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# Winter 2019 Quarterly Newsletter

Published February 2019

## Thank You CHAMPS Members!

CHAMPS would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the 55 Region VIII health centers and State Primary Care Associations (SPCAs) who supported CHAMPS through organizational membership in 2018-2019. Organizational members are what make CHAMPS' quality programs and services possible. Throughout this issue you will find articles with information about the offerings CHAMPS provided to Region VIII last year (see "Membership Year in Review," page 2) and about upcoming programs in 2019.

## Don't Miss These Upcoming CHAMPS Trainings

CHAMPS will offer a variety of face-to-face and distance trainings for Region VIII health centers in the coming months. More information about these valuable learning opportunities can be found in the list below, throughout this newsletter, and on the CHAMPS website, [www.CHAMPSonline.org](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org).

- ★ Rolling Registration is open for the **CHAMPS/RMPHTC Advanced Population Health Practices for Colorectal Cancer Screening Community of Practice**, occurring every first Thursday of the month, February through June (see page 7).
- ★ Join CHAMPS and NWRPCA for the **Next Level Skills for CHC Managers and Supervisors (NLS)** March 19-20, 2019 in Seattle, WA (see page 4).
- ★ Registration is open for the **CHAMPS 2018 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data** webcast on Thursday, March 21, 2019, at 11:30AM MT / 12:30PM CT (see page 5).
- ★ Don't miss the popular annual CHAMPS **Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals** April 12-15, 2019 in Denver, CO (see page 7).
- ★ This year's NWRPCA/CHAMPS **Annual Primary Care Conference**, October 5-8, 2019 in Seattle, WA, will offer a range of professional development and networking sessions. Visit the CHAMPS [Annual Conference](#) webpage for more details as they become available.

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## CHAMPS Membership Year in Review Since April 2018, CHAMPS...

Offered face-to-face and remote **Learning Opportunities** to more than 1,000 participants who earned over 2,000 hours of continuing education credit at:

- ★ The [Annual Primary Care Conference](#), with 71 sessions and nine networking events
- ★ 22+ [Live Distance Learning Events](#)
- ★ 2 [Clinical Searching Skills Podcasts](#)
  - ★ 2 [Substance Use Disorder Best Practices Podcasts](#)
    - ★ A Diabetes-Related [ECHO Learning Community](#)
- ★ A [Community of Practice](#) Related to Colorectal Cancer Screening
- ★ [Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals](#)
- ★ 2 [CHC Supervisor/Manager Training Intensives](#)

Maintained and enhanced the **CHAMPS website**, [www.CHAMPSonline.org](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org), which remains a vital resource for staff and board members of Region VIII health centers:

- ★ Overhauled and augmented section of [Quality Improvement Resources](#)
- ★ New [Strategic Planning Resources](#) webpage
- ★ New [Health Equity Resources](#) webpage
  - ★ New [Health Literacy Resources](#) webpage
- ★ New [Social Determinants of Health Resources](#) webpage

Supported **Outreach & Enrollment (O&E)** and **Special Populations** efforts through resources, trainings, and communications:

- ★ [O&E](#) and [Special Populations](#) Email Digests
  - ★ New [Outreach and Engagement Impact Graphic](#)
- ★ New [Rural Social Determinants of Health Game Toolkit](#)
- ★ [Health Center for the Homeless Grantee Collaborative](#)

Addressed workforce needs through promotion of **Health Center Career Opportunities** and collaboration with regional and national partners:

- ★ Nearly 400 positions advertised via the CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank](#) (JOB)
  - ★ Over 625+ job seekers received monthly [JOB Highlights emails](#)
- ★ 5 job fairs attended plus the Region VIII Health Center Meet and Greet Event
- ★ [Education Health Center Initiative](#)
- ★ [Employment Screening Preferred Pricing Program](#)

Published **Region-Wide Data, Trends, and Contacts** to assist with future planning and to facilitate sharing of best practices:

- ★ [CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletters](#)
- ★ [Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Report](#)
- ★ [Region VIII Health Center Provider Productivity Expectations and Staffing Reports](#)
- ★ [Region VIII CHC Annual Measure of Finance, Operations, and Productivity](#)
  - ★ [Region VIII Data Summaries](#)
  - ★ [Region VIII BPHC UDS Summaries](#)
  - ★ [Region VIII JOB Comparison Report](#)
- ★ Region VIII CHC T/TA Needs Assessment

Provided professional, administrative, and educational support to clinicians through the **Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN)**:

- ★ [MPCN Steering Committee](#)
  - ★ [Clinicians Listserv](#)
- ★ New [Colorectal Cancer Screening Exam Room Poster](#)
- ★ New [Resiliency Collaborative](#)

**The 2019-2020 CHAMPS Membership Year begins April 1, 2019. Membership requests will be sent in late March. Thank you for your ongoing support!**

### Region VIII Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Needs Assessment Results

In December 2018, CHAMPS and Region VIII's State Primary Care Associations (SPCAs) distributed the **2018/2019 Region VIII Health Center Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Needs Assessment** to leadership staff at the region's 63 health centers. Over 320 people from 95% of the region's health centers responded, providing information about their organizations' T/TA needs.

