

July 2013 Newsletter

HEALTH CENTER NEWS

National Health Center Week Events

Aug. 11-17, 2013, 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: Transforming Health Care in Our Local Communities," highlights the multitude of ways in which America's Health Centers are transforming communities through providing high quality medical, dental and behavioral health care; providing jobs in health care careers and stimulating the economy. Listed below are NHCW events happening in Colorado, where the events span half the month!



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HIGHLIGHTS

- National Health Center Week Events in Colorado
- CHC Anniversaries
- CCHN Ventures
- Frontline Management Supervisory Leadership Training



Monday, July 29, 8:00 a.m. registration begins and practice facility opens

MCPN Healthcare the Fairway: 9th 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) ninth annual Celebrity Golf Classic, benefiting MCPN, at the Lakewood Country Club. Go to www.mcpn.org or contact John Reid at reid@mcpn.org or (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, for more information.

Friday, Aug. 2, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Salud's 14th Annual Día de los Niños/Children's Day Celebration

Longmont Clinic, 220 E. Rogers Road, Longmont

For the past 14 years, Salud Family Health Centers (Salud) in Longmont has hosted its annual Día de los Niños/Children's Day Celebration. As always, the goal for this day is to provide low-cost immunizations and free dental check-ups, as well as create a fun, safe environment to celebrate and encourage the health of Longmont's children. Contact Jennifer Morse at jmorse@saludclinic.org or (720) 322-9402 for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 13, 10:00 a.m.-2:00p.m.

Helena Re-Inauguration Celebration

Helena Clinic, 15501 East 13th Avenue, Aurora

MCPN is celebrating the reopening of the Helena Clinic in Aurora, their very first clinic. Contact John Reid at (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, or jreid@mcpn.org for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 13, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Plains Reopens Limon Clinic with Open House

Limon Clinic, 820 1st Street, Limon

Join Plains Medical Center (Plains) as they reopen their Limon clinic. For more information, please contact Bill Lyons at blyons@PMCHC.org.

Tuesday, Aug. 13, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., and Wednesday, Aug. 14

Sunrise Community Events

Tuesday: Monfort Family Clinic, 2930 11th Avenue, Evans

Wednesday: Monfort Children's Clinic, 100 N. 11th Avenue, Greeley

Sunrise Community Health (Sunrise) is hosting events during NHCW to celebrate their communities. Events include a farmers market, health booths, car seat checks by the fire department, balloon animals, face painting, a food bank drive, and much more. Contact Shannon Rea at srea.sunrisenocoha.org for more information.



Wednesday, Aug. 14, 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

MCPN Blood Drive

Jeffco Family Health Services Clinic, 7495 West 29th Avenue, Wheatridge

MCPN is holding its annual blood drive at the Jeffco Family Health Services Clinic. Contact John Reid at (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, or jreid@mcpn.org for more information.



**JEFFCO FAMILY
HEALTH SERVICES CLINIC
RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

*Join us in this monumental occasion as we commemorate the opening of
Metro Community Provider Network's largest facility yet!*

Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2:00 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

MCPN Grand Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Jeffco Family Health Services Clinic, 7495 West 29th Avenue, Wheatridge

Join MCPN in celebrating their brand new, state-of-the-art facility, the Jefferson Family Services Clinic (JFHSC). Contact at (303) 761-1977, ext. 1124, or jreid@mcpn.org for more information.

Monday, Aug. 12-Friday, Aug. 16

Valley-Wide Celebrates Health Awareness

Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc. (Valley-Wide) is celebrating NHCW by raising awareness for a different health cause each day of the week. Staff will wear a certain color every day to support each cause.

