

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

COMING INTO



TWO YEARS AGO, WE PUT FORWARD OUR PLAN FOR PURSUING HEALTH EQUITY IN COLORADO.

We imagined a health care system that breaks out of the four walls of the clinic and partners with community to focus on the things that matter the most for health, such as good jobs and safe, affordable housing. We encouraged deep, courageous, ongoing conversations about the root causes of health inequities, like racism and poverty. And, we called for high-quality, affordable health coverage for all who call Colorado home—most especially immigrants.

In 2018, we refined and refocused our existing efforts, launched projects, and built essential infrastructure across the state. We also strengthened our community organizing strategy, striving to center grassroots voices and power in all that we do. We continue to adapt to more fully live our values. The journey has only just begun, and the work ahead is still coming into focus, but we are clear on our goal!



Spring 2019

To our community—our members, neighbors, donors, and partners:

In my experience, the strongest organizations have a clear sense of both what they're working toward and what they believe in. At Center for Health Progress, we have well-articulated goals and programmatic outcomes, and more importantly, we are extremely clear on our values and beliefs. We have a steadfast commitment to health equity—a central component of which is racial equity—and a fundamental belief that access to health care should be a right and not a privilege. We also believe **change happens most effectively when affected community members come together to articulate their needs and collective vision to a group of decision makers who have been primed to listen and are willing to be held accountable.**

Over the past year, we've made changes to bring our programs and resources more closely in line with these beliefs. We're not fully there, but we're making progress. Together with all of you, we're building a powerful movement for health equity. We hope you'll join us (and bring a friend)!

In solidarity,

Joe Sammen, Executive Director



TOP:

Joe Sammen,
Executive Director

MIDDLE:

Latinx Advocacy
Day at the Capitol



BOTTOM:

Staff learning
about Human-
Centered Design

Although our work takes many forms, it largely falls into one of two categories: **efforts that are part of a specific campaign** with a strategic health equity goal, and **efforts that are broadly developing infrastructure and leaders** so Colorado can achieve health equity.

In 2018, the majority of our campaign resources were focused on immigrant health, with a goal of building power in immigrant communities and among allies in order to launch a coverage campaign in the coming years. To that end, we've brought together immigrants and advocates at various tables around the state to promote legislation that supports immigrant health, safety, and well-being. Our other campaign work in 2018 was focused on community organizing in Pueblo and Fort Morgan, which has situated us to build local campaigns in each community in 2019.



SPOTLIGHT: IMMIGRANT HEALTH CAMPAIGN

WHEREVER YOU COME FROM, WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE, AND THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM NEEDS TO WORK FOR YOU.

Having health coverage makes a big difference in being able to access health care. We aim to get immigrants of all documentation statuses access to health coverage. On the road to that goal, we are changing policies to enhance the safety and well-being of immigrant communities, building alliances of advocates that will work alongside communities to achieve bold goals, and engaging community members in leadership opportunities.

2018 EFFORTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- We lead the Coalition for Immigrant Health, which unites health advocates, health care providers, and immigrant rights activists to change policies to improve immigrant health. As part of a broad effort, this group **passed a bill to expand access to driver's licenses** for immigrants without documentation.
- We continue to convene the Morgan Health Connectors, a group of immigrant women in Fort Morgan who are organizing for change in their community and across Colorado. They **mobilized to submit their comments in opposition to the public charge rule change** proposed by the federal government, which could severely threaten the health and security of immigrant families.
- We fought for public policy that increases the safety and well-being of immigrant communities. We **increased access to dialysis for uninsured (and primarily immigrant) Coloradans** by convincing the state to change coverage rules (implemented Feb. 2019), and **defeated bills that discouraged immigrants without documentation from residing in Colorado** and penalized pro-immigrant politicians for any crimes committed by immigrants.

Our health equity infrastructure and leadership development strategies were robust last year. We conducted educational activities, formed fruitful partnerships, and changed narratives around health and health care across the state.

Our public commentary on health and racial equity issues continued to gain traction, illustrated by the record number of articles and publications our words and work appeared in. We spoke out on new (to us) issues, too, including taxes, reproductive health, and federal immigration policies. DeRay Mckesson, a civil rights activist, headlined our annual luncheon.

Over the summer, we transitioned out of our role convening the Colorado Network of Health Alliances to make space for projects aligned with our new direction, including our newest initiative: EquityLab. A year-long leadership development program, EquityLab is supporting health system leaders in their health equity journey, from early learning to implementation of organizational changes.



Health & Wellness Fair
in Fort Morgan





SPOTLIGHT: WAITING FOR HEALTH EQUITY

Waiting for Health Equity is a graphic novel that we released in 2017 to help start conversations about racism, sexism, and other root causes of health inequities.

2018 EFFORTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The graphic novel was **read by over 5,000 people** across the country
- We completed **15 presentations to nearly 400 people** across Colorado
 - Results: **20% increase in understanding of oppression** and **27% increase in feeling equipped to take action toward health equity**

Lastly, we used a lot of our time and resources in 2018 to continue our internal transformation efforts. We had regular consultations with and feedback from equity consultants to identify and address the ways we were unintentionally causing harm through our own organizational culture, policies, and processes. There is much to be done still, but we get closer to living our values each day!

FINANCIALS

\$696,936 net assets were released. Year-end net liabilities & assets were \$844,319. Audited financials will be available in the fall of 2019.

INCOME

Grants & Contracts	\$963,283
Members & Donors	\$114,111
Events	\$72,453
Fees, Interest, & Misc.	\$3,937

EXPENSES

Programs	\$873,477
Administration	\$191,113
Fundraising	\$119,120

INVESTING PARTNERS



MAJOR DONORS

- ▣ **Champions:**
2018 giving \$1,000+
- ⚙ **Champions Circle:**
lifetime giving \$5,000+

- Mary Greer ⚙ ▣
- Bruce Madison, MD ⚙ ▣
- Garry Schalla ▣
- Edie Sonn ▣
- Gary VanderArk, MD ⚙
- Chris Watney ▣

