Tentative Schedule
All Meetings Held at Westin Westminster
As of November 13, 2026

Wi-Fi Info
Wi-fi : CCI Winter Conference
Wi-Fi Password
COCreditUnions

Monday, November 30

Noon – 6 pm	**Registration Open** **Westminster 2**
1:30 – 3pm	**CCI Concurrent Issue Session** **Renewable Energy Part 1** **Westminster 3**
1:30 – 3pm	**CCI Concurrent Issue Session**
1:30 – 3pm	**New Commissioner Orientation** **Welcome to County Government!** **Westminster 4**
2:45 - 3:15pm	**Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables** **Westminster Foyer**
3:15 – 4:30pm	**CCI New Commissioner/Commissioner Session** **CSU Extension and County Government: A Trusted Partnership in Every Colorado County** **Westminster 4**

Understanding Extension's role and how we help communities thrive through education,

youth development, agriculture, natural resources, health, economic vitality, and local capacity building.

3:15 – 4:45pm **CCI Concurrent Issue Session**
Renewable Energy Part 2
Westminster 3

3:15 – 4:45pm **CCI Concurrent Issue Session**
Workforce Development Updates
Westminster 1

4-6pm **Conference Giveaway Pick-up**
Westminster 2

County members, please stop by Westminster 2 to pick up your CCI Conference giveaway.

4:45 – 6:30pm **President's Cocktail Reception**
Sponsored by Wagner Equipment
Legacy Ballroom

Tuesday, December 1

7 am – 5pm **Registration Open**
Westminster Office

7:00 – 8:45am **Breakfast for All Attendees**
Sponsored by CTSI
Legacy Ballroom

8:15-9:30am **CHSDA Welcome & Director Connection**
Cotton Creek

CHSDA will welcome County Human Services Directors to Winter Conference, offering them opportunities to connect with their peers.

Speakers
Heather Durosko, Executive Director, CHSDA
Deb Ruttenberg, CHSDA President & Director, Grand/Jackson County Departments of Human Services

9 – 10:30am **CCI Opening General Session**/CCI Business Meeting
Westminster 3-4

The CCI Winter Conference will kick off with a CCI Business Meeting, roll call of counties, approval of the 2027 Dues and Budget, and a keynote address from Colorado Governor-Elect Phil Weiser.

Keynote Address: Governor-Elect Phil Weiser

Moderator
Tony Hass, Commissioner, Las Animas County, CCI President

10:30 – 10:45am **Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables**
Westminster Foyer

10:45 am – Noon **CCI & CHSDA General Session**
The Changing Landscape of County Human Services: What's Ahead for Colorado Counties
Westminster 3-4

Colorado's county human services system is facing significant changes, from new federal SNAP and Medicaid requirements to a major restructuring of how public benefits are delivered and the need for improved technology systems. Join county, state, and national leaders for a discussion of these challenges, what they mean for Colorado counties, and how we can prepare for the changes ahead.

Panelists
Emma Conover, National Association of Counties, Associate Legislative Director, Human Services and Education
Carrie-Warren-Gully, Commissioner, Arapahoe County, CCI Board Member
Deb Ruttenberg, President, Colorado Human Services Directors Association and Human Services Director, Grand and Jackson Counties

Moderator: Tamara Pogue, Commissioner, Summit County

10:45am – Noon **CARSE Issue Session**
On the Right Track: Navigating Railroad & County Road Crossings
Meadowbrook

Understand the statutory requirements, project responsibilities and cost obligations associated with railroad crossings. Learn how counties and railroads coordinate projects and the role of state oversight.

Speaker
Alan Farrell, PE, Section Chief, Rail & Transit Safety, Colorado Public Utilities Commission

Noon – 1pm **Lunch for All Attendees**
Legacy Ballroom

1 – 3pm **CCI District Meetings – Election of CCI Board Members**

Eastern District
Standley 2

Western District
Lake House

Front Range District
Westminster 2

Mountain District
Westminster 1

Southern District
Standley 1

1 – 2pm **CHSDA Issue Session**
CHSDA Session: The Federal Outlook: What Human Services Leaders Need to Know
Cotton Creek

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. 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), National Association of County Human Services Administrators
Lexie Kuznick, Director of Policy and Government Relations, American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)

1:15 – 2:30pm **CARSE Issue Session**
Beyond the Pavement: Resources & Strategies for County Roads
Meadowbrook

Explore the benefits of National Association of County Engineers (NACE) membership for Colorado counties, along with practical strategies and best practices for managing and maintaining unpaved roads.

Speaker
Jacob Thorius, PE, Engineer, Washington County, Iowa; 2025–26 President National Association of County Engineers (NACE)

2:15-2:30pm Coffee Break
Westminster/Standley Foyer

2:15 – 3:45pm CHSDA Issue Session
CHSDA Session: HB26-1429 Strategy Lab: Transition Planning & County Regional Discussions
Cotton Creek

As the HB26-1429 Implementation Work Group wraps up its recommendations ahead of the January 1, 2027 Transition Plan deadline to the Joint Budget Committee, join CHSDA leadership and county work group representatives for a hands-on working session. County Directors will collaborate across regional cohorts to align on terminology, discuss how to operationalize shared work, and refine local priorities and key input for the final report and the counties' minority report.

Speakers
Jamie Ulrich, Director, Weld County Department of Human Services
Dan Makelky, Director, Arapahoe County Department of Human Services
Heather O'Hayre, Director, Larimer County Department of Human Services
Katie McDougal, Director, Adams County Department of Human Services
Deb Ruttenberg, Director, Grand/Jackson County Departments of Human Services
CHSDA Executive Committee Members

2:45 – 4:15pm CARSE Issue Session
Snow Happens! A County Roundtable on Winter Road Operations
Meadowbrook

Snow removal is a challenge every Colorado county knows well! Always popular and engaging, CARSE's roundtable sessions bring together county commissioners, administrators, and road and bridge professionals for lively discussions and practical idea-sharing. Explore equipment specifications, cutting edges and wear parts, levels of service, and managing public expectations. Bring your questions, share your experiences and learn what's working across Colorado.