Monday: pink for Women's Health Day

Tuesday: red for Heart Health Day

Wednesday: blue for Men's Health Day

Thursday: green for Farmworkers Health Day

Friday: sports logos for Sports and Exercise Day

Tuesday, Aug. 13-Friday, Aug. 16

Mountain Family Community Appreciation Days

Tuesday: Basalt Clinic, 234 Cody Lane, Basalt

Wednesday: Glenwood Springs Clinic, 1905 Blake Avenue, Glenwood Springs

Thursday: Black Hawk Clinic, 562 Gregory Street, Black Hawk

Friday: Rifle Clinic, 195 West 14th Street, Rifle

Mountain Family Health Centers (Mountain Family) is celebrating their health centers patients, staff and community by hosting events at each of their four clinics, one per day during NHCW. At each clinic, the festivities will include a BBQ and a variety of educational booths. Contact Mary Coan at mary@mountainfamily.org for more information.

Friday, Aug. 16, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Salud's 7th Annual Community Walk and Block Party

Fort Collins Clinic, 1635 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins

Salud is hosting its seventh annual Fort Collins Block Party, a community health fair which offers low-cost immunizations and free medical screenings. The fair also introduces new populations to Salud's community partners to reduce barriers to health care. The day starts with a 3K walk in the neighborhood surrounding the clinic.



Dove Creek Community Health Clinic Celebrates 40th Anniversary



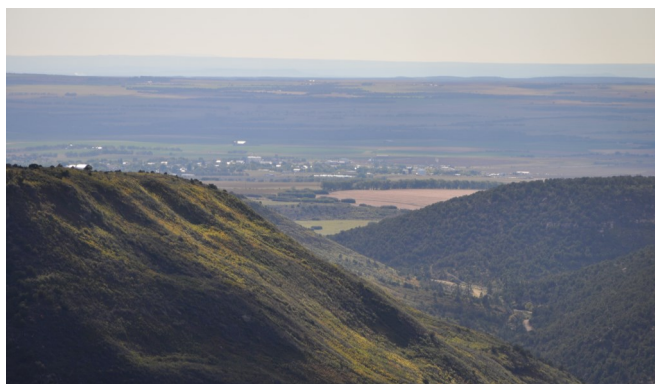
Dove Creek Community Health Clinic

Originally intended to be nothing more than a pilot program to test the feasibility of the nurse practitioner concept in Colorado, Dove Creek Community Clinic (Dove Creek) is proudly celebrating their 40th anniversary this year. Established in 1973, Dove Creek, also known as the Dolores County Health Association, made history by becoming the first clinic in Colorado staffed by nurse practitioners stationed many miles from a supervising physician.

Forty years ago, there was no clinic building, no medical personnel, no funds, and no support in this rural area for the concept of a nurse practitioner run clinic. Fortunately, a handful of dedicated individuals, despite all the challenges and hard work, rallied to make Dove Creek a reality.

The idea for a health center staffed by nurse practitioners came through community involvement with the Southwestern Colorado Comprehensive Health Planning Council. A public meeting was held in March 1973, to determine community interest in establishing a nurse practitioner program to address the need for health care services. Four months later, Dove Creek was formed. In January 1974, the National Health Service Corps granted approval for two nurse practitioners.

Shirley Collins, NP, and Thomasine Scherer, NP began seeing patients in October 1974. Dr. Donesky of the Cortez Medical Group and Dr. Bostrom of the Dolores Medical Associates volunteered to come to Dove Creek on a regular basis and assist the nurse practitioners with patients.



Town of Dove Creek

For 10 months, patients were seen in the homes of the nurse practitioners until funds were raised to remodel a building abandoned by the Union Carbide Corporation. A carpenter team lead by Frank Zehm began remodeling the building that has been home to Dove Creek ever since. The dream of a small community became reality when the Dove Creek opened its doors on November 7, 1975. In its first month of operation, Dove Creek CHC cared for 179 patients.

In 1994, Energy Fuels Nuclear, Inc., formerly Union Carbide Corporation, donated the building and the property to the CHC. Due to patient growth over the years, three additions have been added to the original building. An expansion in 2000 provided extra space to relocate Dolores County Nursing Services into the same building, followed by a second expansion in 2005 adding space for oral health services. As patient numbers continued to grow, as well as the need for expanded dental services, a third addition that included a second story was added in 2010.

