Registration Open: 2017 NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference

Join CHAMPS and the Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) at the 2017 Annual Primary Care Conference Saturday, October 21 through Tuesday, October 24 in Seattle, WA. This year’s theme is “Together Toward Tomorrow: Celebrating 20 Years of Region 18,” highlighting the history of strong partnership between the two regional Primary Care Associations and our shared focus on supporting Regions VIII and X Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers (CHCs) into the future. Registration reimbursement is available for one individual from each CHAMPS Organizational Member CHC; employees eligible for this reimbursement include line staff, medical support staff, and mid-level managers and supervisors (providers and Executive Directors/CEOs are not eligible). Travel reimbursement is also available to clinicians working at least 0.5 FTE as providers in CHAMPS Organizational Member CHCs, and Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) Steering Committee members are eligible for additional reimbursement.

For more information and to register, visit the CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference webpage.

National Health Center Week 2017

CHAMPS would like to wish all of the CHCs in Region VIII a joyful and productive National Health Center Week (NHCW) 2017! This year, the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) is asking CHCs to coordinate NHCW activities around seven Focus Days, with topics designed to help CHCs across the nation maximize the impact of their messages as they showcase their innovative programs and services. CHCs are also encouraged to share their stories by participating in the 2017 NHCW Picture & Video Contests. Health center staff members, patients, and board members are all eligible to create submissions once they are registered as health center advocates through the NACHC Health Center Advocacy Network; contest winners will be chosen by popular vote. To find additional NHCW events and resources, visit the official NACHC NHCW website, https://healthcenterweek.org, featuring an interactive events map, focus day tools, and other helpful information.
Coming Soon and Thanks for Updates: 2017-2018 Region VIII Health Center Directory

CHAMPS sincerely thanks the health centers and Primary Care Associations that have worked with us to update information on the 65 health centers in Region VIII. The 2017-2018 Region VIII Health Center Directory will provide a comprehensive listing of all Community, Homeless, and Migrant Health Centers in Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. The Directory will also provide contact information for each organization’s main and satellite sites, as well as for the leadership and clinical staff working at those sites.

Printed copies of the Directory will be available this fall; all health centers that have submitted updated information will receive one free copy, and all CHAMPS Organizational Members will receive an additional free copy. As a reminder, a searchable online version of the health center portion of the Directory is always available in the Members Only section of the CHAMPS website.

If you have any questions about the 2017-2018 Region VIII Health Center Directory, please contact the CHAMPS Programs & Communications Coordinator at Rachel@CHAMPSonline.org.

CHAMPS Partners with ACU to Host Region VIII Workforce Strategy Session

On June 8, 2017, CHAMPS and the STAR^2Center – the workforce project of the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU) – partnered to hold a strategy session for the workforce contacts from the Primary Care Associations in Region VIII. Facilitated by Allison Abayasekara and Pamela Byrnes, the day-long session included strategic planning, data and resource sharing, and brainstorming for future region-wide collaborative projects. CHAMPS thanks all those who traveled to Denver for this productive meeting, and looks forward to continuing this team effort to address community health workforce challenges across Region VIII.

Have you seen the new CHAMPS CHC Board of Directors Resources?

The Corporate Compliance Page provides information and resources to help CHC Boards establish, follow, and track compliance oversight processes.

The Conflict of Interest/Standards of Conduct page offers tools and links to help CHCs outline expectations for the behavior of staff, board members, volunteers, and others.

Remember to Check Out the CHAMPS Social Media Accounts!

Visit the CHAMPS YouTube Channel to access free Website Tutorials, recorded webcasts, and more!

Follow the CHAMPS LinkedIn Company Page for daily updates on CHAMPS offerings, CHC news, funding opportunities, and more!

New CHAMPS Communications Tool: Social Media Content Development Tip Sheet

This resource is designed to help communications staff at CHCs and PCAs generate ideas on relevant topics and then carefully craft appropriate social media posts across a variety of different platforms.

Click here to access an online PDF of this tip sheet.
Upcoming Workforce Webcast: Institutional Strategies for Promoting Resilience and Reducing Burnout

CHAMPS is partnering with the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) to offer this live distance learning event focused on evidence-based organizational approaches to reduce physician burnout. Burnout is a symptom of emotional exhaustion, cynicism, and low self-efficacy, and is associated with medical errors, lower quality of care, lower rates of patient satisfaction, less adherent patients, and impaired professionalism. On Monday, August 21 from 12:00-1:30PM Mountain Time / 1:00-2:30PM Central Time, join presenter Elizabeth C. Lawrence, Director of Physician and Student Wellness at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine, to learn about how to implement provider wellbeing strategies within health centers. Participation in this live event is free for staff at Region VIII health centers and PCAs.

