

**2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**2006 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

Colorado Legal Services provides meaningful access to high quality legal services, in the pursuit of justice for as many low income people throughout Colorado as possible. Colorado Legal Services, a Colorado non-profit corporation, is governed by a 27 member Board of Directors, 18 of whom are attorneys licensed to practice law in Colorado who are appointed by the State Bar Association and specialty bar associations and 9 of whom are individuals financially eligible to receive legal services from the program who are appointed by a variety of local human services and community agencies. The Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver was founded in 1925 to provide free legal representation and counsel in civil matters to low income persons throughout the Denver metropolitan area and since the early 1980's in 11 rural mountain counties in Northwestern Colorado. On October 1, 1999, the Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver combined with the other two federally funded civil legal services programs in Colorado, Pikes Peak/Arkansas River Legal Aid and Colorado Rural Legal Services, and is now a single statewide legal services program renamed Colorado Legal Services. Jonathan D. Asher is the Executive Director of Colorado Legal Services and has served as the Executive Director for over 26 years. Manuel Ramos is the Director of Advocacy, Molly Ryan and Maureen Terjak are the Co-Directors of Administration and Access and Billie Hall is the Controller of the program.

Colorado Legal Services receives funding from the Legal Services Corporation, the State of Colorado, Mile High United Way, Foothills United Way (Boulder and Broomfield Counties), several other local United Ways, the Denver Regional Council of Governments and a number of

other Area Agencies on Aging throughout the State, the Colorado Lawyer Trust Account Foundation, the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado and charitable grants and contributions from a number of local bar associations and a variety of cities and counties and judicial districts served statewide by the program. Colorado Legal Services accepts but does not solicit contributions from the public or from lawyers other than through the efforts of the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado. All funds received by Colorado Legal Services are used to deliver legal services to the poor and elderly in greatest economic and social need. The audited financial statements of Colorado Legal Services reflect that in 2006 fully 79% of its resources were expended for the direct delivery of legal services, 21% of its resources were expended for management and general activities and less than 1% of its resources were expended for fundraising activities.

Colorado Legal Services coordinates its solicitation of contributions with the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado. The Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado, which distributes all of its funds to Colorado Legal Services, conducts annual law firm solicitation and lawyer campaigns in the Denver metropolitan area, Colorado Springs, Boulder, Fort Collins and Durango and requests a contribution from other attorneys licensed to practice law in the State of Colorado. The Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado also solicits funds from various private foundations and the general public on behalf of Colorado Legal Services.

Colorado Legal Services provides its services through 15 offices throughout the State. The administrative office is located just outside of downtown Denver. In order to qualify for legal assistance, an applicant for services must be determined to be financially eligible to be served by Colorado Legal Services, the requested services must fall within the program's substantive priorities and the program must have adequate resources to handle the matter. Colorado Legal Services staff, counting volunteer staff, provided more than 100,101 hours of

legal services to eligible clients during 2006. Legal services provided to financially eligible clients included actual representation, legal advice, brief service and appropriate referrals. Priority is given to dealing with the legal aspects of the efforts of poor people to maintain the basic necessities of a decent life, including at least minimally adequate income, food, shelter, utilities and medical care, freedom from domestic violence and abuse, and the protection of individual rights of the elderly and physically and mentally disabled. Services are provided in matters involving income maintenance and public benefits, housing and homelessness, consumer and finance, health, including the legal rights of the elderly and the physically and mentally disabled, and family and domestic relations, with particular emphasis on domestic violence and abuse. During 2006, the staff of Colorado Legal Services represented clients in 1,621 cases. An additional 5,011 individuals received legal advice or brief legal service.

The Denver office includes specialty units to enable the program to more adequately meet current and emerging client legal needs. The current units specialize in the legal problems of Family and Children, Housing Rights and Homelessness, and Health and Elderly. A Support and Advocacy Support System Unit was created to improve and support the quality of legal services provided to clients represented by program staff throughout the entire State. Continuing assessment and evaluation of the legal needs of the poor is necessary to develop appropriate legal responses to client efforts to end welfare dependence and achieve lasting self sufficiency.

