



COLORADO
PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

VISION: Create the healthiest Colorado for everyone

MISSION: Educate, develop and galvanize the Colorado public health community

www.coloradopublichealth.org



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Jason Vitello,
President



Greetings members and friends,

It has been an historic year for the Colorado Public Health Association as the following pages will attest. In 2021, as we faced down rampant misinformation and disinformation campaigns, anti-public health movements, political polarization, and the parallel pandemics of COVID-19 and endemic racism, I declared that Colorado needed an empowered, unified, and mobilized public health more than ever and CPHA has answered that call. What follows is a list of some of our 2021-2022 highlights:

- Established in 1938, CPHA is approaching 85 years representing Colorado's network of current and emerging public health professionals, organizations, and businesses
- With the assistance of our hired consultant, Dr. Genevieve Duran, CPHA has committed to a multi-tiered approach in integrating equitable and inclusive strategies into the fabric of the Association, Colorado public health, and the communities we serve
- The CPHA Board worked with leaders at the Colorado School of Public Health and the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment to bring both onboard as new organizational members. This unprecedented formal and strategic partnership will serve to bolster the collective power of the Colorado public health community
- CPHA partnered with community and activist organizations to raise awareness and advocacy around issues such as homelessness, criminalization of substance misuse, criminal justice reform, alternatives to policing, public health solutions for public safety, reproductive rights, gun violence, male mental health, etc.
- The Public Health Policy Committee is composed of leaders across the full spectrum of public health practice including students, researchers, public health advocates, clinicians, and retirees. The committee met monthly throughout 2022 and during the legislative session and hosted weekly huddles with the CPHA contract lobbyist.
- The Health Equity Coalition continues to thrive and expand its work. Founded in 2017, the HEC is comprised of individuals from across sectors and cultural backgrounds, committed to the advancement of equity and justice in our communities and the systems that serve them.
- Over the summer of 2022 CPHA and the HEC were key sponsors of the three-day Active Collective Trauma Summit, a convening of over 700 individuals designed to promote healing and the prevention of trauma within systemically neglected and excluded communities



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Jason Vitello,
President



- The Emerging Leaders Committee collaborated with more than 22 editors, artists, and authors to launch a new magazine that has reached over 14,700 people nationwide. RISE is dedicated to highlighting and connecting emerging leaders as they continue to rise in the field of public health.
- 165 attendees from across Colorado attended Public Health Day at the Capitol (February 2022) with presentations from Hunger Free Colorado, GroundFloor Media, Representative Chris Kennedy and senior health policy staff for Governor Polis, Elisabeth Arenales
- Our annual Public Health in Rockies Conference continues to garner attendance of 400-650 public health advocates from around the state. CPHA committees are busy preparing for the upcoming conference Sept 27-29, 2022. Kaye Bender, APHA President, will deliver the closing keynote
- The 2021 Public Health in the Rockies Conference was featured in the Journal of Public Health Management & Practice (September 2021), Executing an In-Person Conference During COVID19: Experiences from Colorado. [Click here to view](#)
- More than 204 participants attended CPHA's Culture of Data Conference, which took place during NPHW 2022 and featured a keynote, plenary, and 20 presentations. Keynote speaker, Dr. Ninez Ponce, highlighted the challenges and opportunities for public health to build equity-centered data systems. Dr. Djuana Harvell discussed the adaptations community health organizations made to better serve their communities during the pandemic, and the role that data played in community engagement and the response
- Senior Health Equity Director Kory Thomas and I have been working with the National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI) on their From Survive to Thrive – Project ECHO Series to help better equip public health practitioners with a community-centered, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive lens on a national scale
- CPHA Outside events had members out exploring and getting to know each other while staying active and having fun hiking, snowshoeing, stand up paddle boarding, geocaching, camping, and cruising around on urban bike tours in locations around Colorado
- In Summer 2022, CPHA held dedicated planning sessions to update its current strategic plan to accurately reflect its values and ongoing journey to become an Anti-Racist Organization.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Jason Vitello,
President



- CPHA Public Health Nursing (PHN) Section:

1. CPHA Board of Directors voted to merge CALPHO's CPHNL affiliate within CPHA PHN Section, ultimately increasing our statewide PH nursing presence and continuing to rebuild capacity to support PHNs statewide. Results of a CPHNL survey reported 70% of CPHNL members desire to merge with CPHA PHN Section and 88% would participate in and contribute to an organization that prioritizes addressing racism as a public health crisis. This merger will likely result in a 20% increase in membership and the creation of a nursing leaders' workgroup within the PHN Section.
2. PHN Section membership has increased > 200% over the past 18 months. Currently, 42% of our members represent rural Colorado counties and 8 of last 10 new members are nurses in rural public health departments.
3. Focused on supporting PHN initiatives that are trauma-informed and focused on wellness, joy, and resiliency. We've provided mindfulness training for public health nurses and offered a virtual nurses wellness bundle.

