



Spring 2017 Quarterly Newsletter

Published May 15, 2017

Save the Date!

NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference

CHAMPS and the Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) are hosting the 2017 Annual Primary Care Conference **Saturday, October 21 through Tuesday, October 24, 2017 in Seattle, WA.** The conference will include behavioral health, clinical, community health, fiscal, governance, operations/IT, policy/environment, quality/PCMH/transformation, and workforce/HR tracks and will provide numerous networking opportunities. Health centers 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 Monday, June 26, 2017.

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

CHAMPS Attends Events Across Region VIII



Throughout the spring of 2017, CHAMPS has supported state and national partners and strengthened connections with health center and Primary Care Association (PCA) staff by attending the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Policy & Issues Forum, the Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA) Spring Symposium, the Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD) Annual Membership Conference, the Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA) Annual Conference, the Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) Primary Care Conference, and the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) Triannual Meeting. CHAMPS will also be attending the NACHC Conference for Agricultural Worker Health later this month. CHAMPS values these opportunities to network across the region, and looks forward to building new and growing our existing collaborations. (Image on the left: Jen Anderson, CHAMPS Clinical Quality Improvement Director, at the MPCA Spring Symposium in Helena, MT.)

Inside this Issue

- ★ **CHAMPS News (pg. 2-3):** CHAMPS Membership 2017-2018, CHAMPS 2017 Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals, RVIII NACHC Award Winners, CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule
- ★ **Workforce News (pg. 4-5):** Archived Trainings, ACU RVIII Strategy Session, Physician Recruitment Webcast
- ★ **MPCN News (pg. 5-7):** MPCN Steering Committee Welcomes Sandi Larsen, 2017 Immunization Update Webcast, Improving Health Literacy, Two-Dose HPV Vaccination Series, National Women's Health Week
- ★ **Outreach & Enrollment News (pg. 7-9):** Archived O&E Trainings, 2017 O&E Distance Learning Series, Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment Data, Market Stabilization Rule, Impact of Healthcare Reforms
- ★ **Special & Vulnerable Populations News (pg. 9-10):** RWJF's 2017 County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, MMWR Rural Health Series, Ag Worker Access 2020 Campaign
- ★ **Regional & National News (pg. 10-11):** MPCA Presents at Medical-Legal Partnership Summit, RiverStone Receives National Award, Colorado Team-Based Care Initiative, USDA Programs, National Funding Opportunities
- ★ **Events Calendar & CHAMPS Contacts (pg. 12)**

CHAMPS 2017-2018 Membership

CHAMPS sincerely thanks the health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that have recently become **2017-2018 CHAMPS Organizational Members**. The CHAMPS membership year corresponds with our fiscal year, April 1, 2017–March 31, 2018. The benefits of CHAMPS Organizational Membership include:

- ★ Two seats on the **CHAMPS Board of Directors**
- ★ Free access to all CHAMPS live and archived **webcasts**
- ★ Free copy of the **CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Directory**
- ★ Direct advertising of new **CHAMPS Job Opportunities Bank (JOB)** postings to job seekers
- ★ Option to join the **CHAMPS Employee Screening Preferred Pricing Program (PPP)**
- ★ Option to participate in the **CHAMPS/CliftonLarsonAllen Financial Benchmarking Project**
- ★ Discounted registration fees for **CHAMPS-sponsored face-to-face trainings**, including Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals and Supervisor/Manager Trainings
- ★ Discounted registration plus opportunities for registration and clinical travel reimbursement for the **CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference**
- ★ Access to the **Members Only section** of the CHAMPS website, including a searchable Region VIII health center directory; health center board resources; printable CHAMPS salary survey reports, clinical staffing, and productivity expectations reports; AMFOP reports; immigration resources; and more

2016-2017 Organizational Members enjoy a 60-day grace period in the new membership year. Member benefits for 2016-2017 members that have not paid 2017-2018 dues will expire on 06/01/17.