To learn more and to register, visit the CHAMPS Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events webpage.

See page 7 for information about an upcoming webcast on resiliency for Outreach & Enrollment staff.

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:

- **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 2016 Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Project

- **Building an Effective Physician Recruitment Strategy** (Online through 05/16/18)
  - Discusses the benefits of developing a recruitment strategy, specific processes to consider, and how to get started

- **2017 Immunization Update** (Online through 06/12/18)
  - Provides clinicians with the latest recommended immunization schedules and other key information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- **From PINs to Procedures: Ensuring Credentialing and Privileging Practices are Operational Site Visit Ready** (Online through 07/04/18)
  - Offers tools and tips for creating application materials, privileging forms, and primary source credentialing checklists that ensure health center compliance with PINs 2001-16 and 2002-22

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 about events on CD.
Register Now for the 2017 Virtual Behavioral Health Workforce Development Conference

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW), Division of Nursing and Public Health (DNPH) is hosting a behavioral health workforce virtual conference on Wednesday, September 12 from 9:00AM-3:00PM Mountain Time / 10:00AM-4:00PM Central Time. This conference will highlight the accomplishments, best practices, and lessons learned from HRSA’s most innovative behavioral health workforce programs. Presenters will include behavioral health grantees from the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) program, the Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) program, the Leadership in Public Health Social Work Education (LPHSWE) program, the Mental and Behavioral Health Education Training (MBHET) program, and the Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) program.

To learn more and to register, click here.

Don’t forget about these helpful CHAMPS workforce resources!

The Employment Screening Preferred Pricing Program, which offers discounted employment screening services through ScreeningOne, is available to all CHAMPS Organizational Member CHCs.

The Job Opportunities Bank is a searchable online job bank just for Region VIII CHCs. To post a job opening at your health center, simply email the job description to the CHAMPS Programs & Communications Coordinator at Rachel@CHAMPSonline.org.

Enroll Today in the DynaMed Plus Preferred Pricing Program!

CHAMPS is pleased to offer a new Preferred Pricing Program (PPP) for DynaMed Plus, a clinical decision support tool to provide clinicians with evidence-based, peer-reviewed information via both computers and mobile devices. In addition, DynaMed Plus can be integrated into health center EHR systems at no additional cost. Each subscription includes one year of DynaMed Plus access, with a service year start date of August 1, 2017 and an end date of July 31, 2018. DynaMed Plus is $250 per year per provider from CHAMPS Organizational Member CHCs; for nonmembers from Region VIII health centers, the cost is $300 per year per provider.

To learn more, visit the CHAMPS DynaMed Plus PPP webpage, or view this 25-minute video introduction on the features of DynaMed Plus.

Health centers may purchase subscriptions for any or all of their providers by contacting the CHAMPS Clinical Quality Improvement Director at Jen@CHAMPSonline.org.
CHAMPS/RMPHTC Care Coordination Strategies for Diabetes Management ECHO

This fall, CHAMPS is once again partnering with the Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center (RMPHTC) to host interactive ECHO Learning Communities. Due to the popularity of the August 2017 series, Care Coordination Strategies for Diabetes Management, CHAMPS will run a second learning community on the same topic this October.

In this series, health center care coordination professionals will develop key skills and strategies and learn about resources to support and engage patients with diabetes in their own care. Participating health centers are not required to have a care coordination program specific to diabetes management. However, the series curriculum will focus on diabetes as an example of chronic disease management.

The second Care Coordination Strategies for Diabetes Management ECHO Learning Community will meet each Thursday in October and the first Thursday in November (10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2). Each session will be held from 11:30AM-12:30PM Mountain Time / 12:30PM-1:30PM Central Time.

Registration will open in late August. Please direct questions about this series to the CHAMPS Clinical Quality Improvement Director at Jen@CHAMPSonline.org.

