



# Spring 2019 Quarterly Newsletter

Published May 2019

## Registration is Open! NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference

Join Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) and CHAMPS for the 2019 Annual Primary Care Conference **Saturday, October 5 through Tuesday, October 8, 2019 in Seattle, WA.** The conference will include behavioral health, clinical, community health, fiscal, governance, integrated services, operations/IT, policy/environment, population health, and workforce/HR tracks and will provide numerous networking opportunities. Community 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 Friday, June 28, 2019. Thank you to all participants who were part of the planning survey for the Annual Conference. CHAMPS looks forward to seeing you in Seattle!

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

## CHAMPS Attends Events Across Region VIII and Beyond

This spring, CHAMPS supported state and national partners, strengthening connections with health center and Primary Care Association staff by attending the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Policy & Issues Forum, the 2019 Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA) Annual Training, the Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD) Annual Conference, the 2019 NACHC Conference for Agricultural Worker Health, the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) May 2019 Triannual, and the Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) 2019 Primary Care Conference. CHAMPS staff will also be attending the 2019 National Health Care for the Homeless (NHCH) Conference & Policy Symposium in late May and the Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA) Rural Health Conference in June. CHAMPS values the opportunity to continue networking across the region and nation to strengthen existing and build new partnerships. Check out page two for pictures from our travels!

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## CHAMPS Attends Events Across Region VIII and Beyond, Continued

Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Esq. and Dolores Huerta (pictured at top left and right, respectively) with Julie Hulstein, CHAMPS Executive Director (pictured below at left) at the 2019 Conference for Agricultural Worker Health.



CHAMPS staff member Andrea Martin (pictured at left, third from left) with MPCA staff and Annual Training participants.



Keynote speaker Dr. Rishi Manchanda (pictured at left) discusses the "Upstream" Effect at the CHAD conference.



CCHN May 2019 Triannual participants (above) enjoy the All Section Lunch.



AUCH Conference participants (above) being honored for their Excellence in Customer Service.

## Region VIII Leaders Receive Awards

Three Region VIII leaders were recognized during the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Policy & Issues Forum in March and the 2019 Conference for Agricultural Worker Health in May. Fátima Groom, the Policy and Public Relations Manager at Sunrise Community Health in Evans, CO, received the NACHC Grassroots Advocacy MVP Award for her consistent effort as an advocate for the health center movement and its patients, and her work to ensure Colorado's members of Congress actively supported grassroots advocacy efforts. Holly Kingsbury, MPH, the Oral Health Program Manager at Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) in Denver, CO, was awarded the Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader Award for her work with expanding oral health programming in the state, growing the program from a single grant to five funded programs, creating and implementing a diabetes cardiovascular oral health integration model, and continuing to strengthen partnerships. Dr. Yajaira Johnson-Esparza, the Director of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) at Salud Family Health Centers, was also awarded the Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader Award at the Conference for Agricultural Worker Health for her work in expanding MAT services, providing consultation to other health centers hoping to replicate her model at Salud, as well as co-authoring a curriculum for behavioral health providers to prepare the workforce to offer effective treatment for individuals with opioid use disorders. CHAMPS congratulates the awardees on their hard work and dedication to the health center movement and mission!



Dr. Yajaira Johnson-Esparza, (pictured above, at right) with Dr. Feygele Jacobs (left).



James Luisi (pictured below, at left), NACHC Chair of the Board, and Fátima Groom (right), Sunrise Community Health.



Holly Kingsbury (above), MPH, CCHN.

To find more upcoming trainings, visit the CHAMPS [Calendar of Events](#) 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 12-15, 2019, in Denver, CO. Forty-six participants were immersed in four days of medical Spanish language training in three separate classes, one each for beginner, intermediate, and advanced students. The training was attended by staff members from 15 different health centers. Participants reported that the immersive teaching style, conversations and discussions, practice scenarios, and “the comradery [that] made learning easier” were the best aspects of the training. CHAMPS plans to offer the training again in Spring 2020. Check the CHAMPS [Events & Trainings](#) webpage in early 2020 for exact dates and to register.



