

501(c)(3) organizations in the state toward a progressive agenda. In the last cycle, she helped elect Hickenlooper and Bennet and helped Democrats maintain control of the state Senate.

Ellen Golombek

Former national political director of Planned Parenthood chose to return home to Colorado for the 2010 cycle. She runs the state chapter of America Votes and was integral last decade in helping progressive candidates win

statewide. Now serving as head of state Department of Labor and Employment under Hickenlooper.

Joan Fitz-Gerald

The first female state Senate president in Colorado history, Fitz-Gerald now lives in Washington, working as the national director of America Votes. She continues to keep up to date with happenings in her adopted home state, consulting with progressive candidates and campaigns.

Jill Hanauer

Runs Project New West, which calls itself the leading authority on the values, issues and demographics of states like Colorado, Arizona and Nevada. She's the former co-founder of the Interfaith Alliance and a former prodigious fundraiser at the DNC.

Lynne Mason

Runs the political arm of the Colorado Education Association, the largest teachers union in the state.

Ken Salazar

Former U.S. Senator tapped by President Obama to become interior secretary, he still keeps his fingers on the pulse of his home state's politics. Suffered tough loss last fall when his older brother, John, was defeated in his bid to for re-election to Congress. Considered one of the state's shrewdest political minds.

Mike Stratton

Has worked for Democrats from President Bill Clinton to New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson. Guided Salazar's successful 2004 Senate campaign. Now advises Democratic statewide candidates instead of handling day-to-day activities, but he remains involved with every major race.

Jim Carpenter

Former chief of staff to Gov. Bill Ritter. He also worked for Gov. Roy Romer. Joined Stratton this winter to form powerhouse lobbying and election firm, Stratton-Carpenter Associates.

Cary Kennedy

A former state treasurer, Kennedy is seen as one of the brightest minds on the Democratic side, though her political star is a bit faded after she failed to win re-election last November.



The Colorado Education Association is the leading advocate for quality public education and the transformation of our state's education system. We're successful because of people like CEA Political Director Lynne Mason, a Top Influencer in Colorado. Congratulations, Lynne.

Colorado Education Association
coloradoea.org