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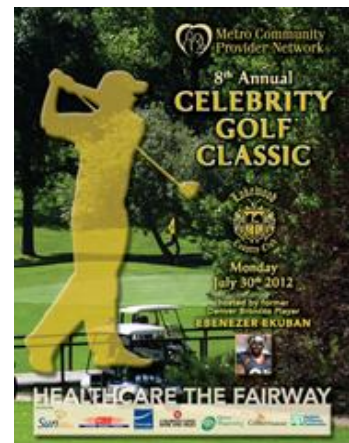
HEALTH CENTER NEWS



National Health Center Week Events

Aug. 5-11, 2012, is National Health Center Week (NHCW), dedicated to recognizing the service and contributions of community, migrant, homeless, and school-based Community Health Centers (CHCs). This year's theme, "Celebrating America's Health Centers: Powering Healthier Communities," highlights the multitude of ways in which America's Health Centers are powering and empowering healthier communities. Listed below are NHCW events happening in Colorado, where the events span half the month!

Monday, July 30, 9:00 a.m. registration and practice
MCPN Healthcare the Fairway: 8th Annual Celebrity Golf Classic
Lakewood Country Club, 6800 W. 10th Ave., Lakewood
Ebenezer Ekuban, former Denver Broncos player, is hosting the Metro Community Provider Network's (MCPN) eighth annual Celebrity Golf Classic, benefiting MCPN, at the Lakewood Country Club. Go to www.mcpn.com or contact John Reid at jreid@mcpn.org or (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, for more information.



Friday, Aug. 3, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Salud Family Health Centers Dia de los Niños/Children's Day Celebration
Salud Family Health Centers Longmont, 220 E. Rogers Rd., Longmont
Salud Family Health Centers (Salud) celebrates NHCW in Longmont at the 13th annual Día de los Niños/Children's Day Celebration. The event provides low-cost immunizations, free dental check-ups, as well as creates a fun, safe environment to celebrate and encourage the health of Longmont's children. This year the event will highlight a passport of healthy living along with the creation of a ceramic tile mural painted by children. Contact Jennifer Morse at jmorse@saludclinic.org or (720) 322-9402 for more information.

Monday, Aug. 6
High Plains Hot August Nights Live Radio Remote
High Plains Community Health Center, 201 Kendall Dr., Lamar
KWAY Radio will be broadcasting live from High Plains Community Health Center (High Plains) on a day that will include free cholesterol screening. Contact Becky Olivas at (719) 336-0261 for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 7
High Plains 17th Anniversary Celebration and 17 Minute Walk
High Plains Community Health Center, All Sites
High Plains is celebrating its 17th Anniversary! All staff will complete a 17-minute walk during the day, and cake and refreshments will be available at all High Plains sites. Contact Becky Olivas at (719) 336-0261 for more information. To learn more about High Plains, go to www.highplainschc.net.

Tuesday, Aug. 7, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Wednesday, Aug. 8, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Sunrise Community Health Bone Marrow Registry Drive

Tuesday: Sunrise Monfort Family Clinic, 2930 11th Ave., Evans

Wednesday: Monfort Children's Clinic, 100 N. 11th Ave., Greeley (9:00-11:30 a.m.) and Loveland Community Health Center, 450 N. Cleveland Ave., Loveland (1:00 – 3:30 p.m.)

Sunrise Community Health (Sunrise) will be holding a bone marrow registry drive for two days to build awareness among employees and community members around this important cause. Please contact Mark Boelman at mboelman.sunrise@noco.org or (970) 350-4612 for more information.

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 8:30 a.m.

Prowers County Sand & Sage Fair Kids Day, Lamar

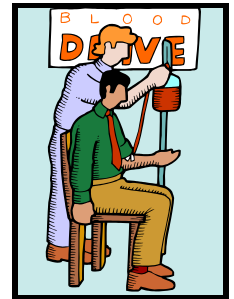
High Plains staff will participate in an obstacle course with children and will promote their 5-2-1-0 program to reduce childhood obesity. Contact Becky Olivas at (719) 336-0261 for additional information.

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 1:00 p.m. to 2:40 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

MCPN Blood Drive

MCPN, North Aurora Family Health Services, 3292 Peoria St., Aurora

MCPN will hold a blood drive at its North Aurora Family Health Services clinic. Contact John Reid at (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, or jreid@mcpn.org for more information.