#### Participants' top ranked challenges/concerns were:

- ★ Staff Retention
- ★ Billing/Coding Issues
- ★ Recruitment of Providers
- ★ Clinic Operations

Participants also ranked their need for T/TA relating to topics in the areas of Access to Care, Operational Excellence, and Health Outcomes and Health Equity.

#### The top ranked topics for Region VIII were:

1. Preparing for Payment Reform
2. Determining Total Cost of Care
3. Support Staff Professional Development
4. Care Coordination Billing
5. Role of Health Centers in Alternative Payment Models
6. Accounting and Financing in Value-Based Payment
7. Burnout Prevention
8. Staff Engagement/Satisfaction
9. Customer Service
10. Tie: Capturing Care Coordination in EHR and Alternative Payment Model Options



## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

CHAMPS and each Region VIII SPCA will use these results, as well as more in-depth analysis of various topics, to update current programs and services, identify new areas for T/TA, and guide short-term and long-term planning in support of successful health centers.

Questions? Contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development and Member Services Director](#).

### CHAMPS Newsletter Evaluation

We want to know what you think! Please take a couple minutes between now and **Friday, March 15, 2019** to evaluate the CHAMPS [Quarterly Newsletter](#) by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CHAMPSNewsletterEval2018>. Participants will have the chance to win a \$35 Amazon gift card!



Annual Conference attendees test the [Rural Social Determinants of Health Board Game](#).

### View CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Conference Session Recordings

Video recordings of sessions from the 2018 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference, which was held on October 20-23, 2018 in Denver, CO, are now available to conference participants via [NWRPCA's Learning Vault](#) (login required).

To learn more about this conference, please visit the CHAMPS [Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage. For directions on accessing recordings in the Learning Vault, please click [here](#).

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## 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](#).*

### Register Now: 2019 Next Level Skills for CHC Managers and Supervisors Training

CHAMPS and NWRPCA will host the **Next Level Skills for CHC Managers and Supervisors (NLS) Training**, a step up from the [CORE Competency Training](#), March 19-20 in Seattle, WA. This course begins with a review of crucial skills needed to hire, coach, retain, and manage others. Participants will then move to higher-level learning for managing conflict with employees, patients, and peers; understanding basic financial concepts important for decision making and skillful management; and utilizing strategies for circumventing or avoiding burnout in themselves and others. In addition, the course includes the popular “Staying Legally Compliant While Managing Employees” session which provides up-to-date legal information and allows participants to ask practical questions related to this critical and ever-changing arena. This course contains a balance of face-to-face, virtual, group, and one-on-one educational and networking components and will be led by Lisa Mouscher, CEO and Lead Consultant at Sogence Training and Consulting. The course fee is \$699 for CHAMPS/NWRPCA Members and \$950 for Non-Members.

*To learn more about the training and to register, visit the CHAMPS [Leadership Learning Opportunities](#) webpage.*

*Visit the [CHAMPS Organizational Members](#) webpage to see if your organization is a current member.*

*Questions about this training?*

*Contact the [CHAMPS Programs Coordinator, Workforce & Communications](#).*

### Now Available: CHAMPS 2018 Health Center Provider Productivity Report



In early January 2019 CHAMPS released the first of two companions to the 2018 Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Report which was made available in November 2018. The **[2018 Region VIII Health Center Provider Productivity Expectations Report](#)** includes information about health center expectations for weekly hours, administrative vs. patient contact hours ratio, and completed visits for full-time Medical Directors, Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Dental Directors, Dentists, Behavioral Health Directors, Psychologists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers/Licensed Professional Counselors/Marriage and Family Therapists, Psychiatrists, and Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners. The report also presents information about standard patient panel sizes for these providers. NEW in 2018, participating health centers were asked to identify their level of behavioral health integration, to help CHAMPS assess if those levels impacted the results in any way. Breakdowns of data by behavioral health integration level, as well as by health center size (as indicated by the number of employed Full-Time Equivalents/FTEs), are presented throughout the report. A second companion report, the 2018 Region VIII Health Center Clinical Staffing Report, will be released later this spring.

