



Newsletter October 2012

CONTENTS

HEALTH CENTER NEWS: 13 Colorado Clinics Participate in Final SNMHI Learning Session; Two New CHCs Join CCHN; 2012 National Health Center Week; MCPN to Expand Services with Five New or Renovated Sites; Colorado CHCs Work to Register Voters and Collect Pledge-to-Vote Cards; Summit County Care Clinic Joins CHC Family; Health Center News From Around Colorado.....Pages 2-9

POLICY UPDATE: Don't Forget to Vote!; Get Active! and Influence PolicyPage 9

CHAMPS UPDATE: CHAMPS Honors Coloradans for Advocacy and Board Leadership; Conference Attendees Receive a Poetic Welcome; CHAMPS 2012 Salary Survey Report is Available.....Pages 10-12

CCMCN UPDATE: Dan Tuteur Celebrates 15 Years with CCMCN; CCMCN Welcomes New Staff Members.....Pages 12-13

UPCOMING EVENTS: Register Now for CRHC's 21st Annual Conference; Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Hosts Annual Home for the Holiday's Events; Peak Vista to Host Eighth Annual Breakfast of Champions; Annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Vigil to be Held on Dec. 19.....Page 13

HEALTH CENTER NEWS

13 Colorado Clinics Participate in Final SNMHI Learning Session

On Sept. 26, 2012, CCHN hosted its fifth and final Community Safety Net Medical Initiative (SNMHI) Learning Session in Denver. Health Center (CHC) staff from the 13 Colorado clinics that are part of the SNMHI were in attendance, along with representatives from partnering agencies, including Qualis Health and The Colorado Trust.

Over the past four years, CCHN has supported CHCs statewide to attain Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) status. The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) defines the medical home as an “innovative program for improving primary care. The PCMH provides a health care setting that facilitates the partnerships between individual patients, and their personal physicians, and, when appropriate, the patient’s family.”



Anne Warhover, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of The Colorado Health Foundation, presents Valley-Wide Health Systems Inc. staff with their award.

SNMHI focuses on and integrates eight concepts for change, assembled into four groups, which lay a foundation for PCMH transformation. All CHCs in Colorado have identified and upheld the PCMH transformation and subsequent recognition as a top priority. The Learning Session was a unique opportunity to receive not only applicable training, but also a forum for networking and connecting with CHCs from Colorado and other states.

The session featured speakers and presenters who provided trainings on quality improvement and communication amongst clinical staff. In addition, participants discussed possible future primary care scenarios and how each of those scenarios could potentially impact PCMH in Colorado. Anne Warhover, president and CEO of The Colorado Health Foundation (TCHF), presented each SNMHI site with an award, acknowledging their dedication and success over the past three years.

SNMHI is a five-year initiative, funded by The Commonwealth Fund, Qualis Health, and the MacColl Center, with the intention of assisting 65 primary care sites in five states to receive PCMH recognition. There are 13 SNMHI sites in Colorado. CCHN’s role is to work in tandem with the sites to guide, coordinate, and support them in their transformation endeavors.

Two New CHCs Join CCHN

CCHN welcomed two new members: Olathe Community Clinic, Inc., and Sheridan Health Services. Both have been newly designated as federally qualified Community Health Center grantees.

Olathe Community Clinic is located in Olathe in Montrose County. Olathe cares for residents in Delta and Montrose counties. It was built originally as a school-based health center, and is a free-standing building that now provides comprehensive primary health care to all ages. It offers integrated medical and mental health care, and outreach to seasonal farmworkers.

Sheridan Health Services has two sites, one free standing and one a school-based health center, serving the City of Sheridan and surrounding communities. Sheridan is a nurse-managed health care clinic begun in 1995 in the Sheridan School District with providers from the University of Colorado (CU), College of Nursing. Sheridan partnered with CU to apply for the CHC grant. They also partnered with CU School of

Dental Medicine starting in Nov. 2011 to run the CUSmileMaker Van, a mobile dental clinic at the school-based health center. For more about Sheridan, please visit www.sheridanhealthservices.com.

