

Newsletter May 2007

CONTENTS

Community Health Center Movement Published, Record Numbers of CHC Staff Attend CCHN's Annual Policy & Issues Forum and Receive Awards at Legislative Reception, Dan Euell Thanked for His Service to CCHN and CHCs, Youth Ambassadors to Participate in MCPN Golf Classic, Sunrise CHC and Rep. Musgrave Encourage Children to Read, Celebrating Successful Conclusion of Children's Oral Health Outcomes Partnership, President Bush Unveils High Poverty County Initiative
POLICY UPDATE: CCHN and Partners Submit Health Care Reform Proposal, CCHN Supports State Health Legislation
WORKFORCE UPDATE: Health Professions Scholarships Awarded
CHC RESOURCES: Emergency Management Plan Template Draft Completed, New Emergency Preparedness Rules, Colorado CHC Emergency Preparedness Report Released, March Was Colorectal Awareness Month, New Research Available
CHAMPS UPDATE: CHAMPS Spanish Language Intensive Training for Health Professionals, CHAMPS Lending Library Update, New Development Officer at CHAMPS
CCMCN UPDATE: Tobacco Cessation Program Update, CCMCN Welcomes New Cessation Program Coordinator
CCHN STAFF UPDATE: CCHN Welcomes New Immunization Coordinator
UPCOMING EVENTS: Rural Health Conference to be Held in Four Colorado Communities, National Health Center Week

HEALTH CENTER NEWS

Community Health Center Staff Members Honored

Community Health Center (CHC) staff members were honored March 1 at the annual quality improvement awards ceremony of the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN). In addition, scholarships were awarded to Colorado CHC entry-level staff members who are in training to advance their health care careers while continuing to care for patients.

Keynoting the event was Annie Wohlgenant, Vice President of Philanthropy for The Colorado Health Foundation. Eligio G. White, Chair of the Board of the National Association of Community Health Centers, joined the event to recognize CCHN's 25 years as Colorado's Primary Care Association.

CCHN's annual clinical quality awards honor outstanding CHC staff members and partner safety-net providers who participate in CCHN's health care quality improvement efforts. Honored this year were individuals and institutions in the Health Professions Initiative Scholarship Program, the Children's Oral Health Outcomes Partnership, the Colorado Oral Health Network Data for Clinical Quality Project, the Healthy Woman Outreach Project, the Health Disparities Collaboratives, and the CCHN Immunization Initiative.



From left: Kim Baca and Juanita Torres, Pueblo Community Health Center, with Immunization Excellence award.



Peak Vista staff with oral health awards and giant toothbrush teaching aid. From left: B.J. Scott, Peak Vista CEO; James Kuhar, vice president of dental affairs; Alma Rodriguez.

I am both humbled and empowered by the individuals and organizations that we honor tonight—humbled by your selflessness, your willingness to submit your own needs for control or recognition or resources—to the vision of a health care system that treats every human being, regardless of income, race, citizenship, with dignity—and empowered by your audacity, your imagination, and your refusal to accept anything less than the best quality care we know how to deliver—given in a way that preserves every human being's dignity.

Annie Wohlgenant



Linda Messer, Plains Medical Center, with her Healthy Woman Outreach Project award.



From left: Annie Wohlgenant; Marguerite Salazar, CCHN board chair and president/CEO of Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.; Annette Kowal, CEO of CCHN; Eligio G. White.



High Plains Community Health Center Health Professions Initiative scholarship awardees: back row from left: Brooke Woller, Maranda Foster, Lisa Hasser; front row from left: Erica Saldana, Michelle Fisher.



Ed Farrell, MD, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, with his Colorado Health Disparities Collaboratives award.

Photos by Will Cheshire and Dan Gambino

History of Colorado Community Health Center Movement Published

This year is CCHN's 25th anniversary. In celebration, CCHN has published a book that chronicles the history of the Community Health Center movement in Colorado and the establishment of a statewide association of CHCs. To read *Community Health Center Movement Narrows the Health Care Gap*, <u>click here</u>.

Record Numbers of CHC Staff Attend CCHN's Annual Policy & Issues Forum and Receive Awards at Legislative Reception

A record number of CHC board members and staff participated in CCHN's 2007 Policy and Issues Forum in February. After a day of advocacy training nearly 50 people visited 51 members of the Colorado legislature to discuss priority issues for Community Health Centers. Top policy issues included House Bill 1258, directing the Referendum C money to help working adults access affordable health care, and Senate Bill 208, which established the Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Reform.



