



REEVE **SUMMIT** **2025**
WHERE CARE, CURE AND COMMUNITY CONNECT

March 10–12, 2025

Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel
1550 Court Place
Denver, Colorado

Contents

2	Welcome
3	Schedule-At-A-Glance
6	Schedule
13	Speakers
19	Surveys
20	Sponsors
22	Exhibitors

Program as of 2/14/25

WELCOME!

Welcome to the 5th Annual Reeve Summit: Where Care, Cure and Community Connect.

We're thrilled to be surrounded by so many new faces—and hope you've all brought energy to spare as we look at this beautiful skyline and contemplate how to move mountains as a community. Our program this year brims with presentations that promise to not only spark critical conversations about the challenges we face together but convey the incredible potential of this moment.

Beginning with a keynote speech celebrating ONWARD's groundbreaking electrical stimulation therapy for arm and hand strength and sensation, we'll talk about the scientific advances transforming the field of spinal cord injury research (SCI). We'll spotlight quality of life gains for people living with SCI, paralysis and other disabilities and brainstorm solutions to address the persistent challenges faced within the disability community, from representation in the arts to mental health and employment through entrepreneurship. We'll also share strategies and support that target the specific needs of military service members and veterans, caregivers, and survivors of traumatic SCI.

Between sessions, there will be plenty of time for what we believe is perhaps the most important part of every Reeve Summit: connecting with one another.

Meet your neighbors. Listen to the stories that led them here and share your own. Arrange to keep in touch—to grab coffee or share tips on parenting with a disability; to become National Paralysis Resource Center peer mentors; to join Team Reeve by participating in a marathon or hosting an event in your local community. We are here not only to respond to the challenges that shape our lives but to build a community that sustains us in real time. Let's get started.

Maggie Goldberg
President & CEO



Maggie Goldberg

President & CEO

Christopher & Dana Reeve
Foundation

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SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

MONDAY, MARCH 10	LOCATION	SESSION
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM	South Lobby	Registration Open
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Ballroom	Welcome Remarks: Moving Mountains Together: Welcome and Networking Hour
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	South Lobby	Exhibits Open
TUESDAY, MARCH 11	LOCATION	SESSION
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	South Lobby	Morning Caffeine / Exhibits Open
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Ballroom	Opening Remarks
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM		Keynote: Introducing ONWARD ARCEX: The First System Approved for Non-Invasive Spinal Cord Stimulation for Chronic Spinal Cord Injury
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	South Lobby	Break & Exhibits
	North Lobby	Visit Headshots
	North Lobby	Connection Corner: National Paralysis Resource Center
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	Ballroom	Caregivers Supporting Caregivers and the Power of Peer Support
	Windows	Progress in Research: The Reeve Foundation's Approach to Advancing SCI Science
12:15 PM - 1:00 PM	South Lobby	Break & Exhibits
	North Lobby	Visit Headshots
	North Lobby	Connection Corner: Veterans
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Ballroom	Lunch / Keynote: The Importance of Representation in Disability Advocacy
2:00 PM - 2:15 PM	South Lobby	Break & Exhibits
2:15 PM - 3:15 PM	Ballroom	Grassroots Disability Advocacy: Effective Strategies for Change
	Windows	Leveraging a Peer Support Model for Connecting with Victims of Violence
3:15 PM - 4:00 PM	South Lobby	Break & Exhibits
	North Lobby	Visit Headshots
	North Lobby	Connection Corner: Public Impact Panel
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Ballroom	Supporting Disabled Veterans: Accessing Services by Connecting the Dots
	Windows	Movement is Life: Ensuring Health Care is Accessible and Competent for the Disability Community
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM	South Lobby	Break & Exhibits
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Ballroom	Evening Reception & Networking When We Tell Our Own Stories: A Q&A on Disability in Film and Theater