In 2012, Dove Creek provided health care to more than 1400 patients, including primary health and dental services, integrated behavioral health, laboratory, x-ray and pharmacy services. Countless volunteer hours have played an intricate role in keeping Dove Creek's doors open for the last 40 years. Thanks to the civic minded dedication of community members, the requirement of having a patient-majority governing board has always been met. Today, 10 community members fill positions on the board, volunteering their time to fulfill the mission of Dove Creek to improve the health outcomes and maintain wellness of residents in Dolores, Montezuma and San Miguel counties, as well as San Juan County, Utah.



CCHN Ventures' Low-Interest Loan Program Helps Expand Health Care

Safety-net clinics in Colorado are preparing for a health care landscape that will be changed forever by a piece of landmark federal legislation, the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Safety-net clinics in Colorado have been evaluating and executing plans to take on a future in which formerly uninsured Coloradans will be covered by Medicaid or private insurance, and will face new decisions about getting health care.

How does a safety-net clinic plan for uncertainty and change in 2014 when the core mission and staff size remain the same as in 2013?

Public and private grants are an important and often critical part of any plan addressing ACA change, but private loans have also become an effective complement to grants and a necessary tool for future planning.

In early 2013, the staff of Dental Aid, a ClinicNet affiliated clinic, knew for certain that they would have to expand the current facilities to be prepared to handle projected patient demand for dental services in 2014. What was not certain was the tool they would use to accomplish the task.

Enter CCHN Ventures (CVI) and its low interest loan program. CVI acts as an alternative to private bank loans, and is directed and managed by leaders from safety-net clinics from across Colorado, making it one of the few lending institutions with intimate knowledge of safety-net clinic operations and business goals. CVI provided Dental Aid with a Working Capital loan to address key initiatives in day-to-day business operations, which will enable Dental Aid to start taking on new patients.

Opinions vary on how to anticipate what the ACA will mean to safety-net clinics in Colorado, but most would agree that forward thinking, dedicated staff and indispensable tools such as CVI will position a safety-net clinic for success in 2014 and beyond.

For more information on CVI and the innovative low-interest loan program, please visit the CVI website at <http://cchnventures.org/> or contact CCHN's business development manager Dana Corrough at 303-867-9527.

Sunrise Celebrates 40 Years of Service to Northeastern Colorado

Sunrise began as a federally qualified Community Health Center caring for farm workers in Weld County in 1973. Originally based in Gill, the first comprehensive Sunrise clinic opened in northeast Greeley in 1980.

Sunrise has grown with northeast Colorado. In 2012, Sunrise cared for 33,252 patients, 109 percent more than in 2000. Among these community members, 5,700 were migrant and seasonal farmworkers, 1,428 were school-based health center clients; 273 were veterans; and 235 were homeless. Forty-five percent spoke a different language than English as their primary language, and languages spoken included Spanish, Somali, and Burmese.

Sunrise's service area is approximately 80 percent of Weld County and 40 percent of Larimer County. The need is great: for example, 90,000 people live in Greeley, 42,000 at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (\$47,100 for a family of four in 2013).

"All of our patients struggle economically, often balancing basic needs on a daily or weekly basis. Can I pay rent? Buy food? Fix my car (if I have one)? Buy medicine? Go to the doctor or dentist? Many of our patients have been without care or go long periods without care as they try to balance these competing needs. Their lives tend to be affected by chaotic forces. Often, we are a port in the storm for our patients," said Mitzi Moran, Sunrise CEO.

Sunrise has grown beyond its first Greeley location. In 1997, Sunrise's Loveland Community Health Center opened, in partnership with McKee Medical Center and Foundation. In 2001, Sunrise's Weld County Prenatal Clinic opened in partnership with Weld County Public Health. In the same year, Sunrise began managing and expanding the Monfort Children's Clinic, in partnership with North Colorado Medical Center Foundation. In 2003, Sunrise Family Dental opened, expanding its historic dental program – Sunrise has provided dental care since the beginning, and one of the original Sunrise dentists, Dr. Ken Day, retired in 2012 after 33 years of service.