Facilitated by CARSE Leaders

3 – 3:10pm **CCI 50,000+ Caucus Meeting**
Election of CCI Board Secretary & Treasurer
Westminster 2

County members of the 50,000+ Caucus includes: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Douglas, Eagle, El Paso, Fremont, Garfield, Jefferson, Larimer, La Plata Mesa, Pueblo and Weld

3 – 3:20pm **Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables**
Westminster/Standley Foyer

3:20 – 4:50pm CCI Concurrent Issue Session
Gunnison Housing Session
Westminster 1

3:20 – 4:50pm CCI Concurrent Issue Session
The Future is Older: How We Can Plan for It
Westminster 3-4

Colorado's population is aging, bringing new challenges and opportunities for county governments. From housing and transportation to health care and community services, counties must consider how changing demographics will shape the needs of their communities. Join our panelists for a forward-looking discussion about how counties can plan for an aging population and build communities where residents of all ages can thrive.

Panelists
Carly Reitmann, Healthy Aging Manager, Eagle County
Jarett Hughes, President and CEO, Leverage Colorado
Rachel Cohen, Founder and CEO, Aging Dynamics

Moderator: Lynne Thompson, Commissioner, Saguache County

4-5:30pm **CHSDA Membership Social Hour**
Sponsored by Beam

Unwind from the conference day and connect with fellow County Human Services Directors at the CHSDA Membership Social Hour. This sponsored happy hour offers a relaxed opportunity to recharge, build relationships, and reconnect with colleagues.

5:30-7:30pm **CCI Dinner and Awards**
Legacy Ballroom

Wednesday, December 2

7 am – Noon **Registration Open**
Westminster Office

7– 8:30am **Breakfast for All Delegates**

Legacy Ballroom

8:30-9:45am **CHSDA Issue Session**
CHSDA Session: Driving Down SNAP Error Rates: County CQI Insights, Pilots, and Best Practices
Cotton Creek

A strategic look at Colorado's SNAP Payment Error Rate (PER) ahead of federal cost-sharing thresholds. In this session, county representatives will unpack the latest error data and share what is working on the ground. Directors will gain practical takeaways on internal QA workflows, learn how current pilots are impacting operations and error rates, and discuss how leadership can focus on what is within county control while preparing for upcoming fiscal impacts.

Speakers
Heather O'Hayre, Director, Larimer County Department of Human Services
Jamie Ulrich, Director, Weld County Department of Human Services
Deb Ruttenberg, Director, Grand/Jackson County Departments of Human Services
Michaela Estrada, Deputy Director, Rio Grande / Mineral County Departments of Social Services
Tanya Dreiling, DHS Human Service Management Analyst, Pueblo County Department of Human Services
Melissa Schierland, Economic Assistance Director, Mesa County Department of Human Services

8:45-10am **CCI General Issue Session**
H2Oh-No! It's a Mad, Mad, Mad Water World
Westminster 3

Speakers
Jack Goble, General Manager, Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conversancy District
Peter Goble, Assistant State Climatologist, State of Colorado
Becky Mitchell, Commissioner, Upper Colorado River Commission
Amy Osdiek, Section Chief of Interstate, Federal and Water Information Section, CWCB

Moderator
Jim Yahn, Commissioner, Logan County, CCI Board Member

8:45 – 10am **CARSE Issue Session**
Funding Safer Roads: Navigating the SIP Local Agency Grant Program
Meadowbrook

Looking for funding to improve roadway safety in your county? Explore the SIP Local Agency Grant Program, including eligible project types, project selection criteria and the

FY 2030 application process. Learn about important deadlines, project timelines and strategies to help position your county's safety improvements for funding consideration.

Speaker
David Swenka, PE, PTOE, Safety Programs, Data and Analysis, Traffic Safety and Engineering Services, Colorado Department of Transportation

10-10:15am **Coffee Break/Visit Sponsor Tables**
Westminster/Standley Foyer

10:15 – 11:30am **CCI General Issue Session**
Data Centers
Westminster 3

10:15 – 11:30am **CHSDA Issue Session**
CHSDA Session: Charting the AI Landscape in Human Services: Building Guardrails, Readiness, and Trust
Cotton Creek

Colorado counties are at vastly different stages of generative AI exploration and adoption in human services operations. This joint state and county panel convenes leaders from OIT, CDHS, and county human services departments to discuss navigating this unmapped territory. Rather than a one-size-fits-all roadmap, this session offers an open, candid look at how Colorado is charting a course forward.

Speakers
Susan Caskey, Director, Boulder County Department of Human Services
Heather O'Hayre, Director, Larimer County Department of Human Services
Dan Makelky, Director, Arapahoe County Department of Human Services
Bob Prevost, Deputy Director, Arapahoe County Department of Human Services
Sarah Tuneberg, CIO and Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT)
Jane Yang, Principal Director of AI Architecture, OIT
Aaron Pratt, Chief Legal Officer, CDHS
Shelly Pachiano, eHealth Commissioner and Health IT Director, CDHS

10:15 – 11:30am **CARSE Issue Session**
Safety on the Road: Snowplows, Emergency Vehicles & Crash Trends
Meadowbrook

Explore emergency vehicle designations and regulations affecting county snowplows and road maintenance operations. Gain insights into roadway crash trends and safety considerations for Colorado's road and bridge professionals.

Speaker

Sergeant Stephen Gaynor, Officer, Colorado State Patrol

Conference Concludes