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12	LOCATION	SESSION
8:45 AM - 9:15 AM	South Lobby	Morning Caffeine / Exhibits Open
9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Ballroom	Opening Remarks
9:45 AM - 10:45 AM		Advancing Spinal Cord Injury Research: Overcoming Challenges and Embracing Innovation
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM	South Lobby	Break & Exhibits
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	Ballroom	Lunch / Keynote: Empowering Disability Leadership Through Entrepreneurship
12:15 PM - 12:30 PM	South Lobby	Break & Exhibits
12:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Ballroom	Closing Panels Moving Forward to Create Change: State Advocacy Roundtable Reeve's Dream Team: Public Impact Panel Roundtable

ONWARD MEDICAL

ONWARD Medical will be at the Reeve Summit with ARC^{EX}!

ONWARD ARC^{EX} is now the first system FDA-approved for non-invasive spinal cord stimulation for people with spinal cord injury.

ARC^{EX}

Scan this QR code to learn more about ARC^{EX} and fill out the webform to submit your questions.

<https://www.onward.com/therapy/arc-ex/>

The ARC^{EX} System is intended to deliver programmed, transcutaneous electrical spinal cord stimulation in conjunction with functional task practice in the clinic to improve hand sensation and strength in individuals between 18 and 75 years old that present with a chronic, non-progressive neurological deficit resulting from an incomplete spinal cord injury (C2-C8 inclusive). Cleared for use only in the United States. ARC^{EX}, ARC^{EX} logo, ONWARD^{EX} and ONWARD^{EX} Medical logos are proprietary and registered trademarks of ONWARD Medical. Unauthorized use is strictly prohibited. © 2025 ONWARD Medical. All Rights Reserved.

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SCHEDULE

MONDAY, MARCH 10

4:00-5:00pm | Ballroom

Moving Mountains Together: Welcome and Networking Hour

Get to know speakers, Reeve staff, and your fellow Summit attendees in this fun and relaxed mix-and-mingle! Learn about the exciting, exclusive opportunities happening at the Summit, with opening remarks by emcee Tobias Forrest and other special guests.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

9:30-10:30am | Ballroom

Keynote

Introducing ONWARD ARC^{EX}: The First System Approved for Non-Invasive Spinal Cord Stimulation for Chronic Spinal Cord Injury

Dr. Marco Baptista, Dr. Candace Tefertiller, Dave Marver

Over 300,000 individuals in the United States live with spinal cord injuries (SCI). Therapeutic options have historically been limited, but the recently FDA-approved ARC^{EX} System from ONWARD Medical, a TIME Magazine 2024 Best Invention, introduces a new era in the treatment of SCI. Dr. Baptista will lead a discussion with Dr. Candy Tefertiller, principal investigator for the Up-LIFT Trial and a clinical expert from Craig Hospital, along with ONWARD CEO Dave Marver. Together, they will explore the science and clinical significance of the FDA-approved ARC^{EX} System, the first non-invasive spinal cord stimulation system intended to improve hand strength and sensation after chronic SCI. Dr. Tefertiller will share insights from the Up-LIFT Trial, highlighting the potential of ARC^{EX} to transform SCI rehabilitation and care. Dave Marver will discuss the journey to FDA approval, expectations about ARC^{EX}, and ONWARD's vision for advancing SCI therapies to enhance quality of life and independence.

Meet Nurse Linda at her dedicated table and to connect with one of Christopher Reeve's nurses! A dedicated advocate, valued friend of the Foundation, and expert in spinal cord injury care, Nurse Linda looks forward to engaging with attendees.

11:15-12:15pm | Ballroom

Caregivers Supporting Caregivers and the Power of Peer Support

Gwen Alexander, Kelly Lamb, Brayden Barnes

Having a community of individuals with similar lived experiences to you can be life changing. For caregivers of people living with paralysis, peer support can mean the difference between surviving and thriving. Hear about the peer support experiences of a leader of the Reeve Foundation's Caregiver Support Group; the partner of an individual living with paralysis; and the young adult child of a parent living with SCI on the importance of peer support. A portion of this session will be used for caregivers in the audience to share problem-solving techniques and offer advice (refraining from medical or psychological counsel). Attendees of this session will come away with a deeper understanding of key barriers faced by caregivers and practical solutions including the importance of peer support.

