A Message from our Executive Director

When we launched COPA 3 years ago, we launched with a desire to build power and to have those most impacted lead the work in our fight for racial, economic, climate and immigrant justice. In our short time of existence, we have accomplished so much and have ensured that our members, people from the community who are most impacted, lead the work for change.

- In 2016 we co-chaired the statewide ballot measure to raise Colorado’s minimum wage to $12 an hour by 2020.
- In 2016 we established the Statewide Immigration Resistance table to bring together immigrant rights groups and center collaboration in our fight for immigrants and refugees.
- In 2017 we co-led the efforts to pass an immigration protection policy in Denver, the Public Safety Enforcement Priorities Act and Legal Defense Fund.
- In 2018 we passed a ballot measure that caps interest rates from Payday Lenders at 36% with 77% of the vote, the largest vote margin for a ballot measure in Colorado’s history.
- In 2018 we started the Climate Justice Table, a table comprised of environmental, labor and community groups to move Colorado to a renewable energy economy while centering workers and communities most disproportionately impacted by environmental pollutants.
- We started co-governance relationships with our members in the Aurora City Council: Councilmembers Murillo, Hiltz, and Johnston. We also started a co-governance relationship with newly elected Congressman Jason Crow - we are excited to be working closely with our elected officials to ensure that governance happens with us not without us.
- We have trained and developed over 150 members to ensure that those who are most directly impacted lead the work for change.

We are leading on climate, economic, and immigrant rights issues, and we are just getting started. Thank you for supporting us! All of these victories could not have been accomplished without the hard work, support, and dedication from our staff, board, donors, and specially our members! Our journey has not been easy but we are proud of the work we have accomplished and the path we have started in order to build power for our communities. We are filled with inspiring stories of resistance and the commitment from our community to transform Colorado and to ensure that Colorado is a state that welcomes everyone regardless of their status or race, that our economy works for all of us not just the wealthy few, and that we put communities first while fighting against environmental pollutants and the climate crisis.

This is our moment to continue to be bold, take risks, and make changes – to fight and win! Thank you for fighting alongside us!

En solidaridad,

Lizeth Chacon
Executive Director
Climate Justice

We continued to move forward our campaign for water justice in Commerce City and Montbello. Additionally, in 2018 we led the creation of an unprecedented coalition that came together to tackle the issue of moving Colorado to a renewable energy economy. The coalition is comprised of environmental, labor, faith and community groups.

Immigrant Justice

2018 was a hard year for our immigrant community, but despite the continued attacks we have remained resilient and continued our fight.

- Fought for the Dream Act and to ensure our parents were not left behind
- Mobilized against the separation of families and caging of our children
- Passed changes that increase accessibility of driver’s licenses
- Launched a campaign against the expansion of the GEO Aurora immigration detention center

Economic Justice

We have been working to hold corporations accountable and to build an economy that works for all Coloradans. In 2018 we were part of the Stop Predatory Lenders campaign that through Initiative 111 capped payday loan interest rates at 36%. Our initiative passed with 77% of the vote, the largest vote margin in Colorado’s history for a ballot initiative.
Civic Engagement

We are working to engage community in our work and ensure those who are voters go to the ballot box to support our issues. In 2018 we canvassed in Greeley, Lakewood, Denver and Commerce City and knocked on 6,400 doors.

Leadership Development

Since our start in 2015 we have been working hard to develop our own training curriculum and in 2018 we came really close to that. Through 4 days of intensive training (throughout the year) we trained over 50 of our leaders on organizing skills including power, narrative, 1:1 meetings, direct actions, structural oppression, self-interest and more.

Citizenship Classes

In 2018 we provided bilingual English/Spanish citizenship classes to over 188 Coloradans to support them in their process of becoming citizens and get them involved in our community. We had over 35 of our members become new US Citizens!
NOTES OF APPRECIATION

A special thank you to all who donated in 2018!

Advisory Board

Our Advisory Board is comprised of core members who are actively involved in strategically leading our work.

Dalila Lopez  Michael Miller
Eduardo Gomez

A special thank you to our past advisory board members: Evalina Kirkpatrick, Amado Acosta Tapia, & Martha Lugo

Board of Directors

Madison Cassels, Board Chair
Regan Byrd, Board Treasurer
Felipe Vieyra, Board Member
Michael Ramirez, Board Member

A special thank you to: Billy Husher
2018 FINANCIALS

Income

- Foundations: 88%
- Programs: 3.5%
- Other: 1.5%
- Individuals: 5%
- Annual Event: 2%

2018 Total Income: $919,566.19

Expenses

- Personnel: 56%
- Program Expenses: 27.5%
- Operating Expenses: 16.5%

2018 Total Expenses: $568,247.53

A copy of our 990 is available from the Secretary of State and the IRS.
Thank you for being part of the COPA family!

BUILD POWER WITH US!

Visit us at www.ColoradoPeoplesAlliance.org

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- Become a monthly Power Builder
- Make a donation
- Sign up to receive our emails

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