Attached to this narrative and made a part of the Annual Report are the 2006 case statistics for Colorado Legal Services, the 2006 Audit, the 2006 income and expense budget, current financial eligibility guidelines and a list of the Board of Directors of Colorado Legal Services.

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**CASE TYPES**

**2006**

Consumer/Finance	1,237
Education	3
Employment	20
Family Law	2,919
Health	217
Housing	1,223
Income Maintenance	710
Individual Rights	45
Juvenile	28
Miscellaneous	<u>230</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,632</b>

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**CLIENT PROFILES**

**2006**

<u><b>ETHNICITY</b></u>		<u><b>GENDER</b></u>	
Native American	164	Female	5,000
Asian	79	Male	1,632
Black	670	Group	<u>0</u>
Hispanic	1,805	<b>TOTAL</b>	6,632
White	3,685		
Other	<u>229</u>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,632</b>		

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18-59</b>	<b>60/Over</b>	<b>Total</b>
Asian	1	58	20	79
Black	7	552	111	670
Hispanic	41	1,553	211	1,805
Native American	4	145	15	164
White	53	3,108	524	3,685
Other	<u>11</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>229</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>5,592</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>6,632</b>

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**INCOME GUIDELINES**

<b>Size of Family</b>	<b>Yearly Income</b>		<b>Monthly Income</b>	
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
1	11,963	12,250	997	1,021
2	16,038	16,500	1,337	1,375
3	20,113	20,750	1,676	1,729
4	24,188	25,000	2,016	2,083
5	28,263	29,250	2,355	2,438
6	32,338	33,500	2,695	2,792
7	36,413	37,750	3,034	3,146
8	40,488	42,000	3,374	3,500
Each Additional Dependent	4,075	4,250	340	354

These guidelines are based on gross income.

Colorado Legal Services  
Board of Director 2006

**Lisa Aragon-Marquez**

Rocky Ford, CO  
Client Board Member  
Arkansas Valley Resource Center

**Sally Barber**

Pueblo, CO  
Client Board Member  
Pueblo Area Agency on Aging

**Penny Bourcier**

Gunnison, CO  
Client Board Member  
Jubilee House

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Myatt Brandes & Gast, PC  
Fort Collins, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Billie Cagle**

Hesperus, CO  
Client Board Member  
Southern Ute Community Action  
Program

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Denver, CO  
Client Board Member  
Catholic Community Services

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Holland & Hart  
Denver, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

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Aurora, CO  
Attorney, Sam Cary Bar Association

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Pueblo, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

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Colorado Springs, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

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King & Greisen, LLP  
Denver, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Patricia Hall**

Maynes Bradford Shipp, Et Al  
Durango, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Sylvia Hartsfield**

Denver, CO  
Client Board Member  
AFDC Coalition-Project WISE

**April D. Jones**

Jones Law Firm  
Greenwood Village, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Women's Bar  
Association

**Kirsten Kurath**

Williams Turner and Holmes  
Grand Junction, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**John Livingston, Jr.**

Jefferson County Court House  
Golden, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Ernest Marquez**

Law Office of Ernest F. Marquez  
Salida, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Lorrie Mayhill**

Sterling, CO  
Client Board Member  
Eastern Colorado Services

**Harry Barton (Bart) Mendenhall, II**

Mendenhall & Malouff  
Rocky Ford, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

Colorado Legal Services  
Board of Director 2006

**Neeti Pawar**

DiManna and Jackson, LLP  
Denver, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Mark Rossi**

Colorado Springs, CO  
Client Board Member  
Ecumenical Social Ministries

**Esteban Salazar**

Esteban A. Salazar PC  
Frisco, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Bruce Sattler**

Faegre & Benson, retired  
Denver, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Tina Smith**

Denver, CO  
Client Board Member  
Warren Village

**Judge Alan Stine**

Aurora Municipal Court  
Aurora, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Helen Stone**

Stone, Rosen & Byrne, PC  
Boulder, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Daniel A. Vigil (Chair)**

University of Denver College of Law  
Denver, CO  
Attorney, Colorado Hispanic Bar  
Association

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Vice Chair: Steven Fieldman  
Secretary: Ann Caldwell  
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**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**CASE TYPES**