Thursday, Aug. 9, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MCPN Launches First Mobile Dental Van

MCPN School-Based Health Clinic at Jefferson High School, 2305 Pierce St., Edgewater

A ribbon cutting ceremony for MCPN's first Mobile Dental Van will be held at Jefferson High School. At the ceremony, the students whose art was used to decorate the vehicle will be awarded. Contact John Reid at (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, or jreid@mcpn.org for more information.



Thursday, Aug. 9, 9:00 a.m.

Sunrise Community Health Cooking Demonstration

Sunrise Larimer Center Clinic, 1250 N. Wilson, Loveland

Sunrise will have a clinical nutritionist conduct a cooking demonstration and a nutrition lesson. The "Weigh & Win" kiosk will be available to provide patients with incentive to get healthy. Please contact Mark Boelman at (970) 350-4612 or mboelman.sunrise@noco.org for more information.

Saturday, Aug. 11, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Healthy Kids Fair

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Stout Street Clinic, 2100 Broadway, Denver

Each year, the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (Coalition) helps children living in shelters or transitional housing get a healthy start at school. The Coalition provides more than 200 school-aged children with free health screenings, immunizations, haircuts, and school supplies. Contact BJ Iacino at biacino@coloradocoalition.org or (303) 285-5223 for more information. Click [here](#) to learn how to help with school supplies.



Saturday, Aug. 11, 10:00 a.m.

Prowers County Sand & Sage Fair Parade, Lamar

High Plains CHC staff will participate in the annual parade.

Thursday, Aug. 16

Peak Vista Grand Opening of Falcon SBHC

Falcon Elementary School, 12050 Falcon Highway, Peyton

Peak Vista Community Health Centers (Peak Vista) is holding the grand opening celebration of its newest School Based Health Center (SBHC) located at Falcon Elementary School. Contact Randall Hylton at randall.hylton@peakvista.org or (719) 344-6606 for more information.

Friday, Aug. 17, 10:30 a.m.

6th Annual Block Party and Health Fair

Salud Family Health Centers, 1635 Blue Spruce Dr., Fort Collins

Salud of Fort Collins will celebrate NHCW with its sixth Annual Block Party and Health Fair. The block party will start with a community family walk at 10:30 a.m. followed by various block party activities. The event provides health education to community members about the services Salud offers. Free health screenings and low-cost immunizations are also provided as part of the event. Many fun activities are planned for the day, including attendance by health and human service agencies in the community. In addition to providing health and dental check-ups, the clinic will provide food, drink, and entertainment during the event. Contact Jennifer Morse at jmorse@saludclinic.org or (720) 322-9402 for more information.



The following are events going on throughout NHCW:

Tuesday, Aug. 6 – Thursday, Aug. 11

High Plains Sports Physicals, various locations, Lamar

High Plains staff will be providing \$5 sports physicals at various High Plains locations. Call (719) 336-0261 or visit www.highplainschc.net for more information.



Back to School with Sunrise Community Health Centers

Sunrise Community Health Centers,

Sunrise will be hosting Back to School events with sports physicals and immunizations available. Please contact Mark Boelman at (970) 350-4612 or mboelman.sunrise@noco.org for more information.

MCPN Back to School Supplies Giveaway

MCPN, North Aurora Family Health Services, 3292 Peoria St., Aurora

Community volunteers will join MCPN in supporting back-to-school efforts in the communities MCPN serves. Contact John Reid at (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, or jreid@mcpn.org for more information.

Peak Vista Community Health Centers Responds to Waldo Canyon Fire

Randy Hylton, Director of Communications and Outreach

Peak Vista Community Health Centers

On June 23, 2012, the Waldo Canyon fire, the most destructive wildfire in Colorado History, began in the Pike National Forest, three miles west of Colorado Springs. Staff at Peak Vista Community Health Centers, located in and around the Colorado Springs area, acted quickly to ensure adequate emergency response and management.

The most difficult challenge came in Teller County, to the west of the city, where the Divide Family Health Center (Divide Center) is located. The closing of the only direct route into the county, U.S. Route 24, made it difficult for staff to travel either way to their designated location of service. Despite the added difficulty, dedicated employees made sure that the Divide Center remained open throughout the crisis, except for the afternoon of June 27 when employees were forced to leave in order to evacuate their homes. In response to the needs in Teller County, Peak Vista expanded access at the Divide Center to include any non-Peak



Peak Vista's Divide Health Clinic opened in with a ribbon cutting in August 2006.