Migrant Clinicians Network Assists Patients on the Move
Submitted by Claire Hutkins Seda, Migrant Clinicians Network

When a clinician in Wyoming first heard that Maria*, one of her patients suffering from hypertension, was moving back to her country of origin, she was surprised. Maria was well settled in the community, with a supportive family and friends. But changes in the political atmosphere were causing Maria high levels of fear, and she no longer felt safe. Maria began to plan for a quick return to Central America. The clinician feared Maria was abandoning her treatment plan, which could lead to a number of life-threatening health conditions including stroke or kidney failure.

Luckily for patients like Maria, there is a way to ensure that treatment continues despite a move – even an international one. Health Network is Migrant Clinicians Network’s bridge case management program, offering records transfer, follow-up services, and more for patients who are on the move. Clinicians may sign up patients at no cost to the clinic or patient. More information, instructional videos, and enrollment forms in multiple languages are available on the Health Network webpage.

Do you have a story to share about patients on the move in your community? Let MCN know by emailing chutkins-seda@migrantclinician.org.

*Maria is a fictitious name. Details of her story have been changed or anonymized for the patient’s protection.
Primary Care Associations and American Cancer Society Partner to Promote Colorectal Cancer Screening, Provider Education

Submitted by Emily Coyle, North Region American Cancer Society

Throughout Region VIII, the American Cancer Society (ACS) and the Primary Care Associations (PCAs) have played active roles in collaborative efforts to increase colorectal cancer screening rates through provider education initiatives.

In the Dakotas, key partners including ACS, Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD), the state health departments, and Quality Improvement Network conducted a Colorectal Cancer Screening Environmental Scan with CHCs in both states. The partners will use this information to gain a better understanding of current health center practices as well as unmet needs.

ACS is collaborating with staff from Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) and Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA) to plan high-level provider trainings. These organizations are also working together to strengthen “links to care” supports, as the need for colonoscopies and other treatment after positive stool-testing continues to grow.

In Montana, ACS and Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA) are working together to increase rates of colorectal cancer screening. ACS staff Dr. Durado Brooks and Dr. Laura Makaroff will be visiting several clinics throughout Montana in the fall to train providers and staff on evidence-based colorectal cancer screening practices.

In Utah, ACS is working with the Utah Colorectal Cancer Roundtable, the Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH), and Intermountain Healthcare to increase Fecal Immunochemical Tests (FITs) in safety net settings. They are also developing new educational opportunities for this fall.

CHAMPS will focus on improving rates of colorectal cancer screening by hosting an ECHO Learning Community on this topic later this year. ACS looks forward to supporting CHAMPS in this effort by leveraging shared expertise in colorectal cancer screening progress across Region VIII.

These strong partnerships with PCAs in Region VIII reflect ACS’s appreciation of the key role that Community Health Centers play in reducing health disparities by providing access to prevention and early detection resources.

For more information on any of these initiatives, please contact the Clinical Quality Improvement Director at Jen@CHAMPSonline.org or your state Primary Care Association.

*NEW* Clinical Quality Improvement Resource!

The CHAMPS Colorectal Cancer Screening Resources webpage is a compilation of links and tools to support Region VIII health centers in their quality improvement efforts. Check it out today!

Public Comment Period Open for Healthy People 2030

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is seeking comments on the proposed Healthy People 2030 framework, including its mission, vision, foundational principles, plan of action, and overarching goals. Healthy People is a national effort that sets goals and objectives to improve the health and wellbeing of people in the United States. The comment period will last until Friday, September 29 at 3:00PM Mountain Time / 4:00PM Central Time.

To submit comments, visit the Healthy People 2030 webpage.
CHAMPS/CCHN O&E Distance Learning Series Update

The next event in this year’s CHAMPS/CCHN O&E Distance Learning Series is “Strengthening Your Compassion Resiliency Toolkit,” which will be held on Thursday, August 24 from 11:00AM-12:00PM Mountain Time / 12:00-1:00PM Central Time. Presenters Kay Glidden and Beth Reynolds Lewis of Compassion Resiliency will identify key factors that create and amplify stress and explain how to utilize mindfulness strategies to mitigate stressors. The final event in this summer’s O&E series will be on Thursday, September 21 from 11:00AM-12:00PM Mountain Time / 12:00-1:00PM Central Time and is titled “Preparing for Open Enrollment 5: Addressing Changes in the Marketplace.” During this live event, Elizabeth Hagan of Families USA will review recent changes in the federal landscape, their impact on O&E staff, and strategies to prepare for the next open enrollment period.

To learn more and to register for these events, visit the CHAMPS Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events webpage.

