## Establishing An International Health and Technology Center in Colorado

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In recent years, Colorado's life science and biotechnology sectors have demonstrated remarkable growth, expanding to over 2,500 bioscience related companies and bringing \$1.6 billion in startup funding to the state in 2023. However, despite this progress, there remains a high barrier to entry driven by high operational costs associated with setting up

and maintaining laboratory space and limited access to sophisticated equipment.

Poised to address this issue, a groundbreaking solution is underway in the heart of Colorado. Founded by Dr. Afshin Safavi, the Colorado Health Tech Centers (CHTC) are campuses across Colorado offering physical space and customized resources to businesses expanding their operations to Colorado, from budding start-ups to established multinational corporations.

Why CHTC? CHTC is tailored to meet the needs of the life science and biotechnology ecosystem and addresses several bottlenecks for companies looking to innovate and expand in Colorado. CHTC offers flexible terms and sizing to allow companies to scale their operations effectively, and partially equipped laboratories to streamline the laboratory set up process. The CHTC team is committed to creating a Bureaucracy Free Zone, offering rapid support and unparalleled expertise regarding technical specifications required to set up laboratory space. Each campus will encompass a diverse array of companies, including medical research, biotechnology, medical devices, and animal health solutions, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and spurring innovation. In the next decade, CHTC will expand to 1 million square feet of space spanning 10 campuses located from Colorado Springs to Fort Collins.

**Why Colorado?** Companies expanding to Colorado will experience the many benefits the state has to offer:

*Talent.* Colorado boasts a vibrant and unparallel talent pool, drawing from its 140 university research centers and 34 federal laboratories, which include The University of Colorado Boulder and Colorado State University.

Colorado has the second most educated population in the U.S (Metro Denver EDC), along with the second highest density of bioengineers and biomedical engineers in the U.S (CBSA).

Organizations such as the Colorado Bioscience Association provide further support for professionals and the innovation ecosystem, by offering resources and networking opportunities to spur collaboration. The expansion of a life science and biotechnology hub will not only catalyze an additional influx of top-tier talent but will allow the state to retain its talent by offering additional opportunities.

*Resources*. For the past 6 years, the state's life science ecosystem raised over \$1 billion per year (CBSA) from private sources as well as federal, state, and foundation grants, creating fertile ground for breakthrough innovation. CHTC will leverage Colorado's robust funding landscape and further boost momentum by attracting companies and investment into the state.

Quality of Life. Colorado has a reputation as an exceptional place to start, grow, commercialize or relocate a life science or biotechnology business. CTHC is geographically positioned along the I-25 corridor, which features access to transportation, executive housing, hundreds of restaurants and dozens of other recreational amenities.

Visit https://coloradohtc.com/ for regular updates on CHTC.



Dr. Afshin Safavi, founder of CHTC, is a councilman, consultant, board member, entrepreneur, and investor in technology and real-estate sectors. He is responsible for multiple drug products in the market today. In 2008, he founded BioAgilytix Labs, one of the most successful multi-billion-dollar Contract Research Organizations known internationally.