CHCs provide comprehensive, culturally competent, quality primary health care services to medically underserved communities and vulnerable populations. They are community-based and patient-directed organizations that serve populations with limited access to health care. For more information about the CHC program, please visit <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/about/index.html>.



Erica Schwartz, executive director, Sheridan Health Services, stands in front of Sheridan's Oxford Avenue site.

2012 National Health Center Week

National Health Center Week (NHCW), Aug. 5-11, 2012, was dedicated to recognizing the service and contributions of community, migrant, homeless, and school-based CHCs. This year's theme, "Celebrating America's Health Centers: Powering Healthier Communities," showcased the ability of CHCs to deliver affordable, high quality, cost-effective, and accessible health care keeping communities healthy and productive.

Throughout NHCW, CHCs across the state hosted various events, bringing attention to the quality primary health care that they provide in communities. Salud Family Health Centers (Salud) hosted its annual Dia de los Niños at the Salud Longmont Clinic. Throughout the day, children received free dental and vision screenings as well as immunizations, just in time for the start of the school year. Once the children received all of their health screenings, they were able to collect free school supplies and enjoy a variety of games and activities, including painting a tile to be featured in a wall mural at the clinic site.

Many other CHCs hosted events with the start of the school year in mind. The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) hosted its annual Back to School Healthy Kids Fair on Aug. 11, 2012, at the Stout Street Clinic. The fair provided 230 children in need with vision, hearing and dental screenings, as well as immunization updates, haircuts, school supplies, a healthy lunch and an overall fun day. Metro Community Provider Network (MCPN) held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its brand new mobile dental van at the Jefferson High School Kids and Teen Clinic. The celebration



included an awards ceremony for the winning students of the dental van art contest, healthy snacks and refreshments, and guided tours of the van.



MCPN's mobile dental van opening celebration, Aug. 9, 2012

In addition to the opening of its dental van, MCPN partnered with Bonfils to hold a blood drive at its North Aurora Family Health Services site. MCPN also held the annual Celebrity Golf Classic, "Healthcare on the Fairway," at Lakewood County Club. The annual golf tournament benefits MCPN and was hosted by former Denver Bronco Ebenezer Ekuban.

Sunrise Community Health (Sunrise) incorporated the theme of Powering Healthier Communities throughout their NHCW events, hosting a bone marrow registration drive at two clinic sites, a nutritional cooking demonstration, and a “Weigh and Win” kiosk, providing patients with incentive to lose weight and get healthy.

Peak Vista Community Health Centers (Peak Vista) CEO Pam McManus gave a short presentation to the El Paso County Commissioners about the positive impact that Peak Vista has in El Paso County, resulting in August 5-11 being declared as Peak Vista Community Health Centers Week in El Paso County.

Additional activities during the week included sports physicals for students preparing to return to school, block parties combined with health fairs, free immunizations, voter registration, health education sessions presented by CHC staff experts, and picnics.



El Paso County Board of Commissioners name Aug. 5-11 Peak Vista Community Health Centers Week in El Paso County.

MCPN to Expand Services with Five New or Renovated Sites



Construction proceeds on JFHSC site

Demand for MCPN's services has more than doubled in the past few years, so MCPN is working hard to build the capacity to provide health care for more Coloradans. MCPN will be opening five new, renovated, or expanded sites by April 2013.

Construction on the new Jeffco Family Health Services Clinic (JFHSC) at 29th and Wadsworth in Wheat Ridge advances daily. This clinic is expected to expand care for 10,000 additional patients and provide 100 new jobs. MCPN is looking forward to moving in next April.

again at the Helena Clinic, at 15501 E. 13th Avenue in Aurora, in February 2013.

The MCPN Helena Clinic, MCPN's original site which has been closed for several years, will be completely remodeled. MCPN expects to begin offering services

MCPN is also partnering with Aurora Mental Health, the University of Colorado, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's refugee program to staff a refugee clinic at the site of its former Elmira Clinic in Aurora. Operational plans are still being finalized, with the expectation of beginning to offer services some time in 2013.

