



# CCHN Newsletter

## May 2018

### IN THIS ISSUE

[Health Center News](#)—Pages 1 - 8

[Policy Update](#)—Page 10

[CHAMPS Update](#)—Pages 10-11

[CCHN & CHAMPS Staff Update](#)—Page 11

[Upcoming Events](#)—Pages 11 - 12

## HEALTH CENTER NEWS

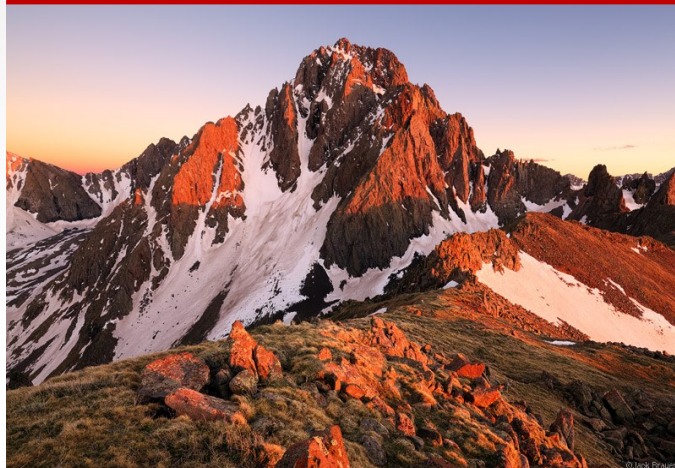
### With Funding Battle Over, CHCs Move Ahead with Hiring and Services

In March, staff and board members of Colorado Community Health Centers (CHCs) traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with Colorado's members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to discuss the future of the Community Health Center program, and to participate in the annual March conference of the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC).

Colorado CHC staff, patients, and community supporters had been part of a months-long advocacy effort to ask Congress to fund the CHC program, National Health Service Corps, Teaching Health Centers, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The federal funding for all four programs, vital to health care for underserved urban and rural communities in Colorado, ended on Sept. 30, 2017, and awaited Congressional action on funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2018. Due to partisan disagreement and delays in finalizing current-year funding, CHCs had to delay hiring, reduce services, shelve renovation or expansion projects, or some combination to manage the budget shortfall.

Now that funding has been determined for this year, and partially for next, Colorado CHCs are moving ahead with filling open employee positions and providing access to care in communities across Colorado that, without CHCs, would not have access to affordable, comprehensive primary and preventive care.

Every member of Colorado's Congressional Delegation





took action to support the renewal of funding, including cosigning letters to House and Senate leadership, speaking personally with leadership, speaking out publicly in support of CHCs, and posting on social network channels. Colorado CHCs greatly appreciate the support.



*Left: Sen. Bennet accepts the 2018 Distinguished Community Health Advocate Award from Fatima Groom, Sunrise Community Health, as representatives of Colorado CHCs applaud.*

*Top: Rep. Diana DeGette (third from left) holds up her 2018 Distinguished Community Health Advocate Award surrounded by visitors from CHCs in her congressional district.*

*Middle: Rep. Mike Coffman (third from right, front row) holds his 2018 Distinguished Community Health Advocate Award surrounded by visitors from CHCs in his congressional district.*

*Bottom: Senator Cory Gardner accepts his NACHC 2018 Distinguished Community Health Advocate Award from Jim Garcia, CEO of Clínica Tepeyac, as representatives of CHCs across Colorado applaud.*

## Two Coloradans Celebrated at National Conference

In recognition for her outstanding efforts to ensure that Colorado state and federal legislators actively support CHCs, and for her tireless work to establish and expand grassroots advocacy efforts at CHCs, CCHN's Policy Manager Alice Gibbs was one of twelve people chosen from among thousands of employees in the national CHC movement to receive the NACHC 2018 Grassroots Advocacy Elizabeth K. Cooke MVP Award, presented at the 2018 NACHC Policy and Issue Forum in Washington, D.C., in March 2018.



Ms. Gibbs has assisted Colorado's CHCs with voter registration drives, educating staff on legislative issues of concern to CHCs, and helping staff learn how to be involved in advocacy activities, such as preparing for meetings with state and federal legislators and participating in ballot initiative campaigns.