*Pictured above: Participants practice medical conversations in Spanish.*

*For more resources related to medical Spanish, visit the CHAMPS [Spanish Language Resources](#) webpage.*

### CHAMPS 2019-2020 Membership

**CHAMPS sincerely thanks** the health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that have recently become **2019-2020 CHAMPS Organizational Members**. CHAMPS membership year corresponds with our fiscal year, April 1, 2019-March 31, 2020. The benefits of CHAMPS Organizational Membership include:

- ★ Two seats on the **CHAMPS Board of Directors**
- ★ Free access to all CHAMPS live and archived **webcasts**
- ★ Two free copies of the 2019-2020 **CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Directory**
- ★ Direct advertising of new **CHAMPS Job Opportunities Bank (JOB)** posts 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

*2018-2019 Organizational Members enjoy a 60-day grace period in the new membership year. Member benefits for 2018-2019 members that have not paid 2019-2020 dues will expire on 06/01/19.*

*Visit the CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#) webpage for a list of 2018-2019 members plus new 2019-2020 members. A complete list of 2019-2020 Organizational Members will be posted by 06/14/19.*

### CHAMPS/NWRPCA Next Level Skills Training for CHC Managers and Supervisors

On March 19-20, 2019, CHAMPS and NWRPCA hosted the Next Level Skills Training for CHC Managers and Supervisors (NLS) in Seattle, WA. Over 60 participants from 30 different health centers spent two days skill-building, networking, and learning best practices for hiring, training, engaging, retaining, and developing health center staff from lead trainer Lisa Mouscher of Sogence Training and Consulting. A few weeks later, NLS participants attended the online “Engaging a Diverse Workforce” webinar which addressed self-biases, workforce diversity, and strategies to adapt management styles to successfully meet the needs of organizations and employees. The final group component of NLS was a networking conference call on May 2, where participants were able to discuss their ongoing individual capstone projects to strengthen management skills in their own health centers, reinforcing ideas, skills, and strategies learned during the training. CHAMPS will likely offer another health center manager training in spring 2020.

*Check the [CHAMPS Leadership Learning Opportunities](#) webpage in early 2020 for more information.*

### HRSA Awards \$11 Million to Increase Access to Critical Services at School-Based Health Centers

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded \$11 million in funding to 120 school-based health centers to increase access to mental health, substance abuse, and childhood obesity related services. School-based health centers are operated as a partnership between the school and a sponsoring facility, such as a health center, public health department, hospital, etc. One of the awardees was CHAMPS Organizational Member and Region VIII health center – Denver Health. Congratulations to all!

*To learn more about HRSA's School-Based Health Center Program, visit its [Program Opportunities](#) webpage.*

### 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](#).*

### CHAMPS Region VIII Job Opportunities Bank Report and Infographic

The online CHAMPS Job Opportunities Bank (JOB) is a free resource where Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations can advertise open positions. Each February CHAMPS creates a report comparing two years of data relating to these posts, presenting recruitment trends and achievements throughout the region. Highlights for the most recent year of data (February 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019) include:

- ★ 51 different Region VIII health centers advertised 367 career opportunities.
- ★ The average recruitment length for positions that were closed during the year was 8.5 months; average recruitment lengths increased for Administrative/Management, Behavioral Health, Clinical Support, and Non-Clinical Support postings. The average recruitment lengths for Clinical Dental and Clinical Medical Support postings decreased from the prior year.
- ★ Over 36% of the health center postings in the 2018-2019 period were reported as having been filled.
- ★ The top four reported successful recruitment resources were online listings, local referral/word of mouth, employee referral, and internal hire, representing over 50% of the known recruitment resources cited for filled postings.

#### Post Your Openings on the CHAMPS JOB!

According to the recent 2019 Region VIII Health Center Recruitment & Retention Survey\*:

- ★ Almost **58%** of participants that had been employed at their health center for 0-2 years reported that online job sites were some of the most useful resources when seeking employment.
- ★ Only **25%** of those participants reported seeing their job posted online.

*To download the report and related infographic, visit the CHAMPS [Publications](#) webpage.*

*To post open positions on the CHAMPS JOB Bank, contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Workforce and Communications](#).*

*\*The 2019 Region VIII Health Center Recruitment & Retention Survey Report will be published in summer 2019. Questions? Contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development & Member Services Director](#).*

#### Coming Soon: 2019 CHAMPS Staff Wellness Podcasts

CHAMPS will soon kick off a Staff Wellness podcast series highlighting Region VIII health center best practices and programs that support staff wellness and retention. Does your health center have an innovative staff wellness or other support program? Let us know!

Contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Workforce and Communications](#) to discuss opportunities to be involved in the series.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### CHAMPS 2018 Health Center Clinical Staffing Report

In late February 2019 CHAMPS released the last of three reports related to the 2018 Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey. The [2018 Region VIII Health Center Clinical Staffing Report](#) utilized Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) data reported in the salary survey for every employee at each reporting health center to develop staffing ratios relating to Medical, Behavioral Health, and Dental Providers as well as Medical and Dental Support employees, and includes breakdowns of data by each individual Region VIII state. The 2018 staffing report also includes new ratios related to additional selected administrative and clinical care team groups and titles.

2018 Region VIII  
Health Center Support  
to Provider Ratios\*:

**Medical: 1.54**  
**Dental: 1.21**

\*Number of Support  
FTEs for every 1.0  
Provider FTE.

*To learn more about all three reports related to this project, the CHAMPS 2018 Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy, Provider Productivity Expectations, and Clinical Staffing Reports, visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.*

*Copies of these reports have been distributed to all health centers that participated in the 2018 salary survey project. CHAMPS Board of Directors members from [CHAMPS Organizational Members](#) also have access to electronic versions in the [Members Only](#) section of the CHAMPS website (posted on the Salary Survey Reports page; username/password required).*

*Did you miss the related 2018 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data webcast? Visit the [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events](#) webpage for a recording and handouts.*

### Continuing Education on Your Schedule

Live Distance Learning Events are recorded to give health center staff extra opportunities to enhance professional development, gain clinical knowledge, and learn workforce strategies. Current offerings include:

- ★ **Clinical and Quality Distance Learning Events:**
  - [Childhood Healthy Weight Online Workshop](#)
  - [Addressing Stigma Against Patients with Substance Use Disorders: Individual and Institutional Strategies](#)
  - [The Opioid Crisis in Region VIII: Everything You Wanted to Know but were Afraid to Ask](#)
  - [2018 Immunization Update](#)
  - [SAMHSA Region VIII 42 CFR Part 2: Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records](#)
- ★ **CHAMPS/CCHN 2018 Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Series:**
  - [The Silent Crisis: Engaging Immigrant Populations in your Health Center](#)
  - [Supporting O&E in Your CHC](#)
  - [Preparing for Open Enrollment 6](#)
- ★ **Special and Vulnerable Populations Distance Learning Events:**
  - [CHAMPS/MPCA Webcast: Understanding and Serving Patients who are Veterans](#)
- ★ **Workforce Distance Learning Events:**
  - [CHAMPS 2018 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data Webcast: Understanding and Utilizing Statistics from the CHAMPS Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Project](#)
  - [Assessing Organizational Readiness for Change](#)
  - [What You Need to Know About Area Health Education Centers \(AHECs\)](#)
  - [CHAMPS Best Practices for Supporting Veterans in Your Organization](#)
  - [CHAMPS/CCHN Strategies for Developing Community Partnerships](#)
- ★ **CHAMPS/CCHN Team-Based Care Distance Learning Series:**
  - [The Role of Place in Team-Based Care](#)
  - [Utilizing Data Effectively to Advance Team-Based Care](#)

*Visit the CHAMPS [Online Archived Distance Learning Events](#) webpage for more details.*

# MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS

*Providing professional, administrative, and educational support to all clinicians who 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](#).*

## CHAMPS Care Coordination Essentials Online Series

In May and June 2019, on three Tuesdays from 12:00-1:30PM MT / 1:00-2:30PM CT, CHAMPS will host an interactive online learning series of distance learning events with speakers from the Patient Navigator Training Collaborative (PNTC) and developed for Care Coordinators practicing at health centers in Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY). The May 21 session shared Motivational Interviewing (MI) skills for Care Coordinators. The June 4 session will address how to navigate families in conflict, and the final session on June 18 will discuss self-care for those in a Care Coordinator role. Care Coordinators at health centers in Region VIII including patient navigators, case managers, and others in similar roles are encouraged to attend.

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

### Don't Forget to Register for the Last Session of CoP!

CHAMPS and Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center (RMPHTC) will host the final Advanced Population Health Practices for Colorectal Cancer Screening (CRCS) Communities of Practice (CoP) session on Thursday, June 6, 1:00-2:00PM MT / 2:00-3:00PM CT.

The final session's topic will be Maintaining the Momentum.