See page 3 to learn about an upcoming webcast on institutional strategies for reducing burnout.

*NEW* CHAMPS CHC O&E Digest Webpage!

The CHC Outreach and Enrollment (O&E) Digest webpage houses the Region VIII CHC O&E Digest emails. This digest is designed to assist Region VIII CHCs and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) in maximizing healthcare access for CHC patients across Region VIII. CHAMPS distributes this resource every six weeks between open enrollment periods and monthly during open enrollment periods.

To sign up for this digest, please email the CHAMPS Programs/Outreach & Enrollment Coordinator at Valerie@CHAMPSonline.org.

Archived O&E Distance Learning Events

Over the past two summers, CHAMPS has partnered with Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) to offer webcasts on outreach and enrollment. These events are archived on the CHAMPS YouTube channel to allow for ongoing learning on topics including:

Engagement and Advocacy for O&E Staff (Online through 08/18/17)
★ Describes how assistants can educate community stakeholders about the importance of healthcare coverage enrollment, and the basics of registering consumers to vote

Habits of Highly Effective Assistors (Online through 09/22/17)
★ Provides action-oriented tips for improving in-person assistance programs in Region VIII

A Guide to Storytelling: Unleashing the Power of Personal Narrative (Online through 06/22/18)
★ Discusses the critical role of individuals’ stories in effective advocacy and suggests tools and processes for bringing these stories to the public

Leveraging O&E Assistors in Community Health Centers (Online through 07/27/18)
★ Reviews the vital roles that enrollment assistants and community health workers play in linking patients to community resources, and discusses ways to develop new skills and collaborations between these staff types

For more information, visit the CHAMPS Online Archived Distance Learning webpage.

See page 3 for information about other archived CHAMPS webcasts.
Open Enrollment Dates for Region VIII

The 2018 Open Enrollment Period (OEP), also known as OEP Five, is fast approaching! OEPs are the time when consumers can renew or find new health insurance coverage plans from carriers participating in the Marketplace Exchanges. Those who enroll in individual health insurance coverage during the fifth OEP will have coverage starting in 2018. In Region VIII, OEPs for the five Federally-Facilitated Marketplaces (FFMs) (MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) will run from November 1 to December 15, 2017. The dates of the 2018 OEP for FFMs were published in the Final Rule on April 18, 2017 on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website. Colorado, a State-Based Marketplace (SBM), has modified its OEP dates to run from November 11, 2017 through January 12, 2018.

To access resources to help prepare for Open Enrollment Period Five, visit the CHAMPS Affordable Care Act / Outreach and Enrollment webpage.

New Rule for Consumers Who Fail to Pay their Premiums

On Tuesday, April 18, 2017 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Market Stabilization rule finalizing changes to help stabilize the individual and small group markets. One of the prescribed changes deals with binder payments: as of June 23, 2017, a health plan issuer may apply any payments a consumer makes for new coverage (a binder payment) with that issuer towards past-due premiums owed to that issuer. The issuer may also refuse to start the new coverage if the consumer fails to pay past-due premiums owed from the 12-month period preceding the start date of new coverage. Previously, issuers were not all allowed to apply binder payments to past-due premiums and issuers were required to effectuate the consumer’s new enrollment under the guaranteed availability rules. Consumers must be provided notice of the issuer’s binder payment policy before the binder payment can be applied to past-due premium debt. Outreach and Enrollment staff will play a critical role in helping consumers understand the new consequences of non-payment of premiums.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) suggest that Outreach & Enrollment Staff follow these tips when educating consumers about this change:

1. Encourage consumers who wish to terminate their coverage to do so proactively rather than simply fail to pay their premiums.
2. Help consumers review their enrollment materials and notices from the issuer for information about the issuer’s binder payment policy.
3. An issuer may only condition the effectuation of new coverage on payment of past-due premiums for the individual contractually responsible for the past-premiums.
4. If a consumer pays past-due premiums, the issuer is required to pay all appropriate claims for services rendered to the consumer during any months of coverage for which past-due premiums are collected.
American Indian/Alaska Native Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Oversampling Study

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have begun the 2017 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Oversampling Study among American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs). This initiative by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health (OMH) and the CDC seeks to increase understanding of health-related risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, access to care, and use of preventive services. The states participating in this oversampling study include Region VIII’s Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. AI/AN individuals in selected states will be asked questions about their demographic characteristics and current health behaviors, such as tobacco and seat belt use.