Visit the CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#) webpage for a list of 2016-2017 members plus new 2017-2018 members. A complete list of 2017-2018 Organizational Members will be posted by 06/01/17.

Check out our new [Immigration Resources Members Only](#) webpage!

CHAMPS Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals



CHAMPS and the Denver Medical Society (DMS) hosted the annual Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals April 21-24, 2017, in Denver, CO. Thirty-six participants were immersed in four full days of medical Spanish language training in two separate classes, one for beginners and another for more advanced students. The training was attended by staff members from 11 different Community Health Centers and several private practices. Participants reported that the “very energetic and approachable instructors,” “practicing scenarios with classmates,” and “information about Latin culture” were the best aspects of the training. CHAMPS plans to offer the training again in spring 2018.

Check the [CHAMPS Events & Trainings](#) webpage in early 2018 for exact dates and to register. (Image on the left: Rios Associates lead the 2017 intermediate level class.)

For information on trainings, tools, and other resources visit the CHAMPS [Spanish Language Resources](#) webpage.

Region VIII NACHC Award Winners

Several leaders from across Region VIII were recognized for their contributions to community health by the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). Four of the 15 Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader Award winners recognized at the NACHC Policy & Issues Forum in March were from Region VIII: Christopher Baumert, MD of RiverStone Health in Billings, MT; Miranda Cox Cvitkovich, MSN, CNM of Denver Health in Denver, CO; Matt Percy, MD of Mountain Family Health Centers in Rifle, CO; and Kristen Pieper, BA of Colorado Community Health Network in Denver, CO. In addition, Dave Myers, retiring president and CEO of Metro Community Provider Network (MCPN) in Englewood, CO, received NACHC's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. CHAMPS congratulates these leaders and joins NACHC in commending their service to their patients and communities. (Image on the right: Dave Myers at the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) Triannual Meeting in May 2017).



To learn more about the 2017 Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader Awardees, click [here](#).

November 16, 2017 Deadline for Implementing New CMS Emergency Preparedness Regulations

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) final rule [Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Participating Providers and Suppliers](#) went into effect on November 16, 2016. All health care providers and suppliers affected by the rule, including health centers, **must implement all regulations by November 16, 2017**. The CMS rule includes four core elements: emergency plan, policies and procedures, communication plan, and a training and testing program.

For more resources to help your center prepare to meet these requirements, visit:

- ★ The CMS [Emergency Preparedness Rule](#) webpage
- ★ The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) [Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Participating Providers and Suppliers](#) webpage
- ★ The HHS ASPR TRACIE [Resources at Your Fingertips](#) document
- ★ The CHAMPS [Emergency Preparedness \(EP\) and Response Resources](#) webpage

Note that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) [Policy Information Notice \(PIN\) 2007-15](#) for guidance on emergency management expectations for health centers remains appropriate as written. The CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule contains additional requirements for all Medicare and Medicaid participating providers.



Are Your Patients Prepared for the Heat of Summer?



Visit the Department of Homeland Security Ready.gov [Extreme Heat](#) webpage for safety tips to share with patients, an extreme heat social media toolkit, and links to related resources.

Visit the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's [U.S. Climate Change Resilience](#) webpage for information on extreme heat-related health effects, an Excessive Heat Events Guidebook, a Heat Safety mobile app, tools for addressing heat-related illnesses, and more.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Encouraging successful careers and strong, cutting-edge organizations by providing live and archived continuing education, recruitment and retention tools, and the latest information on current trends and statistics. Learn more [here](#).

Continuing Education on Your Schedule

Don't miss your opportunity to learn from these archived CHAMPS trainings!