11:15-12:15pm | Windows

Progress in Research: The Reeve Foundation's Approach to Advancing SCI Science

Dr. Marco Baptista

The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation is dedicated to developing real-world treatments for people living with spinal cord injury (SCI) and paralysis. Decade by decade, the Reeve Foundation has worked to change what was deemed possible, collaborating with equally determined scientists and labs to map a path toward progress and build a vibrant research field that delivers real improvements for people living with paralysis. Today, as 21st-century technology and cumulative scientific gains converge, we are on the cusp of a new era in spinal cord injury research. Dr. Marco Baptista, Chief Scientific Officer of the Reeve Foundation, will discuss our commitment to supporting early-stage translational science and enablers in the SCI field. This will push the scientific field and emerging technologies forward to ensure that the unmet needs of our SCI community are finally addressed.

Snap a photo and create lasting memories at our Reeve Summit Photo Booth! Capture fun moments with fellow attendees and show off your creative side. Share on social media and tag us **@ReeveFoundation!** Use hashtags **#ReeveSummit** to highlight the event.

1:00-2:00pm | Ballroom

Keynote

The Importance of Representation in Disability Advocacy

David Ortiz, with guests Andrew Romanoff and Hillary Jorgensen

Colorado has had an impressive amount of disability-related policy wins in the past four years, including greater accessibility standards for transportation, better housing protections for people with disabilities, and increased access to durable medical equipment repairs, to name a few. None of these successes would have been possible without the leadership and knowledge of Former State Representative David Ortiz, a U.S. Army veteran who became paralyzed after a helicopter crash and then went on to serve as an elected official. In this keynote, join Ortiz for a stirring discussion on the importance of policy decisions being made by people with disabilities, as well as the necessity of veteran representation and coalition building. Ortiz is joined by representatives from Disability Law Colorado and the Colorado Cross Disability Coalition to further enrich the conversation. Attendees will leave with ideas for their own political advocacy, as well as an understanding of the future advocacy landscape.

2:15-3:15pm | Ballroom

Grassroots Disability Advocacy: Effective Strategies for Change

Gerard Arnum and Kelly Lamb

Throughout history, grassroots disability advocates have been at the forefront of change. As the landscape shifts, the need to effectively advocate for change remains essential. Join Reeve's Advocacy Team for a discussion of successful advocacy strategies and a first look at Reeve's new Grassroots Advocacy Toolkit, a free and comprehensive resource to guide you through your advocacy journey. Attendees will learn advocacy tools for topics such as sharing your story, communicating with your legislators, and knowing your rights.

Headshot Opportunity for Individuals Living with Paralysis and Caregivers

We are offering professional headshots for individuals living with paralysis and their caregivers. These photos will help empower participants as they pursue career and entrepreneurial opportunities, supporting their professional growth and personal branding.

2:15-3:15pm | Windows

Leveraging a Peer Support Model for Connecting with Victims of Violence

Walter Afable and Juan Garibay

Survivors of violent injury are more capable of returning to full, productive lives when barriers to support services are minimized or eliminated. The Rancho Violence Recovery and Prevention Program (RVRPP) aims to identify the best possible interventions that promote survivors' recovery from violent injury and reintegration back into their home communities. Session attendees will hear from the Chief Ancillary & Outpatient Services Officer at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and the RVRPP Program Director on specific ways survivors are supported in their rehabilitation journey, including the importance of being connected with peer counselors, social workers, and case managers throughout the care continuum and eventual discharge home.