In 2004, Sunrise staff hit the road and began using the Sunrise Mobile Health Van to deliver services to migrant, homeless, and school-based health clinics in Weld County.



Sunrise's Monfort Family Clinic in Evans, Colo.

In 2006, Sunrise added its Kids Care Clinic, opened at Centennial Elementary School, in partnership with Weld County School District 6. And in 2007, Sunrise opened Monfort Family Clinic, supported by Banner Health, Monfort Family Foundation, North Colorado Medical Center and Foundation, Caring for Colorado, The Colorado Health Foundation, and the City of Evans.

Members of Sunrise staff co-founded the Northern Colorado Health Alliance, a public and private joint venture dedicated to treating community health as a single complex phenomenon. On an ongoing basis, the Alliance serves as an incubator of best practices,

and convenes community partners to stimulate innovation, integration, and a greater understanding of medical and non-medical factors contributing to community health. The Alliance engages in strategic health planning and innovative management to create health care neighborhoods for all individuals living in the northern regions of the beautiful state of Colorado, with a special focus on the underserved.

2010 was a busy year for Sunrise. The CHC launched the Community Family Medicine Volunteer Corps in partnership with University of Northern Colorado School of Nursing, Greeley. Sunrise North Range Clinic opened in Greeley, in partnership with North Range Behavioral Health. In partnership with North Colorado Family Medicine, Sunrise expanded physician training tracks.

In 2011, the Larimer Center Clinic opened in partnership with Larimer Center for Mental Health, now Touchstone Health Partners. Sunrise now has nine family medicine, pediatric, prenatal, dental and school-based health clinics located in Greeley, Evans, and Loveland, Colorado.

High Plains Recognized as a National Model of Innovative Primary Care Practice

High Plains Community Health Center (High Plains), Lamar, was among 30 clinics nationwide selected as an Exemplar Primary Care Practice by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and Group Health Research Institute (GHRI) in May. RFWJ and GHRI teamed up on a new initiative to identify practice innovations that make primary care more efficient, effective, and satisfying to patients and providers. One innovation is the Primary Care Team: Learning from Effective Ambulatory Practices (LEAP) project, which identifies primary care practices that have focused on teamwork and new roles for health professionals in ways that support consistently outstanding primary care. High Plains was selected through a rigorous national process to receive the designation.

"It is a great honor for High Plains to be included in this elite group of high achieving primary care practices and it's a tribute to the commitment of each and every High Plains' employee and board member to be the best we can be. Our community, patients, and staff can be very proud of this distinction," said Jay Brooke, executive director of High Plains.

The goal of the LEAP project is to identify and share innovative staffing arrangements that make primary care more accessible and effective for patients. A LEAP team will conduct a three-day site visit to understand how the High Plains primary care team delivers high quality, patient-centered health care. The exemplar practices will then join together in a learning community to share best practices and distill their innovations into training and technical assistance materials that can be used by others.

High Plains has been influential in developing creative workforce models that will be disseminated to primary care practices nationwide. Because of a shortage of trained medical support candidates, High Plains adapted the mantra of “Hire for Attitude, Train for Skill.” This enabled High Plains to hire candidates with a desire to learn; a warm, friendly personality; and customer/teamwork orientation. Employees receive on-the-job training to become medical assistants, health coaches, community health workers, dental assistants, and pharmacy technicians. After a year or more of training and employment, staff members are encouraged to take the appropriate national exams to become certified in their areas of training.

“With millions of Americans about to enter the health care system, primary care must become more effective and efficient. Building high performing care teams is a key step,” said Ed Wagner, MD, MPH, co-director of the LEAP project and director emeritus of the MacColl Center for Health Care Innovation at Group Health Research Institute in Seattle. “This new project will allow us to identify best practices and help other primary care sites replicate and adopt innovations to improve access to care and the quality of care they provide.”