Live CHAMPS Distance Learning Events are recorded to allow ongoing access to online archives, giving health center staff extra opportunities to enhance professional development, gain clinical knowledge, and learn workforce strategies. Current archived events include:

Creating a Productive Healthcare Environment: Decreasing Negative Attitudes (Online through 06/14/17)

- ★ Describes the impact of negative attitudes in the workplace and identifies effective solutions

2016 Immunization Update (Online through 06/14/17)

- ★ Provides updates to immunization schedules and procedures
- ★ See page 5 for information about the *2017 Immunization Update Webcast*

Creating a Productive Healthcare Environment: Establishing Boundaries (Online through 07/19/17)

- ★ Identifies behaviors that violate boundaries and strategies for establishing/maintaining them

Do Ask, Do Tell! Collecting Data on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Health Centers (Online through 08/02/17)

- ★ Identifies barriers to care for LGBT people and resulting health inequities, and explains how and why to collect SO/GI data in electronic health records

Caring for Difficult Patients in a Complex Healthcare System (Online through 08/16/17)

- ★ Explains how to identify "difficult" patients and discusses effective management strategies

Interpersonal Considerations for Care of Elderly Persons (Online through 09/20/17)

- ★ Reviews barriers to communication with older adults and strategies for improvement

2016 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data (Online through 03/06/18)

- ★ Explains statistics from the CHAMPS Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Project

For more details, visit the CHAMPS [Online Archived Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

Archived CHAMPS Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Events are also available (see page 7).

Visit the CHAMPS [Lending Library](#) and [Electronic Media](#) webpages for information on events on CD.

ACU and CHAMPS to Host Region VIII Workforce Strategy Session

Submitted by Mariah Blake, Association of Clinicians for the Underserved

This spring the [STAR² Center](#) – the workforce project of the [Association of Clinicians for the Underserved](#) (ACU) – will be conducting a series of regional workforce strategy sessions. These full-day strategy sessions will be hosted in partnership with eight regional host Primary Care Associations (PCAs) in order to promote collaboration among PCA workforce teams. By analyzing regional data included in the ACU workforce data profiles and discussing workforce activities planned by PCAs within each region, ACU intends to provide a framework for developing state and regional workforce strategies to better leverage national resources. A travel stipend is available for each PCA in attendance. STAR² Center staff will be in Denver for the [Region VIII Workforce Strategy Session](#) hosted by CHAMPS on Thursday, June 8, 2017.



For more information on the Region VIII strategy session and opportunities for workforce training, visit the Star² Center [training schedule](#) webpage.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

CHAMPS/CCHN Building an Effective Physician Recruitment Strategy Webcast



Join CHAMPS and the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) on Wednesday, May 17 from 12:00-1:00PM MT (1:00-2:00PM CT) to learn about physician recruitment strategy development. This webcast will be led by Allison Abayasekara, Director of Training and Technical Assistance for the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU), and will cover the benefits of developing a recruitment strategy, specific processes to consider, and how to get started by walking participants through a free [Retention and Recruitment Plan Template](#). This event is free of cost for staff at health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs); continuing education credit is not available.

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

MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS

Providing professional, administrative, and educational support to all clinicians that practice in Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers in Region VIII to ensure the delivery of the highest possible quality of care to poor and underserved populations. Learn more [here](#).

What is MPCN?

The [Mountain/Plains Clinical Network](#) (MPCN) is a CHAMPS program that aims to facilitate the professional, administrative, and educational development of all Region VIII providers. It encompasses all health care providers at Region VIII health centers, including [National Health Service Corps](#) (NHSC) participants working in Region VIII. MPCN is governed by a [steering committee](#) that includes up to two medical, one dental, and one behavioral health provider from each Region VIII state. Click [here](#) to download a flyer providing an overview of MPCN.

MPCN Steering Committee Welcomes Sandi Larsen



The Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) Steering Committee would like to welcome Sandi Larsen, MEd, LCPC, LAC, as its newest member. Sandi is the Behavioral Health Program Manager for RiverStone Health in Billings, MT. MPCN is excited that Sandi has decided to share her expertise and passion for integrated behavioral healthcare with our committee.

