



**Tentative Schedule**  
*All Meetings Held at the Keystone Conference Center*  
*As of May 22, 2025*

**Monday, June 2**

10am – 5pm                    **Allocation Committee Meetings**  
                                     **Crestone Peak**

10am – Noon – Colorado Works Allocation Committee  
1-3pm – Child Welfare Allocation Committee  
3-5pm – Joint Allocation Committee

10:30am – Noon            **ACCA Pre-Conference Session**  
                                     **Budgeting in Uncertain Times: The Evolving Economic,**  
                                     **Demographic, and Policy Landscape**  
                                     **Grays Peak 1**

**Please pre-register by emailing Leslie at [coloacca@gmail.com](mailto:coloacca@gmail.com)**

State Budget Director Mark Ferrandino and State Demographer Kate Watkins will discuss emerging economic and demographic trends, as well as federal policy changes and uncertainties, and how these factors may impact state and local government budgets in the years ahead.

**Speakers**

Kate Watkins, Colorado State Demographer  
Mark Ferrandino, Director of the Office of State Planning and Budgeting

12:30 – 6 pm                **Registration Open**  
                                     **Conference Center Lobby**

1:30 – 5 pm                **CCI Concurrent Session**  
                                     **Under Pressure: Interstate Water Compacts, Agriculture, and**  
                                     **Colorado's Changing Landscapes**  
                                     **Red Cloud Peak**

**Speakers**

Heather Dutton, General Manager, San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District  
Jack Goble, General Manager, Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District  
Robert Sakata, Agricultural Water Policy Advisor, Colorado Department of Agriculture  
Pat Wells, Water Strategy Specialist, Northern Water  
Jason Ullman, State Engineer, Colorado Division of Water Resources

## Moderators

Greg Felt, General Manager, Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District

Caitlin Coleman, Publications & Digital Resources Managing Editor, Water Education Colorado

As Colorado faces rising water demand, climate uncertainty, and shifting demographics, pressures on irrigated agriculture are mounting. This session offers an accessible primer on the interstate water compacts that affect Colorado communities, beyond the ones making headlines. Attendees will hear directly from water experts and on-the-ground practitioners about the cascading impacts of water scarcity and how they intersect with local land use planning, development pressures, and choices facing county leadership today. With a focus on practical implications, panelists will explore how compacts influence on-the-ground tensions, community-level impacts of changing water use, and the role county officials can play in long-term collaboration and planning to navigate these challenges.

1:30 – 3 pm

### **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Session Board of Health Training Shavano Peak**

#### **County Commissioners serving as Board of Health Members**

*(this session will meet annual training requirement from state statute)*

In Colorado, every county must be served by a board of health that makes critical decisions about public health priorities, policies, funding and practices. Currently, over 100 Colorado county commissioners also serve their communities in the role of the county's board of health, overseeing their local public health agency's work. Colorado Revised State Statute 25-1-508 includes a requirement that all Board of Health members take annual training from the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment. The training is designed to help the board of health members understand the best practices for the board of health members & state statutes related to public health. This session will meet the statutory requirement and include discussions, tools and time for questions. Topics include:

- Colorado's Core Governmental Public Health Services & Capabilities
- The six functions of a board of health
- Understanding state statute related to the Community Health Assessment, Board of Health, and oversight of the local public health agency executive director
- Emergency management responsibilities of a board of health during a public health emergency

While this session is geared toward county commissioners who serve as Board of Health members, anyone is welcome to attend.