Rep. Buescher accepts congratulations from CCHN board chair Marguerite Salazar, CEO of Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.

CCHN also gave a record number of awards at the 2007 Legislative Reception and Awards Ceremony. The Community Health Champion award recognizes legislators, reporters, and volunteer clinicians for their work to improve the health of Coloradans. CCHN's legislator award went to Rep. Bernie Buescher, House District 55, Grand Junction, who is a tireless advocate for Colorado's low-income individuals and families.

CCHN recognizes volunteer clinicians who are dedicated to serving the needs of Colorado's medically underserved.

Five clinicians were honored this year:

- Greg Day, D.D.S., O.M.S. who provides oral surgery for patients at Pueblo Community Health Centers;
- Salud Family Health Centers' Scott Woodard, M.D., for treating patients in Estes Park and
- Jack Cletcher, M.D., who provides acute orthopedic care to Salud's Longmont patients;
- Tom Jeffers, M.D., who constructed a team of volunteer physicians at MCPN's Estes Street Community Clinic in

Lakewood; and

Gerald Koehn, M.D., a dermatologist who accepts referrals from Peak Vista CHC in Colorado Springs and arranges for other dermatologists to do so as well.



Dr. Woodard displays his Community Health Champion award.



Dr. Cletcher gave a moving statement on the importance of volunteering.

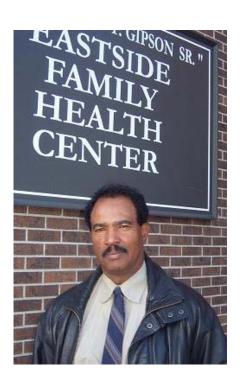
CCHN also honored Charlie Peterson, general manager of KKTV, for exemplary business practices and significant community contributions to the welfare of those living in the Pikes Peak region.

Dan Euell Thanked for His Service To CCHN and CHCs

Dan Euell is taking on a new role at Denver Health and will no longer serve on the CCHN board, due to new responsibilities. CCHN would like to thank him for his many years of service to CCHN and Colorado's Community Health Centers. His wisdom and hard work have made a difference on so many levels.

Euell served CCHN as secretary of the Board of Directors, and was a member since 2000. He also played an active role in CCHN's Public Affairs Committee. In addition, Euell's contributions to the CHC movement include serving consecutively in the roles of treasurer, vice president, and president of the Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States (CHAMPS).

Euell has been with Denver Health since 1970, when he became assistant director of Denver's first CHC, then called the Neighborhood Health Center and now known as Bernard F. Gipson, Sr., Eastside Family Health Center.



Youth Ambassadors to Participate in MCPN Golf Classic

MCPN is co-hosting its third annual celebrity golf tournament *Healthcare the Fairway* with Building On Life's Disappointments (BOLD). *Healthcare the Fairway* will tee up National Health Center Week August 5-11, 2007, at Lakewood County Club in Lakewood, Colo. CHCs, like MCPN, have been serving as health care homes for over 40 years, providing continuous primary and preventive health care.

MCPN partnered with the BOLD program several years ago and endorses the organization's outreach to young people throughout the United States. BOLD is a Colorado-based nonprofit youth organization, offering character, leadership, and life skills development to children and young adults throughout Colorado. In 2006, BOLD gave 40 teenagers from Katrina-damaged New Orleans the opportunity to visit Colorado and explore the great outdoors. Many went skiing for the first time in their lives. MCPN provided medical screening for all of the BOLD participants in Colorado as part of the partnership.

In July and August 2007, BOLD will provide a summer "Colorado Experience" event to 10 youths from New Orleans and 10 youths from Platte Canyon High School in Bailey, Colo., two communities that have experienced recent trauma. As part of the MCPN/BOLD partnership, each "Colorado Experience" participant will volunteer for MCPN's *Healthcare the Fairway* golf event as ambassadors and general volunteers.

MCPN in partnership with BOLD's programs offer communities of youth opportunities for individual growth and unique cross-cultural experiences. For more information on MCPN, please visit www.mcpn.org. For more information about BOLD, please call Blake Anderson at (303) 748-9880.

Sunrise CHC and Rep. Musgrave Encourage Children to Read

U.S. Rep. Marilyn Musgrave (CO-04) visited Sunrise Monfort Children's Clinic on April 10, 2007, to demonstrate support for the Reach Out and Read Program. She toured the clinic and read to children in the waiting room.