This is just an overview of our achievements, which are further detailed throughout this report, and evidence that while we still face significant threats to health and justice the Colorado public health community is well positioned to take them on. I would also like to note that CPHA is a standard-bearer with influence well beyond our state as we have provided advisement and guidance on DEI and anti-racism to APHA and several affiliates across the nation.

In closing, this is my final letter as President of CPHA. I would like to thank my fellow board members (unequivocally the most amazing and capable volunteer leaders I have ever served with) for their tireless efforts to "to educate, develop, and galvanize the Colorado public health community." I also want to say thanks to you – public health professionals, helpers, healers, change agents, and future leaders – for the continued support of our organization and service to Colorado communities. I began my CPHA leadership journey in 2016 as an activist and clinician with no formal training in the art and science of public health. Since then I have seen tremendous growth in our association, and in myself. It has been the honor of a lifetime to march alongside you all toward the realization of our vision to "create the healthiest Colorado for everyone."

Sincerely,

Jason Vitello, MSW
CPHA President



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Sarah Lampe,
Secretary



CPHA Board Meetings:

Formal motions passed during 2021-2022

Board Meeting September 2021

- **(Approved)** August 2021 Minutes

Board Meeting October 2021

- **(Approved)** September 2021 Minutes

Board Meeting November 2021

- **(Approved)** October 2021 Minutes
- **(Approved)** Approve the July, August and September 2021 Financials
- **(Approved)** Add Nima Chaudhary and Sara Miller to the bank accounts and keep Jason Vitello, Dot Miller and Heather Tune on the bank accounts.
- **(Approved)** Katherine Gelman and Kimberly Boyd from the FirstBank Checking and Savings accounts.

Board Meeting December 2021

- **(Approved)** November 2021 Minutes
- **(Approved)** To make The Solution contract whole by approving an additional \$5,000 to December payment.
- **(Approved)** Approve Mendez Barkis contract.
- **(Approved)** 2022 Budget.

Board Meeting January 2022

- **(Approved)** December 2021 Minutes

Urgent Protocol January 24, 2022 (Approved) Sign on Letter for the American Lung Association for the U.S. EPA's proposal to reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas industry

Board Meeting February 2022

- **(Approved)** Approve January 2022 Minutes
- **(Approved)** 2021 end of year financials
- **(Approved)** Support SB22-087

Urgent Protocol February 28, 2022 (Approved) Sign on Letter for Colorado Criminal Justice Reform: Making possession a felony exacerbates the overdose crisis and harms Coloradans, particularly low-income and people of color, who are hardest hit by criminal drug laws. Policy focus needs to shift to greater access to treatment and harm reduction supports, not a criminal record.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Sarah Lampe,
Secretary



Board Meeting March 2022

- **(Approved)** February 2022 Minutes

Urgent Protocol March 1, 2022 (Approved) CPHA registers a support position for the following bill

- HB22-1244 Public Protections From Toxic Air Contaminants

Urgent Protocol March 7, 2022 (Approved) CPHA registers a support position for the following bill

- HB22-1279 Reproductive Health Equity Act

Urgent Protocol March 18, 2022 (Approved) CPHA registers a support position for the following bills

- HB22-1278 Behavioral Health Administration
- HB22-1289 Health Benefits For Colorado Children And Pregnant Persons
- SB22-147 Behavioral Health-care Services For Children
- HB22-1287 Protections For Mobile Home Park Residents

Urgent Protocol March 18, 2022 (Approved) CPHA registers an oppose position for the following bill

- HB22-1238 Elected Officials Approve Epidemic Duties

Urgent Protocol March 28, 2022 (Approved) Sign on Letter To House and Senate L-HHS Appropriations Committee leaders in support of at least \$9.8 billion in discretionary HRSA funding in fiscal year 2023

Urgent Protocol March 28, 2022 (Approved) AAP sign-on letter from the medical, public health, and research community in support of \$50 million in federal gun violence prevention research funding to the CDC and NIH in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. After this critical research received flat funding in FY22

Board Meeting April 2022

- **(Approved)** March 2022 Minutes

Urgent Protocol April 4, 2022 (Approved) CPHA registers a support position on the following bills

- SB22-193 Air Quality Improvement Investments
- HB22-1348 Oversight Of Chemicals Used In Oil & Gas
- HB22-1345 Perfluoroalkyl And Polyfluoroalkyl Chemicals
- HB22-1358 Oversight Of Chemicals Used In Oil & Gas
- HB22-1304 State Grants Investments Local Affordable Housing



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Sarah Lampe,
Secretary



Board Meeting May 2022

(Approved) April 2022 Minutes

(Approved) Quarter 1 Financials

Special Election President-Elect Members of CPHA voted in a special election to appoint a new President Elect to serve out the remaining 2.5 years of the currently vacant position. The vote resulted in Juan Roberto Madrid winning the position.

