Sharon O’Hara, Executive Vice President of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Colorado-Wyoming Chapter and Board Chair, Connect for Health Colorado
Sharon has a deep commitment to improve access, choice and affordability of health insurance for Coloradans. In her role at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, she is responsible for advancing the Chapter’s mission through strategic development and implementation of services to help people and families affected by MS. Sharon has a proven track record in leading teams, building collaborative relationships, and working with state and local policy makers to develop innovative programs addressing social issues. She holds a Master’s degree from the University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration.

Arnold Salazar
CEO, Colorado Health Partnerships, LLC
Arnold has had a long and extensive career in Colorado in the field of community mental health, which began in Alamosa at the San Luis Valley Mental Health Center. After completing a graduate degree at the University of Michigan, Arnold directed the center for 10 years prior to organizing SyCare LLC, a managed care company offering mental health services. In 2005, he took that idea one-step further when he became CEO of Colorado Health Partnerships.

Colorado Health Partnerships includes 8 non-profit community mental health center providers, and ValueOptions a for-profit management services provider covering 43 mostly rural counties in Colorado. Colorado Health Partnerships contracts with the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, the state agency for the Medicaid mental health risk based contract. As CEO, Arnold’s primarily responsibility is coordinating the activities of the partnership with the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.
Michael Fallon, M.D., FACEP
Mike attended the University of Texas at Austin, earning his Chemical Engineering Degree in 1986. He then attended The University of Texas at Houston, receiving his Doctorate in Medicine. Mike served his internship at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona, followed by residency at the Denver Health Affiliated Residency in Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Fallon started his professional career in Atlanta, Georgia, where he worked for four years. There he was honored to serve as the Medical Director for the Swimming Venue at the Olympic Games. Returning to Denver in 1998, he worked in private practice before founding an urgent care company where he developed expertise in small business practice. He sold the practice in 2007 and stayed on as the medical director until 2009. In 2010, he ran for congress in Colorado's first congressional district, while returning to practice emergency medicine part time. Mike is married to Sandy and has two children, Emma and Sam.

Steve ErkenBrack, President and Chief Executive Officer
Rocky Mountain Health Plans
Rocky Mountain Health Plans is a non-profit carrier based in Grand Junction, Colorado. Prior to this position, he served as Vice President of Legal and Government Affairs for the organization from 2002 to 2008.

For more than 25 years, Mr. ErkenBrack worked as an attorney with an emphasis on litigation, government affairs, and health care. He maintained a private practice with offices in Grand Junction and Denver. Mr. ErkenBrack served six years as Mesa County's elected District Attorney and four years as Colorado's Chief Deputy Attorney General.

His significant legal and health care acumen has been recognized on a regional, statewide, and national basis. The Colorado legislature appointed Mr. ErkenBrack as the only health plan representative to serve on Colorado's Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform. Mr. ErkenBrack currently is Chair of Club 20's Health Care Committee, and is a founding member of the Mesa County Health Leadership Consortium. In the past has served as Chair of the Board of Law Examiners for the Colorado Supreme Court, President of the Colorado District Attorneys Council, and as a member of the Board of Governors of the Colorado Bar Association. He is admitted to practice before all courts in Colorado and the United States Supreme Court.
Mr. ErkenBrack received his undergraduate education at the United States Naval Academy and Washington & Lee University, and his law degree from the University of Colorado.

Eric Grossman, President and CEO NextHealth Technology
Eric Grossman has spent his entire career in healthcare technology, holding leadership roles in strategy, sales, product management and corporate business development activities. Currently, he leads various business units including Voice of the Customer and Government Affairs. Before joining TriZetto, Grossman was CEO of North Star Health, a compliance-based health plan pioneering the use of prevention and wellness in order to reduce large employers’ medical costs. He is the founder and former CEO of Connecture, the leading sales automation vendor for health plans, and worked as Chief of Staff for the Vice Chairman of Ernst & Young LLP. Grossman earned his B.B.A. and M.B.A. from the Goizueta Business School at Emory University.

Nathan Wilkes, Founder and Principal Consultant Headstorms, Inc.
Nathan Wilkes is a small business owner in the field of information technology as well as a long-time advocate for health care reform. After he graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Electrical Engineering, Nathan immediately began a career in network and security engineering on the east coast. He traveled to Denver in 1998 as part of an elite team that would design and implement Qwest’s initial global data network and enhanced service platform. In 2000, he joined others on the ground floor of building a global managed network and information security company. Responsibilities as principal architect included network design, systems integration, vendor evaluation & testing, user interface and web portal development, and more.

Personal family crisis that came in 2003 with the birth of his son, who had an expensive chronic illness, plunged Nathan and his wife into the world of health care reform. Despite having excellent coverage at the time, changes resulting from the cost of his son’s care included reduced benefits, increased deductibles and out-of-pocket costs, and a $1 million lifetime cap. Personal advocacy soon became community advocacy, as Nathan and his wife also began speaking out and helping others in similar situations.
In 2006, Nathan began researching the entire realm of small group health insurance coverage as a means to cover and protect his family. Then, in 2008, with the re-introduction of modified community rating in Colorado, Nathan started his own small consulting business and began purchasing health insurance in the small group market.