*Copies of this report 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 an electronic version of this report in the [Members Only](#) section of the CHAMPS website (posted on the [Salary Survey Reports](#) page; username/password required).*

*Don't miss the related **2018 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data** webcast beginning at 11:30AM MT / 12:30PM CT on March 21, 2019. See page 5 for more details.*

*Please contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development and Member Services Director](#) with any questions.*

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### Register Now: CHAMPS 2018 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data Webcast

Stay tuned for the upcoming CHAMPS 2018 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data Webcast: Understanding and Utilizing Statistics from the CHAMPS Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Project on Thursday March 21, 2019, from 11:30AM-1:00PM MT / 12:30PM-2:00PM CT. This distance learning event will discuss the region-wide survey that CHAMPS sent to Region VIII's health centers in the spring and summer of 2018 and will explain the history and methodology of the project. The webinar, hosted by Andrea Martin, CHAMPS Workforce Development and Member Services Director, will also highlight findings relating to salaries and benefits for all health center staff including a look at base vs. additional pay and the structure of health center benefits packages. The event will also address trends in additional workforce metrics such as vacancies, turnover, and challenging areas of recruitment and retention.



To learn more about the event, visit the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage. For questions, contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Workforce & Communications](#).

Registration is Now Open for the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN)  
**Building Skills for Effective Teams (BSET) Training!**

BSET focuses on expanding leadership expertise, interpersonal knowledge, and emotional intelligence needed to confidently function within integrated teams and quality improvement.

Participation is open to health centers from across Region VIII.  
Visit CCHN's [BSET](#) webpage to learn more.

### 2019 NHSC Loan Repayment Applications Due

The following National Health Service Corps Repayment (NHSC) applications are now open:

- ★ [2019 NHSC Loan Repayment Program](#)
  - Licensed Primary Care clinicians have the opportunity to receive loan repayment assistance through this program. In exchange for loan repayment, clinicians will serve at least two years at an NHSC-approved site in a designated [Health Professional Shortage Area \(HPSA\)](#). The application is due February 21, 2019 at 5:30PM MT / 6:30PM CT.
- ★ [2019 NHSC Substance Use Disorder \(SUD\) Workforce Loan Repayment Program](#)
  - The most effective treatment for opioid addiction is a comprehensive approach that incorporates medication and behavioral health counseling. This program supports the recruitment and retention of health professionals needed in underserved areas to expand access to SUD treatment and prevent overdose deaths. The application is due February 21, 2019 at 5:30PM MT / 6:30PM CT.
- ★ **New Expansion:** Indian, Tribal and Urban Indian Health Clinics Funding
  - In FY 2019, the NHSC Loan Repayment Program will dedicate an additional \$15 million for awards to clinicians working at Indian Health Service facilities, Tribally-Operated 638 Health Programs, and Urban Indian Health Programs. Clinicians can still qualify and apply for the LRP even if their NHSC site has a HPSA score that would normally be too low to be qualified for NHSC funding. To verify if a current or potential employer is an NHSC-approved site, search the [Health Workforce Connector](#). Clinicians should apply via the regular online application for this expanded funding opportunity.

To learn more about each program and to apply, visit the NHSC [Loan Repayment](#) webpage.

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## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### Coming Soon: 2019 Region VIII Recruitment & Retention Survey

Watch out for the CHAMPS 2019 Region VIII Health Center Recruitment & Retention (R&R) Survey, to be distributed to all Region VIII Health Center staff in mid-February 2019. Developed in collaboration with Region VIII State Primary Care Associations (SPCAs), this project will produce vital information for strengthening and enhancing the successful recruitment and retention strategies that are currently implemented by the region's health centers, and support the development of new and innovative ways to address recruitment and retention challenges and changes. A report of these findings is scheduled to be released by Summer 2019.

*To learn more about the survey and download a copy of a previous R&R Survey Report from 2011, visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage. For questions, contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Workforce & Communications](#).*

### 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:**
  - [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](#)
  - [CHAMPS 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](#)
- ★ **CHAMPS/NWRPCA Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers (MSAW) and their Families Uniform Data System (UDS) Reporting Series:**
  - [It's Not Too Early to be Thinking About 2018 UDS Reporting for Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers and their Families](#)
  - [Nuts and Bolts to Identifying Migratory and Seasonal Agricultural Workers and their Families in Your Health Center](#)
- ★ **CHAMPS/Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU) Workforce Development Series:**
  - [Recruiting Behavioral Health and Oral Health Staff in an Integrated Care Model](#)
  - [Assessing Organizational Readiness for Change](#)
  - [What You Need to Know About Area Health Education Centers \(AHECs\)](#)
- ★ **CHAMPS/CCHN Team-Based Care Distance Learning Series:**
  - [Strategies for Maximizing Use of the Care Team](#)
  - [Effective Team Communication with the Patient in Mind](#)
  - [Integrating Motivational Interviewing into Clinic Workflows](#)
  - [Spreading and Sustaining Team-Based Care](#)
  - [The Role of Place in Team-Based Care](#)
  - [Utilizing Data Effectively to Advance Team-Based Care](#)
- ★ **Additional Workforce Development Events:**
  - [CHAMPS Best Practices for Supporting Veterans in Your Organization](#)
  - [CHAMPS/CCHN Strategies for Developing Community Partnerships](#)



