

Lorez Meinhold

Senior Policy Director

1800 Glenarm Pl, Suite 503 | Denver, CO, 80202 | 970.513.5847 |
lmeinhold@keystone.org



More than 17 years of health care policy experience as a director of multi-lateral initiatives involving the public, private, and civic sectors, working at the local, state, and national levels.

Experience with a broad range of stakeholder engagement formats includes public engagement processes and community meetings, advisory committees, and stakeholder dialogues to inform policy. Participants encompass state, local and national government agencies, business, advocacy organizations, community members and leaders, academia, providers, insurers, elected officials, foundations, professional associations, research entities, local public health entities, and individual subject matter experts.

Worked across the health, education, human services, economic development and information technology sectors topics including: aging and disability, early childhood development, health impact assessments and community benefit, maternal and child health, 2Gen/ multigenerational, health equity, coverage, information-sharing and connectedness, marijuana labeling and best practices, marketplaces and insurance reform, mental health and substance abuse, oral health, supported employment, tobacco prevention, housing, and food access and security.

Project Highlights

Education

Led by Keystone Policy Center, the **Colorado Educator Preparation Innovation Coalition (CO-EduPIC)** is a collaborative effort that brings together stakeholders involved with the training, employment and support of new teachers together with educators, experts in the field, government leaders and business leaders to explore ways in which the teacher pipeline could be expanded and improved with attention to specific areas of need including diversity of the workforce and the differing needs of urban, suburban and rural schools. The Coalition has developed four pilots that inform practice going forward. Lorez serves as the Project Director.

Worked with the **Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE)** to facilitate a stakeholder engagement and public input process that informed decisions on the development of the state higher education funding formula that is both transparent and understandable for Colorado taxpayers. Keystone conducted key informant interviews and stakeholder meetings in 16 communities in less than a month with over 400 attendees. Keystone and its partner provided all support as well as content for these meetings. In addition, Keystone served as an advisor and facilitator for meetings of the Executive Advisory Group and the Funding Allocation Model Expert Team. This work of Keystone ensured that CDHE developed a recommendation of a new base funding formula to allocate state general fund dollars among the state's public institutions of higher education. Keystone will be working with CDHE to develop presentations to the SMART and the Joint Budget Committees of the Colorado State Legislature. Lorez served as the Project Director.

Early Childhood

Working with the **Colorado Alliance for School Health** to develop working principles, criteria, and development of a set of policy recommendations and action plan for advancing the Alliance's goals of creating sustainable systems that result in health equity among all Colorado students.

Worked with **Gary Community Investments** to address the gap between the mental health needs of young children and the services available for them. Keystone conducted an assessment by interviewing individuals involved in or interested in being involved in the area of workforce development and training for professionals in early childhood education and mental health services. The project identified efforts underway in Colorado and other states. Conversations focused on Colorado's early childhood mental health workforce needs related to competencies;

pipeline development in Colorado, including identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement; the mental health endorsement; and promising practices. Presented the findings and facilitated a meeting of key stakeholders in early childhood and maternal mental health to refine the findings and develop a framework for future investments.

Worked with the **Rose Community Foundation** to develop a strategic plan for investments and work in early childhood mental health. This project includes working with key foundation staff, health and child and family development committee members, community leaders, and private donors to identify opportunities at a learning retreat and beyond to establish strategies on policy, collaboration, and funding (August 2014- present).

Partnered with **The Alliance for Early Success** to develop a Birth through Eight State Health Policy Framework – a roadmap to improve the health, learning, and economic outcomes for vulnerable young children. This project included working with key state and national experts and funders to identify key opportunities on issues that improve the healthy development and learning outcomes for kids as well as bring together health and early childhood communities. Lorez led the facilitation and planning of a meeting to establish strategies including policy direction, partnering ideas, and new ways to fund in this area with an emphasis on social determinants, health equity and social capital (January 2014 – May 2014).

Served as a Senior Advisor on early childhood to the **Clinton Global Initiative America (CGIA)** at its two annual meetings in Denver (2014 and 2015) and its meeting in Atlanta in 2016.

Aging

Serving as project manager for the legislatively created **Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging**. Colorado, which boasts one of the fastest-growing aging populations in the United States, is collaborative working to prepare for the needs of the state's growing aging population. The Planning Group is working to project the effects this demographic shift will have on the economy, workforce, businesses, market based products and services; state and local revenue budgets and fiscal policies; Medicaid and other safety-net programs and the collateral impact on other unrelated state programs; family caregiving and public and private options for long-term care, services and support; federal entitlement reforms; and transportation services and infrastructure. Colorado's strategic planning process, which Keystone is helping lead, is a model for other states to anticipate needs of aging populations. Serves as the Project Director.