MPCN is now seeking dental providers to serve on the Steering Committee. If you are interested in joining the MPCN Steering Committee, please visit the [MPCN Steering Committee](#) webpage for more information or contact Jen Anderson at Jen@CHAMPSonline.org.

2017 CHAMPS Immunization Update Webcast

On Tuesday, June 13, 2017 from 11:30AM-1:00PM MT (12:30-2:00PM CT), CHAMPS will host the annual Immunization Update webcast. Donna Weaver, RN, MN, nurse educator for the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will address the 2017 vaccine schedules and the latest Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations, including information on the new two-dose HPV series.



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

To learn more about the new two-dose HPV series, see page 6.

Information Therapy to Improve Patient Health Literacy

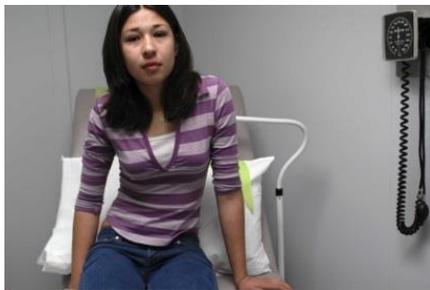
Submitted by Dana Abbey, National Library of Medicine



Providing patients with the right information, at the right time, in the right format can be a challenge. But research has shown that introducing health information at the appropriate time in the healthcare continuum increases clinician-patient communication, patient adherence, and patient motivation to improve health behaviors. The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has developed numerous free online databases for patient and consumer education, including MedlinePlus, PubMed Health, DailyMed, and LactMed. To learn more about these databases and to access the entire list of NLM resources, click [here](#).

Two-Dose HPV Vaccination Series Now Recommended for Adolescents

Submitted by Jane Harris, American Cancer Society, Inc.



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently revised recommendations for the HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccination series. For children ages 9 to 14, two doses instead of three are now recommended; the two shots should be administered at least six months apart. The CDC continues to recommend that most children get the vaccine at age 11 or 12

because the vaccine causes a better immune response in children than in teens. Teens and young adults who receive the vaccination at ages 15 to 26 will continue to need three doses of HPV vaccine. Children and teens ages 9 to 14 who have already received two doses of HPV vaccine less than six months apart will require a third dose. Three doses are also recommended for people with weakened immune systems ages 9 to 26.

Most cervical cancers are caused by HPV, as are several other types of cancer. It is not often that we have an opportunity to prevent cancer, or in this case multiple cancers, with a single tool. Because physician recommendation is the strongest predictor of receipt of vaccination, HPV vaccination offers opportunities for FQHCs to focus on cancer prevention with their adolescents and families.

The American Cancer Society has several resources available to help raise vaccination rates, including [Quality Improvement Partnership](#) opportunities and the [National HPV Vaccination Roundtable](#). Activities are underway at the state and local levels in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, and Montana to help health care professionals, parents, and public health professionals increase HPV vaccination rates. For further information or to participate in collaborative efforts, contact the American Cancer Society Health Systems Manager in your state, or contact Jane Harris, MS, CWP, Primary Care Health Systems Manager, American Cancer Society at jane.harris@cancer.org or 720-524-5446.

Upcoming Conferences:

★ National Sexual Health Conference

(July 6-8 in Denver, CO) Submitted by Teri Anderson, Denver Prevention Training Center: With 5 plenaries, 8 general sessions, 49 workshops, 15 roundtables, and a poster and networking reception, this is one packed conference! Click [here](#) for the full agenda and [here](#) to register.

★ National School-Based Health Care Convention

(June 18-21 in Long Beach, CA) Submitted by Anna Burns, School-Based Health Alliance: This annual convention is the premier interdisciplinary gathering of school-based medical, nursing, mental health, and dental care professionals and advocates. Earn continuing education credits, be motivated and moved by key speakers and industry experts, and revitalize your passion so you can keep on giving to those you serve. Click [here](#) to learn more and to register.