MPCN is working to finalize the location of the Pine Tree Clinic in Douglas County. Eventually, the clinic will hold three medical providers, one dentist, and one behavioral health provider. MPCN expects to be seeing patients at Pine Tree by January 2013.

The focus on health care is shifting to integrative care, and the link between good physical and behavioral health is becoming increasingly clearer. MCPN is partnering with leading local behavioral health organizations to improve access for patients. In partnership with the Jefferson Center for Mental Health (JCMH), Arapahoe-Douglas Mental Health Network, and the Aurora Mental Health Center, MCPN has created the Clinics WithOut Walls, or CWOWs. There are currently four CWOW sites. The CWOW in partnership with JCMH, called Union Street Clinic at 12055 West Second Place, Lakewood, is expected to

open in the very near future. A CWOW is a project which promotes systems integration and increases access to integrated mental health, substance abuse, and primary care services.

Colorado CHCs Work to Register Voters and Collect Pledge-to-Vote Cards

Many of Colorado's CHCs participated in voter registration activities over the past several months, to help clients, staff, and board members register to vote in the upcoming November election. Voter registration projects were sponsored by either the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) or the Colorado Participation Project (CPP).

CPP is staffing and leading the Service Providers and Civic Engagement (SPaCE) project. The SPaCE project is a national evaluation initiative that is testing and measuring the impact of nonprofit service providers on increasing civic participation by their clients. In Colorado, Salud and Peak Vista participated in the SPaCE project and, according to CPP, were able to collect more than 3,000 Pledge-to-Vote cards or completed voter registration forms.

The SPaCE project required participants to set goals around the number of voter registrations and pledges-to-vote that they wanted to collect before the 2012 registration deadline. To reach their goals, Peak Vista staff developed a "Prescription to Vote" pad for providers to "prescribe" patients to register and vote. By involving outreach staff along with providers and administrative staff, Peak Vista was able to surpass the voter registration/pledge-to-vote goal. Salud also used innovative practices to register voters and ask clients to pledge to vote, including using a call center at one of their clinics to remind patients that they can register to vote when they come in for their appointment and asking them to pledge to vote over the phone.



From left: Dr. Michael Allen, Salud Longmont; Art Nomeli, CPP; and Rebecca Gorrell, CPP, register voters at the Salud Dia de los Niños celebration in Longmont, Colo.



Clinica staff register voters at the Clinica Pecos Clinic. From left: Veronica Gonzalez-Rodriguez, financial screener; Gloria Vivanco, receptionist; and Bianca Lozano, financial screener.

In addition to the SPaCE project, five Colorado CHCs participated in the NACHC Community Health Vote project: CCH, Clinica Family Health Services (Clinica), MCPN, Sunrise, and Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc. (Valley-Wide). Community Health Vote is an initiative aimed at increasing voting and civic participation by CHC staff, board members, volunteers, and clients; and assisting CHCs to increase voter participation in their communities through legal, permissible, nonpartisan voter engagement activities.

The CHCs participating in the Community Health Vote project received posters, buttons, and pledge-to-vote cards from NACHC to help get out the vote in their clinic sites. In addition to asking

clients if they would like to register to vote when they checked in for their appointments, CHCs also set up and staffed voter registration tables during NHCW as well as on National Voter Registration Day, Sept. 25. MCPN worked with former Broncos player Ebenezer



Meg Snead and Lisa Dannen, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, conduct voter registration at the Stout Street Clinic, Sept. 18, 2012.

Ekuban to develop a public service announcement about registering to vote that has been shown on monitors in the waiting rooms of their sites and is available on the MCPN website. CCH set up a voter registration table in the waiting rooms of five of their clinic sites and were able to register 64 voters in five days.

Summit Community Care Clinic Joins CHC Family

Summit Community Care Clinic, located in Frisco, joins the Community Health Center family with its new designation as a “look alike.” Summit Community Care Clinic 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 Summit added extra evening hours and eventually day-time hours. In 2006, Summit became an independent non-profit and separated from Summit County Public Health. Summit attained its CHC status in September 2012.



Summit Community Care Clinic, Frisco, CO.