An annual tradition at the NACHC Policy & Issues Forum is the presentation of the Geiger Gibson Emerging Leaders Awards, which honors young professionals currently working in the field of community health. CHCs and primary care associations nominate dedicated young public health professionals who exemplify the mission and vision of Drs. H. Jack Geiger and Count Gibson, pioneers for community health and human rights. The 13 chosen this year from a competitive pool included Leah Schulz, DDS, the dental director of Salud Family Health Centers in Fort Collins.

Ms. Schulz joined Salud over two years ago as dental director for Salud's newest dental clinic, overseeing daily clinic functions and staff. She quickly identified areas for improvement and suggestions for moving forward. As a result, Salud created a Dental Optimization Committee that has improved clinic workflows, expanded clinic hours at several sites, built dental quality metrics, and improved patient satisfaction. Ms. Schulz also started a Salud dental study club, and expanded options for referrals to specialists willing to offer services with discounts for Salud's patients.

The honorees are selected and the awards presented by staff of the Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy at the George Washington University's Milken Institute School of Public Health. To learn more about the awards and the program, go [here](#).

## New Online Capability Added to Help Job Searchers Connect with Colorado CHCs

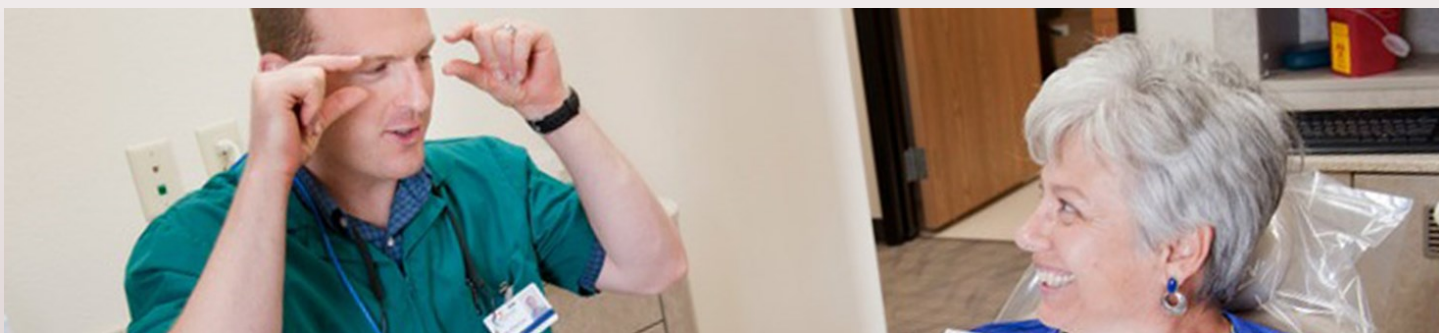
To help fill job openings at Colorado CHCs, CCHN has added the ability to search for Colorado CHC jobs through Google. Visit <http://missiondrivencareers.org/health-care-jobs/> to check it out.



*Above: Alice Gibbs holds up her Betsey K. Cooke Grassroots MVP Award. From left: Amanda Pears Kelly, NACHC National Advocacy Director; Alice Gibbs; James Luisi, NACHC Board Chair; and Tom Van Coverden, NACHC President and CEO.*



*Above: Leah Schulz (right) accepts the Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader Award from NACHC Board Member Anita Monoian.*



## CHCs Gather to Advocate at the CCHN Policy and Issues Forum

At CCHN's 2018 Policy and Issues (P&I) Forum, Colorado CHC staff and board members learned about CCHN's top legislative priorities and spent a day at the state capitol speaking with elected officials. This year's P&I focused on the political environment over the past year, the implications of a potential loss of federal funding, and the impacts of an election year on health care policy in the state. More than 100 CHC advocates attended.



*Above: Participants attend the CCHN 2018 P&I Forum.*

Taking place in the History Colorado Center, the first day of the Forum focused on preparing participants for their meetings with Colorado legislators the next day. Session topics included a basic rundown of how a bill becomes a law, CCHN's top policy priorities for the 2018 session, and ample time for CHCs to plan and practice for their meetings with legislators. The first day of the Forum also included a policy panel that discussed the outlook for health care in Colorado. Participants heard from Gretchen Hammer, Medicaid director at the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF); Marguerite Salazar, executive director at the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies; Jeff Bontrager, director of research on coverage and access at the Colorado Health Institute; and Carol Hedges, chief executive officer at

the Colorado Fiscal Institute. The panelists discussed the political environment at the federal and state level, the potential impacts of federal tax reform on health care, and how CHCs can continue to play an important role in ensuring Coloradans receive the health care they need.

