

AGENDA THE 2026 COLORADO FOOD IS MEDICINE SUMMIT

8-9AM - NETWORKING & LIGHT BREAKFAST (ALPINE BALLROOM)

9-9:30AM - WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS (ALPINE BALLROOM)

Greg Berman, MD, MBA, Interim Executive Medical Director, Vice President, Executive Medical Director of Operations, Kaiser Permanente

Marti Macchi, DrPH, MPH, M.Ed., President & CEO, Project Angel Heart

9:30-10:45AM - FOOD IS MEDICINE: A NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE (ALPINE BALLROOM)

Moderator:

Marti Macchi, DrPH, MPH, M.Ed., President & CEO, Project Angel Heart

Panelists:

- **R.J. Briscione**, Principal, Health Management Associates
- **Katie Garfield, JD**, Director, Whole Person Care, Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School
- **Devon Klatell**, Vice President, Food, The Rockefeller Foundation
- **Pamela Schwartz**, Executive Director, Community Health, Kaiser Permanente

10:45-11AM - COFFEE BREAK (LOBBY)

11AM-12PM - FOOD IS MEDICINE PARTNERSHIPS: A CASE STUDY (ALPINE BALLROOM)

Moderator:

John Patton, CEO & Founder, Street Charity

Panelists:

- **Monica Buhlig, MPH**, Chief Impact Officer, Food Bank of the Rockies
- **Kate Johnston, MPH**, Chief Program Strategy Officer, Project Angel Heart
- **Joy Twesigye, WHNP-BC, MPP**, VP of Health Strategy, Colorado Access
- **Lorena Zimmer**, Chief Impact Officer, Denver Health

12-1PM - LUNCH & DISCUSSION GROUPS (UPPER MOUNTAIN VIEW)

Topic: Advocating for Sustainable Food Access Funding

Table Facilitators: Paola Babb, Denver Department of Public Health & Environment; Sydney Skilken, Southwest Food Coalition

Topic: Building Research and Evaluation Capacity

Table Facilitator: Sheridan Green, Kaiser Permanente

Topic: Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES) and its Role in Food is Medicine

Table Facilitator: Lisa Bentley, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Topic: Food as Medicine in Action: The Produce Prescription Research Project Fresh2Flourish, a Gus/NIP USDA Supported Study

Table Facilitator: Gerard Frunzi, CommonSpirit Health

Topic: Food for Health: Our Three-year Journey in Medically Tailored Groceries, Lessons Learned, and Vision

Table Facilitator: Chris Taylor, Food Bank of the Rockies

Topic: From Cuts to Coverage: Our State's Collective Action to Protect SNAP Programs

Table Facilitators: Elissa Hardy, Hunger Free Colorado; Wendy Peters Moschetti, Nourish Colorado

Topic: Fulfilling the Promise of Healthy School Meals for All with the Passage of Props. LL and MM

Table Facilitators: Marc Jacobson, Hunger Free Colorado; Jessica Wright, Nourish Colorado

Topic: How Artificial Intelligence (AI) Can Help Nonprofits Working to Achieve Food Justice/Access

Table Facilitator: Joël McClurg, AI Safety Net Resident, Propel

Topic: Navigating the New Dietary Guidelines as an RD

Table Facilitator: Lilia Chavez, Project Angel Heart

Topic: Public Health Messaging: What Food is Medicine Can Learn from Other Public Health Campaigns

Table Facilitator: Kacie Warner, American Heart Association

Topic: The Role of Community Health Workers in Food is Medicine

Table Facilitator: Yvette Camarena, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Topic: School Gardens as Prevention Infrastructure

Table Facilitators: Matt Suprunowicz, Ed.D., SustainEd Farms; Erin Casey, MSW, SustainEd Farms

1:15-2:30PM - CHOOSE SESSION 1A, 1B, OR 1C

1A. Community Clinical Linkages: Partnering Across Sectors to Address Patient Needs (Alpine Room 1)

Moderator:

Kirsti Klaverkamp, Director, Colorado Health Institute

Panelists:

- **Karen Besterman-Dahan, PhD, RD**, Research Health Scientist, Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Maryland Healthcare System
- **Giselle Díaz Campagna**, Executive Director, The GrowHaus
- **Charles Gilford III**, CEO, Inner City Health
- **Ro Pereira, MD**, Director of Community Integrated Health Care, Denver Health

1B. Where Health and Hunger Intersect: Bridging Food is Medicine and Food Access (Alpine Room 2)

Moderator:

Kathryn Jantz, MSW, MPH, Consulting Director, HealthBegins

Panelists:

- **Ynke de Koe, MS, RD**, Nutrition Integration Specialist and State Physical Activity and Nutrition Program Manager, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- **Thái Nguyễn**, Founder and Executive Director, Kaizen Food Rescue/Kaizen Food Share
- **Penelope Powell**, Executive Director, Valley Food Partnership
- **Daysi Sweaney**, Director of Nutrition Incentives, Nourish Colorado

1C. Food is Medicine and Beyond: Policies Shaping Nutrition and Health in Colorado (Conference Room A)

Moderator:

Cody Belzley, Principal, Common Good Consulting

Panelists:

- **Becky DiOrio, MPH**, Diabetes and Health Navigation Program Manager, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- **Gerard Frunzi**, Director Virtual Care, CommonSpirit Health
- **Liz Owens**, Vice President of Government Relations, Colorado Access
- **Prabhdeep Sandha**, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Nutrition, MSU Denver

2:30-2:45PM - COFFEE BREAK (LOBBY)

2:45-4PM - CHOOSE SESSION 2A, 2B, OR 2C

2A. Measuring What Matters: Data-Driven Learning in Food is Medicine (Alpine Room 1)

Moderator:

Hannah Peterson, Chronic Disease Epidemiologist, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Panelists:

- **Jack Becker**, Consultant, Colorado Food Cluster
- **Tessa Cushman, MPH, RDN**, Food Access and Systems Coordinator, Adams County Health Department
- **Dr. Wendolyn S. Gozansky**, Vice President and Chief Quality Officer, Kaiser Permanente
- **Eve M. Kutchman, M.Ed.**, Prevention, Education and Outreach Manager, Children's Hospital Colorado

2B. Creating Healthy Communities Through Nonprofit Engagement (Alpine Room 2)

Moderator:

Jack Murphy, Director of Government Affairs, Colorado Nonprofit Association

Panelists:

- **Colleen B. Daywalt, MPP**, Vice President, Government Programs, Colorado Community Health Alliance
- **Rebecca Martinez**, Chief Operating Officer, RecoveryWorks
- **Roberto Meza**, CEO, Hearty Provisions
- **Roweena Naidoo**, Vice President, Policy and Community Initiatives, Mile High United Way
- **Matt Nigro**, Northern Colorado and Logistics Specialist, Project Angel Heart

2C. Defining Quality and Sustainability in Food is Medicine (Conference Room A)

Moderator:

Pamela Schwartz, Executive Director, Community Health, Kaiser Permanente

Panelists:

- **Katie Garfield, JD**, Director, Whole Person Care, Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School
- **Matthew Pieper**, CEO, Open Hand Atlanta
- **Mandy Pullaro**, Executive Director, Feeding Colorado

4:15-4:30PM - CLOSING REMARKS (ALPINE BALLROOM)

- **Shayla Perkins**, Community Health Consultant, Food and Nutrition Security, Social Health and Public Health, Kaiser Permanente
- **Marti Macchi, DrPH, MPH, M.Ed.**, President & CEO, Project Angel Heart

The 2026 Colorado Food is Medicine Summit

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