Changing of the Guard at Clinica: Two National Leaders in CHC Movement to Retire

When Pete Leibig and Dr. Carolyn Shepherd first came to work at Clinica Family Health Services, Inc. (Clinica) in the late 1980s, they could go home on Fridays and watch “Miami Vice.” It was a time that saw the advent of the Internet and AIDS. The Berlin Wall still stood. Paper charts with colored forms were the gold standard for tracking patient data. Appointments were scheduled months in advance.

Twenty-six years ago, Mr. Leibig took over as Clinica’s president and CEO. In his first year on the job, he hired Dr. Shepherd as the clinic’s medical director. Together, for the past 25 years, they have guided Clinica through radical changes in health care, economic turbulence and a massive growth in the number of uninsured individuals in Colorado. Together, on Sept. 30, 2013, they plan to retire.



When Mr. Leibig and Dr. Shepherd first joined the Clinica staff, the organization’s one clinic and two providers cared for about 1,000 patients a year. In 1994, they expanded Clinica’s service area into Adams County and opened a clinic to serve the burgeoning number of uninsured there. Then they opened another, and another. Clinica now has five medical clinics and two dental clinics serving about 41,000 patients annually. Dr. Shepherd and Mr. Leibig created the pod floor plan now used in all five of the medical clinics. They foresaw the need among Clinica’s patients for pharmaceutical and dental services, and brought those services to the organization. The two of them were also at the forefront of implementing the clinic’s electronic health record system, same-day appointments, and integrated behavioral health care. All of these efforts substantially improved continuity and health outcomes.

With the well-deserved free time they will soon have, Mr. Leibig plans to do more fishing and Dr. Shepherd, along with her husband John, wants to travel.

Successors have already been hired for both. Simon Smith, who joined Clinica’s staff in 2011, will be the new president and CEO as of Oct. 1, 2013. Two people will share the role of trying to fill Dr. Shepherd’s shoes. Dr. Karen Funk, who has been a Clinica physician since 2004, and Dr. Justin Wheeler, formerly with Valley-Wide, will be sharing the duties of vice president of clinical services. Over the next few months, Mr. Leibig and Dr. Shepherd will be training and handing off duties to their successors.

Mountain Family Health Centers Celebrates its 35th Birthday



Mountain Family was born in 1978 in Black Hawk, Colo. Before then, residents in the area were seen by a family doctor whose office doubled as his home. After retiring in 1977, the community was left with no health care provider. A group of local citizens banded together under the umbrella of the Red Cross, formed a non-profit organization, and set out to find a new one. After obtaining seed money from a federal rural health program, Mountain Family hired a family nurse practitioner and opened its doors as the Gilpin County Health Clinic. The clinic was originally housed in a 19th century building donated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

In 1982, the Gilpin clinic was approached by a group of residents and public officials from Boulder County about opening a clinic in steadily growing Nederland. Given the strong local support and need for health care, Gilpin opened its second clinic in Nederland. To reflect the wider geographical reach, the organization changed its name to Columbine Family Health Centers.

As people continued to migrate to the area, Columbine Family Health Centers became cramped. St. Anthony's Hospital (now Centura) proposed that Columbine and the hospital share a building in which hospital staff would offer urgent care and Columbine would provide primary care. Long time residents and health center patients Norman and Mildred Blake generously rented the site to Columbine for a token fee. The clinic is still located on this site today. Both the Black Hawk clinic, aided by Gaming Impact Funds from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, and the Nederland clinic flourished between 1984 and 1990.

When citizens in Glenwood Springs sought a solution to a health care crisis that arose when the only pediatric practice accepting Medicaid closed its doors, Columbine Family Health Centers answered the call and Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs offered to contribute clinic space. When the Glenwood Springs clinic opened its doors, it was named Mountain Family Health Center.

By 2000, the Board of Directors and executive director recognized that the need for services on the Western Slope continued to increase and present constant challenges for the organization. They developed a strategic plan setting forth goals and milestones that guided the organization through the next decade, including the development of a quality program, improved information technology infrastructure, addition of direct dental and mental health services, and new management positions and financial strategies to support the growth. The new plan also called for expansions into other locations along the I-70 corridor through the Rockies.