4:00-5:00pm | Ballroom

Supporting Disabled Veterans: Accessing Services by Connecting the Dots

Eric Allen, Marco Rossi, Tom Wheaton, and Scott Griffith

For veterans living with paralysis, understanding how to navigate services and benefits available to them is crucial to living a fulfilling life post-service. Join Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Reeve Foundation's Military & Veterans Program for a discussion on resources each organization offers and the power that comes from groups working together to achieve similar ends for their community. Attendees will leave with a greater understanding of how to access necessary services, as well as advocacy efforts that aim to better support disabled service members.

4:00-5:00pm | Windows

Movement is Life: Ensuring Health Care is Equitable, Accessible, and Competent for the Disability Community

Chanda Hinton

Access to non-traditional (acupuncture, massage, chiropractic, physical therapy etc.) and proactive/preventative healthcare is critical for quality of life for individuals with physical disabilities, yet numerous barriers exist. Participants will explore the healthcare barriers that individuals with long-term disability face, determine what disability-competent care is and how it improves the quality of life for individuals with disabilities, and review how and why medical providers and professionals need to apply disability competent care in their practices.

5:30-8:30pm | Ballroom

When We Tell Our Own Stories: A Q&A on Disability in Film and Theater

Tobias Forrest and Regan Linton

Join Tobias Forrest and Regan Linton, both actors living with paralysis, for an interactive discussion on the necessity and power of authentic disability representation in the media and arts!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

9:45-10:45am | Ballroom

Advancing Spinal Cord Injury Research: Overcoming Challenges and Embracing Innovation

Dr. Cristin Welle

Once deemed the “graveyard of neurobiology,” spinal cord injury (SCI) research has now entered a transformative era, bringing us closer to tangible solutions for those living with paralysis. With advancements in brain-computer interfaces (BCIs), cutting-edge innovations are revolutionizing the scientific field. As these technologies gain traction, the Brain-Computer Interface Collaborative Community (iBCI-CC) is the first Collaborative Community in the clinical neurosciences that has participation from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The iBCI-CC fosters collaboration among diverse stakeholders, ensuring the development, safety, and accessibility of these innovations. Join Cristin Welle, Professor, Vice-Chair for Research, Dept. Neurosurgery, University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Center, Reeve Foundation Scientific Advisory Board Member and Reeve representative on the iBCI-CC, as she explores the current state of SCI research, the promise of these groundbreaking technologies, and the crucial role of collaboration – including those with lived experience – in accelerating progress toward cures

11:15-12:15pm | Ballroom

Keynote

Empowering Disability Leadership Through Entrepreneurship

Tiffany Yu

People with disabilities face some of the highest unemployment rates. Self-employment can offer a sustainable and accessible path to economic self-sufficiency by celebrating the innate adaptability, creativity, and ingenuity that naturally develops from navigating life with a complex condition such as paralysis. Join advocate and entrepreneur Tiffany Yu, founder of Diversability, a disabled-run and disabled-led company, for a discussion about how entrepreneurship action can help close the disability employment gap and create a ripple effect of leadership and empowerment within the disability community that will bring us all forward toward a better future.

12:30-2:45pm | Ballroom

**Closing Panel Part A: Moving Forward to Create Change:
State Advocacy Roundtable**

*David Ortiz, Colorado State Representative Rose Pugliese, Colorado
Lieutenant Governor Dianne Primavera, Angela Montgomery, and Jennifer Longdon*

Initiating change requires showing up, but what does showing up look like, and how can we do so within our own state and community? As the top state in the nation for disability rights, Colorado serves as an example of how individuals living with paralysis can advocate for change across the country. In this roundtable, hear from elected officials on both sides of the aisle about steps taken to advance change, as well as key organizations that have supported this necessary work. Former State Representative David Ortiz will lead a discussion on how the successes in Colorado can be advocated for in other states. Attendees will come away with concrete actions that can be taken to advance disability rights at a state level, including coalition building, understanding your audience, and turning a loss into a win.