Urgent Protocol June 24, 2022 (Approved) CPHA Press release on the Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade

Board Meeting July 2022

- **(Approved)** May 2022 Minutes
- **(Approved)** Infusion of Health Equity Coalition questions for the board nominations and elections including the use of branch logic for people applying for specific positions

Board Meeting August 2022

- **(Approved)** 2nd Quarter Financials
- **(Approved)** Merger of the Colorado Public Health Nursing Leaders (CPHNL) with the CPHA Public Health Nursing Section
- **(Approved)** Table the conversation [about the renaming of the CPHA Awards] with the agreement to let people at PHIR know we are considering changing the awards.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Sarah E. Miller,
Treasurer



The CPHA's financial position improved in the fiscal year 2021. This was achieved as we were able to re-engage in the revenue generating programs that were put on hold during the COVID pandemic and we did not spend in certain budget line items through the year.

The role of the CPHA Treasurer is to support the financial management of the organization by providing oversight and review of monthly financial statements, approving expense and reimbursement requests, providing budgetary support to committees, and supporting long term planning for the financial health of the organization. This role is supported by the CPHE Finance Committee, whose members work to review income and expenditures throughout the year and discuss fiscal strategy. In addition, the Treasurer reports to the CPHA Board of Directors with a quarterly financial report.

In 2022, our primary activities continued to focus on ensuring the financial stability of the organization during the ongoing COVID pandemic. As of June 2022, our net assets were \$259,734, as compared to \$250,451 at this same time in 2021.

Key accomplishments include:

- Developed and implemented a comprehensive training for all CPHA Board Membership on financial responsibilities and oversight;
- Incorporating a cash flow analysis into our financial review, to better understand when cash is needed for various activities throughout the year;
- Interviewing and selecting an investment firm, to implement our investment policy which was developed in 2021;
- Expanded the membership of the finance committee to include representatives from other committees of the organization;

Looking ahead, the finance committee will continue to work toward aligning financial goals with the broader CPHA Strategic Plan and exploring fund diversification opportunities.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Sarah E. Miller,
Treasurer



Below, we provide the 2021 financial data.

Financial Position

CPHA's net assets totaled \$241,074 on December 31, 2021. We started the 2021 fiscal year with a balance of \$198,223. We finished the 2021 year with an increase of \$42,852. The following chart illustrates comparisons from the previous two years. There were no liabilities at the end of 2021.

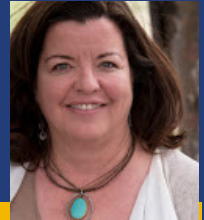
Assets	Dec 2021	Dec 2020	Dec 2019
Checking	\$41,065	\$162,611	\$201,220
Savings & Short Term Investments	\$200,009	\$35,612	\$35,606
Total	\$241,074	\$198,223	\$236,827





TREASURER'S REPORT

Sarah E. Miller,
Treasurer



CPHA 2021 Budget vs. Actual

At the start of 2021, we had budgeted a loss of \$34,623. We regained that loss and ended the year in a positive position of income of \$43,372.

Revenue Categories	Budgeted Revenue	Actual Revenue
Dues, Donations & Grants	\$35,350	\$40,911
Conferences and Special Events	\$197,020	\$226,231
Other Income	\$ 755	\$3,029
Total Income	\$233,125	\$270,171
Expense Categories	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses
Operating	\$23,020	\$6,679
Travel	\$4,200	\$ 0
Professional Fees	\$105,630	\$85,746
Conferences and Special Events	\$137,065	\$121,134
Other (Grants to Others, Membership Dues, Programs and Committees)	\$3,462	\$3,462
Business Expenses	\$9,754	\$9,778
Total Expenses	\$267,748	\$226,800
Net Income	-\$34,623	\$43,372



AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL (ARGC) REPORT

Tara Thomas-Gale,
Affiliate to ARGC



In addition to serving on the CPHA Board as an Executive Officer, the ARGC is a voting member of the American Public Health Association (APHA) Governing Council alongside 53 other Affiliates and Section leaders from around the country. The ARGC attended Governing Council at the annual and mid-year meetings (Oct 2021 and June 2022) where APHA's public health policy statements are adopted and Executive Board elections are held. More info at: <https://apha.org/Policies-and-Advocacy>

For 2020-22, the CPHA ARGC represents Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY) on APHA's Council of Affiliates and connects quarterly with affiliate partners to discuss topics relevant to public health professionals.

CPHA supported APHA federal legislative advocacy, signing on to 2021-22 letters of support, including:

- CDC Coalition letter to House and Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Committee leaders in support of at least \$11 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the FY2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.
- FY2023 Appropriations to provide \$35 million for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and \$25 million for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct public health research into firearm morbidity and mortality prevention.
- Joining American Lung Association sign-on for state and local organizations regarding the U.S. EPA's proposal to reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas industry.



AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL (ARGC) REPORT

Tara Thomas-Gale,
Affiliate to ARGC



National Public Health Week 2022

NPHW is an annual initiative of APHA and celebrated the first week of April annually. The purpose is to advocate on behalf of and highlight the breadth of the work of public health. To celebrate NPHW 2022, CPHA held or co-sponsored numerous events including:

- Culture of Data Conference
- Racism: A Public Health Crisis webinar
- Virtual DC "Hill" visits with the offices of Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper
- Mixer with the Colorado School of Public Health

Join us for next year's NPHW events, April 3-9, 2023!