In 2002, Columbine Family Health Centers commenced their first foray into a formal quality management program by joining the Bureau of Primary Health Care Diabetes Collaborative in Black Hawk and Nederland. Through this health disparity program underway in CHCs nationwide, Columbine learned how to create and manage patient registries and take steps towards integrating quality data into chronic disease programs for diabetes and depression.

In 2003, the Board formally changed the name of the organization from Columbine to Mountain Family Health Centers. In addition, they integrated the behavioral health model into their clinics.

With the Glenwood Springs facility operating at capacity and patients travelling nearly 100 miles to receive care, Mountain Family took action to further expand. After years of fundraising and unrelenting determination, the Rifle primary care and dental facility opened its doors in August 2011.



Mountain Family's Rifle Clinic in Rifle, Colo.

In June 2013, the National Committee for Quality Assurance recognized Mountain Family-Glenwood Springs as a Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home, the highest national recognition that is bestowed on primary care providers. The Blackhawk, Rifle, and Basalt sites will follow in the coming year. In addition, Mountain Family will open a new facility in Eagle County. As Mountain Family celebrates its 35th anniversary, the CHC continues to provide high quality primary, dental, and behavioral health care to more than 13,000 residents in the Colorado Rockies, more people than at any time in its history.

CCHN Hosts Emergency Preparedness and Public Communications Training



In June 2013, CCHN hosted an Emergency Preparedness (EP) and Public Communications Face-to-Face meeting for CHC staff in Denver, Colo. EP coordinators and public information officers (PIOs) from CHCs across the state took advantage of this opportunity to learn, network, and collaborate with their peers.

State agencies, including the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Colorado Department of Public Safety (CDPS), presented on a variety of EP-related topics. Micki Trost, PIO for the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, presented on the roles she has been asked to play during emergencies. This included how multiple PIOs work together to monitor, evaluate, and disseminate information during an emergency event in a Joint Information Center (JIC).

A highlight of the day was a presentation by Randy Hylton from Peak Vista Community Health Centers (Peak Vista). Mr. Hylton detailed his experiences as a PIO during the Waldo Canyon Fire in Colorado Springs during the summer of 2012. During his presentation and subsequent discussion, Mr. Hylton's description of Peak Vista's experiences touched on many of the topics that were discussed throughout the day, including lessons learned, and what public communications can look like for a CHC during an emergency. This was especially relevant given the increasing number of large wildfires in the state in recent years. In response to Mr. Hylton's presentation, other participants shared some of the experiences their CHCs had in managing local emergencies.

With these examples in mind, attendees worked together in small teams to discuss how they would respond to a hypothetical tornado striking their communities.

Other speakers included Mark Salley, Nicole Comstock, Barbara Beiser, Aimee Voth Siebert, and Sarah Werner, of CDPHE, who presented on topics such as crisis and emergency risk communication, vulnerable populations, media relations, and the emerging role of social media in public communications.

The full-day meeting was a useful opportunity for CHC staff from around Colorado to come together, share experiences, network, and take best practices back to their communities.

Health Center News From Around Colorado ***News Briefs***

High Plains Welcomes Two New Doctors

In June 2013, High Plains, based in Lamar, welcomed two new providers to the staff: Dr. Gino Figlio (left), board-certified pediatrician; and Dr. Barry Portner, board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist (OB/GYN). Both have been practicing in Lamar for several years. This is the first time that High Plains has had a pediatrician and an OB/GYN on staff.



Summit Celebrates 20 Years of Service

On June 26, 2013, Summit Community Care Clinic (Summit) kicked off a year-long celebration of its 20th anniversary. The reception was held at Summit's main site in Frisco, Colo.