12:30-2:45pm | Ballroom

Closing Panel Part B: Reeve's Dream Team: Public Impact Panel Roundtable

*Regan Linton, Garrison Redd, Noah Blue Elk Hotchkiss, Jennifer Longdon,
and Gwen Alexander*

The Reeve Foundation's Public Impact Panel is made up of individuals impacted by paralysis with a vested interest in the community. Beyond providing crucial input on Reeve programs and services, Public Impact Panel members are also impressive changemakers in their own right. Join five of our Public Impact Panel members for this closing discussion on the power of disability community and what it means to collectively shape the work of an organization dedicated to serving the paralysis community.

Stop by the **Speaker Table** after sessions for a chance to engage with our many talented speakers. Ask the questions you didn't get a chance to during their presentation and explore key topics impacting the paralysis community.

The Connection Corner is a dynamic gathering space located in the raised area of the North Lobby, created to foster meaningful conversations and collaboration. Guided by this year's theme "Let's Move Mountains," it highlights the strength of communities uniting to create change. Whether you're seeking to ask questions, exchanging ideas, or building new connections, the Connection Corner offers a welcoming environment to engage, connect, and take action together.

Visit the Connection Corner on Tuesday, March 11, to network with the following groups:

- The National Paralysis Resource Center: 10:30am-11:15am
- Veterans: 12:15pm-1:00pm
- Public Impact Panel: 3:15pm-4:00pm



**We might be disabled
Veterans, but
our impact benefits
the entire
disability community.**

**Spinal Cord Injuries
Multiple Sclerosis
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis**



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Air Force Veteran,
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SPEAKERS



ANDREW ROMANOFF is the executive director of Disability Law Colorado, a nonprofit civil rights agency for Coloradans with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities. Before joining DLC, Romanoff led Mental Health Colorado, founded the Posner Center for International Development, and served as the speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives.



ANGELA MONTGOMERY has worked in the field of Orthotics & Prosthetics for over 20 years and prides herself in helping people find ways to return to an active lifestyle in the face of adversity. She has witnessed the topic of accessibility repeated over her years of serving the community and has come to understand (but not accept) the fact that often the largest obstacles for her clients returning to an active lifestyle are insurance policies and exclusive regulations. She founded the Rocky Mountain Orthotic & Prosthetic Coalition to serve as a community voice to fight against these inequities. Through RMOPC, Angela seeks to make long-lasting policy change that will allow prosthetic users to gain better access to the devices that will help them live a full life without limitations.



BRAYDEN BARNES, a driven high school senior, has over a decade of lived experience as the loving son of paraplegic and spinal cord injury advocate Ashley Barnes. He is committed to helping others and mentoring adolescents navigating their parent's spinal cord injury. This passion to help others drove Brayden to become a Certified Family Peer Mentor for the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation and a Certified Robotic Exoskeleton Companion. Post-graduation, Brayden will attend college to study nuclear engineering while continuing to mentor.



DR. CANDACE TEFERTILLER is the Executive Director of Research and Evaluation at Craig Hospital and the Helen Phillips Levin Endowed Chair of Research. Dr. Tefertiller is currently the Co-Project Director for the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems and Co-Project Director for the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems at Craig.



CHANDA HINTON is the Senior Executive Director of the Chanda Center for Health, which provides access to holistic, collaborative, accessible and competent healthcare programs to individuals with physical disabilities. In 2009, she led the movement to pass Colorado House Bill 1047, which created the Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Waiver, offering acupuncture, massage, and chiropractic care through Medicaid to evaluate cost-effectiveness and improve quality of life for persons with spinal cord injuries in the Denver metro area.



DR. CRISTIN WELLE, Professor and Vice-Chair for Research in Neurosurgery at the University of Colorado, leads the BIOElectrics Lab, exploring neuroplasticity through imaging, electrophysiology, and optogenetics. Previously at the FDA, she focused on Brain-Computer Interface safety. She co-leads the NIH-funded NeuroTech Course on translational neurotechnology.