APHA 2021 Conference

As the host state for APHA 2021 in Denver (Oct 24-27), CPHA was heavily involved with last years' conference. Board Members Robert Franklin and Jason Vitello partnered with the Community Health Planning and Policy Development Section to organize the annual Day of Action event and presented on CPHA's Journey to Become an Anti-racist Organization to a large audience of APHA attendees.

<https://www.thenationshealth.org/content/51/10/22>



CPHA members supported our APHA Expo exhibitor booth and represented our association at the Affiliate Awards Dinner where Kim Boyd (CPHA Past President) received the Council of Affiliates' Award for Excellence.
<https://www.thenationshealth.org/content/51/10/19.1>

National Public Health Week Mixer- opening remarks by President Jason Vitello



Molly Gutilla,
Senior Director

MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Kelsey
Robinson,
Associate
Director

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The Membership Committee serves as liaison between CPHA Members and the CPHA Board of Directors. The committee develops and implements strategies for recruitment and retention of members in the association, conducts regular surveys of our membership, and shares results with the Board of Directors along with recommendations and plans for increasing overall member engagement. The committee also engages in and supports organizational development activities such as press and public relations.

The Membership Committee continually works to grow CPHA's membership and to understand how to best represent and support our current members. Membership in CPHA supports a public health movement that advocates for and supports the public health profession as well as promotes the health of our communities. Over the last year, the Membership Committee updated CPHA's organizational membership structure and was successful in creating formal partnerships with the Colorado School of Public Health and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Additionally, the committee analyzed the results of the 2021 membership survey and brought recommendations to the board on how CPHA can best meet the needs and align with the values of our members. As a committee, we've also modernized our methods for gathering information about new and current members so that we can best understand the demographic makeup and important social identities of our membership to support our growth as an inclusive and anti-racist organization.

In the coming years, this committee will continue forward with the important work of expanding our membership, fostering new organizational partnerships, continuing to learn about our members and their values, and using that information to support meaningful engagement with public health professionals in Colorado.





COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Jessica Murison,
Senior Director



This year, the CPHA Communications team has worked to increase CPHA's visibility with our members and the public, promote networking and connection among our members, and provide an avenue of dialogue in the public health space.

As the world continued to move through uncertain protocols, the CPHA Communications team continued to provide support in sharing events, news and important updates related to CPHA and Public Health in Colorado with our membership. Many of the messaging was carried over from years past, including supporting the Culture of Data and Public Health in the Rockies conferences, celebrating National Public Health Week, and supporting the other committees on the Colorado Public Health Association.

The Communications and Membership Committees continued to coordinate on organizational membership, messaging to the membership of CPHA, and aligning strategies to best serve our members. We worked to put the Membership survey results into practice this year. Lastly, we worked to continue to engage membership in our newsletter, sharing resources, events, job opportunities, and other items for our membership.

We look forward to this next year and the opportunities it will bring to continue connecting with our members in new and meaningful ways.



Kory Thomas,
Director



HEALTH EQUITY COALITION REPORT

The 2021/2022 term of the Health Equity Coalition (HEC) of the Colorado Public Health Association (CPHA) was an ongoing opportunity to build infrastructure required for statewide engagement and recommending policy and practice changes within CPHA. The Coalition continued to operate virtually with some integration of on-land engagements. This was the fifth year of operating for the Coalition; there has been an ongoing tone of celebration in coming together, even as we navigate challenges of capacity to engage in sustainable equity work.

An overview of the Coalition's workgroups are as follows:

Infrastructure Workgroup: Led in partnership by Gillian Grant, Kory Thomas, and Suzuho Shimasaki. This team further developed and documented how the HEC operates and is governed. They have supported important infrastructure that supports the operations of the coalition including processes for engaging Trusted Community Leaders that prioritize language justice, providing recommendations to CPHA to update the board nomination form to be more accessible and equitable, offering an onboarding process for folks interested in the coalition through a regular orientation offering and many more behind the scene details. The workgroup continues to partner with each of the other HEC workgroups to help them establish a charter and solidify a direction of work.





Kory Thomas,
Director



HEALTH EQUITY COALITION REPORT

Professional Development Workgroup: Led in partnership by Sedona Allen Moreno, Kat Kowalski, and Charlotte Gray. This team put on a total of 5 webinars between 2021–2022, most of which can be found linked on our [Youtube channel](#). The topics of these webinars include mental health, substance misuse prevention, environmental justice, COVID resiliency, housing equity, and more. This workgroup shifted their focus from the webinar series to support [ACT](#) - Active Collective Trauma Summit, and became official members of the planning committee. The purpose for this was to elevate powerful efforts already happening, and work collectively across sectors, rather than compartmentalized. As a part of this role, the Professional Development Workgroup has helped connect the HEC to the ACT Summit in various ways. The Coalition has had a table presence and active HEC representatives at the summit, recruiting new members and making connections. We funded a live digital recorder, who cultivated a moving piece of artwork that can be used as qualitative data and a training tool that eloquently captured Day 3 of the ACT Summit. See the ARTifact here. Moving forward, we will support the REACT series and provide ongoing collaboration and support for the ACT Summit. We plan to continue to reflect on how the Professional Development Workgroup can best serve the HEC members in building their capacity in health equity, providing tools, knowledge, and empowerment! We are planning to re-evaluate the feedback we've received, be strategic and inclusive about future webinars, and continue our partnership with the Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center.