Worked with the **Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE)** to produce a Healthy Aging Plan. Older adults are a vital part of Colorado's urban, rural, and tribal communities. Their experiences, knowledge, and continuing contributions are assets to our state and communities alike. This Plan provides five key areas of focus and aims to make measurable improvements for older Coloradans. The plan was developed with input from CDPHE, partner state agencies, nonprofit organizations, local public health agencies, funders and advocates for older adults. Served as the Project Lead.

Health

Working with **ASTHO and State Public Health Collaborative** to Improve Cardiovascular Health Outcomes by assisting on the development and selection of RFPs that seek to increase partnership between public health and private insurance payers.

Serves as the project manager of the **Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care** which is a three-year commission created by the Colorado General Assembly's passage and Governor's signing of SB14-187. The Commission's mission is to ensure that Coloradans have access to affordable health care in Colorado. The Commission is charged with making recommendations to the General Assembly focused on evidence-based cost-control measures, access to care, and quality health care improvement initiatives as well as the cost-effective expenditure of limited state moneys to improve the health of Colorado's population. Work includes process design, meeting facilitation and documentation, communication and outreach, drafting of annual reports to the General

Assembly, and the design and implementation of annual statewide public outreach meetings in each Congressional District.

Worked with **Children's Hospital Colorado, University of Colorado, School of Public Health**, to assist in the development and implementation of a process to engage stakeholders in a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) related to policy and community benefit. Served as the Project Lead.

Worked with **ASTHO and various CDC offices** and programs to assess policies, practices, and legal barriers (actual or perceived) that affect state health agency access to electronic health records (EHRs) from remote locations in the event of investigating an infectious disease outbreak. Designed and implemented a qualitative study relying on interviews of representatives of health departments and healthcare facilities in twelve states, developed a web-based toolkit providing best practices and other guidance to key stakeholders regarding EHR access, and designed and facilitated a national meeting to elicit feedback from public health professionals on a draft toolkit.

Substance Use Disorders

Keystone partnered with the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council and substance abuse providers to conduct a statewide needs assessment related to Colorado's substance abuse disorder services. Keystone conducted research and interviewed key stakeholders, conducted 10 statewide meetings, and engaged over 500 people in a survey to determine what funded substance abuse disorder services were supported in Colorado; what services are needed, the challenges involved in providing those services; and the barriers people encounter to accessing them. Keystone's work resulted in [recommendations to inform public policy strategies to strengthen Colorado's efforts to address substance abuse in the state](#). Served as the Project Director.

Publications

- Bridging The Divide: Addressing Colorado's Substance Use Disorder Needs, Managed Service Organizations and CBHC, February 2017.
- 2015, 2016, 2017 Colorado Commission on Affordable Health Care Reports to the Legislature.
- 2015 Healthy Aging Plan, Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment, June 2016.
- State Policies that Support the Intersection Between Health and Early Learning, Alliance for Early Success, October 2014.
- Implementing Health Care Reform: A Roadmap for Colorado, State of Colorado, December 2010.

Employment

The Keystone Center, Senior Policy Director

Keystone, Colorado (January 2014 – Present)

- Assist in all aspects of project management, stakeholder engagement and facilitation related to health, and education policy.
- Manage a team of Keystone associates to deliver needed services.

Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, Deputy Executive Director/Director of Community Partnership Office

Denver, Colorado (October 2012 – December 2013)

- Established and advanced the efforts of the department especially in implementing and integrating reform efforts, and focuses on building and managing community partnerships that integrate department strategies and activities with statewide and national initiatives.
- Responsibility for the legal, community relations, and grants department.
- Served as the Director of the SIM project during the six-month planning phase.
- Served as the lead deputy director for the department.

Office of Governor John Hickenlooper, Senior Policy Director

Denver, Colorado (January 2011 – October 2012)

- Responsibility for establishing and advancing the governor's health, information technology, economic development and human services agenda, analyzing and advising on health-related legislation and coordinating the administration's policy efforts around health reform and other initiatives.
- Managed a staff of four in the Governor's Policy Office.

Office of Governor Bill Ritter, Senior Health Policy Analyst
Denver, Colorado (October 2009 – January 2011)

- Established and advanced the governor's health agenda, analyzed and advised on health-related legislation and coordinated the administration's policy efforts around health reform and other initiatives.

The Colorado Health Foundation, Senior Policy Officer
Denver, Colorado (September 2006 – October 2009)

- Responsibility for advising staff, public policy committee, and board on the policy environment and the strategies for developing and advancing the foundations public policy agenda.
- Managed grants related to policy and the foundations' goals.
- Helped to develop and run the Colorado Fellows Program.

Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, Executive Director
Denver, Colorado (July 2001 – August 2006)

- Founded and directed the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative. Responsible for all aspects of managing the organization including: training and managing staff, organization spokesperson, cultivating relationships, developing and implementing budgets, and managing finances.

Education, Training, and Certificates

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, BA, Economics and International Studies
University of Colorado, Denver, BA, pre-med, Chemistry