*To register, visit the [CHAMPS Project ECHO Learning Communities](#) webpage.*

## CHAMPS 2019 Immunization Update Webcast



On Thursday, June 13, 2019 from 11:30AM-1:00PM MT / 12:30-2:00PM CT, CHAMPS will host its annual Immunization Update webcast. JoEllen Wolicki, RN, BSN, Nurse Educator for the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will address the 2019 vaccine schedules and the latest recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Clinical leadership, clinicians, clinical support staff, and other interested healthcare professionals at health centers in Region VIII are encouraged to attend this event.

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

## Updated Region VIII Data Summaries Now Available

The CHAMPS Region VIII Data Summaries provide health data for Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming pulled from numerous sources, including census information, national behavioral health surveys, and vital statistics. The summaries provide useful information on population and health trends related to demographics, women's health, mortality, and health behaviors, and are updated each year. By offering state, regional, and national data side by side, these summaries can play a useful role in needs assessments, program and service development, and quality improvement efforts.

*To download the most recent Region VIII Data Summaries, visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.*

### Check Out These Mobile Health Apps

- ★ [AHRQ Question Builder App](#): This **free** application helps patients maximize time with clinicians and be more engaged with their own healthcare by helping them prepare and organize questions and other helpful information ahead of time.
- ★ [NaloxoFind App](#): This **free** application allows anyone to locate available naloxone within a two-mile radius and communicate with first responders and good samaritans who have registered as naloxone carriers during emergency situations.

### Listen to Season One of the CHAMPS Substance Use Disorder Best Practices Podcast Series

Season one of the newest CHAMPS podcast series features interviews with staff at health centers across Region VIII who are using interesting and innovative strategies to address substance use disorders (SUDs) in their communities. In five episodes, CHAMPS staff spoke with clinical and administrative staff from health centers in Colorado, Montana, and North Dakota about implementing Medication Assisted Treatment, building partnerships and coalitions, overcoming complex barriers, and leading change in their clinics and communities. The series is designed for anyone interested in or already working to address substance use disorders, from health center staff and board members to those at partner organizations or Primary Care Associations. Each 30-minute conversation may be streamed online or downloaded as an MP3 file or a typed transcript. Season two will begin in late summer or early fall of 2019.

*To learn more about and to download episodes of the CHAMPS SUD Best Practices Podcast Series, please visit the CHAMPS [Events & Trainings](#) webpage.*

### New Compilation of Opioid Use Disorder Resources Now Available

CHAMPS has developed a webpage of online resources to help Region VIII health centers support patients with opioid use disorders. These resources are carefully curated for quality and relevance to health center staff and patients, and include key articles and reports from national organizations and academic journals, evidence-based clinical guidelines, links to data sources and interactive maps, patient materials, provider resources, and online trainings and archived webcasts.

Looking for additional information? Visit the newly updated CHAMPS [Substance Use Disorder Resources](#) webpage, which provides links to an array of important online information about the prevention and treatment of the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other substances.

*Click [here](#) to visit the new CHAMPS Opioid Use Disorder webpage.*

### 2019 Clinician Poll

*Submitted by Claire Hutkins Seda, Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN)*

For the last two years, Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) has asked clinicians around the country if they had seen any changes in their migrant and immigrant patients' perspectives on health access. Their responses have helped MCN better serve and connect health centers serving immigrants and other underserved populations. The poll gave clinicians a chance to voice the many stories they are hearing from their patients, and the results demonstrated that changes in perception were widespread. Results were cited in the *New York Times*, used by researchers, and informed new resources for clinicians. What has changed in the last year? Please fill out MCN's short poll – and then share it with your colleagues! (MCN welcomes first-time respondents; previous participation in the poll is not required.)

*The poll is available in English and Spanish [here](#). To learn more, visit [MCN's](#) website.*

#### Clinicians, Don't Miss These Upcoming Training Opportunities

- ★ CCHN/CHAMPS [Community Health Center Dental Programs - Strategies for Success](#), August 1-2, 2019, Golden, CO - more information coming soon!
- ★ MPCA [PCMH Regional Training - NCQA Academy](#), August 7-9, 2019, Billings, MT - register today!

### Have You Subscribed to the CHAMPS Clinicians Listserv?

CHAMPS hosts this email listserv to provide important patient care, clinical quality, and other useful information to health center clinicians across Region VIII.

