

GET BACK TO LOOKING FORWARD.



HEALTHIER™
COLORADO



FEATURING A
3D COVER +
3D EASTER EGGS



THE FUND FOR A
HEALTHIER
COLORADO



COLORADO'S
HEALTH
CAPITOL



HEALTHY AIR &
WATER COLORADO



OPEN™
ANSWER



THE ARCHER
GROUP™

Dear Reader,

Optimism, many now tell me, can only be the product of ignorance. How can you look ahead with positivity when we're all about to drown in the waters of melted glaciers, or when democracy is on life support, or when AI is about to create a Terminator dystopia? My answer: September 23, 1962. This is the date on which the first episode of *The Jetsons* aired on television. Here are the headlines from the *New York Times* on that date:

- "Pentagon Weighs Expanding Forces to Avoid Call Ups: McNamara Views World Situation as Worst Since Korean War"
- "Military Insurgents Win Battle for Buenos Aires; Jets and Tanks Rake City"
- "New Fight Erupts on Tibet Border"
- "Nkrumah Declares Ghana Emergency: Terrorists Hunted"

A skeptical reader might point out that these are all headlines about conventional war, while we are now facing existential questions. However, about three weeks after *The Jetsons* premiered, we also entered the Cuban Missile Crisis, bringing us as close to global nuclear annihilation as we had ever been.

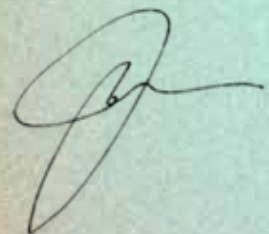
The Jetsons was an animated sitcom set in the future that primarily followed the lives of an eponymous family. In this version of the future, life is leisurely. The father, George Jetson, works an hour a day, two days a week. Manual chores are now completed with the touch of a button or a request issued to the family's robot, Rosie. They all live in Orbit City, in which they fly to their destinations in aerocars.

Orbit City's architecture is googie, a style that was popular in the American real world at the time. It was characterized by "soft" parallelograms, upward sloped roofs and starbursts – think of the iconic "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign. The style was meant to invoke an optimistic future in which regular people would get to enjoy the developments of the space age advancements that were afoot.

We are much healthier and more prosperous than we were 63 years ago, and I think we'll be better off in 2088 than we are now. We're not in a fantastical straight shot to utopia – there will be obstacles, and progress will be uneven. After all, even Orbit City had to be built on tall columns above the clouds to avoid the pollution of their world's past mistakes. But just like in the world of *The Jetsons*, we can choose to build something better.

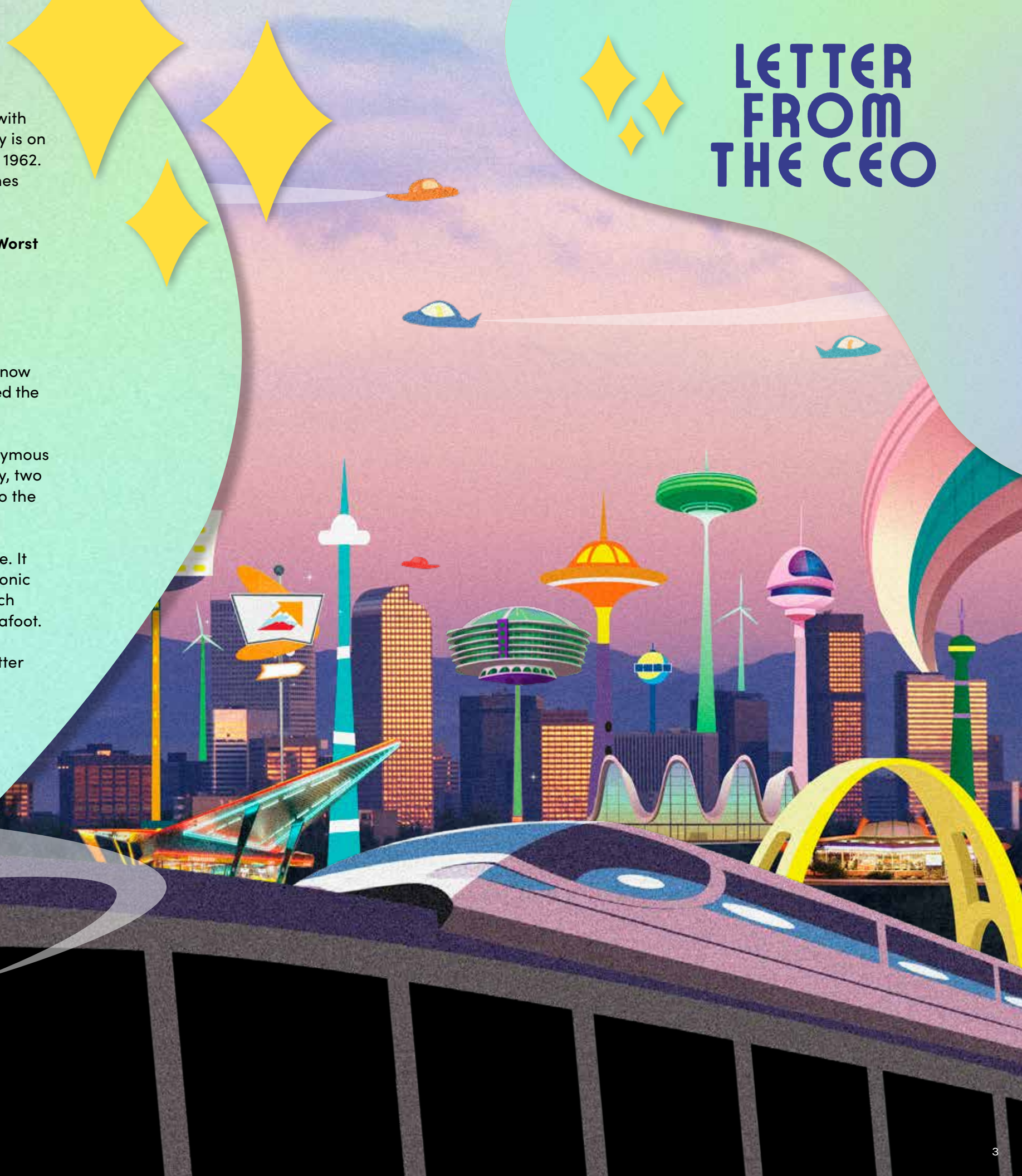
Here in the Healthier family of organizations, we've made that choice. We invite you to join us in getting back to looking forward – *because* the future isn't just something that will happen to us, it's something that will happen because of us. Let's go.