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

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# MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS

*Providing professional, administrative, and educational support to all clinicians who practice in Region VIII health centers to ensure the delivery of the highest possible quality of care to poor and underserved populations. Learn more [here](#).*

## CHAMPS Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals

Register today for the annual CHAMPS **Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals**, to be held April 12-15, 2019 in Denver, CO. This popular event, offered in partnership with Denver Medical Society (DMS), provides medical Spanish language training for clinicians and clinical support staff at Region VIII health centers. This four-day course is an intensive, conversational, and medical Spanish workshop consisting of medical dialogues, role-plays, visual aids, cross-cultural discussions, and daily practice. The course curriculum provides an experience of immersion learning, an approach that is highly suitable for those with limited time, and who must use their new language skills immediately with their Spanish-speaking patients.

The course fee is \$649 for CHAMPS and/or DMS Members and \$799 for Non-Members and includes Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit. The registration deadline is March 25, 2019, or when registration is full. Register early, this class fills up quickly!

*For more information and to register, please visit the CHAMPS [Events & Trainings](#) webpage. Visit the [CHAMPS Organizational Members](#) webpage to see if your organization is a current member.*

## CHAMPS/RMPHTC Advanced Population Health Practices for Colorectal Cancer Screening Community of Practice

CHAMPS and Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center (RMPHTC) have collaborated to bring a new type of learning opportunity to Region VIII health centers: Communities of Practice (COP). Communities of Practice focus on building awareness around specific topic areas. Participants meet regularly, via the Zoom video platform, for ongoing conversations while building a professional network for continued learning and support. COP sessions are less structured than ECHO Learning Communities and much of the content is driven by the participants. The **Advanced Population Health Practices for Colorectal Cancer Screening COP** will allow health center quality improvement (QI) staff to think beyond the basics and meet with peers to discuss ongoing and emerging needs in QI. This series will focus on colorectal cancer screening as the metric of discussion, but the strategies and conversations that occur will likely apply to quality improvement programs more broadly. COP sessions will be held on the first Thursday of each month at 1:00PM-2:00PM MT / 2:00PM-3:00PM CT. The series begins on February 7, 2019 and will run through June 6, 2019. New registrants are welcome even after the series begins.

*To learn more about and register for the CHAMPS/RMPHTC Advanced Population Health Practices for Colorectal Cancer Screening Community of Practice, please visit the CHAMPS [Project ECHO](#) webpage.*

## Now Archived: CHAMPS 2019 Substance Use Disorder Webcasts

Did you miss last month's distance learning events on substance use disorders? Free archived recordings are now available online!

- ★ "The Opioid Crisis in Region VIII: Everything You Wanted to Know but were Afraid to Ask" provides a concise overview of the opioid crisis, including data on recent trends in opioid use and mortality across the mountain/plains states, factors that caused the epidemic, the costs associated with opioid use, and recent legislative actions to address this crisis.
- ★ "Addressing Stigma Against Patients with Substance Use Disorders: Individual and Institutional Strategies" explores the definition of stigma, the development of stigma against people who use drugs, and how it can be confronted at both the systems level and within clinical settings.

*To access the archived recordings and handouts for these events, please visit the [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.*

### Listen to the New CHAMPS Substance Use Disorder Best and Promising Practices Podcast Series

Late last year, CHAMPS kicked off a new podcast series featuring interviews with staff at health centers across Region VIII who are addressing substance use disorders (SUDs) in their communities in innovative and interesting ways. In the first two of these 30-minute conversations, providers at Salud Family Health Centers in Colorado and at RiverStone Health in Montana touch on topics including Medication Assisted Treatment, behavioral health integration, and community collaboration. These episodes are designed for anyone interested in or currently working to address substance use disorders, from health center staff, students, and board members to those at partner organizations or Primary Care Associations. Episodes may be downloaded as MP3 files on the CHAMPS website, and typed transcriptions are also available. More episodes are currently in production; please sign up for the CHAMPS [Clinicians Listserv](#) to receive email updates when new episodes are posted.