## **Speakers**

Matt Jackson, CDPHE Office of Public Health Practice, Planning & Local Partnerships Director

Pamela Gould, MPH, CPH, CDPHE OPHP Training and Curriculum Coordinator

3 – 3:15pm

### **Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables Shavano/Longs Peaks Foyers**

3:15 – 4:45pm

### **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Session Agrivoltaics in Practice: Navigating Opportunities and Tradeoffs**

## Shavano Peak

### Speakers

Byron Kominek, Executive Director, Colorado Agrivoltaic Learning Center  
Dr. Matthew Sturchio, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Cornell University  
Peter Sargent, Ranch Manager, Buckner Family Ranch  
Brent Huwa, Founder, Huwa Enterprise

### Moderator

Matt Scheer, Commissioner, Eagle County

Agrivoltaics—the integration of agriculture and solar energy on the same land—is gaining traction in Colorado, but real-world applications come with both promise and complexity. This session brings together voices from research, ranching, and project development to explore how grazing, vegetation management, and solar siting intersect on working lands. Panelists will discuss what's been learned so far, where challenges remain, and how local governments can approach land use, stewardship, and community engagement as these projects evolve.

5 - 7 pm                      **President's Welcome Reception**  
**Castle Peak**

## Tuesday, June 3

7 am – 5 pm                      **Registration Open**  
**Conference Center Lobby**

7:00 – 8:30 am                      **CCI Breakfast**  
**Sponsored by CTSI**  
**Longs Peak**



**County Technical Services, Inc | County Workers' Compensation Pool | Colorado Counties Casualty & Property Pool | County Health Pool – Pool Update Meeting**  
*(Held in conjunction with conference breakfast)*

The president of each pool will provide an update.

The meeting concludes with a drawing for eight \$50 bills for meeting attendees sponsored by Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., the CWCP and CAPP broker.

8 – 8:45am                      **CHSDA Issue Session**  
**CHSDA Welcome & Introductions**  
**Crestone Peak**

County Human Services Directors will be welcomed by CHSDA staff and will have the opportunity to introduce themselves to their peers.

### Speakers

Heather Durosko, Executive Director, Colorado Human Services Directors Association  
Megan Burch, Director, Eagle County Department of Human Services

9 – 10:30 am      **CCI Opening General Session**  
**Navigating Change - Colorado's Demographic and Political**  
**Crossroads**  
**Red Cloud Peak**

**Keynote Speaker**  
Floyd Ciruli, Ciruli Associates

**Moderator**  
Scott Weaver, Commissioner, Yuma County, CCI President

After 25 years of robust population growth that added two Congressional Districts, Colorado now faces a marked slowdown with broad implications. In this session, participants will assess the challenges tied to shifting demographics, economic uncertainty, and strained fiscal conditions. This discussion will revisit how Colorado's evolving relationship with Washington affects state and local governance.

With budget shortfalls taking center stage and a pivotal 2026 election on the horizon, this session will also explore the political landscape and how counties can prepare for what lies ahead.

10:30 – 10:45 am      **Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables**  
**Shavano/Longs Peak Foyers**

10:45 am – Noon      **CCI, ACCA & CHSDA General Session**  
**Federal Funding in Flux - Impacts on Colorado Counties**  
**Red Cloud Peak**

**Speakers**  
Kelly Watkins, Director of Federal Affairs, Office of Governor Polis  
Maria De Cambra, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Local Affairs

**Moderator**  
Scott Weaver, Commissioner, Yuma County, CCI President

Federal funding remains a cornerstone of county operations—from infrastructure and emergency management to housing and human services. With shifting priorities in Washington and evolving guidance on grant administration, counties face increasing uncertainty in how they plan, budget, and deliver essential services.

This session will provide a timely overview of current and anticipated federal funding changes and their impacts at the county level. Kelly Watkins from the Governor's Office will outline state-level coordination and strategic planning efforts to maximize federal opportunities. Maria DeCambra, Executive Director of the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), will discuss the role of DOLA in assisting counties with navigating funding streams, compliance requirements, and program implementation.

Together, they will explore how state and local partnerships can help ensure Colorado counties remain resilient and well-resourced in the face of federal fiscal shifts.