Community Engagement and Outreach Workgroup: This workgroup lost most of its momentum through the challenges the collective field and was vacant for most of the year. At the annual retreat, the Coalition focused on this area as an opportunity to build more intentional strategy. Three key objectives were defined:

- Identify Trusted Community Leaders
- Amplify current health equity work taking place across Colorado and beyond
- Identify funding opportunities to compensate community leaders
- Deploy an equity centered compensation model

Since the retreat, the Coalition has engaged in several prospective funding conversations and has secured funding for multiple Trusted Community Leaders to share the equity work they are leading as a part of a national conversation around Equity in Action through the National Network of Public Health Institutes.



Kory Thomas,
Director



HEALTH EQUITY COALITION REPORT

While the community engagement and outreach workgroup has not had formal leadership this past year, Stephanie Salazar-Rodriguez and Sedona Allen Moreno have remained committed leaders in community engagement and have co-led an outreach initiative to amplify and celebrate the current equity working taking place in Summit County as CPHA's host for Public Health in the Rockies.

Health Equity Coalition Youth Engagement Efforts: The HEC has supported youth engagement efforts in various ways. We are being intentional about how we can support young leaders in getting connected to the coalition and other opportunities and resources (such as Project Voyce, Groundwork Denver, and others.) The HEC has led by example, showing how we can elevate authentic relationships and funding to ensure youth-led work can continue on without institutional barriers. An example of this is when EYE For Prevention ran into a last-minute barrier, which would have negatively impacted or postponed their #EYESurvive PhotoVoice Expo, due to the funding of the event being unapproved because it was not under the correct budget line item. With the big event being only two days away, EYE For Prevention facilitator, Sedona A. Moreno, reached out to Kory Thomas, a trusted adult within the HEC, to support funding the event. This created a reciprocal relationship that has now led to the Youth Leaders receiving training from the HEC, and partnering on the community engagement event in Summit county. We were able to utilize funding from the HEC in a dire situation, and we were able to pay them back, and even increase the funds, to expand our current partnership.

This shows how we can use our power to create our own systems that truly uplift equity, youth/community led-work, and authentic partnerships. This type of strategic support relied on having an equity lens, pre-established trust, and reciprocity. The result of this is learning through doing, and a powerful partnership that will support a game-changing event for Public Health in the Rockies (read more about this below).





Kory Thomas,
Director



HEALTH EQUITY COALITION REPORT

Working to be an Anti-Racist Organization

Amended with Permission – Executive Summary

Ducks in a Row Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Genene L. Duran

December 2020, the Colorado Public Health Association (CPHA) developed a Release For Proposals (RFP) to solicit responses of consulting firms to create a plan and execute on its goal of becoming an Anti-Racist Organization. The CPHA Executive Committee sought to engage and partner with a consultant in building a plan to address the myriad of activities, programs and initiatives necessary to mitigate the biased, oppressive and racist forces existing within the Association and the communities the Association serves. The Executive Committee also hoped that the consultant would assess current organizational practices and strategies, recommend strategic and structural changes, provide training and other operational and technical guidance and solutions.

In response to the RFP, Ducks in a Row proposed a multi-tiered approach to integrating equitable and inclusive strategies into the fabric of Colorado Public Health Association. From February 2020 through March 2021, CPHA leaders and Ducks in a Row worked to forge an inclusive environment in which identifying the social and economic forces that deter inclusive organizations from thriving were examined and interrogated. The culturally responsive techniques provided throughout the scope of work were designed to enhance interactions with CPHA leaders, members and the communities the Association serves. Association leadership worked with Ducks in a Row to build a foundation of learning about the concepts of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and how to use equity-based frameworks to drive outcomes and experiences.

The contracted work consisted of:

- Training and facilitated learning sessions
 - Fundamental Concepts for Understanding Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
 - Coded Language, Communication, and Cultural Competence
 - Types of Racism and Oppression
 - Social Determinants of Health/Health Equity/Health Disparities
 - Developing an Equity Lens (CPHA Board)
 - Use of language while collecting demographic data, during board recruitment
 - Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis two (2) separate sessions
 - Members of the CPHA Board
 - CPHA membership



Kory Thomas,
Director



HEALTH EQUITY COALITION REPORT

Training workshops focused on beginning a learning and development journey to develop skills to integrate anti-racist techniques into policies, practices, and systems, by changing and challenging daily interactions with colleagues, impacted communities, and clients. Those skills include and are not limited to approaches for building inclusive environments and identifying how implicit racial biases create systemic inequity within the construct of social determinants of health. CPHA board and organizational members began the development of a conscious understanding of how systemic racism, coded language, and power reinforce systemic inequity within public health and healthcare.