The Reach Out and Read Program promotes literacy and connects children and parents to the world of reading. The program focuses on children 6 months through 5 years of age and provides a book for each

child, distributed by the clinician at the patient's well-child check. When distributing the books, clinicians emphasize the importance of parents reading with their children. Often volunteers demonstrate how to engage children in literacy by reading books to patients in clinic waiting rooms. Several Colorado CHCs participate in the program.

In 2006, Monfort Children's Clinic provided services to 2,540 children under the age of 5 and staff distributed 2,512 books, a 76 percent increase in books distributed in 2005. The program will be expanded to all Sunrise medical clinics where well-child checks are provided.



Celebrating Successful Conclusion of Children's Oral Health Outcomes Partnership



John McFarland, DDS, dental director of Salud Family Health Centers, with COHOP and other oral health awards at March 1 clinical Quality Awards Ceremony.

The innovative Children's Oral Health Outcomes Partnership (COHOP) came to a successful conclusion March 31, 2007. Thanks go to the Caring for Colorado Foundation for providing funding since 2003. The participating teams have been reviewing their final data reports and celebrating their successes finding more ways to encourage families to obtain dental services at an early age. Overall improvement in oral health prevention education goals for one- and two-year-olds has been documented to increase by 30 percent following participation in the program. Dental referrals for toddlers have increased 38 percent. Fifteen teams enjoyed recognition during the Excellence in Clinical Quality Awards Ceremony held March 1, 2007. For more information, contact Brenda Lantz (brenda@cchn.org or x245).

President Bush Unveils High Poverty County Initiative

This year marks the first year that expansion of Community Health Centers will be targeted to the areas of highest need where there is no existing health center presence. Using criteria defined by Bureau of Primary Health Care, 200 counties throughout the United States were identified as "High Poverty Counties". Elbert County is the only county in Colorado to be placed on the list. Funding is available to either plan for or locate a new health center site in

Elbert County. CCHN staff is working with interested CHCs in applying for these funds. For more information, contact Belinda Prawdzik, Health Center Resource Manager, at belinda@cchn.org or (303)861-5165 ext. 244.

POLICY UPDATE

CCHN and Partners Submit Health Care Reform Proposal

CCHN, in conjunction with the Colorado Children's Campaign, Colorado Access, and the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council, submitted a proposal to the 208 Blue Ribbon Health Care Reform Commission. This proposal was among the 11 chosen by the Commission for further consideration. The Commission will make a final selection of 3-5 proposals for a full evaluation on May 18.

The Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform was created by the Colorado Legislature in 2006. The Commission is charged with making recommendations for comprehensive health care reform with the goal of increasing health care coverage and decreasing costs for Colorado residents, with particular emphasis on the issues of the uninsured, underinsured, and those at risk of financial hardship due to the costs of medical care. The Commission is required to make final recommendations for comprehensive health care reform to the Legislature by January 31, 2008.

The proposal from CCHN and its partners, *Community of Caring*, plans to:

- Provide health coverage for every Coloradan, without regard to age, race, ethnicity, immigration or health status or other circumstance;
- Create a public-private partnership to lead a focused community discourse on a culture of health care for Colorado; and
- Leverage health care funds from all sources.

<u>Click here</u> for a brief summary of our proposal. For a copy of the full proposal you can <u>click here.</u> All of the proposals submitted to the Commission are posted <u>here.</u>

The Health Care Reform Commission is hosting community meetings around the state on May 10 and 12. Click here to learn more about the meetings.

CCHN Supports State Health Legislation

The 2007 Legislative Session ended a few days early on May 4. CCHN worked hard on several bills approved by the state legislature that will strengthen health care in Colorado.

Senate Bill (SB)-211 aims to improve health care for children. Today there are nearly 180,000 children without health insurance coverage in Colorado. Approximately 122,000 of these children are estimated to be eligible for Medicaid or CHP+. SB-211 will:

- Create an advisory committee charged with developing and overseeing the implementation of a plan to provide health coverage for all low-income children in Colorado by 2010.
- Ensure pregnant women and children can access health care services without delay.
- Simplify Medicaid and CHP+ to ensure children who are eligible for the programs are enrolled.
- Require the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to develop, collect and analyze heath care standards to ensure children on public programs receive quality health care services.

SB-232 creates a student loan repayment program for health care professionals in medically underserved areas of the state. This bill will enable up to six health care providers to be placed in medically underserved communities each year by providing loan repayment assistance. This will help:

- Provide access to care for an estimated 6,000 patients per year.
- Introduce providers to needy communities. These providers often stay beyond their obligations and continue to serve underserved communities for many more years.