In addition to the day's sessions and planning time for legislator visits, CCHN recognized two leaders for their advocacy efforts supporting the Community Health Center movement. The 2018 Community Health Advocate Award was presented to Danyelle Carlson, executive assistant and advocacy coordinator for Mountain Family Health Centers (MFHC). Since 2014, Ms. Carlson has worked to further the advocacy program at MFHC, helping MFHC to achieve Gold Advocacy Center of Excellence (ACE) status as well as Hispanic Advocacy Center of Excellence (HACE) status through the National Association for Community Health Centers (NACHC). She also helps lead the MFHC advocacy task force and has spearheaded a scholarship program for MFHC staff to attend NACHC and CCHN P&I forums.

CCHN presented the annual Stanley J. Brasher Community Health Gratitude Award to Stan Eilert, chief administrative officer of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (the Coalition). The award is named in honor of Jerry Brasher, retired CEO of Salud Family Health Centers (Salud) and a leader in the CHC movement in Colorado and nationally. Stan worked for the Coalition for 22 years, holding a variety of positions that helped the Coalition achieve national recognition for services provided to Colorado's homeless population. Stan served on CCHN's Board of Directors for several years and was instrumental in ensuring that the unique needs of Colorado's homeless population were carefully considered in decisions. Stan's diligent work creating and protecting the Primary Care Fund and the Colorado Indigent Care Program resulted in millions of dollars of funding to CHCs to care for the uninsured.



*Above: Annette Kowal, President of CCHN, presents the Stanley J. Brasher Community Health Gratitude award to Stan Eilert.*



After participants had finished their preparatory work for legislator visits, they moved across the street to the ART Hotel for the P&I Legislator Reception and Awards Ceremony. Representative Tony Exum (HD 17) and Senator Dominick Moreno (SD 21) received the Legislator Community Health Champion Awards; Samuel Bernal Urbina, Entravision Communications and La Tricolor radio station, received the Media Community Health Champion Award; and Dr. Richard Moothart, Peak Vista Community Health Centers (Peak Vista), received the Volunteer Clinician Community Health Champion Award.



*Above: Senator Dominick Moreno holds the 2018 Legislator Health Champion Award with staff and board members from CHCs in his district.*

Both of CCHN's 2018 Legislator Health Champions have been in the General Assembly since 2013. Rep. Exum has been a strong supporter of Peak Vista throughout his time in office and has prioritized understanding the various and vital services that Peak Vista provides in the community. Rep. Exum's support of Colorado's CHCs and the health of his constituents is apparent in the legislation that he has voted for and against over the years.

Sen. Moreno began his work in the State House and was elected to the State Senate in 2016. He is a passionate advocate for the underserved and demonstrates exceptional support for the social health care safety net systems so crucial to Colorado's communities. He has sponsored legislation for behavioral health, oral health, Medicaid home health, and medical transportation, reflecting a strong, community-based understanding of how health care is delivered to meet the needs of communities.

CCHN's 2018 Volunteer Clinician Community Health Champion Dr. Moothart began volunteering at Peak Vista providing cardiology consults in August 2010. He sees patients on a weekly basis and has provided more than 250 cardiology consults over the last eight years. His work at Peak Vista epitomizes the Hippocratic oath and the ideals of selfless service.



*Above: P&I participants enjoy refreshments at the ART Hotel for the Legislator Reception and Awards Ceremony.*

Mr. Urbina, vice president for Integrated Marketing Solutions, founded La Tricolor radio station in 2008, with the goal of providing a readily available entertainment and communications venue for the Latino population in the Roaring Fork Valley on Colorado's Western Slope. He has worked to ensure that La Tricolor has kept its listeners informed about their health care options, including Mountain Family Health Centers. Throughout the open enrollment period for Connect for Health Colorado, La Tricolor educated its listeners about how to determine eligibility and receive assistance with applications, and/or how to make an appointment with providers who offer financial assistance and sliding fee discount programs. The station also hosts an annual health fair. In addition, La Tricolor reports on immigration issues and concerns, seeking to quell fears and anxiety with accurate information and resources.

Visits with legislators filled the next day. Participants met at the Capitol bright and early to go to their meetings. Many of the P&I participants had never met with their legislators before, making the day a unique opportunity for both CHC advocacy and civic engagement. In the meetings, participants discussed the value of CHCs, the looming federal funding cliff, and answered questions their legislators had about services, patient populations, and funding.