Noon - 1pm      **CCI Lunch**  
**Longs Peak**

**12:45 – 1:30pm**                    **CHSDA Issue Session**  
**CHSDA Business Meeting & Officer Elections**  
**Crestone Peak**

Directors will vote/confirm positions for the CHSDA Executive Committee for the upcoming year and seek approval of the CHSDA budget.

**1:15 – 2:30pm**                    **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Issue Session**  
**Nuclear Energy**  
**Red Cloud Peak**

**Speaker**

Liz Mattson, Senior Project Manager, Sargent & Lundy  
Senator Larry Liston

**1:15 – 2:30pm**                    **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Issue Session**  
**Getting Started with TIF**  
**Shavano Peak**

Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI) will lead this session featuring Adams and Huerfano Counties to share recommendations and tools with counties interested in using Tax Increment Financing (TIF). This session aims to introduce TIF, highlighting its applications and how counties can implement it effectively as part of their revitalization strategies. Based on feedback from the session, DCI will share some tools to help counties looking to move ahead!

**Speakers**

Angela Hygh  
Ben Fulton  
Carl Young, Huerfano County  
Kat Correll, Executive Director, Downtown Colorado, Inc.  
Troy Bernberg

**Moderator**

**TBD**

**1:15 – 2:30pm**                    **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Issue Session**  
**Tribes Update**  
**Torreys Peak**

**Moderator**

Marsha Porter Norton, Commissioner, La Plata County

**1:30 – 2:30pm**                    **CHSDA Issue Session**  
**From Allocation to Action: Making Sense of the Post-Long Bill Budget Reality**  
**Crestone Peak**

The Long Bill is signed—but what does that really mean for your county? Led by county peers, this session will break down the key budget components and help you decode allocations, anticipate cost pressures, and start the right conversations with your internal teams. Featuring practical insights,

forecasting tools, and examples from counties of all sizes, this session offers a clear starting point for budgeting in a challenging fiscal landscape.

### **Speakers**

Clint Woodruff, Chief Financial Officer, Denver County DHS

Martha Johnson, Director, La Plata/San Juan County Department of Human Services

Gena Sagen, Director of Business & Finance, Jefferson County DHS

Nick Beston, Accounting Manager, Adams County Human Services

2:30 – 2:45pm                    **Ice Cream & Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables**  
**Shavano/Longs Peak/Crestone Peak Foyers**

Thank you, Pinnacol Assurance, for providing ice cream for the afternoon break!

2:45 – 4pm                    **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Issue Session**  
**How to Pass a Ballot Measure**  
**Red Cloud Peak**

Are you thinking about a ballot measure for your county? We invited two seasoned experts who have helped dozens of counties and other local governments to succeed. With new potential revenue streams such as a lodging tax, economic pressures increasing costs for counties and residents alike, and budget shortfalls impacting services across the board, it can be a challenge just to get the conversation started - let alone succeed at the ballot box. Sara and Bryan-David will walk you through the process from start to finish so you leave with a concrete plan with how to proceed when you're ready to move ahead.

### **Speakers**

Bryan-David Blakely, Managing Partner, Public Alignment Communication

Sara O'Keefe, Managing Partner, Public Alignment Communication

### **Moderator**

Carrie Warren-Gully, Commissioner, Arapahoe County, CCI Board Member

2:45 – 4pm                    **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Issue Session**  
**GOCO Updates**  
**Torreys Peak**

2:45 – 4pm                    **CCI & ACCA Concurrent Issue Session**  
**Leveraging AI: Best Practices and Guidance for Local Government**  
**Shavano Peak**

This interactive session begins with a brief historical overview of artificial intelligence, followed by an exploration of the main categories of generative AI (GenAI) tools. Attendees will hear about real-world use cases that highlight how local governments are using AI to enhance public services and streamline operations. The session will conclude with an introduction to the NACo AI Compass and toolkit, designed to help counties develop effective and ethical AI strategies. Participants will leave with actionable insights and resources to take next steps in the AI journey.