Subscribe to receive regular updates on regionally relevant, health center-focused best practices, emerging issues, training offerings, upcoming events, new resources, and more!

To subscribe, please visit the CHAMPS [Clinicians Listserv](#) webpage.

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## 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](#).*

### CMS Final Rule for 2020 Available

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued the final annual Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for the 2020 benefit year, also known as the 2020 Payment Notice. This rule only affects those states using the Federally Facilitated Marketplace (FFM). According to CMS, the rule reduces user fees for plans offered on [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) and encourages the use of lower-cost generic drugs, while improving market stability and consumer choice.

*To view the final rule, visit the [Federal Register](#) webpage.*

*To learn more about this rule, view the CMS [Fact Sheet](#).*

*Questions? Contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Population Health](#).*

### Open Enrollment Period Six Final Report

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released the Health Insurance Exchanges 2019 Open Enrollment Final Report and the Public Use Files, which contain summaries of enrollment activity in both the Federally-Facilitated Marketplaces (FFMs) and State-Partnership Marketplaces (SPMs) during Open Enrollment Period Six. In Region VIII, 486,010 consumers enrolled in coverage through the Marketplaces, comprising 4.25% of the national total. At least 24.15% of Region VIII enrollees resided in rural communities; this number is likely an underestimate, as Colorado, which has the only SBM in the region, did not break down its data into rural and non-rural categories. Consumers ages 55-64 were the highest utilizers of the Marketplaces, making up 22.58% of enrollees in Region VIII.

*To access the Health Insurance Exchanges 2019 Open Enrollment Final Report, visit the [CMS](#) website.*

*To access the Public Use Files, visit CMS' [Marketplace Products](#) webpage.*

*For more related resources, visit the CHAMPS [Outreach & Enrollment](#) webpage.*

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## 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](#).*

### New Article - Health Equity: What You Can Do

"Health in the U.S. is not equitable" states Elizabeth Coté, MD, MPA, the Chief Health Officer of National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ), in the article, *Health Equity: What You Can Do*. She goes on to say "not everyone has access to healthcare, especially healthcare that is culturally relevant and free from bias. Not everyone lives in safe neighborhoods, can afford safe housing and healthy food, and benefits from quality education – all social determinants that have a significant effect on health outcomes. Because not everyone has equal opportunity to access the resources needed for health and well-being, disparities are pervasive from the earliest years of life."

But where does an individual start? How does one person make a dent in a systemic and structural problem? Coté offers three concrete steps individuals and organizations can take:

1. Recognize your own implicit bias.
2. Develop your own health equity definition.
3. Work with your organization to develop an organizational health equity definition.

*To read the full article, visit NICHQ's [Insights](#) webpage.*

*For related information, visit the CHAMPS [Health Equity Resources](#) webpage.*



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## SPECIAL & VULNERABLE POPULATIONS NEWS, *Continued*

### New Issue of *Healing Hands* Out Now

The National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC) has released a new issue of *Healing Hands* which addresses non-opioid substance use, highlighting the relationship between non-opioid substance use disorder, mental health, and homelessness. Approximately half of people experiencing homelessness have diagnosable substance use disorders at some point in their lives and experience stigma, serious mental illness, and poor health outcomes as a result.

This edition explores the current opioid crisis, other commonly used substances, critical issues that intersect with substance use and mental health in homeless populations, and strategies that providers can use to reduce the impact of stigma on patient treatment.

*To read the issue, visit NHCHC's [Healing Hands](#) webpage.  
For more related resources, visit the CHAMPS [Substance Use Disorder Resources](#) webpage.*

### Up-To-Date Resources and Promising Practices for Clinicians Serving Migrants

*Submitted by Claire Hutkins Seda, Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN)*

How can motivational interviewing improve outcomes for patients with diabetes? How are other community health centers helping their migrant farmworkers exit trafficking situations? How can clinicians assure occupational health, in the 'gig economy' age, for patients with multiple or seasonal jobs? Migrant Clinicians Network's spring issue of *Streamline* covers these topics and more. *Streamline* is MCN's quarterly in-print publication, available for free for subscribers. MCN's online and in-print resources help clinicians navigate the wide and fast-changing world of migrant health, covering emerging issues and offering perspectives and promising practices from across the U.S. and Puerto Rico. In addition to the in-print publication, MCN offers a [Clinician-to-Clinician](#) blog where clinicians can stay on top of news and perspectives on health equity and justice; immigrant and migrant health; environmental and occupational health; climate change, disaster preparedness, vulnerable populations; and much more. MCN invites you to subscribe to these two publications to keep a pulse on the world of health justice.