The P&I is a unique opportunity for Colorado legislators to learn about the importance of Community Health Centers in their district and for CHC staff to learn about and engage with their legislators.



## Colorado CHC Family Remembers Sherry Wasserman

It is with sadness that CCHN staff learned that Sherry Wasserman, founding executive director of People's Medical Clinic in Boulder, passed away recently.

"She was on the CCHN Board Chair when I started at CCHN in 1996," said Annette Kowal, CEO and president of CCHN. "She was a beautiful, unique, free spirit that was not chained by any human laws. We had some fun times together at the NACHC P&I. May her passage to the other side be graceful and easy."

People's Medical Clinic is now part of Clinica Family Health and continues to provide affordable comprehensive primary and preventive health care to the residents of Boulder County.



*Above: The owners of Wine Country Inn, Richard & Jean Tally, pose with their award with MarillacHealth Board Chair Shane Haas, and Vice Chair Mark Green.*

## MarillacHealth Honors Community Partner

As part of the 2018 Colorado Nonprofit Week, MarillacHealth was the presenting sponsor of the "Inspire Impact Breakfast" for Mesa County Community Impact Council, and nominated Wine Country Inn for the "Business of the Year Recognition Award." Wine Country Inn has offered ongoing support of MarillacHealth by sponsoring the annual wine, spirits and culinary adventure fundraiser, *Edesia*. *Edesia* is in its eighth year and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for MarillacHealth.

## Deborah Salazar of Salud Family Health Center Appointed to the National Advisory Council on Migrant Health

Deborah Salazar, Salud's Migrant Health Director, has been appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to serve a four-year term on the National Advisory Council on Migrant Health (NACMH). Ms. Salazar is a passionate advocate for farmworkers and works tirelessly to lead her team's outreach efforts. She works with numerous farms and dairies to ensure health care access is available to any worker in the Salud service area. She is well-respected by farmers, growers, and owners, and has developed strong, meaningful partnerships. Ms. Salazar is extremely excited and honored to be asked to serve as a voice for these important community members.

The National Advisory Council on Migrant Health (NACMH) advises, consults, and makes recommendations to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the HRSA Administrator concerning the organization, operation, selection, and funding of migrant health centers and other entities assisted under section 330(g) of the Public Health Service Act. To learn more about The National Advisory Council on Migrant Health, [click here](#).

## Colorado Coalition for the Homeless CEO Receives Prestigious Award from National Health Care for the Homeless Council

The National Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) will award John Parvensky, President and CEO of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (the Coalition), the Philip W. Brickner National Leadership Award.

The Philip W. Brickner National Leadership Award, the Council's most prestigious award, honors an individual who has significantly strengthened service and/or advocacy that addresses the health status of people without homes.

Under John Parvensky's leadership, the Coalition's Stout Street Health Center grew from a primary care clinic serving 200 individuals into an integrated CHC serving more than 13,000 unique patients annually. John was an early champion of the proposition that "housing is health care," leading the development of more than 2,000 supportive housing units and administration of 600 housing vouchers for families and individuals without homes. In more than 30 years at the Coalition, John has focused on the intersection of advocacy for social justice, integrated health care, and housing for those most in need—and he will continue working toward the day when everyone has a home.

"I am deeply honored to be receiving this award. I had the opportunity to work with Philip Brickner, and he inspired much of our focus on integrated care for people experiencing homelessness and our expansion of the Stout Street Health Center," said John Parvensky when told he had been selected. "This honor is even more special to me because it comes from my peers and validates my long-term commitment to providing high quality health care and creating lasting solutions for families and individuals experiencing homelessness in Colorado."

The award ceremony takes place at the 2018 National HCH Conference & Policy Symposium on May 17, 2018.

## Pilot Program in Northwest Colorado Addresses Burnout in Health Care Professions

Burnout for health care professionals is a common challenge across the country. Northwest Colorado Health is working with Kristen Race, founder of Mindful Life in Steamboat Springs, to help health care professionals find meaningful ways to manage workplace stress.

The collaboration started when Northwest's Medical Director Diana Horning, already working on the issue, reached out to Ms. Race. Read more about it in [Steamboat Today](#).