The “look alike” designation means that Summit meets the standards and requirements of other federally qualified Community Health Centers but does not receive a Section 330 federal grant to cover health care for the uninsured. Section 330 is the part of the Public Health Service Act that established the Health Center program. Summit is eligible to apply for a 330 grant if future funding becomes available. Like other CHCs, Summit is located in an area of high-need, offers comprehensive primary health care on a sliding fee scale adjusted based on ability to pay, is governed by a community board of directors of which at least 51 percent must be patients of Summit, and operates as a nonprofit with the mission to provide health care to low-income, working families. To learn more, please visit www.summitclinic.org.

Health Center News From Around Colorado News Briefs



From left, Kenneth Floyd, chair, Denver Community Health Services Board; Kelly Dunkin, vice president, The Colorado Health Foundation; Paul Melinkovich, M.D., director, Denver Community Health Services; Patrick Gillies, regional administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration; Brenda Kazin, principal, Place Bridge Academy; and John Simmons, executive director of Denver Public Schools

Denver Health opens 15th School-Based Health Center

Just in time for school, Denver Health Community Health Services (Denver Health) opened its 15th school-based health center (SBHC) at Place Bridge Campus in southeast Denver on Aug. 15, 2012. The new, 3,600 square-foot clinic offers primary care, immunizations and physicals.

A burgeoning student population of more than 1,000 students is creating greater demand for health services such as physical exams, immunizations, and care of chronic conditions such as asthma and depression at Place Bridge, an early childhood through eighth grade school.

SBHCs expand access to care, provide preventive medicine and help children stay in school while offering an affordable and convenient way for parents to ensure

CCHN October 2012

- 6 -

www.cchn.org

their children get quality physical and mental health attention.

Grant funding for the clinic is provided by TCHF and Denver Health Hospital Authority. Additional funding comes from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration under the Affordable Care Act.

Peak Vista to Renovate Penrose Hospital Facility

Peak Vista recently celebrated its purchase of the former Penrose Community Hospital at a ceremony held on Oct. 9, 2012. With this new ownership, Peak Vista is establishing its 21st health care site in the Pikes Peak Region.

The renovation of the former Penrose Hospital facility, which was closed in 2008, will take place in phases. The initial phase will involve two family health centers and the development disabilities health center occupying the third floor of the medical office building while Peak Vista's pharmacy, enrollment services and well-child waiting will occupy parts of the first floor. Peak Vista's Convenient Care Center will occupy a portion of the first floor hospital wing. The long-term plans for renovation include expansion of services and capacity in anticipation of growing health care needs in the community.

In selling the facility, Penrose-St. Francis discounted the fair-market value by \$1.5 million as a capital donation to Peak Vista. "We are deeply grateful for the partnership we share with Penrose-St. Francis," said Pam McManus, president and CEO of Peak Vista. "This provides a remarkable opportunity for us to ensure that the health care needs of the people in the Pikes Peak Region will be met with the very highest quality care for years to come."

Five Colorado Safety Net Health Professionals Honored



Participants stand near the NHSC display at the Corps Community Day event.

Health professionals who help make up Colorado's health safety net gathered at the Corps Community Day event in Denver to network on Oct. 11, 2012. Five Colorado Health Service Corps and National Health Service Corps (NHSC) loan repayment recipients were celebrated for the difference they are making in their communities.

The "safety net" in Colorado includes CHCs, Rural Health Clinics, Community-Funded Clinics, Prison Systems, and Critical Access Hospitals. Without the safety net and the people who work within it, hundreds of thousands of Colorado's low-income families and individuals would have no health care home.

At the event, five committed health professionals were honored, including: Margaret Loewen, physician, High Plains Community Health Center; Lindsey Fish, physician, Denver Women's Correctional Facility; Patricio Gonzalez, dentist, Mountain Family Health Centers; Ryan Conrad, physician assistant, Denver Health's Westside Pediatric & Teen Clinic; and Meagan Hillman, physician assistant, High Plains Community Health Center.

