



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Federal Grants to Provide New Health Care Access in Colorado

DENVER—On May 1, 2012, the US Department of Health and Human Services announced \$728 million in capital development grants to fund nearly 400 Community Health Center construction and renovation projects. Eight Colorado Community Health Centers (CHCs) received ten grants, four Building Capacity grants and six Immediate Facility Improvement grants. By 2015, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) expands health insurance coverage for 32 million more Americans and these funds are intended to help provide capacity for those newly insured and those that will remain uninsured.

This funding is remainder of the \$1.5 billion set aside by Congress in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). Much of the PPACA funding for CHCs to date has been used to “backfill” cuts to the annual federal appropriations for the Health Center program so that Community Health Centers would not have to cut back on services to current patients. Today’s grants come from funding specifically designated for construction and renovation to enable CHCs to expand their capacity to be able to care for more people.

Colorado CHCs received a total of \$22.5 million for projects that include new clinic sites, renovation of old sites, and expansion of services. The Colorado CHCs receiving funding today included:

Clinica Family Health Services, Inc.
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
Denver Health’s Community Health Services
Metro Community Provider Network
Peak Vista Community Health Centers
Plains Medical Center, Inc.
Salud Family Health Centers
Sunrise Community Health

Through the PPACA, Congress directed investment over five years in CHCs nationally to:

- Help meet the health care needs of the uninsured now,
- Provide access to the millions of individuals that will gain coverage under the Medicaid expansions and state health insurance exchanges beginning in 2014, and
- Continue to care for the 20 million individuals that are expected to remain uninsured after health care reform.

PPACA funding was designated for CHCs because the CHC health care home model provides proven accessible, high quality care to patients regardless of the ability to pay.

The grants cover specific construction projects in medically underserved areas. The funding does not cover the continued cost of providing health care and hiring staff. Reimbursement from state programs that cover health care for Coloradans such as Medicaid, Child Health Plan Plus, and the Colorado Indigent Care Program; donations from foundations and private funding; patient copayments for services; and federal funding to cover the cost of care provided to the uninsured will continue to be essential.

Colorado’s 15 Community Health Centers are working on a plan, called Access for All Colorado, to provide a health care home for one million Coloradans.

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To interview Ms. Anderson, please contact Maureen Maxwell at (303) 861-5165, Ext. 259, cell (303)913-9078, or maureen@cchn.org.

To interview or visit these CHCs, please contact:

- [Clinica](#): Susan Wortman office (303) 665-3036, ext. 164; Cell: (720) 341-3849
- [Colorado Coalition for the Homeless](#): BJ Iacino (303) 285-5223
- [Denver Health](#): Tony Encinias, (303) 602-4923
- [MCPN](#): John Reid office (303) 761-1977 ext. 1124; Cell: (720) 338-1148
- [Peak Vista Community Health Centers](#): Randy Hylton, (719) 344-7146
- [Plains Medical Center, Inc.](#): Bill Lyons (719) 775-2367
- [Salud Family Health Centers](#): Jennifer Morse (720) 322-9402
- [Sunrise Community Health](#): Mitzi Moran (970) 350-4606

To read the HHS news release and list of grantees, please click [here](#).

The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is the unified voice for Colorado's 15 Community Health Centers (CHCs) and their patients. CHCs provide a health care home to more than 500,000 of their community members - one in 10 people in Colorado - from 57 of the state's 64 counties. Without CHCs, hundreds of thousands of Colorado's low-income families and individuals would have no regular source of health care. CCHN's mission is to increase access to high quality health care for people in need in Colorado. For more information about CCHN, please visit www.cchn.org.

To learn more about careers at Community Health Centers, please visit www.missiondrivencareers.org.

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