Sincerely,



Jake Williams
CEO, Healthier Colorado

LETTER FROM THE CEO



The HEALTHIER COLORADO FAMILY



Over the years, Healthier Colorado has grown, changed, and evolved into the entity and family of organizations we are today. Our journey began with a simple vision: *imagining an optimistic future where every Coloradan has a fair chance at living a healthy life.*

Represented by our signature orange arrow, we fired up our engines and launched ourselves towards the future we envisioned. As our mission started taking shape, we realized we needed the right set of tools to achieve what we set out to do. Today, the Healthier Colorado family is made up of six organizations working on a variety of issues including health, climate, elevating the voices of our communities, helping other mission-aligned non-profits, and more.



Healthier Colorado, a 501(c)(4) non-profit, launched with the mission of raising the voices of Coloradans in the public policy process to improve the health of our state's residents.



Healthier Colorado's 501(c)(3) arm, **The Fund for a Healthier Colorado (TFHC)**, widened the possibilities and reach of our work to educate decision-makers and reach new communities across the state's 64 counties.



Healthy Air and Water Colorado (HAWC), our first official sister organization, was created to address the growing health of climate change to our health.



Colorado's Health Capitol was launched in 2021 to create a space where a community of mission-driven organizations could gather to work and exchange ideas.



Open Answer was born as a community outreach organization dedicated to raising the voices of everyday people, meeting them at their door step and on the street. They now operate in Colorado and North Carolina.



THE ARCHER GROUP™

Now, we are excited to publicly launch **The Archer Group**, our newest sister organization. Launched in 2024, The Archer Group's mission is to bring peace of mind to nonprofit entities by supporting them with accounting and administrative services.



Our

Mission

Healthier Colorado is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to raising the voices of Coloradans in the public policy process to improve the health of our state's residents.

WE BELIEVE THAT EVERY COLORADAN SHOULD HAVE A FAIR CHANCE AT LIVING A HEALTHY LIFE.

The people of Colorado are our constituency, and Healthier Colorado aims to make meaningful improvements throughout our state's diverse communities. Our intent is to do more than educate and advocate — we want to drive action, real change, and impact.

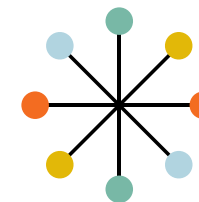
OUR FOCUS AREAS

Every Coloradan should have the opportunity to live a healthy life, regardless of race, income, geography, disability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation. Health is a state of physical, mental, and social well-being. As a result, we focus on these components in our work across the state. These are the three interconnected areas in which we seek to improve the health and well-being of all Coloradans.



PHYSICAL HEALTH

Physical health refers to the well-being of an individual's body. This looks different for every Coloradan, and the ideal physical health for one person may not be the same for another. To maintain physical health, we seek to ensure that everybody has access to quality, affordable health care, as well as the other resources required for physical health, including access to nutritious food, oral health services, and spaces for physical activity.



MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is the condition of someone's psychological or emotional well-being. An essential part of living a healthy life, mental health affects how we think, feel and act. To positively advance mental health, we seek to ensure that everybody has access to quality, affordable mental health services, such as counseling and treatment for substance use. Our work also focuses on fostering environments in communities —including in schools— that support mental health.