*To sign up for these publications, email [chutkins-seda@migrantclinician.org](mailto:chutkins-seda@migrantclinician.org).*

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## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

### MPCA Federal Tort Claims Act University Training

Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA) in partnership with CHAMPS, Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD), and Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA), will be hosting a cutting-edge training September 18-19, 2019 in Bozeman, MT. The Federal Torts Claims Act University (FTCAU) is an opportunity for health center quality improvement coordinators, risk managers, administrators, clinicians, and board members to learn from experts, leaders, and government officials in the areas of FTCA and related subject material. Those who provide health care and support services as well as Primary Care Association (PCA) staff who have an interest in patient safety, risk management, and quality of care are encouraged to attend. Participants in the two-day training will engage in interactive presentations and exercises geared toward health center grantees. The FTCAU will also dive into claims management and will include a Risk Management Bootcamp.

Continuing Education Credits (CEU and Contact Hours) are pending for this event. Early registration for this event is \$175 and ends June 1, 2019. Regular registration is \$200 and ends September 4, 2019. Payment is due at registration via credit card.

*To learn more about the MPCA FTCA University Training, visit the [MPCA](#) website.  
For more Region VIII trainings, visit the CHAMPS [Events and Trainings](#) webpage.*



## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### **BPHC Bulletin: Service Area Considerations Request for Information Available for Preview**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recently announced the release of the Health Center Program Service Area Considerations Request for Information (RFI). The information provided by the public can help inform HRSA on decisions regarding the Health Center Program expansion through an existing health center's addition of new service delivery sites. HRSA will be accepting feedback until Monday, July 8, 2019.

Considerations include factors such as:

- ★ Parameters for unmet need;
- ★ Proximity;
- ★ Reasonable boundaries for the service area;
- ★ Consultation with other local providers;
- ★ Demonstrated capacity and performance in existing service area;
- ★ Ensuring patient input/representation.

*To learn more, visit HRSA's [Health Center Program Service Area Considerations RFI](#) webpage.*

### **Updated 2019 Health Center Program Site Visit Protocol**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recently updated the Health Center Program Site Visit Protocol (no changes were made to the Compliance Manual or to Health Center Program Requirements). Visit the HRSA [Health Center Program Site Visit Protocol](#) (SVP) and [SVP Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpages for details, and download the [2019 SVP Summary of Updates](#) document.

### **CHCI's National Cooperative Agreement on Clinical Workforce Development**

*Submitted by Community Health Center, Inc. (CHCI)*

Community Health Center, Inc. (CHCI) and its Weitzman Institute's National Cooperative Agreement (NCA) on Clinical Workforce Development is a HRSA funded project focused on "Implementing Team-Based Care" and "Training the Next Generation." Since 2015, CHCI's NCA on Clinical Workforce Development has provided technical and training assistance that supports health centers nationally to engage in effective clinical workforce development activities. These activities have taken the form of learning collaboratives, national webinars, activity sessions, publications, toolkits, and state/regional/national conference presentations and trainings.



*CHCI staff working on the Clinical Workforce Development project.*

Clinical Workforce Development has also created the National Learning Library, which is a collection of resources on Team-Based Care and Training the Next Generation. The resources include webinars, associated slides, poster presentations, publications, and tools.

*The National Learning Library as well as information regarding upcoming free opportunities/activities can be accessed at [www.chci.com/nca](http://www.chci.com/nca).*

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### **New Controlled Substances & Emergency Response Fact Sheet: Frequently Asked Questions**

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) has created a Controlled Substances & Emergency Response Fact Sheet: Frequently Asked Questions to outline current guidelines that exist regarding prescribing and dispensing controlled substances during a disaster. It includes challenges that patients, healthcare providers, and emergency managers experience due to the provision of controlled substances during disasters, and highlights areas of opportunity for establishing solutions and targeted planning. This fact sheet was designed as an informational resource for stakeholders, healthcare coalitions, entities, providers, emergency managers, and public health practitioners.