Vista patients who were in need of acute care. In spite of having to cope with understaffing due to evacuation and displacement issues, Peak Vista was able to maintain complete operational status in each of its 19 sites.

In response to this emergency situation, Peak Vista senior leadership initiated the Incident Command Structure, utilizing the National Incident Management System training designed to handle emergency response and management. Collaboration was explored with other community care givers to determine any gaps in services in the community that might be filled by Peak Vista staff and facilities. Information sharing continued daily to make certain that all needs were met throughout the Pikes Peak region. Contingency plans were developed to handle the possibility of evacuations of any Peak Vista Health Centers.

The Incident Command Team remained on call and in contact throughout the week and was prepared to activate any needed emergency response.

Beginning July 2, El Paso County created a Disaster Relief Center to bring together the resources of a multitude of nonprofit and governmental agencies in one location. Employees from a variety of Peak Vista departments staffed the intake process at the Disaster Relief Center, working with citizens who were evacuated or had lost their homes. As first contacts for many community members facing crisis, staff reported a number of emotional and difficult encounters but were overwhelmingly positive about the opportunity to serve their neighbors. They offered them detailed information and provided resource navigation for a number of support agencies.

Internally, Peak Vista worked closely with the Employee Assistance Program and additional Behavioral Health Organizations to be sure that staff had complete access to any needed support mechanisms during the crisis. In addition, a dedicated phone line and email address were created to match those who were in need of resources with those who volunteered to help in a number of categories, and to serve as a hotline for any questions or concerns staff had. Peak Vista's internal web newsletter, Quick Peak, was set up as an information and update center, dispatching new intelligence on a regular basis about service updates, evacuation information, and resource availability.

The aftermath of the fire will require ongoing efforts by all of the organizations involved. Unexpectedly, the fire was contained earlier than first projected. The damage was limited to one specific subdivision and the adjacent area. Indications are that insurance companies have been extremely prompt in giving financial support to those whose houses were destroyed, so the ongoing efforts are far less than initially expected. The main areas of concern are helping those who lost homes to recover, and clean-up and debris management. A matter of ongoing concern in Teller County for Peak Vista's Divide Center and others is the fact that U.S. 24, the safest and most direct route, will be vulnerable to mudslides for the next three-to-four years.

The Waldo Canyon Fire has been a huge and terrifying challenge, but it has brought out the best of so many people. Peak Vista Community Health Centers is deeply grateful for the support of so many community partners and sister CHCs throughout the state and the nation during and in the aftermath of this devastating fire.



Maze Report Highlights Progress, Challenges to Get Colorado Kids and Families Covered

CCHN's Covering Kids and Families (CKF) project released the third publication in its *Maze* series in July 2012, highlighting how far Colorado has come towards improving access to coverage, and the opportunities for improving enrollment and retention in Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+). The report, *Colorado's Maze to Enrollment in Medicaid and CHP+: Progress Made and Opportunities for Improvement*, is based on insight from families and professionals who routinely navigate the barriers preventing more than 82,000 eligible kids and families from accessing the health care they need.

Three changes that have improved efficiency, family experience, and helped more Coloradans gain access to coverage are:

- An easier, online application users can access to apply for and manage their benefits (Colorado Program Eligibility and Application Kit, www.colorado.gov/PEAK)
- Electronic citizenship and identity verification and automatic program renewal for eligible clients
- Expansions to more kids, parents, and pregnant women

Despite these changes, there is still room for improvement. CKF prioritizes nine achievable changes that will positively impact kids and families and ensure the Medicaid and CHP+ programs work efficiently and effectively. Three of the top priorities are:

- Improve Colorado's eligibility system (Colorado Benefits Management System, CBMS) to comply with federal requirements and minimize costly inefficiencies;
- Simplify client correspondence regarding eligibility and benefits to reduce client confusion and the consequent strain on resources, and impact on family's health;
- Implement 12-month continuous eligibility for children in Medicaid to reduce frequent movement between programs ("churn") resulting in coverage lapses and expensive resource costs.

View the 2012 *Maze to Enrollment in Medicaid and CHP+* and access previous publications on CKF's Maze [webpage](#). For more information, please contact Brittney Petersen at (303) 861-9514, or brittney@cchn.org.