In addition to his professional career and advocacy efforts, Nathan has held many leadership roles in nonprofit & volunteer organizations since the early age of 15, when he first received extensive training in parliamentary procedure and board governance. Most recently, Nathan has served as a Past President of the Hemophilia Society of Colorado and Vice President of Health Care for All Colorado Foundation. In addition, Nathan was a member of the Business Task Force to the 208 Commission and is currently on the All Payer Claims Database Advisory Committee.

Davis D. Fansler, Director, Healthcare Practice, Wipfli LLP
Davis Fansler has over 30 years of health care industry experience. He brings an unusual blend of experiences, including commercial banking, medical group administration, HMO development, and venture capital. Davis’ typical consulting engagements range from constructing a system-wide physician integration business plan for a large not-for-profit health system to designing an innovative compensation plan for a large academic medical practice to facilitating a hospital-physician alignment strategic planning effort for a safety net hospital.

Before joining Wipfli LLP, Davis co-founded Partners Healthcare Consulting, Inc. (“Partners”), a Minneapolis-based consultancy that specialized in hospital-physician integration strategies, medical practice performance improvement, and ambulatory strategic planning. (In 2005, Partners merged with Wipfli LLP.) Prior to that, Davis helped lead a global management-consulting firm’s health care practice, primarily based out of its San Francisco office. In addition, he was a co-founder and general partner with an early stage health care service and medical device venture capital fund based in Minneapolis. He was also a co-founder and managing principal with Partners Consulting Group, Ltd, which was acquired by Towers Perrin in 1997. He is a highly sought-after presenter and author.

Davis currently serves on the board and executive committee of the Telluride Foundation. He is the former mayor of Mountain Village, Colorado; a past member of the Board of Education for the Telluride School District; a past member of Telluride
Adela Flores-Brennan, Executive Director, Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI)
Adela Flores-Brennan is the executive director of the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative (CCHI). As CCHI’s executive director, she is responsible for advancing public policy, guiding strategic and operational planning, and providing leadership and management support. Prior to joining CCHI, Flores-Brennan held positions at Connect for Health Colorado managing the implementation of two statewide networks of organizations providing outreach and assistance with application and enrollment, and at the Colorado Center on Law and Policy as a health care attorney working to improve health care programs for low-income Coloradans. Adela brings nearly 15 years of experience in public policy in Colorado, the past eight years in health care policy. Adela holds a BA and MA in International Studies from the University of Denver and a JD from the University of Colorado.

Ex-Officio

Susan E. Birch MBA, BSN, RN, Executive Director Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
Sue Birch was appointed the executive director of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing by Governor Hickenlooper in January 2011. As a member of the governor’s cabinet, Sue directs the Department’s efforts to improve the health of Medicaid and CHP+ clients, increase access to care and contain costs.

Sue was previously the Chief Executive Officer of Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. She was instrumental in expanding programs, developing strategic partnerships and strengthening operations. The agency moved into a nurse-led model of integrated community health services including primary care, home and hospice care, public health and aging services.

Prior to moving to Northwest Colorado, Sue served at Georgetown University Hospital and in a variety of progressive nursing roles with Kaiser Permanente in Colorado. She is a trustee of the Caring for Colorado Foundation and a past-president of the Home Care
Marguerite Salazar
Colorado Insurance Commissioner
Department of Regulatory Agencies, Division of Insurance
Marguerite Salazar was appointed by Governor John Hickenlooper as Colorado Insurance Commissioner effective August 19, 2013. In this position Salazar oversees the regulation of the insurance industry in Colorado. Her role is key to assisting consumers and other stakeholders with insurance needs, including homeowners affected by Colorado wildfires and subsequent flooding. As the chief executive of the Division of
Insurance, Salazar works with the insurance industry to bring an inclusive, open, firm and fair-minded regulatory approach to all lines of insurance under her supervision such as life, homeowner, property and casualty, auto, workers’ compensation and title insurance.

Previously, President Barack Obama appointed Salazar as Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region VIII. As Regional Director she played a vital role in the Department’s effort to effectively implement the Health Care Law, also known as the Affordable Care Act.

Prior to this appointment Marguerite served over 20 years as President/CEO of Valley-Wide Health Systems, a large, rural Community Health Center covering 22 counties in Southern Colorado and serving over 40,000 patients through 26 primary health care clinics.

Ms. Salazar is a Fellow in the National Hispana Leadership Institute as well as a Livingston Fellow in the Bonfil Stanton Foundation. She was a trustee for the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation and was appointed by Governor Ritter to serve on the Board of Governors for Colorado State University. She served as Chair for the Colorado Humanities and also served on the Board of Trustees for the Nature Conservancy and the National Center for Farmworker Health.

She has a Master’s degree in Counseling Psychology.