## Salud Family Health Centers Announces New Mascot

Salud Family Health Centers hosted a mascot rollout event at their Brighton clinic on April 27, 2018. This event promoted Salud's new mascots, The Dynamos, with the purpose of creating a kid-friendly environment in the communities Salud serves. The event brought families within the community together for an afternoon full of education, games, and prizes.

To learn more about Salud Family Health Centers, [click here](#).



*Above: Salud Family Health Centers hosts their mascot rollout event.*



## Colorado CHC Staff Honored by Oral Health Colorado

Colorado CHC staff made a good showing at the May presentation of Oral Health Colorado's annual awards. CHC staff were contenders in nearly every category.

Two CHC staff won the Outstanding Dentist Award: Dr. An Nguyen, vice president of dental services, Clinica Family Health; and Dr. Garry Millard, who very recently retired as dental director for Mountain Family Health Centers.

Dr. Patty Braun, pediatrician, Denver Health, was one of two selected for the Lifetime Achievement Awards.

[Oral Health Colorado](#) works with individuals, organizations, and coalitions to increase access and eliminate barriers to oral health. The annual awards recognize individuals and organizations who have gone beyond the normal course of duty to improve oral health in Colorado.



## Support for Practices Implementing Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder

A Google search of "opioids in Colorado" produces headlines from sources spanning local newspapers and news agencies, to health care organizations, to government releases and articles penned by elected officials. Several Colorado CHCs have taken solutions into their own four walls by offering Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to patients with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). As primary care homes that provide access to medical, behavioral health, and dental care, Colorado CHCs are well-positioned to support patients with OUD.

The University of Colorado Department of Family Medicine, in partnership with the Colorado Health Extension System and the Implementing Technology and Medication Assisted Treatment and Team Training in Rural Colorado (ITMATTTs Colorado) project, have introduced the ITMATTTs 2 program to provide financial incentives for providers to complete the buprenorphine waiver training. Participating practices also receive five in-person trainings at their practice site to support the care team in implementing a MAT program and caring for the unique needs of patients with OUD.

More information about the ITMATTTs 2 program can be found at <http://www.practiceinnovationco.org/itmatttrs2/>. Questions can be directed Taylor Miranda Thompson, [tmiranda@cchn.org](mailto:tmiranda@cchn.org).



## Coalition Takes Aim at Diabetes with Integrated Care Model

The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (the Coalition) is addressing the high incidence of untreated diabetes in homeless populations by placing special emphasis on diabetes care with an innovative integrated care system.

The integrated care model blends teams of providers across the spectrum to collaborate in providing patient-centered care.

This model supports patients with multiple services to address specific health issues, and addresses social factors that impact health status, such as housing and nutrition, a component not found in traditional health care delivery. The model also emphasizes partnership between patients and team members, providing information and resources to empower patients to manage their health.



The Coalition is using a grant from the Diabetes Oral health Integration Project to work with the Denver American Diabetes Association to train its staff as National Diabetes Program Prevention (NDPP) lifestyle coaches and obtain NDPP recognition for the Diabetes Self-Management and Education Program. Kaylanne Chandler, manager of nursing services for the Coalition explains how it works in this *Denver Post* [Your Hub blog](#).

## Mountain Family Health Centers Expands Dental Services

Beginning in June, Mountain Family Health Centers (MFHC) will provide dental services to patients at its Glenwood Springs location, due to funding provided by the Delta Dental of Colorado Foundation. MFHC is one of ten nonprofit medical practices that will be integrating a dental hygienist into medical teams, as part of the Colorado Medical-Dental Integration Project.



In addition, MFHC began this month to provide additional dental services in Glenwood Springs in the MFHC Mobile Dental Van. The Mobile Dental Van will alternate every two weeks between the MFHC Glenwood Springs parking lot, and the El Jebel Community Center in El Jebel. For more information about all MFHC services, please visit <https://www.mountainfamily.org/>.

## Mountain Family Health Centers Partners with Roaring Fork Schools in Outreach and Enrollment Effort

Mountain Family's Outreach and Enrollment (O&E) team is visiting schools this spring to talk with parents and students about the services MFHC provides. MFHC is working in partnership with the Family Resource Center of the Roaring Fork Schools. The O&E team visited Glenwood Elementary School in March, River-view School in April, and will visit Carbondale in May. The goal is to reach parents and families who don't have a medical home or are looking for a new doctor. The team provides information about insurance programs and medical, behavioral, and dental services provided by MFHC.

The O&E team hopes to reach parents and families who otherwise don't have the time to find information about health care providers in the area. During this effort, Mountain Family has connected 31 families with affordable options for care.