SOCIAL HEALTH

Social health refers to the ability of everybody in a community having an equal opportunity to attain well-being. Factors including racism, income, geography, disability, gender, gender identity and sexual orientation can be barriers to this opportunity. These factors can block access to essential elements of health and well-being, including safe and affordable housing, a quality education, legal justice, and access to healthcare. We seek to break down these barriers in order to give everybody a chance at living a healthy life.

**ARE YOU FEELING
GOOGIE YET?**



BETTER WITH 3D GLASSES





At the start of this year's Legislative Session, the only certainty was that Healthier Colorado was committed to supporting the health and well-being of all Coloradans, regardless of obstacles we may encounter along the way. This year presented a unique challenge for Colorado: there was a \$1.2 billion shortfall in our state budget. This meant we would have to come up with creative ways to find legislative solutions to the state's most pressing health issues in such a tough fiscal environment.

Fast forward through five months of hard work, extensive advocacy, and perseverance, we successfully passed all three of our priority legislative bills.

HB25-1002: Establishing Fair Standards in Mental Health Care

Appropriate mental health treatment should be decided by a doctor, not an insurance company. HB 1002 ensures access to mental health care for Coloradans across the state by making it harder for private insurance companies to deny coverage for the mental health benefits people are already paying for through their premiums. By establishing a standard definition of "medical necessity," this bill ensures all Coloradans can access the doctor-prescribed care they need, when they need it.

SB25-017: Strengthening Early Childhood Health and Well-being

We accomplished a significant win for early childhood health and well-being in Colorado by strengthening HealthySteps, an existing program with a proven track record of success serving thousands of children across the state. HealthySteps meets young children and their families where they are to ensure their healthy development and equip them with the supports they need to lead healthy lives.

SB25-290: Stabilizing Colorado's Health Care Safety Net

In the midst of Colorado's Medicaid disenrollment crisis, we spearheaded a bipartisan effort to stabilize Colorado's health care safety net. Think about the health care providers in your neighborhood: primary care clinics, rural hospitals, etc. This bill prevented them from having to shut down by investing \$130 million state and private dollars over five years, with the potential to grow to more than \$200 million through federal matching. SB 290 saves hundreds of thousands of low-income and uninsured patients from being left without health care.

PILA AND STATEWIDE BALLOT INITIATIVES

Partnerships in Local Advocacy (PiLA) is our commitment to local communities. We believe in the power of local solutions to solve local problems. To us, this means supporting policy changes that come from the communities themselves – typically in the form of ballot measure campaigns.

We recognize that there is often a resource gap between a good idea and winning a campaign, and this is where Healthier Colorado can help – PiLA is our way of financially supporting bold, innovative local campaigns that embody the optimistic, forward-looking vision Healthier Colorado is all about.

While not all of the local ballot initiatives we supported this year were successful, we know that building capacity among local advocates is an investment that strengthens the health of our communities well beyond any single campaign.



Healing Denver – Yes on 2Q

Denver Health is facing a funding crisis that threatens essential care and programs, putting vital services at risk. 2Q strengthens Denver Health's ability to provide health care and address violence, homelessness, food insecurity, and mental health through a sales tax.



Affordable Denver – Yes on 2R

Teachers, nurses, and firefighters in Denver are being priced out of their neighborhoods due to a shortage in affordable housing. Ballot measure 2R would have increased access to accessible housing through a sales tax.



Housing in Adams County – Yes on 1A

Measure 1A would have helped stabilize the housing crisis in Adams County by building more starter homes, condos, and apartments through a sales tax.



Pueblo School District 70 – Yes on 4A

Sewage water is contaminating Pueblo County High School's water supply. 4A would have raised funds through a mill levy to fix the sewage problem, make roof replacements, install fire alarms in nine schools, and more.



Child Care for La Plata – Yes on 1A

Proposition 1A allocates 70% of the existing lodging tax to support affordable child care in La Plata County, without increasing taxes.



Ute Pass Health Services District – Yes on 7A1

7A1 creates a one-cent sales tax (excluding groceries and medicine) to keep the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system running in Ute Pass.



Affordable Child Care and Housing in Grand County – Yes on 1A

Proposition 1A funds housing and child care for people living and working in the community by raising Grand County's lodging tax from 1.8% to 2%.