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

*Interested in sharing what your health center is doing to address substance use disorders? Contact the CHAMPS [Program Specialist, Substance Use Disorder](#) to discuss participation in this series.*

**Stay up to date with all the latest news and CHAMPS offerings and resources through the CHAMPS [LinkedIn Company Page](#)!**

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## OUTREACH & ENROLLMENT NEWS

*Assisting health centers and Primary Care Associations with outreach and enrollment efforts to increase patients accessing care at health centers across Region VIII. Learn more [here](#).*

### After OE6 and Medicaid Enrollment



Open Enrollment Six (OE6) officially ended in Region VIII on Tuesday, January 15 when Colorado, Region VIII's only State-Based Marketplace (SBM), finished their Open Enrollment Period (OEP). With Open Enrollment over, the next steps in Outreach & Enrollment work begins. This involves communicating with consumers about paying their first month's premiums, how to use their health insurance, Special Enrollment Periods (SEPs) options, and Medicaid Enrollment.

Regarding health insurance acquired or updated during OE6, some important steps for consumers are as follows. First, for consumers to keep the insurance they gained during Open Enrollment, it is critical that they pay their premiums each month. Second, they should review their insurance card and their Summary of Benefits and Coverage to better understand their plan. Third, they should choose a primary care doctor – preferably at a health center – and schedule an annual checkup. Finally, they should report any changes in household that might affect the health insurance.

Beyond Marketplace enrollment, consumers may qualify for an SEP if they experience a loss of coverage or other life-changing events. Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) allow enrollment year-round.

*To learn more, visit CHAMPS' [Outreach & Enrollment Tips and Tools](#) webpage. To learn more about SEP, check out the Loop [SEP Fact Sheet](#).*



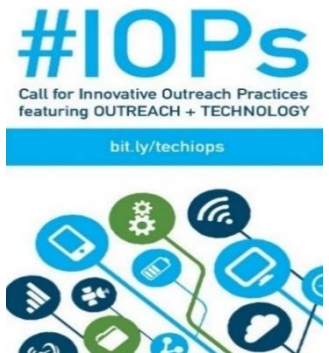
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## OUTREACH & ENROLLMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### Call for Innovative Outreach Practices Featuring Outreach and Technology

Submitted by Diana Lieu, Health Outreach Partners

Health Outreach Partners' (HOP) 2019 Innovative Outreach Practices Report will focus on practices that leverage technology to support outreach. Do you or staff at your health center use technology in your communities? Is there an app that has transformed your work? Do your clients love the technology you use to reach or communicate with them? Let HOP feature you in their next report. Visit the [Innovative Outreach Practices Report](#) webpage to learn more or submit a practice.



### Texas vs. United States Case

On Friday, December 14, 2018, District Court Judge Reed O'Connor released his ruling that the entirety of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is unconstitutional. This news has garnered much attention and added to confusion around enrollment and the ACA. Therefore, it is important to communicate that the ACA is still the law of the land and that recently enrolled people should pay their premiums and expect coverage for 2019. The [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](#) released a [statement](#) affirming that "HHS will continue administering and enforcing all aspects of the ACA."

Currently, attorneys general in 16 states and Washington, D.C. are [challenging the decision and working to appeal the decision](#) to the Fifth Circuit. Despite this news, there is still a lot at risk as this lawsuit makes its way through the courts. If the decision is upheld, it would eliminate the ACA in its entirety impacting nearly every American. By ending Medicaid expansion, removing the insurance subsidies for low-income people, requiring seniors to pay more for prescription drugs under Medicare, allowing insurers to deny coverage for pre-existing conditions, eliminating the provision allowing young people to stay on their parents' plan until they are 26 years old, and other changes, this would alter the insurance landscape drastically. It is estimated that approximately [12 million people could lose coverage gained through Medicaid expansion and 8 million people would lose access to subsidies](#) that allow them to purchase insurance on the individual marketplace.

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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.](#)*

### Colorado Coalition for the Homeless – We Will Remember 2018 Homeless Death Review

Friday, December 21, 2018 was Homeless Persons' Memorial Day. The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, which operates the Stout Street Clinic in Denver, CO, published [We Will Remember 2018: Homeless Death Review](#), a report containing information to help shape understanding of demographics of homelessness and death in Colorado. It notes the intersection of experiences that can result in death for people experiencing homelessness – including environmental, mental and physical health, substance use disorders, and violence. According to the report, the primary cause of death for this population was drug overdose, followed by blunt and sharp force trauma. As health centers continue to serve this vulnerable population, it is critical to understand the challenge to meeting health disparities that affect this group.

