

# the Positive Voice

## WOMEN'S HEALTH

Boulder Valley Women's  
Health Center

2855 Valmont Road  
Boulder, CO 80301

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Longmont, CO 80501

Administrative Line:  
303-440-9320

Clinic Line:  
303-442-5160

Web sites:  
[boulderwomenshealth.org](http://boulderwomenshealth.org)  
[teenclinic.org](http://teenclinic.org)

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Susan Buchanan, JD, RN

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The Positive Voice is  
published three times a  
year by Women's Health.

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## LONGTIME DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

*Susan Buchanan  
recognized for two  
decades of service to  
Women's Health*

**A**fter more than 20 years of service, Susan Buchanan, Executive Director of Boulder Valley Women's Health Center, is retiring.

Buchanan informed the center's board of directors that she intends to step down by the end of the year. The board will launch an immediate search for her replacement.

"We all owe a debt of gratitude to Susan for her consistent leadership in the service of reproductive health care access for our county, our state and in fact, the entire region," said Laura Stark-Ghayur, chair of the board of directors. "The accomplishments made under her leadership are many, but at their heart is her commitment to ensure access to quality, inclusive health care for everyone who needs it

and an intent focus on providing the full range of reproductive health care that all can afford."

Under Susan's leadership—both her 18 years as Executive Director and previously on the board of directors—Boulder Valley Women's Health Center has:

- Expanded its services and its budget to provide greater access to a larger number of individuals in need of health care. Between 2001 and 2019, the annual operating budget grew from just \$800,000 to nearly \$3 million resulting in expanded services and greater opportunities for patients to pay according to their income;
- Grown charitable giving to the organization, including a \$1.5 million capital campaign that resulted in the full renovation of the Valmont Center in Boulder and improvements to the



**Susan Buchanan, RN, JD**

Longmont clinic. Now, both facilities have paid off their mortgages and operate debt free;

- Accomplished this financial success while twice navigating the loss of significant amounts of Title X funding, first from the state and then from the Federal government without ever compromising the organization's status as an abortion provider;
- Created greater access to contraceptives for teens including successful efforts to secure City of Longmont funding for a free teen clinic. Additionally, Women's Health served as the

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# OUR FUN AND FABULOUS FUNDRAISER: CONDOM COUTURE CABARET

On September 21st, Women's Health hosted our 7th annual Condom Couture fundraising event. This year, we transformed our typical condom fashion runway show into a **Condom Cabaret!**

The show was a smashing success with drag performers, singers, burlesque, and even a stilts act. Over 300 community members attended, and many have said this was the best Condom Couture yet!

We're happy to report that this year's Condom Couture not only sold out, it grossed nearly \$130,000 -- more successful than any Condom Couture ever!

This year especially, we are so touched and grateful for the support of our communities and people like you. Your donations will help us provide reproductive and sexual health services and education to all who need them -- regardless of income, insurance or immigration status.

Our thanks to **One Condoms** for again donating all the condoms used in the designs! And thank you to our sponsors (see next page). Please support these local businesses that support Women's Health!



**A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR CONDOM COUTURE CABARET PERFORMERS AND DESIGNERS WHO DONATED THEIR TIME AND TALENTS TO OUR EVENT! Clockwise from top left: Jack Walker/ designed by Garrett Chappell; Marguerite Behringer and Bucky LaCroix/ designed by Lindsey Knapton; Marcie Smith/ designed by Nicole Bartet; Valerie Morris/ designed by Darlene Ritz; Lady Aphrodisia and Agent Sauvage/ designed by Chris Harris, Ryen Harris and Kaiya Martelon; Trey Suits/ designed by Steffie Notion.**

Enjoy these photos from **Adrian Michael Photography**. See our Facebook photo album for more, and keep watching over the next few weeks as more photos are added! ❖

# Thank you to our 2019 Condom Couture Cabaret Sponsors!

## CONDOM SPONSOR



## ALCOHOL SPONSORS



## BRALETTES AND CORSETS SPONSOR | \$3,000



## STOCKINGS AND SUSPENDERS SPONSORS | \$1,000



## TANTALIZING TASSELS SPONSORS | \$500



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GROSS



## ***Buchanan retirement, continued***

pilot site for the state-wide expansion of access to long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC). This effort focused on providing the most effective forms of birth control, such as IUDs, to vulnerable populations. Ultimately, it resulted in a 59% reduction in the teen birth rate state-wide;

- Sought out new and enhanced ways for Women's Health to fill unmet needs in the community, including subsidized breast cancer screenings, expanded access to long acting reversible contraceptives, and most recently, hormone therapy for transgender individuals;
- Stepped forward to be the first non-profit provider of

hormonal transition therapy to the transgender community in Boulder County, including fees that allow individuals to pay according to their income;

- Developed the "Champions of Choice" campaign, an abortion-specific fundraiser with notable guests of honor including Rachel Maddow, Gloria Steinem, Jane Fonda, Sarah Weddington, Mike Farrell, Sally Blackmun, Gloria Feldt, and Dottie Lamm;
- Took a leadership role in reinvigorating the Human Services Alliance and chairing it for a number of years while it grew and gained respect from local government funders.

"For the last two decades, it has been my passion to ensure that all our community members receive the quality sexual and reproductive health care they need. It's been my honor to play a small part in the health and wellness of my fellow residents," Buchanan said. "But it is time that I move on and pursue other passions as well."

Buchanan's absence will be felt in the larger health care and non-profit community, particularly by community partners who have often turned to Boulder Valley Women's Health Center to step forward and fill gaps in service with quality health care using sliding-scale fees or acceptance of Medicaid.

"It is not possible to overstate the critical role Women's Health has played in our community. In large part, that is due to Susan's leadership and vision for the role the Center could and should play," said Anne



***Women's Health Director Susan Buchanan addresses the crowd as an invited speaker at the Women's March on Denver on Jan. 21, 2017.***

Tapp, executive director at Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence. "All of us wish Susan well and hope that any new leadership at the organization will work hard to continue her legacy."

The board of directors will launch an executive search in a timely manner. The board is focused on finding a candidate that embraces the organization's long-standing focus on high-quality health care delivered in an inclusive setting. ❖

## **OUT IN THE COMMUNITY**



***Women's Health supporter and volunteer, Nanci Feeney (right), educates Naropa students and staff about Women's Health at a campus welcome event in August. Pictured with Nanci is Naropa student Zoe Schlanger.***



Donate online at  
[boulderwomenshealth.org](http://boulderwomenshealth.org)