HEALTHIER COLORADO
ATTENDING THE
LAUNCH OF THE YES
ON 2Q CAMPAIGN



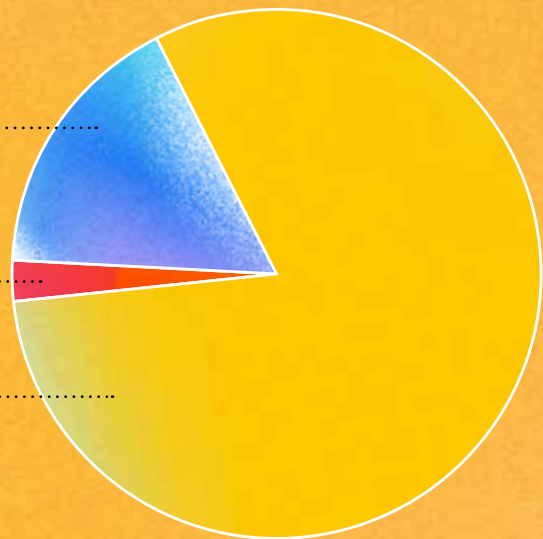
FINANCIALS

EXPENSES

Management and General
16.5%

Fundraising
2.5%

Program
81%



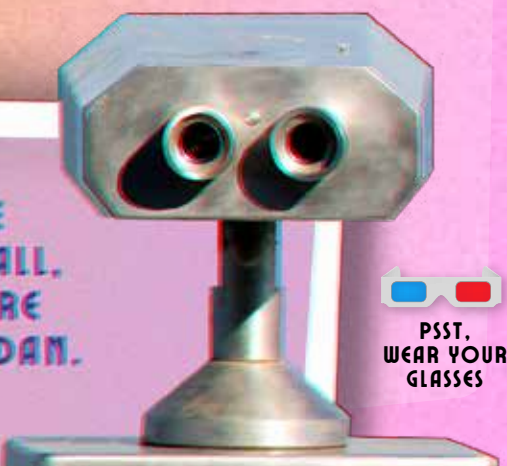
REVENUE

Donations	\$	594,723.00
Contract	\$	4,518,260.00
Rental	\$	-
Miscellaneous	\$	1,098,999.00
Total Revenue	\$	6,211,982.00

EXPENSES

Program	\$	5,382,945.00
Management and General	\$	1,098,463.00
Fundraising	\$	162,629.00
Total Expenses	\$	6,644,037.00
Change in Net Assets	\$	(432,055.00)

JUST AS GOOGIE ENVISIONED A FUTURE
WHERE INNOVATION WAS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL,
WE'RE WORKING TOWARD A FUTURE WHERE
HEALTH IS ACCESSIBLE FOR EVERY COLORADAN.



STAFF,
HEALTHIER COLORADO

(as of September 2025)

ADRIANA HIDALGO
Executive Vice President

ALEX BOIAN
Executive Director,
Healthy Air and Water
Colorado (HAWC)

ALEXIS ALLTOP
Policy Manager

CHRISTINA WALKER
Senior Director of Policy

ERIKA BODOR
Development Director

JAKE WILLIAMS
Chief Executive Officer

JASON CASTRO
Senior Director of Finance
and Accounting,
The Archer Group



JAYME SHARKEY
Operations and Accounting
Manager, The Archer Group

MARY KATE MORR
Director of Communications

LEO YÁÑEZ
Digital Communications
Specialist

MEGHANN JORDAN
Administrative Assistant,
The Archer Group

MICHA STONE
Community Director,
Colorado's Health Capitol

DO YOU
FOLLOW US ON
SOCIAL MEDIA YET?

HealthierCo
 Healthier Colorado
 Healthier Colorado

LEADERSHIP,
HEALTHIER COLORADO

(as of September 2025)

BRIGITTE MCCLELLAN, PSYD
Licensed Clinical Psychologist
Children's Hospital Colorado

CARRY HAUFFMAN
Founder and CEO
WellSelf 360

CRYSTAL POTTER RIVERA
(VICE CHAIR)

COURTNEY CUFF
Founder & CEO
Starburst Strategies

DANIEL RAMOS

GWEN BENEVENTO
Of Counsel
West Group (formerly
Maven Law Group)

JAKE SWANTON
Vice President of State Policy
& External Affairs
Fathom

JAYSON SIME (CHAIR)
Senior Advisor to the State Network
America Votes

JOHN MARSHALL
President
Colorado Mesa University

KARL NIESCHBURG
Compliance Officer
Prowers Medical Center

MIKE DINO
Senior Policy Advisor
Squire Patton Boggs, LLP

HEALTHY AIR AND WATER COLORADO

ADVOCATES
IN THE NEWS

Healthy Air and Water Colorado's mission is to protect and improve public health by advancing policy solutions to the climate crisis. HAWC mobilizes health professionals and partners to educate, advocate, and lead on policies that address the root causes of climate-related health threats.

PROTECTING HEALTH IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

This year, Colorado's climate sector faced unprecedented challenges – and powerful opportunities. As hotter summers, extreme weather, and pollution threats continue to grow, so does the urgency to protect public health from climate harms. In 2025, Healthy Air and Water Colorado (HAWC) continued to step up as a leading advocate and trusted convener, working at the intersection of health, policy, and community power.

NEW LEADERSHIP FOR A CRITICAL MOMENT

In February, we welcomed our new Executive Director, Alex Boian, whose deep roots in local, state, and federal advocacy and collaborative leadership style have brought fresh energy to our mission. Under his guidance, we've sharpened our focus on the communities most impacted by climate change and expanded our work with health professionals and decision-makers statewide.