*To read the full report, click [here](#).  
For more resources on individuals experiencing homelessness, visit the CHAMPS [Homeless and Public Housing Resources](#) webpage.*

### New Access Points Funding Opportunity Now Available

HRSA has announced the availability of approximately \$50 million to support New Access Points (NAP) Awards, in order to aid delivery of primary health care services for underserved and vulnerable populations under the Health Center Program. These funds will provide operational support for new full-time, permanent delivery sites across the country. Applications are due to [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by Tuesday, March 12 (9:59PM MT / 10:59PM CT), and HRSA's Electronic Handbooks by Thursday, April 11 (3:00PM MT / 4:00PM CT). HRSA expects to make approximately 75 awards in September 2019.

Who Can Apply:

- ★ Organizations not currently receiving Health Center Program funding, including look-alikes.
- ★ Organizations currently receiving Health Center Program funding that are proposing to establish new service delivery site(s).

*Read the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) to learn more.*

*Visit the [NAP Technical Assistance](#) webpage for additional resources, including information about Unmet Need Scores (UNS) and the Service Area Needs Assessment Methodology (SANAM).*

#### Additional Funding Opportunities

- ★ [Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention \(NEPQR\)–Veteran Nurses in Primary Care \(VNPC\) Training Program](#) (due March 8)
- ★ [Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part C Capacity Development Program](#) (due March 22)
- ★ [SBIRT Program for Women of Reproductive Age Misusing Opioids in Rural Primary Care Settings](#) (due March 29)

### The Participation Project

The Participation Project, adopted by Community Resource Center (CRC), helps nonprofit organizations become inclusive and civic programs. In 2018, the Participation Project supported 13 nonprofits across Colorado and engaged 2,670 clients and individuals across 15 counties to register and pledge to vote for the midterm elections. A few of the partners were the following Region VIII health centers: Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, Metro Community Provider Network, Salud Family Health Centers, Sunrise Community Health, and Peak Vista Community Health Centers. On National Voter Registration Day (NVRD), September 26, the CRC and its partners including the Region VIII health centers listed above had the most successful NVRD, with 85 registration forms and 429 pledge to vote cards collected.

*To learn more about the Participation Project and advocacy, visit the [Community Resource Center](#) webpage and the CHAMPS [Voter Registration and Ballot Measure Advocacy Resources](#) webpage.*

### Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)

#### “Money as You Grow” Program

*Submitted by ThinkNow Research on behalf of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau*

Do you work with medical staff in pediatrics and family medicine? Can you speak about decisions that are made in your department regarding programs offered to families? If you answered **Yes** to these questions, please consider participating in a market research study from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). This study invites applicable participants to provide perspective on how their organization interacts with the families served, needs and concerns about their children's development, and what resources and materials are currently offered to these families. The purpose of this research is to improve how CFPB shares and distributes information about the [Money as You Grow](#) program so that it can better help parents and caregivers teach their children valuable money skills. Participants need to complete one 30-minute phone interview, scheduled at your convenience with the market research firm – ThinkNow Research, contracted by CFPB.

*If interested in participating or have any questions, please contact [jannet@thinknowresearch.com](mailto:jannet@thinknowresearch.com).*

### Geiger Gibson Healthy Policy Fellow Program

Apply to become a 2019 Health Policy Fellow with the Geiger Gibson Program! The Geiger Gibson Program is designed for mid-level and senior health center, Primary Care Association (PCA), and Health Center Controlled Network (HCCN) staff to develop a deeper understanding of health policy and advocacy as well as obtain analytical skills to bring further value to their own organization's advocacy efforts.

The program will provide a series of web-based sessions, leading up to a three-day residential session in Washington, D.C., providing participants with an experience in federal health policy and policymaking, along with developing positions to engage in advocacy. Potential participants can apply for the April 2019 (limited spots remaining, rolling admission) or October 2019 (applications due March 15) cohorts.

*To learn more and to apply, visit the [Geiger Gibson Healthy Policy Fellow Program](#) webpage.*

### Elena Thomas Faulkner Becomes New NIMAA CEO

*Submitted by Maureen Maxwell, Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN)*



Elena Thomas Faulkner is the new CEO of the National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement (NIMAA). She joins NIMAA from Clínica Tepeyac where she served as Chief Strategy Officer. She will be based in NIMAA's Denver office.

Prior to her work with Clínica Tepeyac, one of Colorado's Community Health Centers, Thomas Faulkner spent more than a decade with John Snow, Inc. (JSI) where she developed projects related to the health care safety net, access to care, capacity building, and payment reform. Before working at JSI, she held leadership positions at Colorado Community Health Network. She has worked extensively within and on issues of importance to underserved communities.

### Health and Human Services and Industry Release Voluntary Cybersecurity Practices for the Health Industry

In response to a mandate set by the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 Section 405(d) to create practical cybersecurity guidelines to cost effectively reduce cybersecurity risks for the healthcare industry, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in partnership with Industry has released the [Health Industry Cybersecurity Practices \(HICP\): Managing Threats and Protecting Patients](#) publication. The resource raises awareness for executives, health care practitioners, providers, and health delivery organizations, such as hospitals and is applicable to health organizations of all types and sizes across the industry.