The SWOT Analysis promotes the use of racial equity data collection in order to assess CPHA membership readiness toward the organization's enduring goal to be an antiracist organization. As such, the SWOT Analysis examined individual opinions of operationalizing anti-racist work, and the implications of collecting qualitative and quantitative data about the experiences, attitudes, and beliefs of the membership in relation to the organization's current state and desired future state.

The CPHA Board was encouraged to install a set of equity decision-making tools to identify how decisions can promote racially equitable outcomes and address inequity for people who belong to historically and systemically marginalized communities. In addition to the decision-making tool, the Board was introduced to a process to address unintended consequences of policies and facets of the built environment that do not center anti-racist themes and work.





Heather Weir,
Senior Director



Carol
Schmitt,
Associate
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE ROCKIES (PHIR) REPORT

I write this as we are in the home stretch of planning for the 2022 Public Health in the Rockies (PHiR) conference in Keystone, CO, September 27 - 29, 2022. Looking back over the past year, I am overwhelmed with gratitude. The 2021 Public Health in the Rockies conference was a major success and was highlighted in the [Journal of Public Health Management and Practice \(Sept. 2021\)](#). We celebrated our Public Health HEROS (you!) joyfully, in person. In the face of public health's most daunting challenge in a century, you served (and continue to serve) Colorado communities with grace and hard work. Because of you, our communities are healthier and continue the journey to health equity.



Our conference theme this year is Public Health: Forging Forward Together. One definition of forging is to create, and that can mean creating new relationships or new conditions. Whether it be planning a conference or figuring out how our public health system moves forward, we are creating and learning together. Sometimes, however, the way we create something is closer to the second definition of forging, where we create that new shape by heating and beating metal. This is certainly not a smooth or easy process! In the end, what we create through that process is greater and stronger than the plain metal piece we started with. PHiR is one way that CPHA creates the space for public health practitioners and our partners to come together, learn, and think about what is possible.





Heather Weir,
Senior Director



Carol
Schmitt,
Associate
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE ROCKIES (PHIR) REPORT

We are looking forward to the 2022 PHiR Conference, where there will be over 160 different sessions and more than 300 speakers. Two incredible keynote speakers will motivate us and help us reflect on what is and what can be as we forge forward together. Our opening keynote speaker, Jannah Bierens, will inspire all with her talk, “Rooted, Resisting, and Revolutionary: Why Radical Public Health is the Realist Path Forward” and Kaye Bender, APHA President, our closing keynote speaker, will refocus us toward “Putting the U Back in Public Health”. There will be a Plenary Session as well with 5 Colorado public health leaders who will share their insights on important and emerging public health issues. The Plenary Session is also an opportunity for attendees to engage with the panel. We will continue “walking the talk” with wellness sessions and have added even more ways to engage, relax, rejuvenate and learn. We thank our amazing sponsors and exhibitors—their contributions help make this conference possible.

A huge thank you to the PHiR Planning Committee, Dot Miller and Rachel Massman (and the incredible team at The Solution), and the CPHA Board for all they do to make PHiR a truly incredible event!





Julia Simhai,
Senior Director

CULTURE OF DATA REPORT



Allison
Rosenthal,
Associate
Director

CPHA was proud to bring the Culture of Data conference back for a second year in a virtual format. The Culture of Data conference is designed to strengthen the use of data to support the CPHA vision of creating the healthiest Colorado for everyone by:

- Highlighting data sources and methodologies to identify and measure health disparities and inequities.
- Sharing innovative practices that promote partnership between community members and public health to make data accessible, meaningful, and actionable.
- Cultivating relationships and partnerships among conference attendees including data owners, practitioners, and policymakers both in public health and related sectors.

This year's conference theme was *Public Health: Recovery, Resilience, and Imagining a New Beginning*, and sought to explore how public health can redefine itself after the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, implement lessons learned during the pandemic, and identify priorities for the years ahead.

The conference, which was held April 7-8, 2022 in conjunction with APHA's National Public Health Week, spanned two half days and covered a range of topics and dynamic presentations related to the theme. The conference began on Thursday with a presentation from Dr. Ninez Ponce, a professor in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, and principal investigator for the California Health Interview Survey. She spoke about building more resilient public health data systems that are authentic, accessible, and action-oriented. Dr. Ponce laid out a vision for a stronger data system grounded in health equity, which energized attendees for the remainder of the conference.

Dr. Ninez Ponce



Friday morning Dr. Djuana Harvell, Director of Special & Innovative Projects of be well Health & Wellness Initiative in Denver, talked about approaches to community engagement during the pandemic and lessons learned, and how communities can lead efforts and drive change to advance health equity.