DAVE MARVER is CEO of ONWARD Medical, which is developing breakthrough therapies for people with SCI. Companies under Dave’s leadership have earned ten FDA Breakthrough Device Designations and four TIME Best Inventions of the Year. Dave was previously an executive with Medtronic and served as CEO of NASDAQ-listed Cardiac Science.



DAVID ORTIZ, a former U.S. Army helicopter pilot, was paralyzed in a helicopter crash in 2012 while deployed to Afghanistan. He continued his service by lobbying for veterans until he ran for office and won in 2020, becoming Colorado’s first wheelchair-using legislator. Running more disability rights bills than any Colorado legislator in history and proving that representation matters, Colorado has become the best state in the U.S. for basic access and disability rights.



DIANNE PRIMAVERA is currently serving her second term as Colorado’s 50th Lieutenant Governor, where she leads efforts to make health care more affordable and accessible. She oversees six key programs: the Office of Saving People Money on Health Care, the Office of eHealth Innovation, Disability Policy, the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, Serve Colorado, and Aerospace and Defense. A lifelong Coloradan, Lt. Governor Primavera served in the State Legislature for eight years representing Broomfield, Superior, and parts of Erie and Westminster. In addition, she served as the CEO of Susan G. Komen Colorado. Throughout her career, Lt. Governor Primavera has been a tireless advocate for expanding health care access, improving disability policy, and ensuring quality cancer screenings and treatment for all Coloradans. Known for her collaborative spirit, she has built a reputation for passing bipartisan legislation that delivers real results. Her passion for helping others continues to shape a healthier, more inclusive future for Colorado.



ERIC ALLEN serves as the President of the Mountain States Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, representing veterans in New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. A U.S. Army veteran who served in Desert Storm, Eric became visually impaired from burns during training but despite this went on to have a successful 25-year career in the gas and oil industry as an Environmental Health and Safety Manager. In 2012, after experiencing a stroke-like incident that resulted in the paralysis of his right side and cognitive impairments, Eric was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Over time, with the support of modern medicine, his family, and the Paralyzed Veterans of America, he has regained much of the function he lost. Eric’s personal experiences and resilience drive his passion for advocating for the rights and needs of veterans and the disabled community.

Engage with us on social media!
#ReeveSummit



GARRISON REDD is from Brooklyn, New York, and is the SCI Outreach Coordinator at the Spinal Cord Injury Research Center at Mount Sinai and the author of “Bobby’s Adventure at A New School” (which highlights the need for inclusivity accessibility and provides representation for children with disabilities). He is also a TEDx Speaker (“Life is like Lemonade”), Team USA Para- powerlifter, model, dancer, and most of all an advocate for disabled rights. He founded The Garrison Redd Project which provides individuals with assistance in the community, the workplace, transportation, education, etc., with the essential goal of bettering the well-being of disabled individuals. He has been seen on Good Morning America showcasing adaptive clothing, and featured in numerous ads, runway fashion shows and publications.



GERARD ARNUM joined the Reeve Foundation in 2022 as the Grassroots Advocacy Manager. In his role, Gerard manages the Regional Champions Program and assists with educating advocates and legislators on issues impacting the paralysis community. Before joining Reeve, Gerard worked in media on Capitol Hill covering legislative hearings and events.



GWEN ALEXANDER, OTR/L, is a therapy manager at the University of Maryland Rehabilitation & Orthopedic Institute (UM Rehab) in Baltimore, Maryland. She received a bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and has over 30 years of clinical experience, with an emphasis on spinal cord injury rehabilitation. At UM Rehab, Gwen is a coordinator of the Patient & Family Advisory Council and SCI Peer Mentor Program. Gwen is a certified caregiver peer mentor for the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation’s Peer & Family Support Program, facilitates the bi-monthly Caring for the Family Caregiver Support Group, and serves as a member of the Public Impact Panel and a Regional Champion. Gwen advocates, provides education, support, and resources to improve the quality of life of persons living with paralysis and those who support them.