Summit is the only safety-net health care provider in Summit County. It was established in 1993 as a one-night-a-week walk-in clinic staffed entirely by volunteers and managed by Summit County Public Health. Over time, the clinic added evening hours and eventually day-time hours. In 2006, Summit became an independent non-profit and separated from Summit County Public Health into its current clinic space. Over time, services have grown to include medical, reproductive health, oral health, counseling, physical therapy, and group preventative health services.



Summit board members and community supporters cut a ribbon and toast Summit's 20th anniversary.

Summit became a federally qualified Community Health Center and CCHN's newest member in 2012. To learn more about Summit Community Care Clinic, please visit www.summitclinic.org.



PCHC's Colorado Avenue Clinic in Pueblo, Colo.

Pueblo Helps to Keep its Community Healthy

Staff at Pueblo Community Health Center, Inc. (PCHC) are spending their summer helping to keep local citizens healthy by participating in various community activities. PCHC will take part in the Take Care Fair and Community Picnic, Pueblo Pride Festival, National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, and migrant farmworker programs.

On June 29, PCHC, in partnership with Posada, a local homeless service agency, participated in the Take Care Fair and Community Picnic. The annual event is open to the public and provides free food, health information, activities. PCHC provided health information, condoms, blood pressure

checks and blood sugar screenings. Additionally, PCHC's resident podiatrist participated in the event by providing foot care advice and examinations, and referring patients requiring follow-up care.

PCHC regularly partners with Posada to reach homeless individuals in the area. Every Wednesday a team comprised of a mental health professional from Spanish Peaks, a volunteer nurse, a case manager from Posada and PCHC's Health care for the Homeless coordinator visit homeless camps, shelters and the soup kitchen.

In August and September, PCHC will take part in the Pueblo Pride Festival and national Latino AIDS Awareness Day by offering free confidential HIV testing at all of their clinics.

During the farm worker season, PCHC's migrant seasonal farm worker coordinator frequently visits farms, grocery stores, laundry mats, and other centers that provide resources to farm workers. PCHC also provides physicals, immunizations, and dental checkups at Otero Junior College and the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start program. PCHC's active presence in the community year-round ensures that citizens receive the health services they need.

CCHN UPDATE

CCHN Makes Staff Changes

Stephanie Brooks is CCHN's policy analyst for CKF. She joined CCHN, the lead agency for CKF, in 2012. She is responsible for monitoring, analyzing and reporting on state and federal policies that affect Medicaid and CHP+, as well as providing recommendations to reduce enrollment barriers for Colorado's kids and families. Ms. Brooks was formerly the Health Center Operations Division special projects assistant.

Stephanie Auxier is CCHN's special projects assistant for the Health Center Operations Division, joining CCHN in July 2013. She is responsible for providing administrative and other support for the Health Center Operations Division. Ms. Auxier holds a bachelor's degree in public policy and economics from DePaul University in Chicago, and a master's degree in international human rights from the University of Denver. Prior to joining CCHN, Ms. Auxier worked with homeless women with mental health conditions in Denver, and volunteered as a human rights accompanier for vulnerable populations in Colombia.



CCHN, CHAMPS, and CCMCN Collect School Supplies for Local Children

CCHN, CHAMPS, and CCMCN staff participated in a school supply drive to kick off their 2013 Summer Team Building Charity Event. Dozens of notebooks, pencils, pens, and folders were collected for donation to Inter-Faith Community Services (IFCS), serving the Denver metropolitan area, as part of their Ready, Set, School! program. This program was created to help children from families that are going through difficult times start their school year with the supplies they need to be successful. CCHN, CHAMPS, and CCMCN staff are also excited to be volunteering at IFCS throughout the rest of the summer.

POLICY UPDATE

Get Active! And Influence Policy: Your Voice Needed Now

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 please contact Alice Gibbs, policy analyst, at agibbs@cchn.org or (303) 867-9531.



WORKFORCE UPDATE

CCHN Embarks on Fourth Round of Supervisory Leadership and Coaching Workshops

Over the last two years, 105 CHC staff have had the opportunity to learn about leadership and coaching in the Frontline Management/Supervisory Leadership Training program. CCHN and the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence (CNE) will partner again to host the fourth session in September 2013, in Denver, Colo.