Denver Health and MCPN Receive Grants to Support Innovative Care

Two Colorado CHCs, Denver Health and MCPN, were awarded Innovation Grants from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) in June 2012. The awards, made possible by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), recognize new health care delivery and payment models that are designed to improve quality, lower costs, and expand health care access.



Denver Health was awarded \$19.8 million to roll out a model of care called "21st Century Care." The "21st Century Care" model will provide individualized care that is more suited to Denver Health's patients' medical, behavioral, and social needs. "21st Century Care" will address many of the shortfalls in today's health care through a variety of interventions. It will provide team-based care, ensure coordination of care across health settings, and offer self-care support between visits using health information technology (HIT) and team-based patient navigators who will reach out to patients in a variety of ways. It is expected that this new care model will allow Denver Health to serve an additional

15,000 patients. It is also projected that this innovative care model will result in more than \$40 million in savings over a three-year period.

In addition, Denver Health will be creating high-risk clinics staffed with multidisciplinary teams to care for patients with a history of avoidable hospitalizations. With this award, Denver Health will be able to demonstrate and pilot a national model of health care that both improves care and reduces costs.

MCPN was awarded \$1.2 million to support an effort to deliver better health care at a lower cost to residents of Aurora, Colo. This grant is part of a \$14.3 million award to Rutgers University Center for State Health Policy, and Aurora is one of four cities across the country participating. With this award, MCPN and its community partners, Aurora Mental Health, Together Colorado, and Aurora Health Access, will be working to implement the “hot spotters” health care model developed by Dr. Jeffrey Brenner with a goal of reducing emergency room visits and unnecessary hospitalizations.

The funding will be used to support pilot projects designed to deliver better care to 2,425 high-cost, high-need Medicaid, Medicare, and uninsured patients in four cities, and to create a learning network for health care providers and grassroots leaders in the participating cities. The beneficiaries will be people who suffer from complicated asthma, diabetes, hypertension and other chronic conditions but do not have regular access to a primary care practice to help manage their care. The efforts are expected to lead to a projected savings of \$67.7 million over three years and create more than 40 jobs in the participating cities. The other three cities are Allentown, Pa.; Kansas City, Mo.; and San Diego, Calif.



Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Opens Two New Facilities to Provide Supportive Housing and Integrated Health Care



Tom Rossi, CCH board member and resident of Renaissance West End Flats, welcomed the audience to his home. John Parvensky, president of the Coalition, stands in the background

The Coalition and its subsidiary Renaissance Housing Development Corporation, opened a newly constructed, 101-unit, mixed-use, supportive housing development at West Colfax Avenue and Zenobia Street to meet the housing and health care needs of homeless and low-income families and individuals. Opened on June 27, 2012, the Renaissance West End Flats and West End Health Center sit on the site of the former biker bar, the Shuffle Inn, helping to revitalize the West Colfax Corridor.

Renaissance West End Flats integrates 101 supportive housing apartments with 50 targeted to chronically homeless families and individuals, and 51 apartments for low-wage families and individuals who are unable to afford market housing in the West Denver neighborhood.

The development includes the West End Health Center, which will provide increased access to integrated medical, behavioral health, and social services to homeless and uninsured individuals in West Denver. Additionally, the Coalition provides a range of supportive services to homeless and special needs individuals and families residing in Renaissance West End Flats, in order to meet each individual's clinical, employment, rehabilitation and recovery needs.

Renaissance West End Flats provide a safe, healthy and economical environment for its residents. Built to Enterprise Green Communities™ and LEED® standards to keep energy costs and environmental impacts low, the development will deliver greater energy and water efficiencies, better indoor air quality, and space use that will be sustainable over time and keep residential energy bills lower than average

in the area. For low-income residents, utility costs can quickly overtake a household budget. Renaissance West End Flats was designed by Humphries Poli Architects, PC., and FCI Constructors, Inc., was the general contractor for the development.

The \$17 million project created 50 construction-related jobs and 15 permanent housing and health care jobs, with more than 450 individuals working on the site for 15 months, including formerly homeless individuals. The direct funds expended through the project generated approximately \$32 million in total economic activity, including more than \$450,000 in local taxes. This new supply of supportive and affordable housing is also expected to reduce social service and emergency related costs as fewer people will be living in homelessness, or be at-risk of becoming homeless.