Both SB-211 and SB-232 await Governor Ritter's signature.

House Bill (HB)-1258 strengthens the Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP). CICP increases access to health care for uninsured Coloradans and provides reimbursement to providers who participate in the program. The bill has been signed by the Governor and will:

- Maximize the state's investment by drawing down available federal matching funds.
- Ensure the reimbursement is available for both children and adults.

For more information on health care issues <u>click here</u> and sign up to be a Community Health Center advocate.

WORKFORCE UPDATE

Health Professions Scholarships Awarded

CCHN recently announced the fourth round of Health Professions Initiative (HPI) scholarship awards. CCHN received 29 applications, making this the most successful round for scholarship awards thus far. Scholarship awardees are:

- Rebecca Anderson, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (bachelor of science in nursing)
- Bernice Almanza-Pereyra, Denver Health (associate of science in nursing)
- Elizabeth Danowsky, Denver Health (dietitian/nutritionist registration)
- Irmalinda Gomez, Denver Health (licensed practical nurse certification)
- Yasmin Abdelsalam, Denver Health (dietitian/nutritionist registration)
- Erica Saldana, High Plains Community Health Center (expanded functions dental assistant certification)
- Michelle Fisher, High Plains (expanded functions dental assistant certification)
- Cassey Roush, Metro Community Provider Network (MCPN) (medical assistant certification)
- Leah Peterson, MCPN (bachelor of science in nursing)
- Alma Rodriguez, Peak Vista Community Health Center (expanded functions dental assistant certification)
- Maria Sulzer, Peak Vista (associate of science in nursing)
- Rebecca McCay, Peak Vista (bachelor of science in nursing)
- Roxanne Upshaw, Plains Medical Center (certified addictions counselor III)
- Adrienne Martinez, Pueblo Community Health Center (medical assistant certification)
- Adria Wichterman, Salud Family Health Center (bachelor of science in nursing)
- Leticia Chavez, Salud (associates of science in nursing)
- Elida Ramirez, Sunrise Community Health Center (medical assistant certification)
- Cherri Lyons, Valley-Wide Health Systems (dental assistant certification)
- Cheryl Archuleta, Valley-Wide (expanded functions dental assistant certification)
- Christina Rodriguez, Valley-Wide (dental assistant certification)
- Jessica Ortega, Valley-Wide (dental assistant certification)
- Roland Martinez, Valley-Wide (expanded functions dental assistant certification)
- Susan Vogel, Valley-Wide (expanded functions dental assistant certification)
- Violet Martinez, Valley-Wide (dental assistant certification)

The HPI scholarship program provides qualifying high-achieving, entry-level staff with scholarships up to \$3,000 to further clinical education in a health professions support staff position. Round five scholarship applications will be accepted again in July 2007. For further information, please contact Amber Galloway at amber@cchn.org or 303.861.5165 x 234.

CHC RESOURCES

Emergency Management Plan Template Draft Completed

The CCHN Emergency Management Plan Template draft has been completed and will be rolled out at High Plains CHC in mid May. The final revision of the template will be completed by the end of May. The Emergency Management Plan (EMP) Template has been developed as a guide for CHCs to use in writing meaningful all-hazards EMPs that satisfy JCAHO and AAAHC Standards, Federal Emergency Preparedness Policy Information Notice expectations, and Colorado Board of Health Bioterrorism rules. The Emergency Preparedness Manager will assist any Colorado CHC in adapting and developing plans using the template

For more information, please contact Nancy Gilbert at (303) 861-5165, ext. 258 or nancy@cchn.org.

New Emergency Preparedness Rules

The Colorado Board of Health met on March 21, 2007, and amended the Emergency Preparedness Rules for CHCs and Rural Health Centers (RHCs). The new rules require Health Centers to:

- File an all-hazards Emergency Management Plan (EMP) with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment by December 31, 2007.
- Review plans annually
- Be compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

For more information, please contact Nancy Gilbert at (303) 861-5165, ext. 258 or nancy@cchn.org.

Colorado CHC Emergency Preparedness Report Released

The CHC Emergency Preparedness Report has been released based on survey interviews completed in January. Highlights include:

- One hundred percent of the CHCs have a person assigned to emergency preparedness.
 Forty percent of the CHCs have some type of written disaster plans, but only 27 percent have a pandemic preparedness plan.
- Not all CHC staff members, including those doing emergency preparedness, believe that a pandemic flu is possible.
- The CHCs without electronic medical record (EMR) systems have no efficient way to duplicate patient records and store records off-site.

