

MDHWC Key Staff

Theresa M. Donahue, M.R.P., B.S., brings over 25 years of leadership, senior management, strategic planning, and public policy research and implementation experience. She was a Cabinet officer, leading Denver's health department with over 150 staff and a \$55 million budget. Prior to that she was Denver's Deputy Chief of Staff overseeing multiple city agencies and personnel. She has served as a consultant to public partnerships, as interim executive director of Transit Alliance and coordinator for the Active Living Partnership at Greater Stapleton. She is a member of the Total Longterm Care Board of Directors, Regional Air Quality Council, Equal Rights Colorado Board of Directors, Cross Community Coalition Board of Directors, and the Denver Healthy People 2010 Executive Committee. She is serving as Executive Director of the commission.

Dr. James O. Hill, Ph.D., is Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine and Director of the Center for Human Nutrition at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center. He is one of the world's foremost experts on diet, physical activity and obesity. He has over 250 scientific publications in the area, has served on several national and international panels that have developed guidelines for obesity, and founded the non-profit initiative, America On the Move, to inspire Americans to make small lifestyle changes in order to prevent weight gain. He is working with several metro area communities, including Broomfield, Aurora and Stapleton, to improve diet and physical activity patterns. He serves as MDHWC co-chair, member of the Executive and Metrics/Health of the Region committees, and provides overall guidance, outreach, and fundraising support to the MDHWC.

Peter Kenney, is a co-founder of the Denver-based Center for Regional and Neighborhood Action (CRNA), that created CIVIC RESULTS, a nonprofit organization dedicated to linking the energy at the neighborhood level with regional strategies that involve collaboration among government, business, nonprofit organizations and citizens to improve the quality of life of all residents. He has twenty years of policy development and management experience as an elected official in municipal and county government. He was a Clear Creek County Commissioner, chairman of the Clear Creek County Planning Commission, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) for seven years, serving as chair of the Executive Committee and vice chair of the Board of Directors.

John Parr is a co-founder and principal CRNA and serves as President/CEO of the Alliance for Regional Stewardship, a national network of practitioners from the public, private and nonprofit sectors that are using metropolitan or rural regional approaches for community problem solving. He is an associate of the Citistates Group working on issues of regional governance in the United States, is a licensed attorney with extensive experience in public administration, strategic planning, mediation, public interest group management and political campaign organization, and is a Lecturer in the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado. He is also a Fellow of the National Academy for Public Administration, president of Denver Friends of Public Montessori and board member of the Downtown Denver Partnership.

Helen Thompson, MA, RD, CDE, Director of America On the Move in Colorado and a member of the executive team at the Center for Human Nutrition at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center will serve as a liaison to the MDHWC from the Center for Human Nutrition and America On the Move. In addition, she will assume the responsibility for chairing and supporting the Metrics/Health of the Region report committee determining the metrics and evaluation plan to be used by the MDHWC.