## Celebrity Tortilla Rollers Compete to Support Clínica Tepeyac



Clínica Tepeyac had a long line of contenders at their annual celebrity tortilla throwdown. Tortillas for Tepeyac is an annual fundraiser for Clínica Tepeyac that raises community awareness of Clínica Tepeyac's services. The event took place on May 11 and drew community and business leaders from across the Denver Metro area. All proceeds from this year's event will go toward Clínica Tepeyac's patient assistance fund, which supports low-income patients in getting vaccines, mammograms, and other health care services.

Visit [Clínica Tepeyac's website](#) for information about their services and next year's event.

*Above: Participants from 2018's Tortillas for Tepeyac event pose with their tortillas.*

## Policy Update

### 2018 State Legislative Session Comes to a Close

CCHN staff, lobbyist, and CHC staff and board members worked throughout the Colorado 2018 legislative session to ensure that legislators were knowledgeable of the valuable role CHCs play in providing health care to Coloradans. The session ended May 9.

CCHN supported several items throughout the legislative session, including bills related to free-standing emergency departments, price transparency, primary care funding, and increased access to oral and behavioral health benefits. House Bill (HB) 18-1045: Dental Hygienist Apply Silver Diamine Fluoride, sponsored by Rep. Singer (HD11) and Sen. Tate (SD27), will increase access to this much-needed oral health service by allowing a dental hygienist to apply this specific type of fluoride that can currently only be applied by a dentist. In addition, Senate Bill (SB) 18-024: Increasing Access to Behavioral Health Providers, also sponsored by Sen. Tate and Rep. Singer, will help to increase access to behavioral health and substance use disorder services by creating a student loan repayment program specifically for behavioral health and SUD providers.



SB18-146: Freestanding Emergency Departments Required Consumer Notices, sponsored by Sens. Kefalas (SD14) and Smallwood (SD4) and Reps. Sias (HD17) and Singer, also passed this session after three unsuccessful attempts over the past few years. This bill will require freestanding emergency departments to disclose certain information to consumers on the type of facility they are, the potential costs to patients, which health plans they participate in, and other disclosures that aim to help consumers better understand the costs associated with where they are seeking care.

CCHN also supported bills this session that unfortunately did not make it through the legislative process. HB18-1365: Primary Care Infrastructure Creation, sponsored by Reps. Ginal (HD52) and Sias and Sens. Priola (SD25) and Moreno (SD21), would have created a collaborative to look at the amount of money spent by health insurers on primary care services. This bill died in the Legislative Council Committee during the last few weeks of session. In addition, CCHN supported several price transparency bills that did not make it through the session. These included: HB18-1008: Diabetes Drug Pricing Transparency Act, sponsored by Rep. Roberts (HD26) and Sen. Donovan (SD5); HB18-1207: Hospital Financial Transparency Measures, sponsored by Reps. Kennedy (HD23) and Rankin (HD57) and Sens. Moreno and Smallwood; and HB18-1260: Prescription Drug Price Transparency, sponsored by Reps. Ginal and Jackson (HD42) and Sen. Moreno. Although these bills did not pass this session, it is expected that the stakeholders and legislators that brought them forward (including CCHN) will continue to work on these in future sessions.

For the state budget, the Colorado legislature agreed to a \$28.9 billion balanced budget for FY 2018-19. Health care remains a large portion of the state budget, and CCHN will work to continue advances in health care during next year's legislative session.

## CHAMPS Update

### Save the Date! CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference

Join CHAMPS and the Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) for the 2018 Annual Primary Care Conference **Saturday, October 20 through Tuesday, October 23, 2018, in Denver, Colo.** The conference will include behavioral health, clinical, community health, fiscal, governance, integrated services, operations/IT, policy/environment, quality transformation/PCMH, and workforce/HR tracks and will



provide numerous networking opportunities. CHCs and other partners with innovative programs and best practices are encouraged to submit an abstract to present at the conference. The abstract portal will remain open through Friday, June 29, 2018.

For more information and a link to the online abstract portal, visit the CHAMPS [Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.



## **2018 CHAMPS Immunization Update Webcast**

On June 7, 2018, from 11:30AM-1:00PM MT / 12:30-2:00PM CT, CHAMPS will host its annual Immunization Update webcast. JoEllen Wollicki, RN, BSN, Nurse Educator for the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will address the 2018 vaccine schedules and the latest Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations. Clinical leadership, clinicians, clinical support staff, and other interested healthcare professionals at CHCs in Region VIII are encouraged to attend this event.