For a copy of the report, please contact Nancy Gilbert at (303) 861-5165, ext. 258 or nancy@cchn.org.

March Was Colorectal Awareness Month

CHCs and affiliates have been working diligently in their communities to increase patient awareness of the value of colorectal cancer screening. The University of Colorado Cancer Center's Colorado Colorectal Screening Program (CCSP) program provided assistance with newspaper ads, posters, mass mailings, television updates, video teaching aids and brochures. CCSP released a request for applications for funding for clinics expected to screen 250 or more patients per year through June 30, 2009. Several CHCs have received funding to support their patient navigator positions.

Brenda Lantz is now the Clinical Project Coordinator for the CCSP program and is working with CHC patient navigators and University of Colorado Cancer Center staff to offer assistance to your programs. Please call or email with any questions (brenda@cchn.org or x245).

New Research Available

Success Shown in Health Disparities Collaboratives

A large federal initiative to improve chronic disease care for CHC patients has "significantly improved" processes of care for asthma and diabetes, according to researchers at Harvard Medical School. The study, Improving the Management of Chronic Disease at Community Health Centers, was published in the March 1, 2007, New England Journal of Medicine. The Health Disparities Collaboratives (HDCs) were developed to change primary health care practices, improve health care, and eliminate health disparities. All Colorado CHCs participate in HDCs. The Collaboratives are a project of the Health Resources and Services Administration Bureau of Primary Health Care. Disparities in quality of care associated with patients' race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status are of particular concern to CHCs, which provide care to more than 15 million Americans, many of whom lack health insurance and are members of minority groups.

New Study Shows Enrolled Medicaid Clients to Lose Coverage Due to Documentation Requirements

George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services published a new study, "Assessing the Implications of Medicaid's New Citizenship and Identification Documentation Requirements for Health Centers and Their Patients." The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) worked with the authors on the report and several Colorado CHCs submitted data. The researchers estimate conservatively that the immediate impact of the documentation requirements will be to eliminate Medicaid coverage for up to 319,000 Medicaid enrolled pediatric and adult patients nationally. In Colorado, this would mean up to 26,100 Medicaid patients could lose coverage. The analysis showed that most CHCs reported enrollment difficulties, including a longer application process, longer enrollment process, and delays in securing documents. More than 20 percent of health centers reported a decrease in Medicaid patients, even as their uninsured patients continued to rise.

Go to http://www.gwumc.edu/mccm/news/index.cfm?d=4108 for a news release summarizing the study. The study can be accessed from the bottom of the release.

CHAMPS UPDATE

CHAMPS Spanish Language Intensive Training for Health Professionals Sept. 20-22, 2007

Registration is now open for a three-day Spanish language intensive training course for health care providers interested in an immersion language experience. Faculty from RIOS Associates will provide instruction for all skill levels. RIOS has successfully presented Spanish medical language workshops throughout the United States since 1983. This three-day course is targeted for physicians, nurses, PAs, NPs, dentists, pharmacists, and other medical personnel. It is an intensive, individually tailored workshop consisting of medical dialogues, role-plays, and cross-cultural discussions. The course curriculum provides an experience of immersion learning, an approach that has repeatedly proven to be extremely suitable for those with limited time, and who must use their new language skills immediately with their Spanish-speaking patients in order to discuss feelings, attitudes and culture. CHAMPS is currently applying for CME accreditation for the course. In the past, participants were eligible for 24 CME credit hours.

The registration fee is \$400 for CHAMPS Members and \$550 for non-members. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Select Denver Cherry Creek, Denver, Colo. Please register early for this course! Class size is limited and hotel room rates are subject to availability. In order to secure participation and discounted sleeping room rates, please email Stephanie@champsonline.org to register as soon as possible.

CHAMPS Lending Library Update

CHAMPS continues to update its lending library clinical resources which are available at no cost to CHAMPS members for up to four weeks. Recent additions to the library include a complete set of RIOS Associates Spanish Language Course materials and a skill building DVD tool for counseling obese and overweight patients. Numerous archived CHAMPS webcasts are also available on DVD. For Lending Library description and borrowing guideline forms, please visit http://www.champsonline.org/tools/PubsElectronicMedia/LendingLibrary/default.asp#mem.

New Development Officer at CHAMPS

CHAMPS welcomed a new staff member in March: development officer Erin Cummings. Erin will be working to identify CHAMPS growth opportunities to ultimately enhance the quality of care for underserved populations throughout Region VIII. She has many years of public health experience, most recently focusing on tobacco cessation prevention and education in North Carolina. Erin graduated magna cum laude from Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in public health promotion and education. She has a master of arts degree in health science from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. She can be reached at (303) 861-5165 x225 or erin@champsonline.org.