**2005**

Consumer/Finance	1,449
Education	2
Employment	30
Family Law	3,079
Health	191
Housing	1,265
Income Maintenance	850
Individual Rights	59
Juvenile	48
Miscellaneous	<u>228</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,201</b>

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**CLIENT PROFILES**

**2005**

<u><b>ETHNICITY</b></u>		<u><b>GENDER</b></u>	
Native American	155	Female	5,367
Asian	72	Male	1,834
Black	749	Group	<u>0</u>
Hispanic	1,882	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,201</b>
White	4,051		
Other	<u>292</u>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,201</b>		

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18-59</b>	<b>60/Over</b>	<b>Total</b>
Asian	2	62	8	72
Black	9	645	95	749
Hispanic	70	1,608	204	1,882
Native American	2	147	6	155
White	59	3,434	558	4,051
Other	<u>11</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>292</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>6,142</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>7,201</b>

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**INCOME GUIDELINES**

<b>Size of Family</b>	<b>Yearly Income</b>		<b>Monthly Income</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
1	11,638	11,963	970	997
2	15,613	16,038	1,301	1,337
3	19,588	20,113	1,632	1,676
4	23,563	24,188	1,964	2,016
5	27,538	28,263	2,295	2,355
6	31,513	32,338	2,626	2,695
7	35,488	36,413	2,957	3,034
8	39,463	40,488	3,289	3,374
Each Additional Dependent	3,975	4,075	331	340

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Board of Director 2005

**Lisa Aragon-Marquez**  
Client Board Member  
Arkansas Valley Resource Center

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Client Board Member  
Pueblo Area Agency on Aging

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Attorney, Sam Cary Bar Association

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Pueblo District Attorney Office  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association  
*stevenfieldman@hotmail.com*

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Ecumenical Social Ministries

**Esteban Salazar**  
Esteban A. Salazar PC  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Bruce Sattler**  
formerly of Faegre & Benson  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Tina Smith**  
Client Board Member, Warren Village

Colorado Legal Services  
Board of Director 2005

**Judge Alan Stine**

Judicial Division  
Aurora Municipal Court  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Helen Stone**

Stone, Sheehy, Rosen & Byrne  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

**Daniel A. Vigil (Chair)**

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs  
University of Denver  
College of Law  
Attorney, Colorado Hispanic Bar Assoc.

**Robert Yegge**

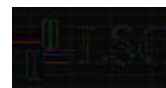
Dean Emeritus/Professor  
University of Denver  
College of Law  
Attorney, Colorado Bar Association

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A United Way



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**CASE TYPES**

**2004**

Consumer/Finance	1,255
Education	4
Employment	56
Family Law	2,609
Health	187
Housing	1,169
Income Maintenance	657
Individual Rights	44
Juvenile	30
Miscellaneous	<u>258</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,269</b>

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**CLIENT PROFILES**

**2004**

<u><b>ETHNICITY</b></u>		<u><b>GENDER</b></u>	
Native American	144	Female	4,714
Asian	46	Male	1,555
Black	664	Group	<u>0</u>
Hispanic	1,550	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,269</b>
White	3,581		
Other	<u>284</u>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,269</b>		

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18-59</b>	<b>60/Over</b>	<b>Total</b>
Asian	0	37	9	46
Black	3	567	94	664
Hispanic	34	1,329	187	1,550
Native American	6	126	12	144
White	36	3,097	448	3,581
Other	<u>23</u>	<u>244</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>284</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>6,269</b>

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**INCOME GUIDELINES**

<b>Size of Family</b>	<b>Yearly Income</b>		<b>Monthly Income</b>	
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
1	11,225	11,638	935	970
2	15,150	15,613	1,263	1,301
3	19,075	19,588	1,590	1,632
4	23,000	23,563	1,917	1,964
5	26,925	27,538	2,244	2,295
6	30,850	31,513	2,571	2,626
7	34,775	35,488	2,898	2,957
8	38,700	39,463	3,225	3,289
Each Additional Dependent	3,925	3,975	327	331

These guidelines are based on gross income.