A portion of the first floor will also be dedicated for a “Cop Shop”, a collaborative program among the Denver Police Department, neighborhood organizations, and residents of the building and surrounding community to address safety and neighborhood development issues. A 1,700 sq. ft. retail bay at the corner of West Colfax and Yates Street is available for lease for a neighborhood retail or food service operation.

To find out more about the Renaissance West End Flats and West End Health Center, please click [here](#).

Health Center News From Around Colorado News Briefs

Share Your Story through Colorado HealthStory

Colorado HealthStory is a project to create an appreciation of our shared experiences of health, one conversation at a time. Everyone has a health story to tell; the joyous birth of a baby, the moving experience of sitting with a dying parent, a journey of remarkable healing, the daily reality of living with diabetes, and the perspective gained from providing health care. Coloradans are invited to share a health story and join the conversation about health in Colorado’s communities. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Colorado CHC CEO Attends White House Meeting

In May, Jerry Brasher, President and CEO of Salud Family Health Centers, joined 120 representatives of CHCs from across the United States in a meeting at the White House with members of the executive branch to discuss quality and policy issues that affect the work of CHCs. Issues discussed included:

- The need to expand health care access in communities waiting for care (about 1,800 communities have submitted applications for new or expanded CHCs that remain unfunded).
- The vital importance of adequate payment for cost of care, as the uninsured and underinsured population at CHCs continues to grow.
- How CHCs’ use of the patient centered medical home model is improving the quality of the primary health care they deliver.

To read more about the meeting, click [here](#).

Salud Physician-Created Longmont Surgical Mission Receives 2012 NOVA Award

The Longmont Surgical Mission was awarded the 2012 NOVA Award for innovation in programs and services from the Boulder Community Foundation on June 7, 2012. The Longmont Surgical Mission was founded in 2011 by Dr. Hans Elzinga, a family physician at Salud’s Longmont clinic. It is a program that provides free outpatient surgeries to patients in the Longmont United Hospital catchment area on one day every three months. The pro-bono surgery program involves local physicians and donations of supplies, equipment, and space by Longmont United Hospital.

The NOVA Awards were established in 1997 by the Boulder Community Foundation to honor innovation in programs and services or in business operations, within Boulder County’s nonprofit sector. The Longmont Surgical Mission was selected out of more than 50 well-known local nonprofits competing for this honor.

CHCs and State Agencies Working to Reach More Children in Need of Immunizations

CCHN, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Immunization Program, and Colorado's Local Public Health Agencies (LPHA) are working together to establish deputization agreements between the state's CHCs, Rural Health Centers (RHC), and LPHAs. Deputization is the legal mechanism to extend Vaccine for Children Program (VFC) vaccines to more children by granting authority to vaccinate underinsured VFC-eligible children from CHCs and RHCs to LPHAs. VFC is a program managed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that provides free vaccines to an estimated 40 million uninsured and Medicaid-eligible children each year.

Currently, children who are eligible for VFC vaccines are entitled to receive pediatric vaccines through 18 years of age only if they meet at least one of the following criteria: they are eligible for Medicaid, they are uninsured, they are American Indian or Alaska Native, or they are underinsured. At present, underinsured children are only eligible to receive VFC vaccines through a CHC or RHC. Through deputization, VFC vaccines will be available to underinsured children who otherwise would not have access due to limited capacity or absence of a CHC or RHC nearby. In Colorado, many CHCs and RHCs already extend access to VFC vaccines for underinsured children through deputization with local public health agencies. CDPHE is working to extend this authority to all LPHAs by January 2013.

Health Care Professionals Caring for Medically Underserved Selected For Loan Repayment Awards

In March 2012, 21 health care professionals serving Colorado's medically underserved were awarded nearly \$1.6 million in loan repayment funds. Another 10 who are continuing to serve Colorado's medically underserved for another year received awards totaling nearly \$275,000. A total of 20 of the 31 award recipients are providing care at 11 of Colorado's CHCs.

The Colorado Health Service Corps, administered by the Primary Care Office (PCO) at CDPHE, made the awards. This loan repayment will continue again next year with new applications being accepted Sept. 1-30, 2012.