Peak Vista Expands School-Based Health Care in Pikes Peak Region

Peak Vista held a celebration to commemorate the official opening of the newly constructed Falcon District 49 SBHC located at Falcon Elementary School on Aug. 16, 2012. In addition to this newly constructed SBHC, Peak Vista also worked with the Cripple Creek-Victor School District to expand the SBHC at Cresson Elementary School. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly expanded SBHC was held on Oct. 4, 2012.

SBHCs represent innovative methods to improve students' performance through improved health outcomes, which results in greater readiness to learn. These centers ensure that students from kindergarten through high school have access to quality and convenient health care such as flu shots, annual physicals, oral health, and mental or behavioral health counseling in a safe nurturing place.

Denver Health Appoints New CEO

Denver Health Hospital Authority Board of Directors appointed a new CEO to succeed the retiring Dr. Patricia Gabow. Arthur A. Gonzalez, doctor of public health, was selected after a lengthy nationwide search. Mr. Gonzalez comes to Denver Health from his role as CEO at Hennepin Healthcare System, Inc., a public safety net health care system in Minneapolis, Minn., where he has been since 2009.

Mr. Gonzalez earned his bachelor's degree at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas; a master's degree in health care administration at Trinity University in San Antonio; and a doctorate in public health at the University of Texas School of Public Health. He has served as president and/or CEO of four major hospitals around the nation as well as chief operating officer at hospitals in Houston and Nashville. He has earned many awards and honors, including Modern Healthcare's Top 12 Up and Coming Healthcare Executives.

Mr. Gonzalez began his appointment with Denver Health on Sept. 4, 2012. Denver Health Hospital Authority includes Denver Community Health Services, a network of 25 community and school-based health centers across Denver.

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Opens New COP Shop



From left: Denver City Councilman Paul Lopez, Denver Chief of Police Robert White, Denver City Councilwoman Susan Shepherd, West Colfax/Federal Blvd. COP Shop President Carolyn Billecci, and District 1 Commander Paul Pazen celebrate the grand opening of the new COP Shop located in the Coalition's newest property, West End Flats.



From left, Sue Holmes, Cripple Creek-Victor District School nurse consultant; Laureen Murray, Cripple Creek-Victor Mountain Health Center coordinator; Pam McManus, CEO at Peak Vista; and Lori Grubi, physician assistant, Peak Vista, watch as Ms. Murray cuts the ribbon.

Denver's latest COP Shop opened on the ground floor of CCH's newest affordable housing development and health care facility, Renaissance West End Flats and West End Health Center on Sept. 18, 2012. The COP Shop is a collaboration of the Denver Police Department, CCH, neighborhood organizations and residents to address safety and community issues. The purpose of a COP Shop is to create and maintain a partnership between community residents and law enforcement officials to help prevent crime, improve safety and offer solutions to community problems in the Denver area.

Denver Health Receives 2012 Rocky Mountain Performance Excellence Peak Award

Denver Health is one of two recipients of the 2012 Peak Award, granted by Rocky Mountain Performance Excellence (RMPEX). RMPEX is a non-profit that helps organizations improve performance

based on the Baldrige criteria for performance excellence. RMPEX recognizes organizations from health care, education, manufacturing, nonprofit/government, service and small business in Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming for their achievements in performance excellence. RMPEX describes the Peak Award as the regional equivalent of the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award, the presidential award for quality excellence.

Denver Health CEO, Arthur Gonzalez, said “this award is a testament to the work that Denver Health [staff] performs each day. Our patients have the benefit of a [staff] commitment to excellence and continuous improvement that means we deliver the best care available in the nation.”

Join the Colorado HealthStory Conversation

The Colorado HealthStory project is based on the recognition that far too few conversations about health and health care are being grounded in the experiences of everyday Coloradans. Sharing stories is the most powerful, effective form of communication people have, and bringing together the stories of a community can spark a powerful discussion.

Health stories and conversations are being audio-recorded by Colorado Healthstory staff with patients, families, friends, and care providers throughout Colorado. Once a number of stories have been collected and edited, Colorado HealthStory hosts or participates in local community forums and meetings. At these events, attendees are able to listen to stories, speak about first hand experiences and have a meaningful conversation about health in their community. Many stories are also featured at ColoradoHealthStory.org. In addition, stories and local health data are presented at activities throughout Colorado, highlighted in publications and featured by the media.

