

**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 14, 2010

**Community Health Center Leader Elected President of State Board**

DENVER— Dr. Paul Melinkovich, Director of Community Health Services for Denver Health, was elected president of Colorado's Medical Services Board at the Sept. 10 meeting of the Board.

The Medical Service Board (MSB) of the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is responsible for promulgating the rules that govern department programs. The department administers the Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* programs as well as a variety of other programs for Colorado's low-income families, the elderly and persons with disabilities. The MSB consists of eleven members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Colorado Senate. Board members must have knowledge of medical assistance programs and each Colorado congressional district must be represented on the MSB. Board members serve terms of four years and are not paid for their services, but are reimbursed for reasonable expenses related to the performance of their duties as MSB members. The term of president is one year.

Dr. Melinkovich, a board-certified pediatrician, directs the eight Health Center facilities located in Denver communities and the 12 school-based Health Center sites that are part of the Denver Health integrated system. He is also a professor with the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. He has published numerous papers in medical journals, served as the keynote speaker at multiple national conferences, and has authored numerous abstracts. With his focus on community health and pediatrics, Dr. Melinkovich has obtained millions of dollars in grants that have improved the performance and accessibility of Denver's Community Health Center. Dr. Melinkovich earned his medical degree at the University of Washington, Seattle. He served his residency at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, where he also earned a fellowship in community pediatrics.

Denver Health's Community Health Services is one of the 15 federally qualified Community Health Centers caring for people in Colorado.

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*To interview Dr. Melinkovich, please contact Josh Herrington at (303) 436-6606 or [josh.herrington@dhha.org](mailto:josh.herrington@dhha.org).*

*For more information about Community Health Centers, please contact Maureen Maxwell at (303) 861-5165, Ext. 259, cell (303)913-9078, or [maureen@cchn.org](mailto:maureen@cchn.org).*

*For more information about the Medical Services Board, please go to <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/HCPF/HCPF/1214386651332>.*

*The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is the collective 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 58 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](http://www.cchn.org).*