National Women's Health Week



Starting this Mother's Day, join the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in observing the 18th annual National Women's Health Week May 14-20, 2017. This week is a time for health centers to encourage women to improve their health by empowering women to make their health a priority.

Your health center can get involved by:

- ★ Spreading the word through social media with easy-to-use [resources](#) and the #NWHW hashtag
- ★ Organizing [events or activities](#)
- ★ Joining the National Women's Health Week [Thunderclap](#)

HHS advises women to improve their physical and mental health by:

- ★ Visiting a doctor or nurse for a well-woman visit
- ★ Getting active and eating healthy
- ★ Paying attention to mental health, including getting enough sleep and managing stress
- ★ Avoiding unhealthy behaviors, such as smoking, texting while driving, not wearing a seatbelt, and biking without a helmet
- ★ Taking the National Women's Health Week [quiz](#) to learn about your health style
- ★ Learning what steps you should take for good health based on [your age](#)

To learn more about National Women's Health Week, click [here](#).

OUTREACH & ENROLLMENT NEWS

Assisting Primary Care Associations and health centers in maximizing health insurance coverage for health center patients and communities across Region VIII. Learn more [here](#).

Archived O&E Distance Learning Events

Over the last year, CHAMPS has partnered with Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) to offer several webcasts on outreach and enrollment. These events are archived on the [CHAMPS YouTube channel](#) to allow for ongoing learning on topics including:

Providing Effective Assistance to Survivors of Domestic Violence (Online through 06/23/17)

- ★ Provides information on identifying survivors of domestic violence and outlines best practices for providing them with meaningful access to support services

Assisting Clients with Complex Medical Needs (Online through 07/14/17)

- ★ Explores tools and strategies for assisters working with patients with complex medical needs

Engagement and Advocacy for O&E Staff (Online through 08/18/17)

- ★ Describes how assisters can educate community stakeholders about the importance of healthcare coverage enrollment, and the basics of registering consumers to vote

Habits of Highly Effective Assisters (Online through 09/22/17)

- ★ Provides action-oriented tips for improving in-person assistance programs in Region VIII

For more information, visit the [CHAMPS Online Archived Distance Learning](#) webpage.

See page 4 for information about other archived CHAMPS webcasts.

See page 8 for information about the 2017 O&E Distance Learning Series.

OUTREACH & ENROLLMENT NEWS, *Continued*

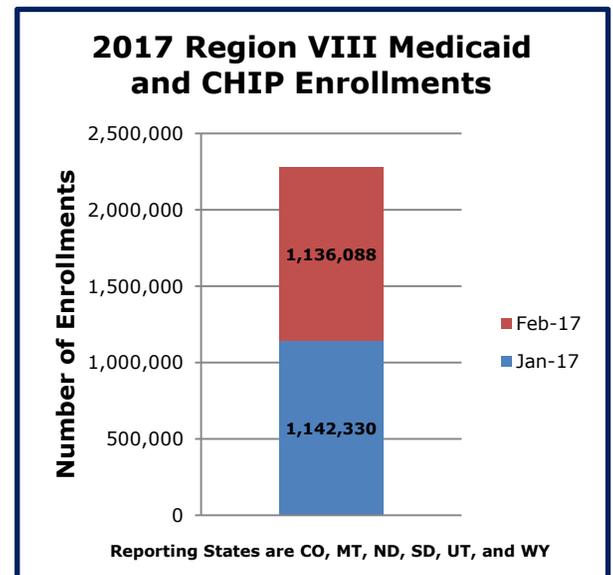
CHAMPS/CCHN 2017 Distance Learning Series

CHAMPS is partnering with the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) to bring the Region VIII Outreach and Enrollment community a four-part webinar series. The 2017 O&E Distance Learning Series will take place on Thursdays from 11:00AM-12:00PM MT throughout the summer of 2017. On June 22, join the webcast titled "A Guide to Storytelling: Unleashing the Power of Personal Narrative." July 27's webcast will be about "Leveraging O&E Assistants in Community Health Centers," and on August 24 tune in for "Strengthening Your Compassion Resiliency Toolkit." The series will conclude on September 21 with "Preparing for OE5: Addressing Changes in the Marketplace."