**Colorado Legal Services  
Board of Directors - 2005**

**Lisa Aragon-Marquez**  
Arkansas Valley Resource Center

**Sally Barber**  
Pueblo Area Agency on Aging

**Penny Bourcier**  
Jubilee House

**Robert W. Brandes**  
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**Robert Yegge**  
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A United Way



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The Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver was founded in 1925 to provide free legal representation and counsel in civil matters to low income persons throughout the Denver metropolitan area and since the early 1980's in 11 rural mountain counties in Northwestern Colorado. On October 1, 1999, the Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver combined with the other two federally funded civil legal services programs in Colorado, Pikes Peak/Arkansas River Legal Aid and Colorado Rural Legal Services and is now a single statewide legal services program renamed Colorado Legal Services. Colorado Legal Services, a Colorado non-profit corporation, is governed by a 27 member Board of Directors, 18 of whom are attorneys licensed to practice law in Colorado who are appointed by the State Bar Association and specialty bar associations and 9 of whom are individuals financially eligible to receive legal services from the program who are appointed by a variety of local human services and community agencies. Jonathan D. Asher is the Executive Director of Colorado Legal Services and previously served as the Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver for over 18 years. Manuel Ramos is the Director of Advocacy, Jerome Lemberger is the Director of Administration and Access and Greg Alston is the Controller of the program.

Colorado Legal Services receives funding from the Legal Services Corporation, the State of Colorado, Mile High United Way, Foothills United Way (Boulder and Broomfield Counties), other local United Ways, the Denver Regional Council of Governments and a number of other Area Agencies on Aging throughout the State, the Colorado Lawyer Trust Account Foundation, the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado and charitable grants and contributions from a number of

local bar associations and a variety of cities and counties and judicial districts served statewide by the program. Colorado Legal Services accepts but does not solicit contributions from the public or from lawyers other than through the efforts of the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado. All funds received by Colorado Legal Services are used to deliver legal services to the poor and elderly in greatest economic and social need. The audited financial statements of Colorado Legal Services reflect that in 2003 fully 80% of its resources were expended for the direct delivery of legal services, 19% of its resources were expended for management and general activities and 1% of its resources were expended for fundraising activities.

Colorado Legal Services coordinates its solicitation of contributions with the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado. The Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado, which distributes all of its funds to Colorado Legal Services, conducts annual law firm solicitation and lawyer campaigns in the Denver metropolitan area, Colorado Springs, Boulder, Fort Collins and Durango and requests a contribution from other attorneys licensed to practice law in the State of Colorado. The Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado also solicits funds from various private foundations and the general public on behalf of Colorado Legal Services.

Colorado Legal Services provides its services through 15 offices throughout the State. The administrative office is located just outside of downtown Denver. In order to qualify for legal assistance, an applicant for services must be determined to be financially eligible to be served by Colorado Legal Services and the requested services must fall within the program's substantive priorities and the program must have adequate resources to handle the matter. Colorado Legal Services staff, counting volunteer staff, provided more than 101,577 hours of legal services to eligible clients during 2003. Legal services provided to financially eligible clients included actual representation, legal advice, brief service and appropriate referrals.

Priority is given to dealing with the legal aspects of the efforts of poor people to maintain the basic necessities of a decent life including at least minimally adequate income, food, shelter, utilities and medical care, freedom from domestic violence and abuse, and the protection of individual rights of the elderly and physically and mentally disabled. Services are provided in matters involving income maintenance and public benefits, housing and homelessness, consumer and finance, health, including the legal rights of the elderly and the physically and mentally disabled, family and domestic relations, with particular emphasis on domestic violence and abuse. During 2003, the staff of Colorado Legal Services represented clients in 2,092 cases. An additional 4,110 individuals received legal advice or brief legal service.

The Denver office includes specialty units to enable the program to more adequately meet current and emerging client legal needs. The current units specialize in the legal problems of Family and Children, Housing Rights and Homelessness, and Health and Elderly. A Support and Advocacy Support System Unit was created to improve and support the quality of legal services provided to clients represented by program staff throughout the entire State. Continuing assessment and evaluation of the legal needs of the poor is necessary to develop appropriate legal responses to client efforts to end welfare dependence and achieve lasting self sufficiency.

Attached to this narrative and made a part of the Annual Report are the 2003 case statistics for Colorado Legal Services, the 2003 Audit, the 2003 income and expense budget, current financial eligibility guidelines and a list of the Board of Directors of Colorado Legal Services.

