



The Colorado Health Foundation™

Symposium Unplugged: Disrupting Poverty

Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019

Student Center, Otero Junior College

La Junta, Colorado | Otero County

Disrupting the poverty cycle is necessary to bringing health in reach for all Coloradans. Access to quality health care, a living wage, fresh food, transportation, education and affordable housing—*all fundamental to our health*—are often out of reach for Coloradans struggling to make ends meet. At [Symposium Unplugged: Disrupting Poverty](#), you'll hear from local and national experts from a wide range of sectors and have the opportunity to learn, share and network.

Agenda

8 AM **Registration & Continental Breakfast**

Welcome

Erica Snow, Portfolio Director, Colorado Health Foundation

Intersection of Poverty and Health: An Overview

Communities across the state face varying economic barriers. For those experiencing poverty, positive health outcomes and leading a healthy life is often out of reach. Where people live, access to affordable and quality housing, where their children attend school, access to behavioral health resources, health care options and the availability of fresh foods are all factors impacting the health of southeast Coloradans.

9 AM

Kim Gonzales, Executive Director, Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Dept.

Cassandra Rogers Wyckoff, Regional Health Connector, Otero County Health Dept.

Moderator: Erica Snow, Portfolio Director, Colorado Health Foundation

10 AM

Break

Economic Resiliency in Colorado Communities

Disrupting the poverty cycle must begin with fostering a business environment of economic opportunity for all community members. This conversation features a statewide overview and additional focus on creating economic advancement in southeast Colorado.

10:15 AM Suzanne Anarde, Vice President, LISC and Director, Rural LISC
Cate Blackford, Director of Outreach, Bell Policy Center
Cynthia Nieb, Executive Director, City of La Junta Economic Development
Moderator: Chris Smith, Senior Program Officer, Colorado Health Foundation

11:15 AM **Buffet Lunch**

Keynote: How Poverty Impacts Community and Family

Michael Patrick MacDonald, Best-selling author and activist

12 PM

Keynote followed by a conversation with Dara Hesse, Senior Program Officer, Colorado Health Foundation

Learning Labs

During these speed training-style conversations, attendees will learn about community-driven and actionable solutions to apply to their work and communities, all with a focus of improving quality of life for those underrepresented and/or underserved. Attendees can visit up to four learning labs during this time.

1 PM

Darryl Birkenfeld, Executive Director, Ogallala Commons

Jackie Brown, Chief of Primary Care Operations, Southeast Health Group

Steve Cordova, Executive Director, Tri-County Housing

Lori Hammer, Executive Director, Partners for HOPE

Michael Patrick MacDonald, Best-selling author and activist

Jace Woodrum, Senior Officer of Public Opinion Insights, Colorado Health Foundation

2:15 PM **Break**

Stories of Impact

Engaging community starts with elevating the voices of local leaders. This open dialogue featuring southeast Colorado leaders will highlight personal stories, innovative social services and local government partnerships that strengthen communities to achieve better health outcomes.

2:30 PM James Ginsburg, Director, Fort Lyon Supportive Residential Community
Emily Nieschburg, Registered Dietitian, High Plains Community Health Center
Elia Trujillo, Language Coordinator, Prowers Medical Center
Moderator: Melanie Herrera Bortz, Program Officer, Colorado Health Foundation

3:15 PM **Closing Remarks**

Be sure to participate in the conversation on Twitter or Instagram by using the event hashtag, [#19CHSUnplugged](#).