COLORADO BOARD OF HEALTH

RESOLUTION

Regarding Women and Cardiovascular Disease

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death for Colorado women; and

WHEREAS, every two hours cardiovascular disease claims the life of a Colorado woman; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 four thousand nine hundred and thirteen women died in Colorado due to cardiovascular disease and stroke; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 cardiovascular disease and stroke accounted for 33 percent of all deaths of women in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 hospitalization costs for women treated for cardiovascular disease and stroke cost Colorado an estimated \$550 million; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 the average charge per hospitalization for women treated for cardiovascular disease in Colorado was \$25,517; and

WHEREAS, 63% of women who die suddenly of coronary heart disease have no previous symptoms of this disease; and

WHEREAS, February is designated as American Heart Month; and

WHEREAS, the Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Prevention Program at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recognizes the impact of cardiovascular disease in women on families, communities and public health; and

WHEREAS, the American Heart Association has launched a campaign designated to raise women's awareness of the magnitude of cardiovascular disease known as "Go Red For Women."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Colorado Board of Health support the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in their efforts to support "Go Red for Women"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Colorado Board of Health urge healthcare providers and public health programs statewide to focus attention on reducing risk factors for cardiovascular disease among women and support "Go Red for Women" activities during the month of February.

Dated: January 19, 2005

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V. Michael Barkett, M.D., President Colorado Board of Health