



State/Region Covered: Colorado

<http://www.cosophe.org>

Meet Colorado SOPHE!

Chapter Delegate: Melanie Stopponi, MPA, CHES; Melanie.A.Stopponi@kp.org

What is the accomplishment of COSOPHE of which you are most proud?

- *The COSOPHE board's work on a new membership program with the assistance of Corine Waldau of the Public Health Alliance. The personal contact in the Ambassador program is increasing COSOPHE's renewal rates.*
- *Collaboration Room: The Collaboration Room stores all our COSOPHE documents for future boards. The board decided that the online collaboration room needs to be utilized and made more user-friendly. All board members go through the online documents related to their position, change names of documents to include the important dates. Again, Corine is a strong support for our computerized systems.*
- *COSOPHE is 1 of 10 organizations participating in [The Public Health Alliance of Colorado](#). The group is a groundbreaking collaboration to join forces to strengthen public health in Colorado.*
- *The many volunteers and board members assisting our organization to grow into a strong chapter: COSOPHE!*

Chapter President: Sondra Manske; Sondra.manske@eaglecounty.us

How has involvement in COSOPHE advanced your career or professional development?

Being on the board has helped develop my leadership skills and kept me connected to other colleagues in the State.

COSOPHE Highlights from past 18 months...

- ⇒ Organized workshops with CHES credits on Cultural Competency, Handling Conflict, and Program Assessment for COSOPHE members.
- ⇒ Launched the Ambassador program to increase membership retention.
- ⇒ Held networking events during National Public Health Week in Denver and Loveland with approximately 68 attendees.
- ⇒ COSOPHE supported the following legislation that passed this year:
 - HB 1138 - Colorado Health Services Corps.
 - HB 1147 – Safer streets for children
 - SB 1033-Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment.
 - HB 1252: Breast Cancer Screening with Mammography
 - SB106 Farm to School Bill
- ⇒ COSOPHE strongly supported protection of local public health funding including per capita funds and Amendment 35 funds.

Upcoming Events:

Along with SOPHE and APHA in Denver for 2010, we also have Public Health in the Rockies Conference!

Public Health in the Rockies Conference 2010

Based on feedback from our members, the *Public Health in the Rockies* volunteer planning committee has changed up the format for the 2010 conference. Now our members can enjoy both our annual Public Health in the Rockies conference and the upcoming APHA conference in Denver this November.

Take a look at the [conference agenda](#) to get an idea!

The 2010 conference will be one and a half days in Denver (as desired by our members) to keep costs down for all. The conference is a bit shorter, but will still include great networking, educational sessions, public health awards and more! We will have a great line-up of sessions, posters and exhibitors...and opportunities to meet and greet with our Colorado public health colleagues.



COSOPHE predictions for health education in Colorado for the next 18-24 months...

COSOPHE will enlarge our "target audience for membership" through outreach to other professions who also provide PHE- Social Workers, Counselors, Substance Abuse Counselors, Teachers, Community Mental Health centers, Homeless Shelters, etc. This will increase our membership as well as to developing WIDER Networks of professionals, which could in turn assist us to be more effective in all of our efforts and programs- whether they are at a micro or macro level of services.