In the past three training sessions, CHC staff has attended either leadership or coaching workshops, while only a few have attended both trainings. Olga Martinez, director of dental and behavioral health operations, at MCPN, was one of the fortunate who attended both leadership and coaching workshops. When asked what she learned from the training session, Ms. Martinez says, "Once I attended the training and was able to utilize the skills and tools that were presented, I thought WOW this is more about me and what I need to do to help my staff. It made me realize that it's how I encourage staff to come along with me as a team, to lead together."

*This training is a gift that you can use
at work and at home.*

As a result, her leadership style changed. She has since stopped always being the doer and started focusing on what her staff need, seeking their feedback, and encouraging them to contribute more to team projects. With Ms. Martinez' new leadership style, providers noticed a difference – the result, a happier, more cohesive team.



Ms. Martinez with her fiancé, Ken Webber.

Through meeting with her coach, Ms. Martinez learned valuable skills on how to listen, plan, and help staff process strategies without giving them a solution. She now teaches her staff how to effectively analyze situations, and the importance of always having a plan B. Before starting her leadership training she used to think, "I'm not a failure," which motivated her to work hard. Her coach gave her a new perspective saying, "Failure is not always bad, and may open a door that can lead you to another idea." This helped Ms. Martinez view a negative outcome as an opportunity for improvement, rather than a failure. Ms. Martinez reminisced "The biggest gift from the training was the opportunity to have the coach that I had," who still coaches and mentors Ms. Martinez today.

Ms. Martinez is a mother of six, CHC business professional, and is currently working towards obtaining her master's degree in health care administration. For CHC staff considering attending the leadership or coaching training, Ms. Martinez said, "This training is a gift that you can use at work and at home. This is something you will learn for the rest of your life and may alleviate some of the work you already have. It teaches you how to delegate, while being more self-aware. Work is always going to be work, but you can't go anywhere else to learn what you learn in the leadership and coaching training."

Learn more about attending the four-day [leadership workshop](#) for supervisors or those preparing for a supervisory position, on Sept. 24-27, 2013, at Peer Assistance in Denver, Colo. Participants will develop greater skills and expertise in change management, diversity and culture, effective communication, conflict resolution and creating excellence in the workplace.

Learn more about attending the two-day [coaching workshop](#), for managers and executives, on Sept. 19-20, 2013, at Peer Assistance in Denver, Colo. Participants will receive an overview of the leadership workshop, learn the difference between supervising and coaching, while also strengthening leadership skills in conflict resolution, active listening and creating a culture of inquiry.

Funding received in May 2013 from the Colorado Health Foundation will continue to support workforce efforts such as staff leadership and skill development training for Colorado CHCs.

CHAMPS UPDATE

2013 Immunization Update Teleconference

On July 31, 2013, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. MT, Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States (CHAMPS) is hosting the 2013 Immunization Update Teleconference. Andrew Kroger, MD, of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), will present vaccine recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and highlight recent changes in the recommendations. For more information and to register, please visit the CHAMPS [website](#) or contact Chelsea Skovgaard at chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org.

New Online ICD-10 Resource

CHAMPS has developed a new ICD-10 resource Web page to assist Region VIII CHCs with transitioning from ICD-9 to ICD-10. Visit the [Web page](#) to access general information on the ICD-10 transition, differences between ICD-9 and ICD-10, resources for completing an ICD-10 transition plan, articles, consultants, training tools, and other useful links.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Mark Your Calendar and Submit an Abstract: CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference

CHAMPS and Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA), including a partnership with Western Clinicians Network (WCN), will hold their combined Regions VIII and X Annual Primary Care Conference Oct. 19-22, 2013, in Seattle, Wash. The conference will include clinical, operations/IT, fiscal, human resources/workforce, policy, and governance tracks. Registration for the conference will open in early August. More information can be found on the [CHAMPS website](#).

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About CCHN

The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is the unified voice for Colorado's 18 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 60 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.