More information and registration details are coming soon to the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment Data Highlights

This month [Medicare.gov](#) released the February 2017 Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Enrollment Data Highlights report comparing all 50 states and the District of Columbia's Medicaid and CHIP agency enrollments for the month of February. The report is one of a series on state Medicaid and CHIP data. The graph to the right shows the number of Medicaid and CHIP enrollments in January compared to February 2017 in Region VIII states (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY). The data shows that from January to February 2017 the number of enrollments declined by 6,242. This decrease can likely be explained by the closing of Open Enrollment Period 4 (OEP4) on January 31 for five of the Region VIII states (MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) and on February 3 for Colorado. After these dates, enrollments in Medicaid and CHIP programs continued only for those eligible for a special enrollment period through a qualifying life event.



To view the February 2017 Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment Data Highlights, click [here](#).

To learn more about special enrollment periods, click the appropriate link: [Federally-Facilitated](#) or [State-Based](#) Marketplace.

Trust for America's Health Releases Brief on Impact of Health Reform Proposals

In March, Trust for America's Health published a brief titled "Impact of the 2017 Health Reform Proposals on Clinical Preventative Services," which reviews the current state of healthcare coverage for preventative services and what is at stake if this coverage is eliminated or reduced. According to the brief, a range of legislative and administrative actions could potentially lead to millions of Americans losing access to preventative services, either through reductions or changes in requirements or as part of losing healthcare coverage. The brief also details the positive health outcomes that result from coverage of preventative services, including increased rates of routine exams and screenings, reduced risk of developing type-2 diabetes, reduced premature birth and infant mortality rates, increased vaccination rates, and medical savings.

To access the full Trust for America's Health brief, click [here](#).

OUTREACH & ENROLLMENT NEWS, *Continued*

CMS Issues Final Rule to Increase Choices and Encourage Stability in Health Insurance Market for 2018

On April 13, 2017 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued the final Marketplace Stabilization rule to help lower premiums, stabilize individual and small group markets, and increase choices for Americans. The rule makes the following changes:

- ★ **2018 Open Enrollment Period:** November 1-December 15, 2017.
- ★ **Verification of Special Enrollment Eligibility:** Individuals applying for health insurance coverage during a special enrollment period will have to provide supporting documents to prove their eligibility.
- ★ **Promote Continuous Coverage:** Issuers will be allowed to require individuals to pay past due premiums before enrolling into a plan with the same issuer the following year.
- ★ **Ensure More Choices for Consumers:** Issuers will have additional actuarial value flexibility to develop more choices with lower premium options for consumers.
- ★ **Empower States and Reduce Duplication:** The oversight of network adequacy will be given to states from the federal government, in an effort to reduce duplication.

To view the final CMS Market Stabilization ruling, click [here](#).

To view the CMS news release, click [here](#).

SPECIAL & VULNERABLE POPULATIONS NEWS

Increasing the ability of Region VIII health centers to effectively serve populations with limited access to health care by increasing knowledge and enhancing collaborations. Learn more [here](#).

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's 2017 County Health Rankings and Roadmaps



In April the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation's largest philanthropy organization dedicated solely to health, released the 2017 County Health Rankings and Roadmaps. The rankings allow users to view the status of their county's health in relation to surrounding counties within the same state, while the roadmaps tool lays out a series of steps to help foster improvements in community health. Users can explore each of the seven steps – Work Together, Assess, Focus, Choose, Act, Evaluate, and Communicate – to plan community health improvements and to access additional action tools.

To explore the 2017 County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, click [here](#).