To view the fact sheet, click [here](#).  
For more emergency resources, visit the CHAMPS [Emergency Preparedness \(EP\) and Response Resources](#) webpage.

### **Updated Federal Poverty Guidelines**

The Federal Poverty Guidelines have been updated and are in effect as of January 11, 2019. The Poverty Guidelines, simplified versions of the Poverty Thresholds, are used for administrative purposes such as determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs. The Poverty Thresholds are used specifically for calculating all official poverty population statistics. Percentage multiples of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (such as 125%, 150%, 185%, etc.) are used as an eligibility criterion for various services, including sliding scale services at Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

To view the new Poverty Guidelines, visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [Poverty Guidelines](#) webpage. For more resources on poverty, visit the CHAMPS [National Data Resources](#) webpage.

### **NIMAA Graduates 2019 Class of Medical Assistants**

*Submitted by Aldon Haynes, National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement (NIMAA)*

On April 24, 48 excited students from Colorado, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, California, and Connecticut joined together over video to celebrate their graduation from the National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement (NIMAA) medical assistant training program. NIMAA's unique training model combines high-touch, on-line instruction with a concurrent externship in advanced primary care practices – mostly Community Health Centers (CHCs). Founded by CHCs, including Colorado's Salud Family Health Centers, NIMAA prepares students to work effectively in advanced team-based primary care. This is NIMAA's third class of graduates, 80% of whom passed the National Healthcare Association medical assistant certification exam on their first attempt, and many of whom have already been offered jobs at their externship organizations. "It is so exciting to see students from the very communities where health centers are located begin a career in health care and fill this important workforce need," commented NIMAA CEO Elena Thomas Faulkner.



*Students celebrating their graduation from the NIMAA Medical Assistant training program.*

Health centers interested in participating in NIMAA can learn more at <https://www.nimaa.org>.  
Student applications are now open for the 2019-2020 school year which begins in September.  
Students can apply at <https://nimaa.org/admissioninfo/>.

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### National Funding Opportunities

- ★ [Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program States/Territories Part B Supplemental Grant Program](#) (05/28/19)
- ★ [Rural Communities Opioid Response Program \(RCORP\)-Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion](#) (07/10/19)
- ★ [RCORP-Rural Centers of Excellence on Substance Use Disorders](#) (07/10/19)
- ★ [Maternal and Child Health Services](#) (07/15/19)

### Region VIII in the News

- ★ Alluvion Health: [Alluvion Health's Jody Haines Receives National Award](#) (*Great Falls News*, March 8)
- ★ Axis Health System: [Pediatric Partner's Bayfield Clinic Brings Child Care Services Closer to Home](#) (*Pine River Times*, March 8)
- ★ PureView Health Center: [Medicaid Expansion Valuable to Veterans](#) (*Lake County Leader*, March 14)
- ★ Colorado Coalition for the Homeless: [While Denver's Tiny Homes For The Homeless Help, They May Not Be A City-Sized Solution](#) (*Colorado Public Radio*, March 15)
- ★ Sunrise Community Health: [Terry Frei: Sunrise Community Health is A Port in the Storm...Even When There Isn't One](#) (*Greeley Tribune*, March 16)
- ★ Montana Primary Care Association: [MT Lawmakers Consider Safe Harbor for Pregnant Women Seeking Addiction Treatment](#) (*8KPAX*, March 20)
- ★ Utah Partners for Health – Mid-Valley Health Clinic: [Mobile Health Clinic Unveiled to Serve Uninsured While Lowering Emergency Room Use](#) (*KUER*, March 21)
- ★ Mountain Family Health Centers: [Mountain Family Column: April is National Minority Health Month](#) (*Post Independent*, March 24)
- ★ Peak Vista Community Health Centers: [Community Health Clinic Approved to Be Built At Mitchell High School in Southeast Colorado Springs](#) (*The Gazette*, March 25)
- ★ Partnership Health Center: [Partnership Health Receives Donation](#) (*Valdosta Daily Times*, March 26)
- ★ STRIDE Community Health Center (Formerly Metro Community Provider Network): [America's Healthiest Community: Douglas County](#) (*U.S. News*, March 26)
- ★ Summit Community Care Clinic: [Summit Community Care Clinic Launches Treatment Program for Opioid Addiction](#) (*Summit Daily*, March 27)
- ★ Colorado Community Health Network and Sunrise Community Health: [CO Health Center Advocates Head to DC for Long-Term Funding](#) (*Public News Service*, March 28)
- ★ Community Health Center of Central Wyoming: [Doctor's Tip: A Local Solution for Expensive, Fragmented Health Care](#) (*Post Independent*, March 31)
- ★ Pueblo Community Health Center: [Pueblo Health Agencies Working to Provide Care for Needy](#) (*AG Journal*, March 31)
- ★ Northwest Colorado Health: [Weigh and Win Program will Remain at Northwest Colorado Health](#) (*Steamboat Pilot & Today*, April 2)
- ★ RiverStone Health: [Public Health Efforts Improve Quality of Life for Everyone in The Community](#) (*Billings Gazette*, April 2)
- ★ Mountain Family Health Center: [Mind Springs and Mountain Family Health Centers say Plenty of Mental Health Resources Available to Spanish-Speaking Population](#) (*Post Independent*, April 7)
- ★ Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc.: [Valley-Wide Leadership Changes](#) (*Center Post-Dispatch*, April 8)
- ★ Family HealthCare: [Putting the Bite on High Blood Pressure](#) (*Minot Daily News*, April 9)
- ★ High Plains Community Health Center: [High Plains Receives National Award from CDC](#) (*The Prowers Journal*, April 10)
- ★ Glacier Community Health Center: [GCHC's Newest Counselor 'Relaxing' Into the Job, Excited to Utilize Community Garden in Therapy](#) (*Cut Bank Pioneer Press*, May 1)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### May