The publication consists of four volumes:

- ★ The Main document of the publication explores the five most relevant and current threats to the industry and recommends 10 Cybersecurity Practices to help mitigate these threats.
- ★ Technical Volume 1 discusses these 10 cybersecurity practices for small healthcare organizations. It is intended for IT and IT security professionals.
- ★ Technical Volume 2 discusses these 10 cybersecurity practices for medium and large healthcare organizations. It is intended for IT and IT security professionals.
- ★ Resources and Templates provides additional resources and materials that organizations can leverage to develop policies and procedures as well as assess their own cybersecurity posture, through a Cybersecurity Practices Assessment Toolkit.

*To learn more visit HHS' [Public Health Emergency](#) website.  
To request a copy of the Toolkit, email HHS at [CISA405d@hhs.gov](mailto:CISA405d@hhs.gov).*

Missed the **HRSA BPHC All-Programs Webcast** on January 29, 2019? Watch it [here](#).  
Be sure to sign up for HRSA [Email Updates](#) to be alerted  
of future All-Programs Webcasts and other upcoming events.

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### 2018 UDS Reporting is Open

Access to report Uniform Data System (UDS) data for the 2018 calendar year is now available to health centers through HRSA's Electronic Handbooks (EHBs). All health centers supported by HRSA are required to submit complete and accurate UDS reports and will be assigned to a UDS reviewer upon successful submission. There have been UDS reporting changes, which can be viewed [here](#).

The 2018 UDS manual is available on HRSA's website along with other helpful resources to complete a thorough and accurate report. The manual contains an introduction to UDS, instructions for how to complete each table, and information on how to submit the data through HRSA's EHBs. Other resources include webinars, trainings, crosswalks, and other technical assistances to submitting the UDS data correctly. **All submissions are due by Friday, February 15, 2019.**

To read the 2018 UDS manual and to learn more about UDS reporting, visit HRSA's [UDS](#) webpage. To review CHAMPS' Region VIII UDS Summaries, visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.

### Region VIII in the News

- ★ **Community Health Partners:** [Future of Montana Medicaid Expansion Uncertain as HELP Act Sunset Nears](#) (*Missoula Current*, November 4)
- ★ **Peak Vista Community Health Centers:** [Around Town: Olympian Apolo Ohno Cheers on the Peak Vista Community Health Centers Mission](#) (*The Gazette*, December 2)
- ★ **Community Health Care Center, Inc.:** [Community Health Care Center Receives \\$1.6 Million Grant](#) (*3KRTV*, December 3)
- ★ **Family HealthCare:** [Volunteer Dental Clinic in Limbo After Losing Moorhead Location Serving Hundreds of Low-Income Patients](#) (*West Fargo Pioneer*, December 3)
- ★ **Community Health Centers of Central Wyoming:** [Community Health Center: We Are Your Quick Care](#) (*Oil City News*, December 10)
- ★ **Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH):** [Ask The Expert - Open Enrollment Ends Soon](#) (*2KUTV*, December 11)
- ★ **Falls Community Health:** [Opioids' Impact on the Brain](#) (*Kelo Land*, December 11)
- ★ **RiverStone Health:** [Why I Love Working in a Community Health Center](#) (*AAFP*, December 11)
- ★ **Community Health Center of the Black Hills:** [Mental Health Pod Slated for 2019](#) (*KOTA TV*, December 12)
- ★ **Sheridan Health Services:** [Looking for Affordable, Local Healthcare? Try Sheridan Health Services, a CU Nursing Clinic](#) (*My Prime Time News*, December 12)
- ★ **PureView Health Center:** [Lewis & Clark County Mental Health Advocates Meet with Legislators](#) (*9KXLH*, December 14)
- ★ **Northwest Colorado Health:** [Living Well: Supplemental Sex-Ed Class for High Schoolers Starts Jan. 17](#) (*Craig Press*, December 18)
- ★ **Summit Community Care Clinic:** [Vail Resorts Boosts Mental Health Funding For Mountain Communities](#) (*CBS4*, December 18)
- ★ **Partnership Health Center:** [Mineral County Hails Reopening of Hospital Clinic in Superior](#) (*Missoulian*, December 20)
- ★ **RiverStone Health:** [Crowd Gathers in Billings on Longest Night to Remember Homeless Who Have Died](#) (*Billings Gazette*, December 21)
- ★ **Stout Street Clinic – Colorado Coalition for the Homeless:** [Clear Night, Bright Candles: A Memorial And Vigil For Denver's Homeless](#) (*Colorado Public Radio*, December 21)
- ★ **Axis Health System:** [Volunteers Laid Foundation for Successful Homeless Shelter in Cortez](#) (*The Durango Herald*, December 22)
- ★ **Northwest Community Health Center:** [CHC Annual Gift Giving](#) (*The Western News*, December 25)
- ★ **RiverStone Health:** [RiverStone Volunteers Log 4,350 Hours](#) (*Billings Gazette*, December 25)
- ★ **Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH):** [Healthcare Roundtable](#) (*Utah Business*, December 26)
- ★ **Valley-Wide Health Systems:** [Health Centers Racing to Jan. 15 Enrollment Deadline](#) (*Public News Service*, December 26)
- ★ **Partnership Health Center:** [Montana Medicaid: Repeal or Expansion? Both Carry Costs](#) (*The Laurel Outlook*, December 27)
- ★ **Peak Vista Community Health Centers:** ['Health Care Desert' of Colorado Springs Getting Much-Needed Clinic](#) (*The Gazette*, January 8)
- ★ **RiverStone Health:** [5 at RiverStone Health Earn Certificates of Public Health](#) (*KPVI*, January 27)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## February