To record a story or incorporate Colorado HealthStory into a meeting or activity, visit www.coloradohealthstory.org or contact Brooke Powers at brooke.powers@clinicnet.org or 720-863-7803.

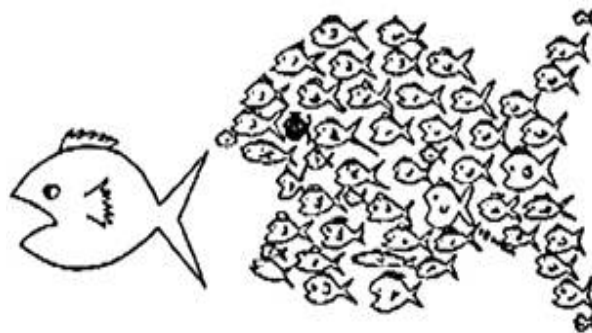
POLICY UPDATE

Don't Forget to Vote!

Election Day is Nov. 6, 2012. Don't forget to vote! Mail-in ballots have been sent out and early voting begins on Oct. 22, 2012. To find out where to vote early as well as your polling place on Election Day, visit www.govotecolorado.com and click on “view, change, or activate my registration, or request a mail-in ballot” under “My Registration.”

Get Active! and Influence Policy

Interested in ensuring that health care bills benefit CHCs and their patients? Join CCHN's grassroots network and make your voice heard by your elected officials. Sign up for CCHN emails about legislation affecting health care and your CHC. You will receive action alerts that have specific, easy-to-understand ways to talk to your legislators. How do you get active? Go to www.cchn.org, click on Get Active!, respond to any action alerts and your information will be added to CCHN's grassroots network. For more information please contact Kristen Pieper, policy analyst, at kristen@cchn.org or (303) 867-9526.



CHAMPS UPDATE

CHAMPS Honors Coloradans for Advocacy and Board Leadership

Three Coloradans were honored by their peers at the Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States (CHAMPS)/Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) Annual Primary Care Conference in October in Denver, Colo. Janet Fieldman, chief foundation officer of the Pueblo Community Health Center Foundation, was selected to receive the CHAMPS 2012 Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award. Wally Wesener and Frank Taylor, members of the Metro Community Provider MCPN's Board of Directors, were selected as co-recipients of the CHAMPS 2012 Exceptional Board Leadership Award.

Ms. Fieldman has been with Pueblo Community Health Center (PCHC) for 15 years. Her advocacy work on behalf of PCHC has contributed to PCHC increasing the number of patients they have been able to care for over the past 10 years by nearly 10,000. PCHC has a foundation, thanks to Ms. Fieldman's tenacity and ingenuity. She is a certified fund raising executive and has helped PCHC complete a multi-million dollar capital campaign, enabling more than 2,000 additional individuals to access primary health care services between 2010 and 2011. She has also helped PCHC decrease reliance on federal funds. Ms. Fieldman serves on multiple boards of directors, including Newborn Hope, Inc., Southern Colorado Press Club, and Kiwanis Club of Pueblo.

Donald Moore, CEO of PCHC, said of her, "Janet oozes credibility in our community. If she makes a call to advocate for our patients or the overall welfare of PCHC, she commands an audience. And, since she is an excellent communicator, she usually ends up making progress for the patients' benefit."

Wally Wesener and Frank Taylor have been members of the MCPN Board of Directors for ten and seven years respectively. They have shown exceptional growth in their roles and are leaders in advocating for MCPN.

Mr. Taylor has lived in Colorado all of his adult life and began his association with MCPN nearly 23 years ago with a visit to the original MCPN Helena Clinic. His commitment to CHCs extends beyond his work with MCPN and he currently sits on the NACHC Consumer Board Member Committee, the NACHC Program Planning Committee, and the NACHC Healthcare for the Homeless Committee.

Ms. Wesener served for many years as the treasurer of the MCPN Board of Directors and has actively participated in both the NACHC Policy and Issues and Community Health Institute conferences over the years. She feels strongly that consumer board members have made a huge difference around health care reform and other CHC health care related issues both nationally and on a state level. In accepting her award, Ms. Wesener dedicated it to all CHC board members.