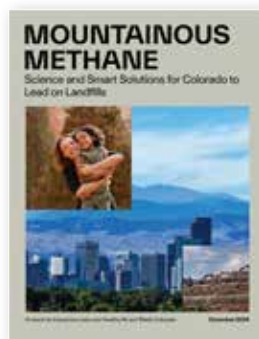
"We know that climate solutions must start with protecting people's health. Our work has never been more important – or more urgent." – Alex Boian

DRIVING STRONGER RULES FOR HEALTH

Policy change doesn't stop at the Capitol. This year, HAWC and our health advocates showed up at the table to shape critical rulemakings, ensuring that public health remains at the forefront of climate solutions. The work continues! Here are some of the key rulemakings we have been working on:

Landfill Methane

In Colorado and nationwide, solid waste landfills are hidden drivers of climate pollution. They emit large amounts of methane, a potent greenhouse gas that worsens air quality, extreme weather, and threats to vital resources. Landfills also release harmful pollutants like nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide that directly impact nearby communities' health.



HAWC partnered with Industrious Labs to release *Mountainous Methane: Science and Smart Solutions for Colorado to Lead on Landfills*, highlighting the problem and practical fixes. Our health advocates, Drs. Nikita Habermehl and Robin Richard, have been key voices in shaping new

landfill methane rules and will keep pushing for strong protections as the regulation moves forward.

Priority Air Toxics

The best way to address the health threats posed by climate change is to measure them. That's why the State of Colorado took a huge step in identifying five "priority air toxics," which will be used to monitor, evaluate, and take action on air pollution. Building on our 2020 win to raise the maximum fines for air and water pollution violations, HAWC advocates worked to ensure the first five priority air toxics are those that have the most detrimental impact on our health, and we will continue to engage in establishing health-based standards to promote cleaner air for communities across the state.

Protecting Workers from Extreme Temperatures

Extreme heat and cold put workers' health and safety at risk, causing illnesses like heat exhaustion and heat stroke, lowering productivity, and increasing accidents. The Extreme Temperatures Colorado coalition introduced nation-leading protections this year; though the bill didn't pass, we remain committed to advancing policies that safeguard workers and build climate resilience. Our advocates also provided public comment on a federal rule currently under consideration by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to protect workers from extreme heat.

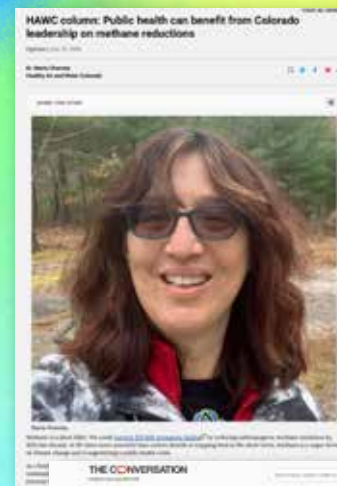
PUEBLO XCEL COMANCHE 3 JUST TRANSITION

Xcel Energy, Colorado's largest utility, is scheduled to decommission and replace the Comanche 3 coal plant in Pueblo – the state's single largest climate pollution source – by 2031. HAWC is an official intervener in the proceedings before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC), urging decision-makers to consider the public health impacts of possible new gas-fired power plants as part of the state's energy resource planning to continue our progress toward a clean energy future.

When we make energy decisions without considering public health, we all pay the price – especially kids, seniors, and those with chronic health conditions. By putting health at the center of Colorado's energy future, we can build a system that's not just clean but safe and just for everyone.



Post Independent:
Public health can benefit from Colorado leadership on methane reductions by Dr. Maria Chansky



The Conversation:
Colorado is tackling air pollution in vulnerable neighborhoods by regulating 5 air toxics



Colorado Newline:
Protecting public health should be nonpartisan by Dr. Sara Carpenter



The Colorado Sun:
Colorado landfills generate as much dirty air as driving 1 million cars for a year



PUT THEM ON



Open Answer connects campaigns, candidates, and organizations with the communities they wish to engage through a series of tactics, ranging from face-to-face fundraising to door-to-door Get Out The Vote (GOTV) efforts, and everything in between.

This past year was filled with growth, not just in numbers, but in the strength, resilience, and commitment of our team. 2024 reaffirmed that when we invest in people, progress follows. As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond, we're not just sticking to our roots; we're moving with renewed purpose, powered by the very people who brought us here.



NEW STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Trish Hyde,
Project Manager -
Colorado Open Answer

In 2024, we welcomed 678 hourly canvassers, campus organizers, and GOTV leaders across both states. In North Carolina, we built a team that laid the groundwork and established a cohort of dedicated team members for future campaigns.

And in Colorado, as we continue to lead diverse, year-round initiatives, we expanded our leadership by bringing on a dedicated Project Director, Trish Hyde, to guide and grow our work. Every hire brought us one step closer to the future we're building together.