**CHAMPS/RMPHTC Community of Practice (COP):  
Advanced Population Health Practices for  
Colorectal Cancer Screening**

Thursday, February 7, 2019  
1:00PM-2:00PM MT / 2:00PM-3:00PM CT

**Region VIII Healthcare for the Homeless Grantee  
Collaborative Call**

Wednesday, February 20, 2019  
11:30AM-12:30PM MT / 12:30PM-1:30PM CT

**NACHC 2019 Financial Operations Management,  
Level I (FOM 1)**

February 20-22, 2019  
Seattle, WA



## March

**CHAMPS/RMPHTC Community of Practice (COP):  
Advanced Population Health Practices for  
Colorectal Cancer Screening**

Thursday, March 7, 2019  
1:00PM-2:00PM MT / 2:00PM-3:00PM CT

**CHAMPS/NWRPCA Next Level Skills for CHC  
Managers and Supervisors**

March 19-20, 2019  
Seattle, WA

**CHAMPS 2018 Region VIII Health Center  
Workforce Data Webcast**

Thursday, March 21, 2019  
11:30AM-1:00PM MT / 12:30PM-2:00PM CT

**Public Health Preparedness Summit 2019: The  
Evolving Threat Environment**

March 26-29, 2019  
St. Louis, MO

## April

**CHAMPS/RMPHTC Community of Practice (COP):  
Advanced Population Health Practices for  
Colorectal Cancer Screening**

Thursday, April 4, 2019  
1:00PM-2:00PM MT / 2:00PM-3:00PM CT

**CHAMPS Spanish Language Training**

April 12-15, 2019  
Denver, CO



**Newsletter Contributors:** Jen Anderson, Andrea Martin, Rachel Steinberg, Helen Vernier, Yael Holzman Castellands, Diana Lieu, Maureen Maxwell, ThinkNow Research

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.

## Looking ahead:

**2019 MPCA Annual Training**

May 1-2, 2019  
Butte, MT

**CHAMPS/RMPHTC Community of Practice  
(COP): Advanced Population Health Practices  
for Colorectal Cancer Screening**

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

**CHAD Annual Conference**

May 7-8, 2019  
Fargo, ND

**Conference for Agricultural Worker Health**

May 6-8, 2019  
Albuquerque, NM

**CCHN May 2019 Triannual**

May 9, 2019  
Colorado Springs, CO

**Region VIII Healthcare for the Homeless  
Grantee Collaborative Call**

Wednesday, May 15, 2019  
11:30AM-12:30PM MT / 12:30PM-1:30PM CT

**AUCH Annual Conference**

May 16-17, 2019  
West Valley City, UT

**WYPCA Rural Health Conference**

June 5-7, 2019  
Laramie, WY

**2019 National Health Care for the Homeless  
Conference & Policy Symposium:  
Working Together for Justice**

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



## CONTACT CHAMPS:

**Julie Hulstein**, Executive Director  
[Julie@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Julie@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9582

**Jennifer Anderson**, Clinical Quality  
Improvement Director  
[Jen@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Jen@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9583

**Andrea Martin**, Workforce Development &  
Member Services Director  
[Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9581

**Rachel Steinberg**, Program Specialist,  
Substance Use Disorder  
[Rachel@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Rachel@CHAMPSonline.org)

**Helen Vernier**, Programs Coordinator,  
Population Health  
[Helen@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Helen@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9544

**Yael Holzman Castellands**, Programs Coordinator,  
Workforce & Communications  
[Yael@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Yael@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9584

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