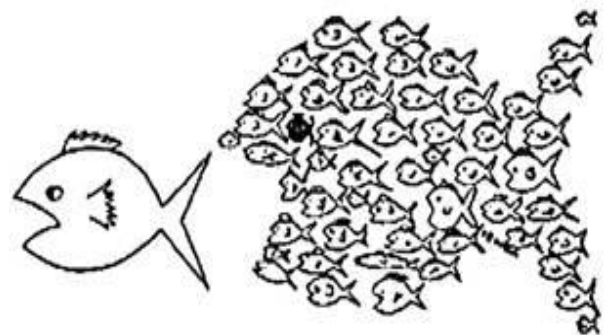
To participate in the Colorado Health Service Corps, health professionals (primary care physicians, psychiatrists, general dentists, physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, licensed mental health professionals, and dental hygienists) must be employed or seeking full-time employment in an outpatient primary care practice in an urban or rural area of Colorado with a health professional shortage. Successful applicants will demonstrate a commitment to caring for underserved people and agree to a term of service of three years.

For more information on the Colorado Health Service Corps, including eligibility requirements and the online application, visit www.coloradohealthservicecorps.org. For information about specific awardees, contact [Mark Salley](#), CDPHE communications director, at (303) 692-2013.

POLICY UPDATE

Get Active! and Influence Policy

Interested in ensuring that health care bills benefit CHCs and their patients? Join CCHN's grassroots network and make your voice heard by your elected officials. Sign up for CCHN emails about legislation affecting health care and your CHC. You will receive action alerts that have specific, easy to understand ways to talk to your legislators. How do you get active? Go to www.cchn.org, click on Get Active!, respond to any action alerts and your information will be added to CCHN's grassroots network. For more information



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www.cchn.org

please contact Kristen Pieper, policy analyst, at kristen@cchn.org or (303) 867-9526.

CCHN UPDATE

CCHN Staff Member Gains High Level Professional Certification

Renee Karl, CCHN's clinical quality analyst, passed the Certified Professional in Health Care Quality examination on June 15, 2012. Offered by the [National Association for Healthcare Quality](#), the exam affords individuals with an exceptional level of "professional and academic achievement in the field of healthcare quality management."

When asked why she sought the certification, Ms. Karl explained, "I enjoy challenging myself. I enhanced my knowledge of national and international patient safety and quality standards. Additionally, I learned about the most appropriate quality improvement procedures for ambulatory as well as hospital settings."

Ms. Karl said her endeavor will supplement her understanding of the patient centered medical home (PCMH) model, adding that the "exam and certification have provided me a comprehensive toolbox and broad framework that can be applied to all quality improvement initiatives."

"We do not know the impact of the Supreme Court decision and the movement towards a pay-for-performance model of care will have on the health care environment. I hope that I have the knowledge and skills to assist CHCs in adapting to these changes while continuing to provide high quality care," she said in noting the current critical time in the health care field and the progress of health care reform.

Ms. Karl acknowledged her excitement and appreciation for being able to work with people in the CHC movement toward CCHN's goal of ensuring access to high quality health care for people in need in Colorado.

CCHN Welcomes New Staff Member

Stephanie Booker is the new special projects assistant for CKF. Her primary responsibilities are to provide administrative and other support for CKF projects, which focus on reducing enrollment barriers for eligible children and families in Medicaid and CHP+. Ms. Booker earned bachelors' degrees in journalism and environmental studies, and a master's degree in human geography from the University of Colorado Boulder. As a graduate student, she studied and taught HIV prevention in Tanzania, international development, and political ecology. Ms. Booker has experience in HIV prevention and testing in Denver, employment-training experience with refugee families, and most recently program coordinating and communications experience supporting CHCs as a staff member with the Community Health Association of the Mountain/Plains States (CHAMPS).

CHAMPS UPDATE

CHAMPS 2012 Immunization Update Teleconference Scheduled

CHAMPS will host its annual Immunization Update Teleconference on Wednesday, July 25, 2012, from 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Iyabode Akinsanya-Beysolow, MD, MPH, of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, CDC, will present vaccine recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, highlighting recent changes in the recommendations. Continuing Medical Education credit of 1.25 hours, through the American Academy of Family Physicians, will be provided to approved participants.

The teleconference is free to all CHAMPS organizational members, and there will be a \$25 charge to non-CHAMPS members. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

CHAMPS Welcomes New Staff Member

Chelsea Skovgaard joined CHAMPS this month as the new member services and programs coordinator. She supports the work of CHAMPS through coordinating and implementing communications, trainings, and various workforce, operations, and clinical programs. Ms. Skovgaard has a bachelor's degree in English, humanities, and political science from the University of Colorado Boulder. She has worked at a number of nonprofits in the Denver metro area that serve disadvantaged clients, including working in Homeless Outreach Services at a CHC. Outside of CHAMPS, Ms. Skovgaard enjoys hiking, sketching, baking, and going on adventures with her husband Sam and their rescued dog Chloe.