BY THE NUMBERS

COLORADO:

116,698
doors knocked during
the election season

30,000+
conversations with voters
during the general election

13
projects in 2024

4
complete projects
in 2025*
*as of August 2025



NORTH CAROLINA:

182,300
doors knocked during the
general election

47,000+
conversations with voters

6
clients in 2024



MEETING FUTURE NEEDS

In 2024, Open Answer expanded its offerings to better support mission-driven organizations, positioning ourselves to meet both current and future needs. In North Carolina, during the high-stakes 2024 election, we stepped up to take on the often-overwhelming administrative and HR responsibilities for canvassing programs. This allowed our clients to focus on what they do best, engaging with voters, while we became the employee of record for over 700 canvassers in the state.

While our core strength remains high-quality vended canvassing for allied organizations, issue campaigns, and candidates – our bread and butter – we're excited about the expansion of services we introduced last year. As we look ahead, we're continuing to build and refine new ways to meet our clients' evolving needs and ensure we're ready for whatever challenges the future holds.

As we step into a new chapter, Open Answer Mobilize (OAM), our 501(c)(3) arm, continues to deepen its impact by listening to and lifting up the voices of disproportionately impacted communities across the Denver Metro Area. Our current work is paving the way for smarter, more compassionate policy because true progress begins with community.

- In partnership with Healthy Air and Water Colorado (HAWC), OAM is leading two community-centered survey projects focused on the growing threat of extreme heat. By gathering insights directly from residents, we're helping shape local and statewide policy recommendations that respond to the real climate challenges families are already facing.
- We're also partnering with The Fund for a Healthier Colorado and The Colorado Gives Foundation to launch another survey project in Jefferson County focused on food security. At a time when federal SNAP benefits are being drastically cut, this work is critical to ensuring that no family in Colorado is left without access to basic nutrition.

These projects reflect what OAM was built to do: center community voices, transform lived experience into advocacy, and ensure the people most affected by policy are also those who shape it.

STAFF, OPEN ANSWER

(as of September 2025)

TRISH HYDE
Project Director,
Colorado

SYLVIE LERNER
Managing Director,
Colorado

TAYLER MICKENS
Field and Operation Director,
North Carolina

KATE STIGBERG
Executive Director

MARÍA JOSE TAMINEZ BORDA
Operations Manager



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

 [openanswer / openanswer.nc](https://www.instagram.com/openanswer)

COLORADO'S HEALTH CAPITOL

Colorado's Health Capitol (CHC) is home to nonprofit organizations that elevate the well-being of people in our state and serves as a beacon to attract needed attention to Colorado's health. We collaborate and leverage collective resources that strengthen each organization's ability to accomplish its respective mission. Together, we make an even bigger impact on improving mental, physical, social, and economic health in communities across Colorado.

BY THE NUMBERS

15
unique advocacy or volunteer training events hosted by tenant organizations.

10
tenant organizations hosted legislative events celebrating the start of the 2025 legislative session.

Home to
37
organizations,

3
Community Access Program organizations, and

15
CHC unique advocacy or volunteer training events where led and hosted by tenant organizations.

300
community members.

OTHER 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

- CHC invested in tech upgrades in four out of seven meeting rooms on the floor, improving the connectivity and stability of the conference center for tenants as well as outside rentals.
- Networking events hosted at CHC this year focused on social and community-building events, as well as tenant-hosted training workshops, happy hours, or receptions.
- CHC celebrated community holiday mixers, which included a Halloween costume party and chili cook-off, a Thanksgiving potluck, and a Christmas potluck with cookie decorating.

COMMUNITY DIRECTOR,
MICA STONE,
WITH POPPY, NEWEST
ADDITION TO HER FAMILY
AND THE CHC TEAM.

CHC TENANT DIRECTORY

- America Votes
- The Bell Policy Center
- Bicycle Colorado + Denver Streets Partnership
- Centennial State Prosperity
- Chronic Care Collaborative
- Collective Clean Energy Fund
- Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)
- Colorado Academy of Family Physicians
- Colorado Consumer Health Initiative
- Colorado Democracy Alliance
- Colorado Nurses Association
- Colorado Pharmacists Society
- Community Resource Center
- Connect for Health Colorado
- Conservation Colorado
- Energy Outreach Colorado
- Family Voices Colorado
- Front Range Area Health Education Center
- Healthy Air and Water Colorado (HAWC)
- Healthier Colorado
- Inseparable
- Keystone Policy Center
- Mental Health Colorado
- ONE Colorado
- Open Answer
- Prime Health
- Second Wind Fund
- The Archer Group
- Towards Justice
- Voces Unidas de las Montañas
- Young Invincibles

COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM ORGANIZATIONS

- Colorado Council of Black Nurses, Inc.
- Denver - Rocky Mountain Association of Black Psychologists
- Expunge Colorado

THE ARCHER GROUP

As the newest addition to the Healthier Colorado family, The Archer Group's mission is to bring organization and peace of mind to nonprofit entities by supporting them with accounting and administrative services. We pride ourselves on being good at helping others do good.

In 2024, we continued to grow our roster of nonprofit partners. In total, we served 18 nonprofit clients on either an ongoing or short-term project basis. These partnerships ranged from small nonprofits with just one employee to a project with over 500 seasonal employees.