**[2019 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium: Working Together for Justice](#)**

May 22-25, 2019  
Washington, D.C.

### June

**[CHAMPS Online Series: Care Coordination Essentials: Navigating Families in Conflict](#)**

Tuesday, June 4, 2019  
12:00-1:30PM MT / 1:00-2:30PM CT

**[MPCA HIPAA and Telehealth/Virtual Health Training](#)**

June 5-6, 2019  
Helena, Mt

**[NACHC Financial Operations Management Level 3 \(FOM 3\)](#)**

June 5-6, 2019  
Denver, CO

**[WYPCA Wyoming Rural Health Conference](#)**

June 5-7, 2019  
Laramie, WY

**[CHAMPS/RMPHTC Community of Practice \(CoP\): Advanced Population Health Practices for Colorectal Cancer Screening](#)**

Thursday, June 6, 2019  
1:00-2:00PM MT / 2:00-3:00PM CT

**[NACHC Elevating Health Center Operations \(EHCO\)](#)**

June 12-13, 2019  
Portland, OR

**[CHAMPS Webinar: 2019 Immunization Update](#)**

Thursday, June 13, 2019  
11:30AM-1:00PM MT / 12:30-2:00PM CT

**[CHAMPS Online Series: Care Coordination Essentials: Caring for Yourself When You're a Care Coordinator](#)**

Tuesday, June 18, 2019  
12:00-1:30PM MT / 1:00-2:30PM CT

**[National School-Based Health Care Convention and Rally: Giving ALL Young People a Clean Bill of Health](#)**

June 23-26, 2019  
Arlington, VA



### Looking ahead...

**[2019 Association of Clinicians for the Underserved \(ACU\) Annual Conference](#)**

July 29-31, 2019  
Washington, D.C.

**[CCHN/CHAMPS Community Health Center Dental Programs - Strategies for Success](#)**

August 1-2, 2019  
Golden, CO

**[MPCA PCMH Regional Training - NCQA Academy](#)**

August 7-9, 2019  
Billings, MT

**[NACHC Community Health Institute](#)**

August 16-20, 2019  
Chicago, IL

**[Region VIII Healthcare for the Homeless Grantee Collaborative Call](#)**

Wednesday, August 21, 2019  
11:00AM-12:30PM MT /  
12:00-1:30PM CT



**[MPCA Federal Tort Claims Act \(FTCA\) University Training](#)**

September 18-19, 2019  
Bozeman, MT

**[NACHC Managing Ambulatory Health Care I \(MAHC1\)](#)**

September 23-26, 2019  
Seattle, WA

**[2019 Midwest Stream Forum](#)**

September 25-27, 2019  
Denver, CO

**[NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#)**

October 5-8, 2019  
Seattle, WA

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Please contact Yael Holzman Castellands at [Yael@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Yael@CHAMPSonline.org) 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.

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