HILLARY JORGENSEN is the Co-Executive Director of the Colorado Cross Disability Coalition. Hillary was born with a rare form of dwarfism and was raised in rural Colorado. Because of this, she is passionate about building power for the disability community and has a particular interest in making rural communities more accessible.



JENNIFER LONGDON serves as Chief External Affairs Officer for the Arizona Alliance of Community Health Centers. She is responsible for building, maintaining, and growing relationships with government agencies, policymakers, media, and other external partners to increase awareness of and support for health centers and their vital work to serve the needs of Arizona communities. Jennifer is a Phoenix-based speaker, writer, and advocate, who served three terms in the Arizona House of Representatives for Legislative District 5. Paralyzed in a 2004 shooting, she has a history of focused legislative efforts on disability advocacy and gun violence prevention. She made history as the first Democrat in 60 years to Chair a House Ad Hoc committee, specifically the Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults in Long Term Care Facilities. Beyond her legislative role, Jennifer has a notable leadership history, chairing boards like the Phoenix Mayor’s Commission on Disability Issues, the Statewide Independent Living Council of Arizona, Arizonans for Gun Safety, and the Public Impact Panel to the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation among others.



JUAN GARIBAY serves as the Program Manager of the Rancho Violence Recovery and Prevention Program (RVRPP) at Rancho Research Institute (RRI). He joined RRI in 1999 as a NIDRR scholar and over 25 years has served in various roles from mentor to a research assistant, life coach to project manager. A victim of interpersonal violence himself, Juan is passionate about creating healing opportunities for gun-violence survivors.



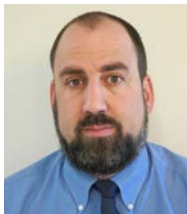
KELLY LAMB is the Senior Manager of Development for the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. She began her involvement with the Reeve Foundation by fundraising for SCI research after her husband sustained a spinal cord injury from a diving accident. In addition to working for the Foundation, she is her husband's full-time caregiver.



MAGGIE GOLDBERG is the President and CEO of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. Maggie has served with the Foundation for more than 20 years, helping drive its mission to cure spinal cord injury by advancing innovative research and improving the quality of life for individuals and families impacted by paralysis. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Maggie joined the Reeve Foundation in 2000 and has held numerous leadership roles during her tenure.



DR. MARCO BAPTISTA leads the Reeve Foundation's mission to advance cures for SCI and paralysis. He oversees the Foundation's research portfolio and collaborative approach to accelerating the field toward meaningful treatments. Prior to joining the Reeve Foundation, he served as Vice President, research programs at the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research and previously served as an Associate Principal Scientist at Merck, leading a preclinical Parkinson's program focused on improving the understanding of genetic causes of Parkinson's disease.



MARCO ROSSI began his career with Paralyzed Veterans of America's (PVA) Veteran Benefits Department in 2005 and is stationed at the PVA Service Office located in Lakewood, Colorado. He is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served in Operations Desert Shield and Storm.



NOAH BLUE ELK HOTCHKISS faced a life-altering challenge in November 2009 when a car accident left him paralyzed from the waist down. Undeterred by this adversity, Noah embarked on a remarkable journey of recovery that led him to the transformative world of adaptive sports. In 2015, Noah launched Tribal Adaptive, a pioneering initiative dedicated to leveraging sports as a powerful tool to positively impact the lives of Native Americans with disabilities. Through his organization, Noah aimed to break down barriers and provide opportunities for individuals facing similar challenges to experience the joy, empowerment, and community that adaptive sports offer. Currently based in Chicago, Noah is contributing to the well-being of individuals with disabilities in his role with the Chicago Park District, showcasing his continued commitment to fostering inclusivity and empowerment through adaptive sports.