NONPROFIT PARTNER FEATURE: CHRONICALLY INFORMED

We were honored to begin working with Chronically Informed in 2024. This nonprofit serves chronically ill patients and their caregivers by showcasing videos that share success stories and practical techniques for navigating the medical system. Chronically Informed approached us just before Colorado Gives Day, a keystone fundraising event for virtually all nonprofit organizations in Colorado, and we were able to quickly get them set up with the infrastructure necessary to receive tax-deductible donations. Learn more about their work at chronicallyinformed.org.

ENHANCING TECHNOLOGY & UPGRADING SYSTEMS

One of The Archer Group's top initial priorities was to assess the needs and capabilities of all existing systems and processes within the Healthier Colorado family of brands. This engagement marked a milestone for Healthier Colorado as the first time the organization consolidated all finance and operations functions internally. With a focus on enhancing systems and processes, the team initiated a transition of all accounting activities to Sage Intacct.

Adopting this advanced accounting platform will streamline the recording and management of not only Healthier Colorado's complex transactions, but also those of all the nonprofit partners we serve. Additionally, the new system will automate various procedures, enabling more comprehensive and timely reporting and thereby supporting our partners in making more informed and strategic financial and operational decisions.

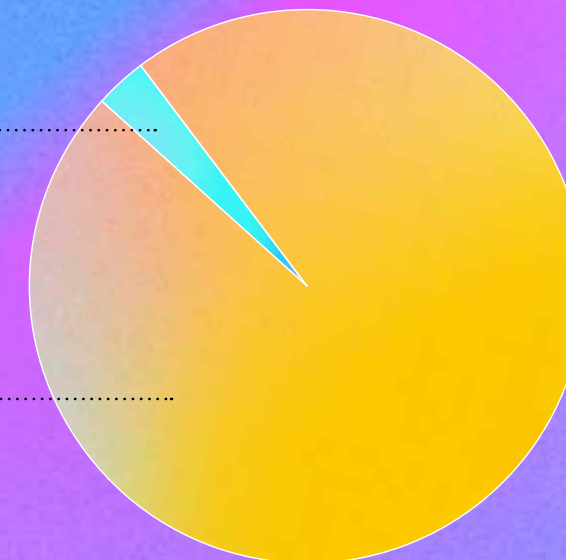


FINANCIALS

EXPENSES

Administrative.....
2.9%

Program
97.1%



REVENUE

Donations and Grants	\$	557,613.00
Contract Revenues	\$	360,655.00
Miscellaneous	\$	27,304.00
Total Revenue	\$	945,571.00

EXPENSES

Administrative	\$	13,617.00
Program	\$	463,007.53
Fundraising	\$	-
Total Expenses	\$	476,624.53
Change in Net Assets	\$	468,946.94



THE FUND FOR A HEALTHIER COLORADO

The Fund for a Healthier Colorado (TFHC), founded in 2015, is Healthier Colorado's 501(c)(3) sister organization that uniquely works across a wide range of health and well-being issues. TFHC makes a difference across all 64 counties in Colorado through research and policy development, voter contact and education, outreach to our communities, advocacy trainings, and decision maker education.

A PARADIGM SHIFT IN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF SUICIDE

The United States has the highest rate of suicide among wealthy nations. In Colorado alone, suicide was the 8th leading cause of death in 2021. While suicide is often understood as the result of a prolonged struggle with mental illness, research

shows that suicidal crises can rapidly escalate within hours, or even minutes. This phenomenon is known as acute suicidality.

Motivated and energized by the Acute Suicidality Convening we hosted last year, we released Issue Paper on Acute Suicidality: An Urgent Need for Systemic Change to

bring attention to this underrecognized issue. The issue paper covers our learnings from the convening, presents a literature review around the phenomenon of acute suicidality, and lays out actionable recommendations for next steps.

BRIGHT FUTURES SURVEY – CHILDCARE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ALL

In 2024, TFHC partnered with the Colorado Gives Foundation and our sister organization, Open Answer, to interview parents and child care providers in Jefferson County. Altogether, we received nearly 1,000 surveys, which helped us inform our work to create meaningful policy change.

The results of these surveys led to the release of a Parent Survey Report and Provider Survey Report, both with policy recommendations and next steps. Additionally, our team produced two testimony reports outlining the experiences of parents and providers, as well as a series of videos highlighting providers' stories across Jefferson County.

MAMA'S FUN RUN, OUR FIRST ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY 5K!

In 2025, we teamed up with our friends at Fleet Feet Cherry Creek, ON Running, and local health and wellness partners to host our first Mother's Day 5K! We were so happy to see our Healthier Colorado community come together to celebrate all the mamas on their special day and advocate for a healthier, better state for all!



