s and tomorrow’s health professionals, starting with
elementary school awareness through graduate program linkages. Likewise, our collaborations share the vision that Colorado residents in our region will have access to care because of our workforce development efforts for competent and culturally wise health professionals. Formal education preparation includes a Bachelors in Nursing from the College of St.Scholastica in Duluth Minnesota and a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix, Denver branch.

Janna West Kowalski, MS

Speaker: Training and Tools for Professional Development in Public Health

Janna received a Master of Science from Oregon State University’s Department of Public Health and a Bachelor of Science in Exercise and Sport Science from Colorado State University. Janna has over fifteen years of experience as a health educator in a variety of settings. She spent many of those years working in local public health coordinating policy and system change interventions in chronic disease and tobacco prevention and control. She is currently an Outreach Education Coordinator for the Center and is housed on the Colorado State University campus. Janna is responsible for providing professional education opportunities for Colorado’s public health workforce.