THE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION OF COLORADO

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Give the money
to spread the knowledge
to power the change
to alter the future
for women and girls
in Colorado.

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### The Women's Foundation of Colorado Adds New Members to its Notable Board Of Trustees

Six Extraordinary Women and Men Join The Board to Help Bring Colorado Women and Girls To Economic Self Sufficiency

**DENVER, Colo.** (**February 2, 2009**) – The Women's Foundation of Colorado (WFCO) has announced it has added six new members to its 2009 Board of Trustees as well appointed its 2009 chair, Christine Benero, president and CEO of Mile High United Way in Denver.

"These six incredible women and men have championed together to bring their experience, networks and passion to The WFCO to help us create systemic change and better opportunities for women and girls in Colorado," said Gretchen Gagel McComb, president and CEO of The WFCO. "Their leadership will help us continue to strive to reach The Foundation's goal for every woman in Colorado to be economically self-sufficient, and every girl in Colorado to be on the path to economic self-sufficiency in adulthood."

The WFCO new 2009 Board chair and new Trustees:

Christine Benero is president and CEO of Mile High United Way in Denver, an organization that maximizes the power of collective generosity to create long-term solutions in the community. Mile High United Way's mission will be accomplished when young children are ready to learn when they begin school, when at-risk youth graduate from high school and when hard working families achieve financial stability. Christine is the former CEO of the American Red Cross Mile High Chapter, in Denver. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors of the National Civic League, Metro Volunteers, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce Leadership Foundation and Friends of the Denver Fire Department. She also serves as the chair of the Governor's Commission on National and Community Service. Christine was named the 9News Leader of the Year for 2007.

Wade Buchanan has been president of the Bell Policy Center and the Bell Action Network since 2001. Under Wade's leadership, the Bell has grown from a start-up organization to become one of the premier progressive policy organizations in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain West. Wade pulled together a veteran professional staff that has played a major role in fiscal reform, education policy, economic security and other key issues that affect the well being of working families in Colorado. Prior to that, Wade was executive director of Colorado Conservation Voters and senior advisor, policy director and chief speechwriter to former Colorado Governor Roy Romer. He also served as acting executive director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, director of the Colorado Office of Energy Conservation and chair of the Regional Air Quality Council, the lead air quality

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agency for metro Denver. Wade holds a bachelor of arts degree in history from Colorado College and a master's of philosophy in international relations from Oxford University in England, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

Cile Chavez is president of Cile Chavez Consulting, Inc., and provides motivation and expertise to organizations in the private and public sectors on leadership and human development. Her services include keynote speeches, seminars, in-depth retreats and individual coaching. Her passion is to guide others in realizing their skills, talents and potential in both their personal and professional lives. She emphasizes the power of modeling integrity, effective human relations, intelligent behavior and enthusiasm. In 2003, the Mile Hi Council of Girl Scouts honored her as a Woman of Distinction. Cile has been named one of the top 100 educators in the U.S. and was a finalist for the Colorado Superintendent of the Year award.

Kelly Condon joined Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company in 2001 as director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs. She manages all equal opportunity, affirmative action and diversity programs for the national business operations that comprise Space Systems Company. Among her responsibilities, Kelly works to institutionalize diversity and inclusion in the workplace; helps feed the technology pipeline via community outreach to women, minorities, persons with disabilities and veterans, and manages all interface with the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and state Human Rights Agencies. Prior to joining Lockheed Martin, Kelly practiced employment law and general litigation as a senior associate at Holme, Roberts and Owen, LLP. Kelly has served on the Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award Committee for over 10 years and co-founded Denver's annual Girls Exploring Science, Engineering & Technology event. She is a passionate advocate of mentoring.

Gail Kellogg is the chair of the NEW FRONTIERS Board of Directors. NEW FRONTIERS for Girls & Women of Northwest Colorado was started in 1998 by local initiatives resulting from The Status Project of the Women's Foundation of Colorado, and has evolved into a locally independent, all-volunteer organization. Gail also serves on the boards of directors of the University of Illinois Foundation, the Strings Music Festival and Steamboat Seminars. Previously, she served on the Village of Kildeer Board of Trustees; University of Illinois Alumni Association Board and its Alumni Center Building Committee; and was the NEW FRONTIERS' 2007-08 Girls to Women program chair. Prior to her retirement in 2005, Gail was a partner with Hewitt Associates, a global HR consulting and services company with over 20,000 employees in 35 countries whose mission is to make the world a better place to work. Gail remains devoted to the University of Illinois where the Gail V. and Brooks L. Kellogg Endowed Fund in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences was established.

Lynda McNeive is a shareholder in Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber and Schreck and recognized as one of Colorado's leading business lawyers. She works in the Denver office and serves on the firm's executive committee. With more than 28 years of experience in commercial real estate transactions, Lynda represents developers and investors in retail, office, industrial, residential and mixed-use properties. She counsels clients from the initial due diligence stage through site acquisition, entitlement approvals, development and permanent financing, construction of improvements, leasing and sale. She chaired the firm's ethics committee for 14 years, co-chaired the Real Estate Group for three years and has served on the firm's executive committee since 2004. Her volunteer, pro bono and community service includes annual fundraising for nonprofit organizations and political candidates, hosting numerous campaign events and advocacy for women's rights issues and real estate industry groups. Lynda has been president of the Colorado Women's Bar Association, which honored her with its Mary Lathrop Trailblazer Award in 2008, and has served on the Board of Adjustment and Appeals for the City of Cherry Hills and on the boards of the Colorado Chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties and of Colorado Public Radio.

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Pamela (Pam) R. Smith is a partner of No Harm Done Design, LLC. in Cordillera. She is also the co-founder and a current board member of The Women's Foundation (Hong Kong), an organization working to advance women's economic self-reliance. She has held leadership positions in women's organizations in the United States, Austria, Switzerland and Hong Kong. She currently serves on the Women's Leadership Board at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and is a founding board member of the Fund for Women in Asia. Pam is an advisor to the Vail Symposium and co-chairs The WFCO's Vail Valley Steering Committee. Pam has been a lifelong advocate for women, including involving adolescent girls in the political process, establishing leadership development programs for women and assuring equitable representation of women on decision-making boards and commissions. Pam is a partner in an import/export business No Harm Done Design, LLC, manufacturing products for the high-end interior design trade. Portions of the profits of this company go to organizations that protect animals and advance opportunities for women and girls.

#### The Women's Foundation of Colorado

Think Big. Be Bold. Make Change. This is The Women's Foundation of Colorado's mission. Since 1987, The WFCO has invested millions in nonprofit organizations throughout the state to dramatically change the lives of Colorado's women and girls. Through research, education, advocacy and collaboration, The WFCO sets the agenda and leads systemic change, creating greater opportunities for women and girls to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. The goal of The Foundation is for every woman in Colorado is economically self-sufficient, and every girl in Colorado is on the path to economic self-sufficiency in adulthood. We believe that changes in public policy will have the greatest impact in assisting women in their efforts to achieve economic self-sufficiency. For more information visit www.wfco.org or call 303-285-2960.

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