Dr. Djuana Harvell



Julia Simhai,
Senior Director

CULTURE OF DATA REPORT



Allison
Rosenthal,
Associate
Director



There were more than 15 breakout presentations throughout the rest of the conference and two Walk and Learn sessions that gave attendees a chance to learn by listening while they got away from their computer for a walk or other activity. We were thrilled that the number of conference attendees increased from last year, with more than 200 attendees from across Colorado as well as other states.

Thank you to all our attendees and sponsors for making this another great event! We hope to see you again in April 2023!





Allie Howe,
Senior Director



Ellen
Stern,
Associate
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY REPORT

The CPHA Public Health Policy Committee is composed of leaders across the full spectrum of public health practice including students, researchers, public health advocates, clinicians, and retirees. The committee met monthly throughout 2022 and during the legislative session, the committee hosted huddles with the CPHA contract lobbyist. The Committee was tasked with:

- Conducting the annual Membership Policy Priority Survey.
- Writing the Annual Policy Platform.
- Liaising with Mendez Barkis, the CPHA Lobbying Firm at the State Capitol
- Determining bills to actively lobby that aligned with the Policy Platform.
- Monitoring priority bills and developing action alerts for the membership.
 - CPHA sent 4 action alerts to the membership on high priority public health advocacy issues.
- Organizing testimony on behalf of CPHA and sending letters to lawmakers on behalf of CPHA's membership.
 - CPHA members testified at the legislature 7 times on behalf of the organization.
 - CPHA sent 5 letters to lawmakers on relevant committees about our position on proposed legislation.
- Planning Public Health Day at the Capitol and advocacy skill building opportunities.
 - 165 attendees from across Colorado attended Public Health Day at the Capitol with presentations from Hunger Free Colorado, GroundFloor Media, Rep. Chris Kennedy and senior health policy staff for Governor Polis, Elisabeth Arenales.
- Organizing two meetings with both U.S. Senate offices to discuss federal public health policy priorities.
- Partnering with the American Public Health Association to review and evaluate proposed policy position statements.

The Membership Policy Priority Survey was distributed to all CPHA members in fall 2021 with **240 members participating**. The results were closely aligned with the CPHA Strategic Plan, American Public Health Association (APHA) priorities, and outreach with the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO). The resulting 2022 Policy Platform was shared with Colorado legislators and partner organizations.



Allie Howe,
Senior Director



Ellen
Stern,
Associate
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY REPORT

The issues supported in the 2022 Policy Platform include:

- Actively promote anti-racism and support policies that dismantle structural racism in criminal justice, healthcare access, education and housing.
- Create the healthiest Colorado through policies that support affordable housing, climate change, behavioral health access, immunization and vaccine-preventable disease, and maternal-child health.
- Strengthen Colorado’s public health organization and the public health workforce through state budgetary policy and infrastructure funding, formal support for diversifying the public health workforce and formal support for the rural health workforce including training programs and loan forgiveness.

The committee advised the board to ratify their decision to support the following bills:

Bill Number	Title	Status
SB22-087	Healthy Meals for All Public School Students	Postponed Indefinitely
SB22-99	Sealing Criminal Records	Signed by the Governor
SB22-147	Behavioral Health-care Services For Children	Signed by the Governor
SB22-193	Air Quality Improvement Investments	Signed by the Governor
SB22-226	Programs to Support Healthcare Workforce	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1055	Sales Tax Exemption Essential Hygiene Products	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1064	Prohibit Flavored Tobacco Regulate Synthetic Nicotine	Postponed Indefinitely
HB22-1131	Reduce Justice-Involvement for Young Children	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1243	School Security and School Behavioral Health Services Funding	Signed by the Governor



Allie Howe,
Senior Director



Ellen
Stern,
Associate
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY REPORT

HB22-1244	Public Protections From Toxic Air Contaminants	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1267	Culturally Relevant Training Health Professionals	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1268	Medicaid Mental Health Reimbursement Rates Report	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1279	Reproductive Health Equity Act	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1289	(Cover all Coloradans) Health Benefits For Colorado Children And Pregnant Persons	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1117	Use Of Local Lodging Tax Revenue	Signed by the Governor
HB 22-1348	Oversight of Chemicals Used in Oil and Gas	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1345	Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Chemicals	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1304	State Grants Investments Local Affordable Housing	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1380	Critical Services for Low-income Households	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1389	Financial Literacy Exchange Program	Signed by the Governor



Allie Howe,
Senior Director

PUBLIC HEALTH
POLICY REPORT



Ellen
Stern,
Associate
Director

The committee advised the board to ratify their decision to oppose the following bills:

Bill Number	Title	Status
HB22-1100	Prohibit Discrimination COVID-19 Vaccine Status	Postponed Indefinitely
HB22-1015	Off-label Use Of Approved Drugs To Treat COVID-19	Postponed Indefinitely
HB22-1144	Naturally Acquired Immunity COVID-19	Postponed Indefinitely
HB22-1326	Fentanyl Accountability and Prevention	Signed by the Governor
HB22-1238	Elected Officials Approve Epidemic Duties	Postponed Indefinitely

It was a successful year for the Policy Committee. This strong and active committee looks forward to building our advocacy influence with lawmakers in the year ahead, fostering successful policies that can promote anti-racism, create the healthiest Colorado by focusing on the social determinants of health, and strengthening the public health infrastructure.