Support for Providers Treating Veterans

The National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder’s PTSD Consultation Program aims to support providers, including those practicing in rural communities, who treat veterans with PTSD. The program was originally launched in 2011 to support U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) providers, and is now available to providers outside of the VA who are treating Veterans. The program offers access to psychologists, psychiatrists, pharmacists, and other mental health professionals to discuss PTSD-related assessments, treatments, medications, and referral questions. These services are free and available to any provider treating a U.S. veteran. Contact an expert clinician at PTSDconsult@va.gov or 866-948-7880.

Transportation and Health Access: Rides to Wellness Community Scan Project

Submitted by Caitlin R. Ruppel, Health Outreach Partners

Transportation is a critical component of the U.S. health care system. In May 2016, with funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Health Outreach Partners (HOP) launched the Rides to Wellness Community Scan Project. The project consisted of a national survey of HRSA-funded health centers to examine the intersection of transportation barriers and missed medical appointments, and the development of six community profiles that highlight existing patient-centered transportation solutions. The survey findings and profiles are featured in HOP’s latest report, “Transportation and Health Access: Rides to Wellness Community Scan Project.”

NCFH Patient Education Digital Stories Series

The National Center for Farmworker Health (NCFH) and Consumer Reports Best Buy Drugs (CRBBD) have developed a series of five-minute digital stories for health centers to use as educational tools. Digital stories are a great way to promote health information and offer support to patients who have been recently diagnosed with a specific health issue. Topics in this series include Asthma, High Blood Pressure, Diabetes, Allergies, Depression, and Lower Back Pain (coming soon).

To access additional patient education tools, visit the CHAMPS Patient Education Tools webpage.
Funding Opportunities

★ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): [Substance Abuse Treatment Telehealth Network Grant](#) (due 08/23)
★ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA): [Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program](#) (due 09/30)
★ National Institutes of Health (NIH): [U.S. Tobacco Control Policies to Reduce Health Disparities Research Grant](#) (due 10/11)
★ NIH: [Addressing Suicide Research Gaps Grant](#) (due 11/2)
★ Ford Family Foundation: [Good Neighbor Grant](#) (applications accepted on a rolling basis)
★ Ford Family Foundation: [Community Building Spaces Grant](#) (applications accepted on a rolling basis)

Have You Seen these New Resources from our Federal and National Cooperative Agreement Partners?

★ [AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC)](#): [National HIV Curriculum](#) and [HIV/HCV Co-Infection National Curriculum](#) – Two suites of online tools offering free training for clinicians of all levels on HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C, including information on prevention, screening, diagnosis, and treatment.
  o Don’t forget about CHAMPS’ [HIV/AIDS Screening and Treatment Resources](#).

★ [Health Information Technology, Evaluation, and Quality Center (HITEQ)](#): [Using Data to Manage Population Health Under Risk Based Contracts Brief](#) – Explains what data you need, how to get it and analyze it, and how to use data to manage quality and cost in the context of risk-bearing payment models.
  o Pair this great resource with CHAMPS’ [Quality Improvement Resources](#).

★ [National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office](#): [Migrant and Seasonal Head Start and Health Center Locator Phone App](#) – Designed to help migratory families locate health centers and/or migrant and seasonal head start programs as they move around the country. Available on both Apple and Android phones by searching for “Migrant Head Start” in your App Store.
  o ‘Make sure to check out CHAMPS’ [Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Resources](#).

★ [Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) and Office of Minority Health (OMH)](#): [Health Disparities Data Widget](#) – Provides an easy way to browse health disparities data related to Healthy People 2020 objectives for the Leading Health Indicators (LHIs); also embeddable on your own website.
  o Find more tools like this among CHAMPS’ [Cultural Competency Resources](#).

★ [Star2 Center](#): [Burnout Resource Bundle](#) – A compilation of tools, videos, and articles for fighting burnout among health center clinicians.
  o You may also find it useful to visit CHAMPS’ [Recruitment & Retention Resources](#).