For more information and to register, visit the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

## **CCHN & CHAMPS Staff Update**

### **CCHN Welcomes New Health Center Operations Division Assistant**

Katie Ventura joined the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) in February as the new Health Center Operations Division Assistant. Her primary responsibilities include providing administrative support and working on CHC operations projects within the division. Ms. Ventura received a master's degree in health promotion from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, in May 2017. Before joining CCHN, she worked as the program manager at The Eating Disorder Foundation.

### **CCHN Welcomes New Operations Coordinator**

Rosario Morales joined CCHN in May as the new Operations Coordinator. Her primary responsibility is to coordinate projects with Human Resources and Operations staff and to ensure that general office and business support functions are completed timely and accurately. Rosario spent 17 years with Salud Family Health Centers and served in multiple roles throughout the years, working as a billing manager most recently. In her time off Rosario enjoys crocheting, camping, road trips, and playing with her six-month-old German Shepherd, Bella.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Save the Date: National Health Center Week August 12-18, 2018**

CHCs across the country will be celebrating National Health Center Week in August with health fairs, block parties, back-to-school events, and other activities. This year's theme is "Celebrating Health Centers: Home of America's Health Care Heroes." Watch for CCHN's July newsletter for a schedule of events at Colorado CHCs.

## NACHC 2018 Community Health Institute & EXPO

August 26-28, 2018



The NACHC Community Health Institute (CHI) and Expo is the largest annual gathering of CHC clinicians, executives, consumer board members, and State/Regional Primary Care Associations. The conference will take place in Orlando, Fla. Participants will have the opportunity to gain perspectives from thought and industry leaders, hear

about cutting edge ideas and partnerships to improve financial sustainability, network, and share ideas and best practices.

Registration for the NACHC CHI and EXPO will open in June 2018. Visit [www.nachc.org/conferences/chi/](http://www.nachc.org/conferences/chi/) to learn more.

## Save the Date: 2018 Building Better Health Conference October 15-16, 2018

Mark your calendar for this year's Building Better Health conference hosted by Colorado Covering Kids and Families (CKF), a project of CCHN. The Building Better Health conference is October 15–16, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver Conference Center. It is the only in-person training and networking opportunity in Colorado for all assisters, community-based organizations, advocates, and brokers who help Coloradans enroll in health coverage. The conference will cover health coverage policy updates, preparation for the sixth open enrollment period, outreach and enrollment best practices, Colorado's eligibility system changes, messaging, communications, and health insurance literacy. In addition to training and resources, attendees will have the opportunity to network with colleagues from across the state.



Visit CKF's [website](#) and follow CKF's [Twitter](#) for more updates and announcements. Building Better Health is funded by the Colorado Health Foundation and is planned in partnership with the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, Connect for Health Colorado, the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, the Colorado Division of Insurance, and PEAK Outreach.



Left: A poster from the 2017 Building Better Health conference.

Middle: Participants attend the 2017 Building Better Health conference.

Right: Sister Simone provides the keynote address at the 2017 Building Better Health conference.



CCHN Newsletter Editor: [Maureen Maxwell](#); Assistant Editor: [Jessica Higgins](#)  
Contributors: Annette Kowal, Katie Pachan Jacobson, Holly Kingsbury, Jessica Sanchez, Taylor Miranda, Katie Ventura, and Alice Gibbs, [CCHN](#); Rachel Steinberg, [CHAMPS](#); Garry Schalla, [Mountain Family](#); Cathy Alderman and Kaylanne Chandler, [Colorado Coalition for the Homeless](#); Jennifer Morse and Ashley Johnson, [Salud](#); Kristy Schmidt, [MarillacHealth](#); Suzi Mariano, [Northwest Colorado Health](#); Christi Dodd, [Oral Health Colorado](#); Erica Addison, [NACHC](#)

## About CCHN

*The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is the unified voice for Colorado's 20 Community Health Centers (CHCs) and their patients. CHCs provide a health care home to almost 740,000 of their community members - one in eight people in Colorado - from 61 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).*

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 senior federal policy and communications manager, at [maureen@cchn.org](mailto:maureen@cchn.org) or (303) 861-5165, ext. 259.

***FOLLOW US!***