Angela Fellers LeMire,
Senior Director

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SECTION REPORT



Dawn
James,
Associate
Director

The Public Health Nurse Section of CPHA promotes and advocates for Colorado public health nurses by increasing networking opportunities and enhancing the practice and safety of public health nursing. The PHN Section has prioritized incorporating trauma-informed principles into its work initiatives throughout 2022 to address trauma, compassion fatigue, and burnout in public health nurses.

The Public Health Nurse Section 2022 Accomplishments include:

- Creating a bimonthly newsletter as an additional form of communication for the PHN Section.
- Providing 9 scholarships for public health nurses to attend public health and nursing leadership conferences.
- Providing CPHA membership scholarships for three new public health nurses.
- Increasing CPHA PHN Section membership by over 200% in 2022 with a large majority of new members living and working in rural counties outside of the Denver Metro area.
- Conducting monthly meetings on topics relevant to public health nurses and bringing in subject matter experts to discuss topics such as trauma-informed care, nursing loan repayment opportunities, public health residency programs, Colorado's new primary care provider directory, and Monkeypox.
- Providing wellness activities at no-cost for Colorado public health nurses. Wellness activities included a Nurses Inspire Nurses June Wellness Bundle, Mindfulness for Public Health Nurses Wellness Workshop with Binderful CEO, Merrick Weaver, and free yoga classes at Park Hill Yoga (available via Zoom for PHNs outside of the Denver area).
- Development of the Colorado Public Health Nurses Orientation Toolkit, including an evaluation component to assist with continuous quality improvement.
- Raising over \$8,000 in donations for the PHiR Conference Silent Auction.
- Becoming an affiliate of the Colorado Nurses Association and an affiliate of the Association of Public Health Nurses.
- Developing a statewide Professional Scopes of Practice in Public Health Toolkit to assist public health professionals in understanding public health roles and responsibilities through legal and competency lens.
- Merging with the CALPHO CPHNL affiliate to provide Colorado public health nurse leaders a place within CPHA to focus on nursing leadership and policy efforts.
- Submitting documentation to the CPHA Board to move from a CPHA section to a CPHA affiliate.



Lisa Peters,
Senior Director

EMERGING LEADERS REPORT



Samantha
Bertomen,
Associate
Director



Emerging Leaders hosting a
volunteer day with Denver Urban
Gardens, June 2022

The Emerging Leaders Committee (ELC) is actively united in CPHA’s efforts to create the healthiest Colorado by collaborating with students and early careerists. Over the past year, ELC has been wholeheartedly committed to building an engaged community centered on offering valuable opportunities for career development, forming genuine connections, and creating an equipped, robust group. These commitments have driven ELC to a successful year where we offered 7 volunteer and outdoor activities, 2 networking mixers, and 6 skill-building workshops. From October 2021 through August 2022, ELC had over 350 event attendees, of which 2 out of every 7 became CPHA members.



Networking Event, November 2021
at the Posner Center for
International Development

In addition to offering relevant events, Emerging Leaders also partnered and collaborated with students and young professionals in public health. We had 8 members take on leadership roles within ELC, contributing through the coordination of a transgender health equity panel, intentionally measuring CPHA demographics, and more. Our Health Equity Delegate, Halley Pucker, exclaims, “ELC ended up being everything I had hoped for and more! **I was able to meet some truly amazing and dedicated individuals who wanted to make public health in Colorado more open, welcoming, and inclusive for all.** Every single person on ELC brought a different expertise and perspective to the room, and all were valued by every member. I certainly consider my time on ELC to be some of the most rewarding of the time I’ve spent so far in my first year in the world of public health.”



Lisa Peters,
Senior Director

EMERGING LEADERS REPORT



Samantha
Bertomen,
Associate
Director

Over the past year, emerging leaders in public health have stepped up across Colorado. This is why we launched RISE, a magazine designed to highlight, encourage, and connect emerging leaders as we all continue to rise in this field. We have united editors, artists, academics, researchers, authors, and public health champions to uplift those who are building the future of public health. ELC collaborated with over 22 students and early careerists to create a magazine that has reached over 14,700 people nationwide.

With over 84 organizations represented by our committee, ELC has provided a broad array of engagement, learning, and networking opportunities to build a public health movement. Throughout the 2021-22 Board, ELC has made great strides, but we are looking forward to even more movement next year. We have already planned a Colorado Healthcare Mixer on September 8th, as a collaborative initiative with other health-forward professional organizations in our field. To follow more Emerging Leaders updates, we encourage you to join our email list:

<https://cpha.memberclicks.net/elc-mailing-list#!/>





COLORADO
PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

VISION: Create the healthiest Colorado for everyone

MISSION: Educate, develop and galvanize the Colorado public health community

www.coloradopublichealth.org