### **Speaker**

Rita Reynolds, CGCIO, CIO & Managing Director of Technology Programs, National Association of Counties

**Moderator**

Kevin Ross, Commissioner, Weld County

2:45 – 3:45pm

**CHSDA Issue Session**

**Director Connector: Small Table Conversations with State Executive Directors**

**Crestone Peak**

This dynamic, small-table session is your chance to engage directly with Executive Directors from CDHS, CDEC, HCPF, and BHA in a rotating, small-group format. This hour offers time for county leaders to ask questions, share concerns, and build meaningful connections with state Executive Directors. Don't miss this opportunity to be heard—and to hear directly from state leadership.

**Speakers**

Michelle Barnes, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Human Services

Kim Bimestefer, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Finance

Lisa Roy, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Early Childhood

Danette Smith, Commissioner, Colorado Behavioral Health Administration

**Moderator**

Heather Durosko, Executive Director, Colorado Human Services Directors Association (CHSDA)

4 – 4:15pm

**Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables**

**Shavano/Longs Peak Foyers**

4 – 5:30pm

**CHSDA Membership Social Hour**

**Bighorn Bistro & Bar**

**Sponsored by Binti**

4:15 – 5:15pm

**CCI Business Meeting**

**Red Cloud Peak**

**2025 Legislative Recap**

5:30 – 7:30pm

**CCI Dinner and County Gift-Basket Drawing**

**Longs Peak**

**County Baskets**

Please bring a gift basket from your county that showcases regional and local products. One basket per county. These baskets will be given out at the Tuesday night dinner. Drop your basket off at CCI registration no later than 1pm on Tuesday, June 3

**Wednesday, June 4**

7 am – Noon

**Registration Open**

**Conference Center Lobby**

7– 8:30am

**CCI Breakfast**

**Longs Peak**

8:45 – 10am

**CHSDA Issue Session**

**Federal Pulse: What's Coming Down the Line for Human Services  
Crestone Peak**

In this session, national experts will provide timely updates on federal legislation, funding shifts, and policy trends that directly impact county-administered human services programs. From Medicaid, TANF and SNAP to child welfare, adult protective services and early childhood, learn what's changing, what's on the horizon, and how it could affect your local planning and services. Bring your questions, this is your chance to engage with federal policy voices and better prepare your county for what's next.

**Speakers**

Tom Joseph, Vice President and Managing Partner, Paragon Government Relations (PGR)

Rachel Mackey, Paragon Government Relations (PGR)

**Facilitators**

Dan Makelky, Director, Arapahoe County DHS

Heather O'Hayre, Director, Larimer County DHS

8:45 – 11:30am

**CCI District Meetings**

**Eastern District**

**Torreys Peak 1**

**Front Range District**

**Grays Peak 1**

**Mountain District**

**Torreys Peak 2-4**

**Southern District**

**Grays Peak 2**

**Western District**

**Grays Peak 3**

10 – 10:20am

**Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables**

**Shavano/Longs Peak/Crestone Peak Foyers**

10:15 – 11:30am

**CHSDA Issue Session**

**Unpacking the Unknowns: Navigating Federal Human Service  
Program Changes (Potential Work Requirements in Medicaid and  
SNAP Changes)**

**Crestone Peak**

Federal proposals to implement work requirements for Medicaid and changes to SNAP are gaining traction—and raising big questions. For potential work requirements- What exemptions will apply? How will administrative workloads shift? And how many beneficiaries could fall through the cracks? In this interactive session, national experts and state leadership will outline what we know now, what's still uncertain, and the major operational implications for counties.



**Speakers**

Rachel Reiter, Policy Communications & Administration Office Director, Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

Adela Flores-Brennan, Medicaid Director and Health Policy Office Director, Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

Joe Crawford, Managing Director, Health and Public Service, Accenture

Shelley Banker, Director, Office of Economic Security, Colorado Department of Human Services

11:30am

**Conference Adjourns**