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**CASE TYPES**

**2003**

Consumer/Finance	1,107
Education	2
Employment	67
Family Law	2,702
Health	188
Housing	1,144
Income Maintenance	772
Individual Rights	39
Juvenile	9
Miscellaneous	<u>172</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,202</b>

**COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

**CLIENT PROFILES**

**2003**

<u><b>ETHNICITY</b></u>		<u><b>GENDER</b></u>	
Native American	162	Female	4,727
Asian	66	Male	1,475
Black	509	Group	<u>-0-</u>
Hispanic	1,624	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,202</b>
White	3,584		
Other	<u>257</u>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,202</b>		

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18-59</b>	<b>60/Over</b>	<b>Total</b>
Asian	1	58	7	66
Black	4	440	65	509
Hispanic	26	1,417	181	1,624
Native American	7	145	10	162
White	36	3,131	417	3,584
Other	<u>8</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>257</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>5,421</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>6,202</b>

## **COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES**

### **INCOME GUIDELINES**

<b>Size of Family</b>	<b>Yearly Income</b>		<b>Monthly Income</b>	
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
1	11,225	11,638	935	970
2	15,150	15,613	1,263	1,301
3	19,075	19,588	1,590	1,632
4	23,000	23,563	1,917	1,964
5	26,925	27,538	2,244	2,295
6	30,850	31,513	2,571	2,626
7	34,775	35,488	2,898	2,957
8	38,700	39,463	3,225	3,289
Each Additional Dependent	3,925	3,975	327	331

These guidelines are based on gross income.

## Colorado Legal Services Board of Directors

**Robert W. Brandes**  
Myatt Brandes & Gast, PC  
Fort Collins, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Ann Caldwell (Secretary)**  
Denver, CO  
Client Eligible

**Anne J. Castle**  
Holland & Hart  
Denver, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Cleo Cervantes**  
Rocky Ford, CO  
Client Eligible  
Arkansas Valley Resource Center

**Sharon Cochran**  
Aurora, CO  
Attorney  
Sam Cary Bar Association

**Kathleen A. Cullen**  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Client Eligible  
Ecumenical Social Ministries

**Carol J. Drobnitch**  
Pueblo, CO  
Client Eligible  
Pueblo Area Agency on Aging

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Pueblo, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Larry Gaddis (Treasurer)**  
Gaddis Kin & Herd PC  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Paula Greisen**  
King & Greisen, LLP  
Denver, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Patricia Hall**  
Maynes Bradford Shipps, Et Al  
Durango, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Wendy Jenks**  
Gunnison, CO  
Client Eligible  
Jubilee House

**John Livingston, Jr.**  
John Livingston & Associates  
Lakewood, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Ernest Marquez**  
Law Office of Ernest F. Marquez  
Salida, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Lorrie Mayhill**  
Sterling, CO  
Client Eligible  
Eastern Colorado Services

**Harry Barton (Bart) Mendenhall, II**  
Mendenhall & Malouff  
Rocky Ford, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Edward Nugent**  
Nugent & Palo, LLC  
Grand Junction, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Diana Poole**  
Denver, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Women's Bar Association

**Della Romero**  
Ignacio, CO  
Client Eligible  
Southern Ute Community  
Action Program

**Esteban Salazar**  
Esteban A. Salazar PC  
Greeley, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Bruce Sattler**  
Faegre & Benson  
Denver, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Tina Smith**  
Denver, CO  
Client Eligible  
Warren Village

**Judge Alan Stine**  
Aurora Municipal Court  
Aurora, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Helen Stone**  
Stone, Sheehy, Rosen & Byrne  
Boulder, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Daniel A. Vigil (Chair)**  
University of Denver College of Law  
Denver, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Hispanic Bar Association

**Robert Yegge**  
University of Denver College of Law  
Denver, CO  
Attorney  
Colorado Bar Association

**Anna Zapien**  
Wheat Ridge, CO  
Client Eligible  
AFDC Coalition

### Officers:

Chair: Daniel A. Vigil  
Vice Chair: Steven Fieldman  
Secretary: Ann Caldwell  
Treasurer: Larry Gaddis