Other winners of CHAMPS awards included:

- U.S. Senator Kent Conrad, North Dakota State Senator, received the Legislator of the Year Award;
- Pam Locken, CEO, Prairie Community Health, SD, received the Exceptional Administrative Leadership Award;
- Kate McIvor, executive director, Cooperative Health Center, Mont., received the CHAMPS Presidential Award; and



From left, Jerry Brasher, CEO of Salud and CHAMPS board member, presents the CHAMPS 2012 Exceptional Board Leadership Award to Wally Wesener, center, and Frank Taylor, members of the MCPN Board of Directors.

-
- Julie Wood, physician, medical director, Community Health Care Center, Mont., received the Exceptional Clinical Leadership Award.

Conference Attendees Receive a Poetic Welcome

By Marguerite Salazar, Regional Director, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) Regional 8; former President and CEO of Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.

Presented at opening plenary of CHAMPS/NWRPCA 2012 Fall Primary Care Conference
Oct. 15, 2012*

Thank you and welcome to one and to all
No place is more beautiful than Denver in fall.

I know you've been working and putting in place
Clinics and services in new or old space.
Sibelius and Wakefield, they both have our back,
Their guidance and leadership keeps us on track.

We are all so excited with the new ACA,
Which I spend my time explaining with so much to say.
New provisions, more options, open enrollment and more;
Just think what the new Exchanges will soon have in store.

Traveling in the region keeps my feet grounded.
After all, community work is where my values were founded.

Driving up to a clinic in big sky Montana
I find a car and a family, mom wears a bandana.
"Our son can't stop coughing and he's breathing quite funny."
Come into the clinic – "We can't, we don't got no money."

Look at the doorway, look up at the mission,
People without funds are not denied admission.

I finish my tour and I spot the family leaving.
The baby's not coughing, he's smiling and breathing!

With a look of relief, Mom's eyes well up with tears,
"They've fixed us all up and calmed all my fears."

So each day that you wake and take on a new fight,
Let's be thankful that health care is not a privilege, it's a right.

**CHAMPS: Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States,
representing Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and
Wyoming*

*NWRPCA: Northwest Regional Primary Care Association, representing Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, and
Washington*

CHAMPS 2012 Salary Survey Report is Available

Forty-six CHCs participated in the CHAMPS 2012 Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, and Turnover Survey. The data from these CHCs has been analyzed and presented in a written report providing a regional snapshot of salary and benefits structures and workforce trends across the Mountain/Plains states, including:



-
- Salaries for each position title at 10th, 25th, 50th (median), average (mean), 75th, and 90th percentiles, as well as average dollar amount of benefits and the average benefits as a percentage of salary;
 - Breakdowns of salary and benefits information for all titles by annual budget range;
 - Breakdowns of salary information for leadership team and clinical team staff by years of service, budget range of organization, and location;
 - Breakdowns of salary information for administrative and clinical support staff by years of service;
 - Comparisons of 2012 Region VIII salary data with historical Region VIII data and other state, regional, and national surveys;
 - Recruitment metrics and trends, including point-in-time vacancy data for executive-level administrators, provider staff, and mid-level clinicians; and
 - Retention metrics and trends, including turnover data for all staff.

To learn more and order a copy of the report, follow this link:

<http://www.champsonline.org/ToolsProducts/PublicationsMedia/Publications.html#salary>

CCMCN UPDATE

Dan Tuteur Celebrates 15 Years with CCMCN

Dan Tuteur, executive director of Colorado Community Managed Care Network (CCMCN) recently celebrated his 15th anniversary with CCMCN. Since beginning his work with CCMCN, Dan has made many contributions which have helped improve the quality of care at Colorado's CHCs and beyond.

CCMCN was incorporated in 1994 to respond pro-actively to the advent of mandatory Medicaid managed care and has been a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-supported Health Center Controlled Network (HCCN) since 1995. Dan became the executive director in 1997, working with just one other employee. Since then, CCMCN has expanded in scope and staff members under Dan's leadership.