★ [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)](#): [Disaster-Related Behavioral Health Resources Phone App](#) – Designed to assist responders in accessing behavioral health resources during disasters, such as those related to acute stress caused by fear, loss, and uncertainty. Available free of cost on both Apple and Android phones by searching for “SAMHSA” in your App Store.
  o Don’t forget to also explore CHAMPS’ [Behavioral Health Resources](#) and [Emergency Preparedness Resources](#).
New Northwest Community Health Center Clinic Opens
Submitted by Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association

Lincoln County in Montana is home to some of the most beautiful mountains, rivers, and lakes in the state. With just over 19,000 residents and a 9.2 percent unemployment rate (more than double the state average), Lincoln County has experienced the loss of timber industry and mining jobs in recent years. Northwest Community Health Center located in Libby, MT meets the medical, dental, behavioral health, and pharmacy needs of one in three Lincoln County residents. Recognizing that not all county residents can access its services in Libby, Northwest CHC’s board applied for and received a 2015 grant to expand services to build a new facility in the small town of Troy. After nearly two years of planning and development, the Troy clinic opened for business on June 30 and now provides the residents of Troy and surrounding areas much-needed primary healthcare in a state-of-the-art facility. Once fully staffed, the new facility will provide on-site medical, dental, and behavioral health care services. Congratulations to the Northwest CHC Team for a job well done!

Salud Recognized as Breastfeeding Friendly Employer

During the June 15 quarterly meeting of the Boulder County Breastfeeding Coalition, Salud Family Health Centers was recognized by Boulder County Public Health (BCPH) as a Breastfeeding Friendly Employer. This distinction is awarded to employers that are supportive of and help staff provide ideal nutrition to their babies. Salud conducted an assessment of its policies and developed a plan in conjunction with BCPH to attain this Breastfeeding Friendly Employer status. Salud’s improvement plan includes the creation of a space for new mothers and time accommodations that comply with Colorado law. BCPH also requests that employers express their long-term intention to continue to promote and improve lactation support services for staff. Boulder County cites that lactation accommodations produce a three-to-one return on investment due to lower health care costs, reduced absenteeism due to infant illness, and lower turnover rates. Boulder County has a number of resources available on their website for any employer looking for information and tips for improving employer based lactation services.

Other Region VIII Health Centers in the News:

- **Marias Health Care Services** and **Glacier Community Health Center**: “Federal funds help rural healthcare continue in Montana” (KPAX.com, June 11)
- **Sunrise Community Health**: “Evans residents learn nutritional tips from library’s health program” (Greeley Tribune, June 18)
- **Pueblo Community Health Center**: “What Healthcare Reform Means for Pueblo, Where 40 Percent of People are on Medicaid” (Colorado Public Radio, June 28)
- **Coal Country Community Health Center**: “Health Bill’s impact on rural hospitals” (West Dakota Fox News, July 7)

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.
Visit the interactive online CHAMPS calendar for continuing updates!

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

National Health Center Week
August 13-19

CHAMPS/CCHN Webcast: Institutional Strategies for Promoting Resilience & Reducing Burnout
August 21
12:00-1:30PM MT / 1:00-2:30PM CT

CHAMPS/CCHN Outreach & Enrollment Webcast #3: Strengthening Your Compassion Resiliency Toolkit
August 24
11:00AM-12:00PM MT / 12:00-1:00PM CT

NACHC Community Health Institute & Expo
August 27-29
San Diego, CA

OCTOBER

NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference
October 21-24
Seattle, WA

Colorado Corps Community Connection: A Day of Training and Celebration
October 27
Golden, CO

SEPTMBER

WYPCA Patient Centered Medical Home Summit
September 12-13
Cheyenne, WY

3RNet Annual Conference
September 12-14
Scottsdale, AZ

Midwest Stream Forum for Agricultural Worker Health
September 18-20
Grand Rapids, MI

CHAD Training: Transforming Care, Transforming Lives: Chartering a Course for NCQA 2017 PCMH Recognition
September 19-20
Aberdeen, SD

CHAMPS/CCHN Outreach & Enrollment Webcast #4: Preparing for OE5: Addressing Changes in the Marketplace
September 21
11:00AM-12:00PM MT / 12:00-1:00PM CT

LOOKING AHEAD...

NNOHA Annual Conference
November 12-15, 2017
San Diego, CA

NACHC Policy & Issues Forum
March 14-18, 2018
Washington, DC

NACHC Conference for Agricultural Worker Health
May 1-3, 2018
San Antonio, TX

Newsletter Contributors: Stacey Anderson, Jen Anderson, Emily Coyle, Ann Loeffler, Caitlin R. Ruppel, Claire Hutkins Seda, Valerie Steinmetz, Rachel Steinberg

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.

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