CCMCN UPDATE

Tobacco Cessation Program Update

CCMCN is in the process of implementing a CHC Tobacco Cessation Program at five pilot sites in Colorado. Heather Stocker is CCMCN's new CHC tobacco cessation program coordinator. Heather is working with participating CHCs to promote the *Tobacco Cessation* webcast, arrange and facilitate educational sessions, and assist in updating clinic work flow and processes to help seamlessly implement the Tobacco Cessation guidelines. The March 28 *Tobacco Cessation* webcast was being coordinated by CHAMPS and facilitated by Dr. Jeffrey Cain, whose support and hard work has been integral to the project's success.

CCMCN Welcomes New Cessation Program Coordinator

Heather Stocker, CCMCN's new cessation program coordinator, previously was the executive director of a nonprofit substance abuse prevention and intervention organization in Boise, Idaho. In addition, she taught courses in women's studies, sociology, criminal justice, psychology and social work as an adjunct faculty member at Boise State University since 1999. Heather founded an organization called Healthy Opportunities through Positive Education (HOPE) that provided classes in healthy decision making and substance abuse avoidance for youth and their families. She worked as a juvenile probation officer and supervisor, trained law enforcement officers through Idaho Peace Officers Standards Training (POST), and was the director of a mental health program. She has worked extensively with at-risk youth, law enforcement personnel, and mentally ill indigent clients. Heather grew up in Southern California and received both her bachelor's degree in psychology and political science and her master's degree in counseling psychology from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

CCHN STAFF UPDATE

CCHN Welcomes New Immunization Coordinator

Janie Martinez is the immunization coordinator for the Colorado Community Health Network. Her primary responsibilities include working closely with Community Health Centers to provide quality improvement and to increase immunization rates. Janie has more than three decades of experience as a licensed practical nurse. She has worked in Houston's largest public health system. Her specialties include pediatrics and pediatric emergencies, high-risk obstetrics and gynecology, case management and follow- up for extremely small, high-risk infants (weight less than 1000 grams). Janie has spent the last five years as a research nurse with the University of Texas-Houston Maternal Fetal Medicine Department, conducting clinical trials sponsored by the National Institute of Health. She is a familiar face to Denver Health La Casa and Globeville clinics. In her spare time, she loves gardening, sewing, knitting, photography, jewelry making, spending time with friends and family and sightseeing in the mountains. She and her husband Louie, a Denver native, recently celebrated 25 years of marriage.

Please visit http://www.cchn.org/about_us/jobs.asp for current job openings at CCHN.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 7-8, June 28-29, July 19-20, August 9-10, 2007

Rural Health Conference to be Held in Four Colorado Communities

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) is hosting its 2007 conference in four rural communities: Trinidad on June 7-8, Burlington on June 28-29, Delta on July 19-20, and Craig on August 9-10. The conference format is new this year and attendance and outreach are expected to increase. Using the responses from a statewide survey, CRHC staff has tailored each conference to the needs of each region. Topics vary at each conference, but include the medically uninsured and underinsured, healthcare reform, funding, recruitment, EMS, mental health, methamphetamine, long term care, and staffing issues. The conferences will provide participants from a variety of healthcare sectors with information, resources, and networking opportunities. Each conference will consist of a Thursday evening reception and Friday sessions. For registration information and sponsorship opportunities, please visit http://www.coruralhealth.org, or contact Callie Preheim at (303) 832-7493, (800) 851-6782, or cp@coruralhealth.org.

Save the Date

August 5-11, 2007

National Health Center Week

CCHN Newsletter Editor: Maureen Maxwell

Contributors: Elizabeth Garbe, Amber Galloway, Nancy Gilbert, Brenda Lantz, Andrea Miller Martin, Belinda Prawdzik, Susan Roughton, Heather Stocker, Tanah Wagenseller, Stephanie Wasserman, and Mitzi Moran, Sunrise Community Health Inc.; John Reid, MCPN; Callie Preheim, CRHC; Megan Wilson, Reach Out and Read-Colorado.

CCHN is supported in part by the Bureau of Primary Health Care of the US Department of Health and Human Services through technical and non-financial assistance to Community Health Centers (Grant number 4 H68CS00151-10-01). 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, policy and communications analyst, at 303-861-5165 ext. 259 or Maureen@cchn.org.