A GOOGLE EVENING: BELIEVE IN BETTER 2025

On June 12, 2025, we celebrated Healthier Colorado's biggest night of the year, Believe in Better. This year was like no other, as the sentiment of envisioning a future full of possibilities that inspired this very report you're reading right now also inspired this event: "Believe in Better: Getting Back to Looking Forward".

Guests came dressed as a blast from the past to celebrate our accomplishments and the future we're forging, where health is accessible for every Coloradan. It was an incredible evening where we connected as a community and awarded a handful of legislators who fought alongside us this 2025 Legislative Session to advance our health priorities at the Colorado State Legislature.



THE FUND FOR A HEALTHIER COLORADO LEADERSHIP

(as of September 2025)

MEG LAFAUE

Chief Human Resources Officer
Unified Women's Healthcare

MIKE DINO (BOARD CHAIR)

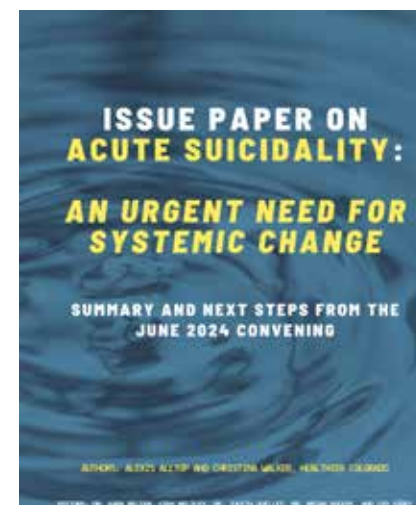
Senior Policy Advisor
Squire Patton Boggs, LLP

ORLANDO PADILLA JR., MA., LPC

Executive Director
Denver Shelters & Clinical Services at Catholic Charities

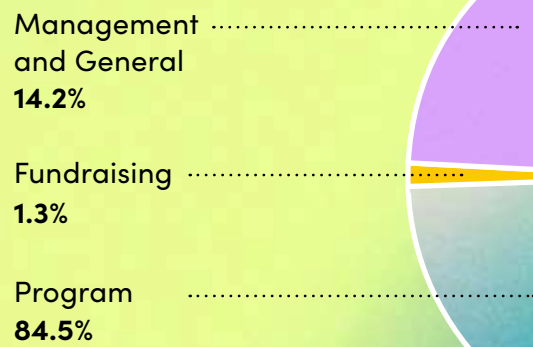
RACHEL HAYGI

Political Advisor



FINANCIALS

EXPENSES



REVENUE

Donations	\$	1,924,444.00
Contract	\$	563,400.00
Rental	\$	1,254,804.00
Miscellaneous	\$	-
Total Revenue	\$	3,742,648.00

EXPENSES

Program	\$	2,091,605.00
Management and General	\$	351,081.00
Fundraising	\$	33,356.00
Total Expenses	\$	2,476,042.00
Change in Net Assets	\$	1,266,603.00

WOODEN TEETH
PODCAST IS BACK!



In case you didn't know, WE HAVE A PODCAST!
Wooden Teeth is Healthier Colorado's podcast that launched in 2018 with the mission of shining a light on the American political process and its effect on people's health.

This year, we made some major upgrades! Not only did we launch a video version of the podcast on YouTube, but we also started releasing episodes monthly, every 4th Tuesday.

BUT WHAT'S WITH THE WOODEN TEETH?

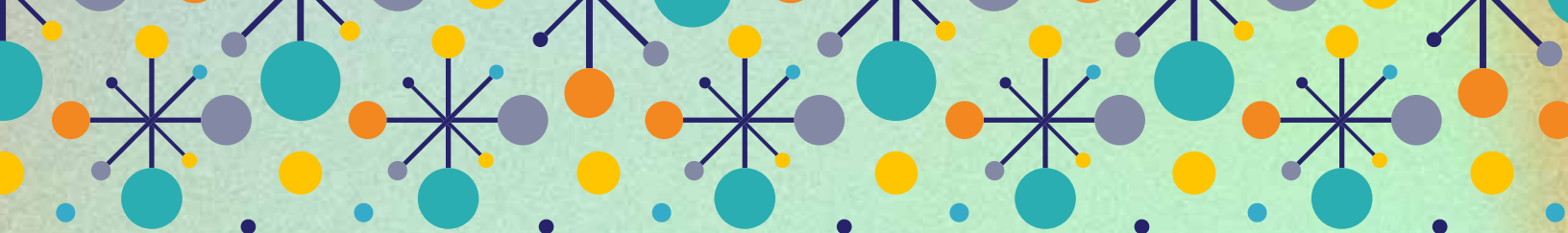
There's a good chance you were lied to about George Washington's teeth. He definitely had replacement chompers, but they absolutely weren't made out of wood. Myths like this one are common, and they often obscure an important truth – such as how George Washington's dentures included teeth from animals and possibly slaves.

We're called 'Wooden Teeth' because we go beyond myths and assumptions.

The Wooden Teeth Podcast is the show about truth-telling in politics and health.

Check us out on our website at woodenteethshow.com, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, YouTube, or wherever you listen to podcasts!





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