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Rural Health Series

In January 2017, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began publishing one to two Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWRs) per month on topics related to rural health disparities. The reports compare urban and rural communities in terms of potentially excess deaths; health-related behaviors; mental, behavioral, and developmental disorders in children; and diabetes self-management education. In April, the Journal of Rural Health published a response to one of the reports praising the authors' arguments and recommending steps to build on their work. The Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub) is also conducting a series of webinars focusing on key points from these MMWR Rural Health Series reports.

To access the MMWR Rural Health Series, click [here](#).

To access the RHIhub webinars, click [here](#).

SPECIAL & VULNERABLE POPULATIONS NEWS, *Continued*

Ag Worker Access 2020 Campaign

On May 22, 2015, the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) and the National Center for Farmworker Health, Inc. (NCFH) announced the Ag Worker Access 2020 Campaign. This call to action arose out of the 2015 National Farmworker Health Conference, where over 250 health center executives, consumer board members, clinical leaders, and farmworker advocates agreed to work collaboratively to increase access to care for migrant and seasonal agricultural workers and their families over the next five years (2015-2020). At the time of the conference, only 18 percent of agricultural workers in the U.S. were being served by health centers.

The Ag Worker 2020 Campaign calls on every migrant health center grantee to increase the number of agricultural workers served by 15 percent each year until 2020. The campaign also asks health centers that do not receive Migrant Health Funding (330g) to report all of their patients who meet the definition of “migrant” or “seasonal” agricultural worker per Uniform Data System (UDS) criteria.

The Ag Worker 2020 Campaign has many social media, presentation slides, and printable and digital resources available on their website. Webinars and phone consultations are also available to health centers that need additional information or guidance on how to reach migrant and seasonal agricultural workers in their communities.

To access the Ag Worker 2020 Campaign website and resources, click [here](#).

To receive Ag Worker Access 2020 Campaign news, resources, and best practices for increasing access to America’s agricultural workers, click [here](#).

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

Montana Primary Care Association Presents at National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership Summit

Submitted by Sharena Hagins, National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership

The National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership (NCMLP) recently hosted its 12th Annual Medical-Legal Partnership Summit in National Harbor, MD. With 400 people in attendance, the Summit brought together leaders in health care, law, public health, social work, and government to focus on this year’s theme of Integrating Health and Legal Services to Transform Care Delivery. CHAMPS member organization Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA) presented several workshops over the course of the Summit, including an engaging session with Montana Legal Services focused on catalyzing statewide growth of medical-legal partnerships. (Image on the right, from left to right: Kallie Dale-Ramos, JD, Attorney, Montana Legal Services, Olivia Riutta, Outreach and Engagement Manager, Montana Primary Care Association. Photo credit: Mark F. Jones / CJVISIONS.COM, The National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership 12th Annual Medical-Legal Partnership Summit.)



For more information on medical-legal partnerships and to access related resources for health centers, visit the NCMLP website at www.medical-legalpartnership.org.

RiverStone Health Residency Program Receives National Award

RiverStone Health's Montana Family Residency program, which the health center co-sponsors with St. Vincent Healthcare and Billings Clinic, has received a Baldwin Award from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation. Unlike this year's two other winners, the RiverStone program is not hosted by a university and is relatively small, with just 24 residents and one fellow. Since 1995 the program has worked hard to meet the specific health needs of Montana's rural communities – many of which have large under-served and high-need populations – by training providers how to effectively care for these patients. In addition, the program seeks out residents with a passion for community involvement, and encourages them to remain in Montana after residency to continue to serve in underserved areas.

To learn more about the Montana Family Residency Program and the Baldwin Award, click [here](#).

Technical Assistance Partners Collaborate on Colorado Team-Based Care Initiative

Submitted by Penelope Riseborough, John Snow, Inc.