Some of Dan's early contributions include managed care contracting, facilitating a screening program for diabetic retinopathy using a retinal camera, and a pilot program for people with disabilities that launched into its own nonprofit the Colorado Alliance for Health and Independence.

In 2006, CCMCN expanded its focus to health information technology and began the Colorado Associated Community Health Information Exchange (CACHIE) project with funding from HRSA and other sources. With this expansion, CCMCN grew from six to 19 full-time staff members.

CACHIE's mission is to support CHCs in improving quality of care and health outcomes through data-driven improvement processes. Dan leads strategic planning and development of CACHIE. With this work, Dan took on the challenge of developing systems that extract, standardize, store and report electronic data from clinical and administrative domains from CCMCN's member clinics to support clinical quality improvement in the safety net.

Dan's focus is always on CCMCN's mission to provide services that enable its members and their community partners to succeed as efficient, effective and accountable systems of care.



Dan Tuteur, executive director of CCMCN, in his office decorated by staff to celebrate his 15 years of service.

CCMCN Welcomes New Staff Members

CCMCN welcomed two new staff members this fall, Sandra Arreola and Michele Grainger. Ms. Arreola joined CCMCN as the new Electronic Health Record (EHR) analyst. Her duties include fixing and enhancing NextGen EHR, and building custom templates and integrating reporting tools where needed. Ms. Grainger has joined CCMCN's accounting and finance department as the new accounting specialist, contributing to CCMCN's entire team.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Register Now for CRHC's 21st Annual Conference

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

Click here to register: <http://www.gifttool.com/registrar/ShowEventDetails?ID=1665&EID=11948>.

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Hosts Annual Home for the Holiday's Events

CCH will hold the fourth Annual Home for the Holidays 5K and Family Fun Run on Nov. 3 at 9:00 a.m. and the third annual Home for the Holiday's Dine-Out event on Nov. 7. Both events are fundraisers with proceeds going to the CCH. To learn more about these events and to register, click here:

<http://www.coloradocoalition.org/events/default.aspx>.

Peak Vista to Host Eighth Annual Breakfast of Champions

Peak Vista's eighth annual Breakfast of Champions, presented by the El Pomar Foundation, will be held on Nov. 6, 2012, from 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs. The event will feature former Olympic gymnasts Bart Conner and Nadia Comaneci as the Keynote speakers. Purchase tickets here: <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=e10c48>

Annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Vigil to be Held on Dec. 19

On December 19, the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless will host the 27th annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Vigil at 5:30 p.m. on the steps of the Denver City and County Building, 1435 Bannock St. The candlelight vigil and name-reading ceremony will pay tribute to all those who lived on the streets of the Denver metropolitan area and died during 2012. The vigil is held in association with the National Coalition for the Homeless Campaign: National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day.

CCHN Newsletter Editor: [Maureen Maxwell](#); Assistant Editor: [Alice Gibbs](#)

Contributors: [Victoria Gersuk](#), [Angela Rose](#), [Tanah Wagenseller](#), [Jessica Sanchez](#), [Kristen Pieper](#), [CCHN](#); [Debbie Dion](#), [Meredith Warman](#), [CCMCN](#); [Andrea Martin](#), [Chelsea Skovgaard CHAMPS](#); [Randy Hylton](#), [Peak Vista](#), [John Reid](#), [MCPN](#); [B.J. Iacino](#), [Meg Snead](#), [Colorado Coalition for the Homeless](#); [Tony Encinias](#), [Denver Health](#); [Trevor Hall](#), [Colorado Rural Health Center](#); [Brooke Powers](#), [ClinicNet](#); [Marguerite Salazar](#), [HHS](#).

The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is the unified voice for Colorado's 15 Community Health Centers (CHCs) and their patients. CHCs provide a health care home to more than 600,000 of their community members - one in 10 people in Colorado - from 57 of the state's 64 counties. Without CHCs,

hundreds of thousands of Colorado's low-income families and individuals would have no regular source of health care. CCHN's mission is to increase access to high quality health care for people in need in Colorado. For more information about CCHN, please visit www.cchn.org.

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