**Public Health & Parks and Recreation Summit: For the Sake of Community**

**February 26, 2016**

**Speaker and Moderator Biographies**

**Mary Ann Bonnell** is the Visitor Services Supervisor for Jeffco Open Space. Mary Ann has a degree in biology and over 20 years of experience as a park ranger and naturalist working for the Catalina Island Marine Institute, the State of Colorado, the City of Aurora and Jefferson County. Mary Ann’s passion for the outdoors came from playing in a ditch in an undeveloped park one block from her childhood home in Littleton. [mbonnell@co.jefferson.co.us](mailto:mbonnell@co.jefferson.co.us)

**Rose Chavez** is the City of Arvada's Healthy Places Coordinator since 2014. She manages the City's Healthy Place's Initiative, a $1M, 3-year grant from the Colorado Health Foundation (COHF) that aims to reduce obesity by fostering a built environment where it is easier, safer and more appealing to walk, play and engage in daily activities that encourage movement, connection and fun. She currently facilitates a diverse group of stakeholders as they steer the COHF grant through a community led process to build resident leadership capacity to implement healthy living programming and infrastructure improvements in southeast Arvada neighborhoods. Rose holds a Master's in Public Health from the UNM School of Medicine. Her most recent past appointments include Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities Coordinator for Denver Public Health and Health Program Specialist for Jefferson County Public Health. [rchavez@arvada.org](mailto:rchavez@arvada.org)

**Edgar Dominguez**, Health Equity Coordinator for Vida Sana through UCHealth’s Community Health Improvement Department, is a passionate leader for communities in need and building of strong, healthy foundations. Originally from California, Edgar worked for 5+ years in Mental Health, supporting children and families with strength based intervention plans. Upon moving to Colorado in 2012, Edgar continued providing his services to children and families in Boulder, working for Clinica Family Health Services before filling the role of Coordinator for Vida Sana. Edgar is a graduate of San Jose State University, receiving his B.A. in Leadership and Administration-Recreation. [eddie.dominguez@uchealth.org](mailto:eddie.dominguez@uchealth.org)

**Heidi Fritz, MS, RD**, is the Community Nutrition Manager at Tri-County Health Department.  She serves on the Public Health/Parks and Recreation Collaborative and the Metro Healthy Beverage Partnership. [hfritz@tchd.org](mailto:hfritz@tchd.org)

**Pamela Gould** is Public Health Planner for Jefferson County Public Health. In this role, Pamela directs the department’s community health improvement planning process and coordinates plan implementation through the Jeffco Community Health Improvement Network, which is comprised of six coalitions. One of those coalitions is the Jeffco School Wellness Coalition, which Pamela facilitates. She also serves as a Golden city councilor and is a commissioner on the Golden Urban Renewal Board. She received her master’s degree in Public Health from the Colorado School of Public Health in Community and Behavioral Health. [pgould@co.jefferson.co.us](mailto:pgould@co.jefferson.co.us)

**Summer Laws** is an alum of the Colorado School of Public Health and a planner with Boulder County Public Health.  In her role as the Public Health Improvement Coordinator, Summer supports strategic efforts within the agency and among multiple agencies to reduce substance abuse, improve mental health, and increase healthy eating and active living.  Some of her most fulfilling work has been as a professional and director supporting health equity efforts to improve health among people and families that have immigrated to the US in Fort Collins, Steamboat Springs, and Craig, Colorado.  Her interests also include improvements in the health care system to support public health, policies that reduce chronic disease, and the integration of health equity efforts into all programs. [slaws@bouldercounty.org](mailto:slaws@bouldercounty.org)

**Dr. Angela Loder** is a researcher and strategic planner whose work focuses on the relationship between occupant health, buildings, urban planning, and urban nature. Dr. Loder’s research was the first large-scale multi-method study on the health impacts of access to green roofs in urban areas. She is working with Jefferson County Public Health to implement a $1.6 million dollar Healthy Eating Active Living grant, is a member of the Health in Buildings Roundtable with the NIH, a board member of the Institute for the Built Environment, on the ULI Healthy Places Committee, and adjunct faculty at Denver University.  Dr. Loder has published in academic and popular media, and taught extensively on sustainable urban form, health, and psychological perceptions of urban nature. Her book “*Small-Scale Urban Greening: Creating Places of Health, Creativity, and Ecological Sustainability”* will be published with Routledge. [loder.angela@gmail.com](mailto:loder.angela@gmail.com)

**Christian Perez** is the Vida Sana Site Coordinator for the City of Fort Collins Northside Aztlan Community Center. Originally hailing from New Jersey, Christian received his Bachelor’s in Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics from Rutgers University. There he was highly involved in the Latino community on campus as well as in the city of New Brunswick, NJ. After graduating, nutrition and health continued to be his means of serving and became a Certified Holistic Health Coach from the Institute for Integrative Nutrition. He has lived in Fort Collins for a year now with his girlfriend who shares his same passion of health and wellness. In addition, he works at Salud Family Health Center, concurrently. As a result of his experiences, he has extensive knowledge in health education and wellness coaching and is determined to serve his community via preventative health. Christian is very excited to be working with Vida Sana and hopes to use his experience and passion to support their mission in making an impact. [cperez@fcgov.com](mailto:cperez@fcgov.com)

**Chris Raines** has been the Executive Director of Bennett Park and Recreation District for the past five years.  She has lived in this area for six years.  She has five children and loves small community life.  [director@bennettrec.org](mailto:director@bennettrec.org)

**Alison Rhodes** is District Services Manager with City of Boulder Parks and Recreation and is responsible for of the city's recreation facilities, including three community centers and two outdoor pools, as well as a broad scope of programming. As a member of the department's strategic leadership team, Ali aids in setting vision and direction for the organization through annual work planning, board and community engagement and staff development. Ali is 11 weeks away from a Masters in Public Administration from CU-Denver, where her work has focused on strategic leadership and the intersections between local government and community health. [RhodesA@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:RhodesA@bouldercolorado.gov)

**Madeleine West** serves as DNR’s Assistant Director for Parks, Wildlife and Lands and has been with the agency since 2013.  In this capacity she works on policy development primarily related to the Division of Parks and Wildlife, the State Land Board, and the Division of Forestry.  Prior to working at DNR, Madeleine served as Wildlife Program Director at the Western Governors Association where she developed and implemented regional policies related to wildlife management, endangered species, outdoor recreation, energy and public lands. Previously, Madeleine worked at RESOLVE, a Washington, D.C.-based stakeholder involvement and group facilitation consulting firm, developing consensus policy recommendations for governmental clients. She lobbied in the Colorado State Legislature for industry clients, and handled Congressional relations in the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of International Oceans, Environment and Science in Washington, D.C. Madeleine earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver’s School of Public Affairs and a Bachelor of Science in environmental and natural resource policy from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. [Madeleine.West@state.co.us](mailto:Madeleine.West@state.co.us)