REGAN LINTON (she/her) is an actor, director, writer, voiceover artist, and disability advocate from Denver, CO. She is an avid creator of original work that humanizes disability, and a leader in the arts for inclusive practices. Highlights include: performing at top theaters from Arena Stage (DC) to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival; voiceover for Audible; columnist for New Mobility Magazine; former Artistic Director of Phamaly Theatre Company; director of award-winning documentary IMPERFECT; director/co-writer for the short JACK AND THE BEANSTALK for Warner Bros/Discovery.



REGINA BLYE, Chief Program and Policy Officer, oversees operations of the National Paralysis Resource Center by developing and delivering programs that provide the critical services and resources that help people build healthy, independent lives. Regina sustained a C6-C7 spinal cord injury at the age of 10. She brings over two decades of disability policy and advocacy experience, making the move to Reeve to work more directly with people living with spinal cord injury and paralysis. Prior to starting with Reeve, she led the Independent Living Services program at the Administration for Community Living (ACL), monitoring compliance with the Rehabilitation Act and overseeing 155 federal grantees.



REPRESENTATIVE ROSE PUGLIESE is a first-generation American and the first woman in her family to have the opportunity to go to college. She graduated from Villanova University and went on to earn her J.D. from St. John's University School of Law. She is a single mother of two children, operates her own law firm representing rural counties, and is a twice-elected Mesa County Commissioner. Rose has earned the reputation of being an effective elected official by working to increase transparency in all levels of government, bringing people together with common goals, and taking partisanship out of politics to find innovative solutions that benefit all Coloradans throughout the state. She now serves as the Minority Leader of the Colorado House of Representatives.



SCOTT GRIFFITH enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1984 as a 68B Aircraft Powerplant Repairman. After attaining the rank of SFC/E7 he attended WOCS and was commissioned as a Warrant Officer, Human Resource Technician in the U.S. Army Adjutant General Corps. Mr. Griffith also served as a dual-status Military Technician, Human Resource Officer GS-0201-13, for the US Army Reserve Command. His military career spans 25 years. Mr. Griffith has volunteered over 500 hours with the United Service Organization (USO) of Wisconsin and over 10,000 hours with Paralyzed Veterans of America Wisconsin Chapter, where he currently serves as the Government Relations Director, National Director, and Chapter Vice President. Mr. Griffith also serves on the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation's Military & Veteran Program Council, and as a peer mentor.



TIFFANY YU is the CEO & Founder of Diversability, an award-winning social enterprise to elevate disability pride, the Founder of the Awesome Foundation Disability Chapter, and the author of *The Anti-Ableist Manifesto: Smashing Stereotypes*, *Forging Change*, and *Building a Disability-Inclusive World*. Her TED Talk, *How to Help Employees with Disabilities Thrive*, has over one million views. She serves on the NIH National Advisory Board on Medical Rehabilitation Research and was a Co-Chair of the World Economic Forum Sustainable Development Impact Summit. At the age of 9, Tiffany became disabled as a result of a car accident that also took the life of her father.



TOBIAS FORREST is an actor with SCI who won the Christopher Reeve Acting Award for “Daruma.” His credits include “Law & Order,” “How To Get Away With Murder,” “Queen Sugar,” “The Academy Awards” and more. He has also done audio description for TV plus VO for animation and audiobooks.



TOM WHEATON began serving in the U.S. Navy in 1986. While on active duty in Perth, Australia, he sustained a spinal cord injury. Wheaton has been a member of various PVA chapters for over 30 years and has also served on the Executive Committee for the national organization for the past 25 years. In addition to his responsibilities at PVA, Wheaton has served on various national veterans and disability advisory committees, including the National Spinal Cord Injury Association. Whenever he has spare time, Wheaton enjoys doing puzzles because they are a metaphor for facing life’s challenges and overcoming them.



WALTER AFABLE, MBA, is the Ancillary & Outpatient Services Chief at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and Director of the Rancho Violence Recovery and Prevention Program (RVRPP) at Rancho Research Institute. Walter earned his Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering from Marquette University in Milwaukee and a Master of Business Administration from Loyola University Chicago.

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