In September 2015, Technical Assistance partners John Snow, Inc. (JSI), Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), Leibig-Shepherd, LLC, and Kaiser Foundation Research Institute (formerly MacColl Center for Healthcare Innovation) began working together to assist a collaborative of 19 safety net practices, both rural and urban, to transform to a team-based care model. The practices include Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), residencies, small private practices, pediatric clinics, and school-based health centers. Funded by the Colorado Health Foundation, this three-year initiative is designed to help primary care practices throughout Colorado optimize existing care teams to deliver coordinated, high-quality care by working collaboratively with patients to accomplish shared goals. The goal of this initiative is for practices to be better prepared for further transformation, as well as for anticipated payment reform holding them more accountable for the health outcomes of their patients.

To learn more about the Colorado Team-Based Care Initiative, click [here](#).

Has your health center been featured in local, state, or national news media?

Tell CHAMPS about it so we can share your success stories
with colleagues and supporters across Region VIII!

Email the CHAMPS Programs & Communications Coordinator at Rachel@CHAMPSONline.org.



USDA Programs:

- ★ **Summer Food Service Program:** Each year the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) funds summer meals for low-income children to ensure that they receive nutritious food when school is not in session. Community Health Centers can serve as program sponsors or program sites to bring healthy meals to children in their communities. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).
- ★ **Community Facilities Program:** The USDA offers direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants to develop or improve essential public services and facilities in rural communities, including Community Health Centers. To learn more and to apply, click [here](#).

National Funding Opportunities:

- ★ USDA [Rural Cooperative Development Grant Program](#) (due May 26)
- ★ CDC [Public Health Conference Support Grant](#) (due May 30)
- ★ CDC [Scaling the National Diabetes Prevention Program in Underserved Areas](#) (due June 12)
- ★ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) [Small Research Grant Program](#) (due June 16)
- ★ National Institutes of Health (NIH) [Reducing Health Disparities Among Minority and Underserved Children Program](#) (due June 16)
- ★ American Psychological Foundation (APF) [Pearson Early Career Grant](#) (due December 31)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

<p>May 22-24 NACHC Conference for Agricultural Worker Health Savannah, GA</p> <p>May 23 BPHC All Programs Webcast</p> 	<p>May 24-26 CSH Supportive Housing Summit Denver, CO</p> <p>May 31-June 4 Annual Women In Medicine Conference Burlington, VT</p> 
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JUNE

<p>June 13 CHAMPS Immunization Update Webcast</p> <p>June 18-21 National School-Based Health Care Convention Long Beach, CA</p> 	<p>June 22 CHAMPS/CCHN O&E Webcast: A Guide to Storytelling: Unleashing the Power of Personal Narrative</p> <p>June 28 Focus on Eye Health National Summit Washington, D.C.</p>
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JULY

<p>July 6-8 National Sexual Health Conference Denver, CO</p> <p>July 27 CHAMPS/CCHN O&E Webcast: Leveraging O&E Assistants in CHCs</p> 	<p>July 30-August 2 ACU Annual Conference Washington, D.C.</p> 
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LOOKING AHEAD

<p>August 13-19 National Health Center Week</p> <p>August 24 CHAMPS/CCHN O&E Webcast: Strengthening Your Compassion Resiliency Toolkit</p> <p>August 25-29 NACHC Community Health Institute and Expo San Diego, CA</p> 	<p>September 21 CHAMPS/CCHN O&E Webcast: Preparing for OE5: Addressing Changes in the Marketplace</p> <p>October 21-24 NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference Seattle, WA</p>
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Visit the interactive [online CHAMPS calendar](#) for continuing updates!

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Please contact [Rachel Steinberg](#) (Newsletter Editor) with questions or comments about the CHAMPS newsletter, to sign up to receive the newsletter, to change your subscription email address, or to submit articles for publication.

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under cooperative agreement number U58CS06861, "State and Regional Primary Care Associations," total award of \$519,941, 22% of the total PCA project is financed with non-federal sources. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the US Government.

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