

Advocating for the one in four chronically ill Coloradans

The Power of Many - Colorado's Chronic Care Collaborative

While we do not underestimate, in fact we encourage, the power of one person to create change and make a difference in our community, we want to seize the opportunity for many to come together to have a more significant impact. In late 2007, the Colorado Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society organized a meeting for chronic care organizations in the state to discuss a shared agenda around health care reform in Colorado. With the subsequent membership of 23 organizations, the Chronic Care Collaborative (CCC) was launched.

Together we represent one in four Coloradans, or 1.2 million, who live with a chronic disease in our state.

Groups representing the Chronic Care Collaborative are:

Alzheimer's Association. Colorado Chapter

American Cancer Society, Cancer Action Network

American Diabetes Association

American Heart Association

American Lung Association of Colorado

Arthritis Foundation. Rocky Mountain Chapter

Brain Injury Association of Colorado

Colorado AIDS Project

Colorado Gerontological Society

Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, Rocky Mountain Chapter

Easter Seals Colorado

Epilepsy Foundation of Colorado

Hep C Connection

Heuga Center for MS

Huntington's Disease Society of America, Rocky Mountain Chapter

Lupus Foundation of Colorado

March of Dimes, Colorado Chapter

Mental Health America of Colorado

Muscular Dystrophy Association

National Kidney Foundation of Colorado, Montana and Wyoming

National MS Society, Colorado Chapter

Parkinson Association of the Rockies

THRIVE: The Persons Living with HIV/AIDS Initiative of Colorado

Rocky Mountain MS Center







Our common set of issues:

Since its inception, the Chronic Care Collaborative has become a recognized representative of the 1.2 million Coloradans living with a chronic illness.

- Informed the Governor's health care policy staff and the state Department of Health Care Policy and Financing on the needs of persons with chronic disease
- Influenced the direction of the Governor's "Building Blocks for Health Care Reform" platform
- Testified before the interim health and welfare committee on health care reform
- Participated as appointed members to the:
 - > The Department of Environment and Health's Committee on Home Health Care Agencies
 - > The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's Long Term-Care Advisory Committee
 - > The Governor's Center to Improve the Value of Health Care Sub-committee on Consumer Engagement
 - > The Silverprint Long Term Care Committee (follow-up to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging)

Current issues being addressed by the Collaborative include:

- Presumptive Eligibility (HB09-1103) allows a person who needs Medicaid services to begin receiving them at the time he/she documents his/her need.
- Clinical Trials (HB09-1059) assures that a person will not lose private insurance benefits from clinical trial participation
- Non-medical Transportation increases access to publicly-funded transportation for non-medical services and activities relevant to person's medical needs.

Colorado's Chronic Care Collaborative With a united voice we are heard!

For more information about the Chronic Care Collaborative, please contact Sharon O'Hara at (303) 698-7400 ext 15422 or at sharon.ohara@nmss.org.