CCMCN UPDATE

Staff Changes at CCMCN

Courtney Saiya is the Colorado Community Managed Care Network's (CCMCN) new NextGen electronic practice management (EPM) analyst. Ms. Saiya is originally from Pennsylvania and moved to Colorado nine years ago to pursue new adventures. After working at a small practice that used NextGen, she realized how much help practices needed with their software and that they didn't need help from India, Boston or Atlanta, but rather locally in Colorado. Ms. Saiya found a career with a consulting company that did that and fell in love with being able to help others this way. Outside of work, her passions are her family, being outdoors, new recipes and cuisine ideas, and photography.

Darren Sims is CCMCN's new systems engineer. Mr. Sims brings to Colorado Associated Community Health Information Enterprise (CACHIE) a wide variety of skills from working in analysis, support, and other roles within the information technology field. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in communication from University of Colorado Denver and holds several information technology certifications. In his free time, Mr. Sims enjoys playing video games, finding his next home project, and playing outdoors.

Cathy Hawkins is CCMCN's new data quality analyst and primarily supports the CACHIE Data Warehouse and Reporting Program, and CACHIE Analytics. Ms. Hawkins graduated from University of Southern California with an engineering degree. Most recently, Ms. Hawkins worked as a data analyst for Southern New Hampshire Medical Center. She and her husband lived outside of Boston for 20 years prior to moving to Denver in November 2011. In her free time, she enjoys running, skiing, hiking, and loves being in Colorado.

Andrea Auxier is CCMCN's new senior clinical information strategist. Dr. Auxier is supporting CHCs involved in the Integrated Community Health Partners (ICHP) project and will work on the CACHIE Analytics team. She is a licensed clinical psychologist who primarily works on the operational and policy side of behavioral health integration into primary care, particularly within the PCMH model. Prior to joining CCMCN, Dr. Auxier was the director of integrated services and clinical training at Salud Family Health Centers. She is also a senior clinical instructor at the University of Colorado Denver, Department of Family Medicine; an adjunct faculty member at the University of Denver; and an associate editor for the Journal of Translational Behavioral Medicine. Dr. Auxier serves on the executive committee for the Collaborative Care Research Network, is on the research team of the Collaborative Family Healthcare Association, and is a clinical consultant for Health Resources Service Administration's (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Healthcare, through Management Solutions Consulting Group, Inc.

Debbie Dion, CCMCN's office manager, has added grants management and contracting duties to her responsibilities. In addition, Jill Phillips is now CCMCN's human resources and operations manager. Previously, Ms. Phillips was CCMCN's human resources coordinator.

CCMCN bids farewell to Molly Brown, CCMCN director of operations; Julia Schuster, CACHIE program coordinator; and Erin Lane, CCMCN staff accountant. The staff of CCMCN wishes them all well on their new journeys.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar: 2012 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Primary Care Conference

The CHAMPS/Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) Annual Primary Care Conference will be held at the Westin City Center in Denver, Colo. on October 14-17, 2012. This year's conference will feature many exciting sessions on clinical, fiscal, governance, health system transformation, human resources, information technology, operations, PCMH, policy, and population health/primary care topics, while HRSA and National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) updates will provide a wealth of information on the state of health care in the U.S. and the opportunities and challenges ahead for Community Health Centers. Keynote speaker T.R. Reid, former Washington Post reporter and current international correspondent and author, will bring the conference to a grand finale.

Registration for the conference will open in early August. To find more information about the conference, including hotel booking information and the sponsor, exhibitor and advertiser prospectus, click [here](#).

Register Now for CRHC's 21st Annual Conference

The 21st Annual Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) will hold its 21st annual Colorado Rural Health Conference on October 25-26, 2012, in Colorado Springs. This year's conference will provide participants with a wide range of educational topics including health care reform nationally and locally, innovative solutions to access to care, networking and resource opportunities, and much more. Click [here](#) to register. Contact Grace Ami at ga@coruralhealth.org for more information.

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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.

If you would like to be added to the newsletter e-mail distribution list, or if you have comments about this newsletter, please contact Maureen Maxwell, CCHN communications manager, at maureen@cchn.org or (303) 861-5165, ext. 259.