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Summer 2020 Quarterly Newsletter

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CHAMPS/NWRPCA Virtual Fall Primary Care Conference: Leading in a New Landscape

The CHAMPS/NWRPCA Virtual Primary Care Conference will take place October 19-22, 2020, and [registration](#) is now open! The theme of this year's Fall Primary Care Conference, Leading in a New Landscape, reflects the extraordinary times we are all facing and the exceptional and inspiring leadership of Region 18 Community Health Centers (CHCs). Recent months have demonstrated the ability of CHCs to adapt and innovate to effectively address unforeseen challenges, even in the most uncertain times. This theme honors CHCs and their dedicated staff and board members who continue to lead their organizations and communities with compassion and excellence.



Participants will have the opportunity to attend educational sessions in six tracks: Board Governance/Leadership, Clinical & Care Innovations, Fiscal Optimization, Healthy Communities, Operational Excellence, and Workforce & HR Optimization. The conference will also feature an opening plenary with Jim Macrae and Dr. Luis Padilla from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), special sessions focused on the upcoming election and 340B, Sponsor Lunch & Learns, and roundtable peer-networking sessions. The draft conference schedule with session and speaker information will be released soon.

CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#) qualify for 30%-45% discounts off of regular registration rates (register multiple staff members at one time to maximize discounts), and each Organizational Member health center is entitled to [registration reimbursement](#) for up to two registration fees: one administrative and one clinical.

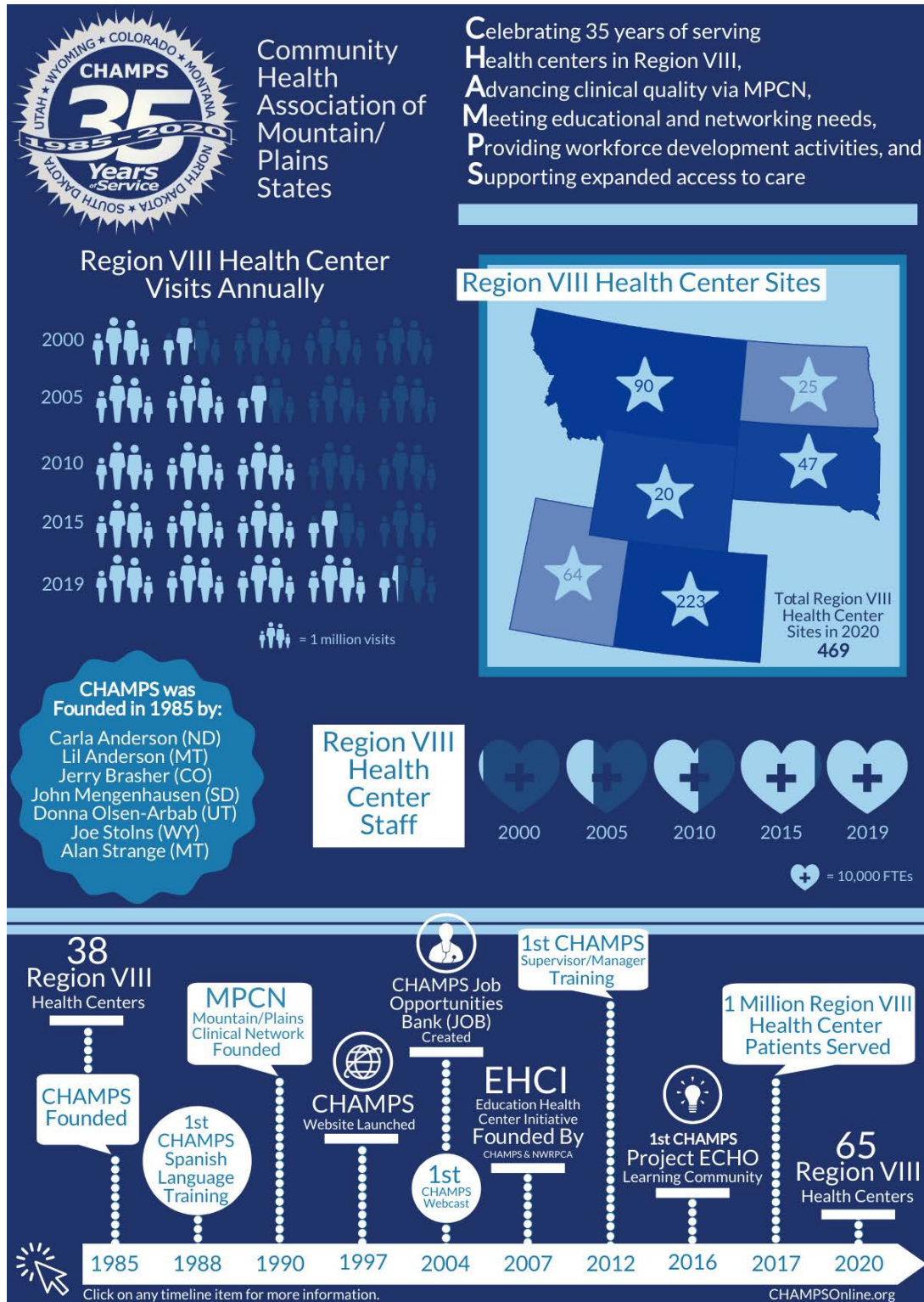
Find the most updated information about the conference by visiting the [CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.

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CHAMPS 35th Anniversary Infographic

CHAMPS is celebrating our 35th Anniversary throughout 2020! Visit the full [CHAMPS Highlights Infographic](#) (pictured below) to learn more about CHAMPS founders, the growth of the health center program in Region VIII since 2000, and for a clickable timeline about CHAMPS' programs since 1985.



- Explore the [Celebrating 35 Years of Service to Region VIII](#) webpage to learn more about CHAMPS history, leadership, and membership.
- ★ [Honoring Our Leaders and Partners](#)
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 - ★ [Looking to the Future](#)

What does CHAMPS mean to you?

Email the [CHAMPS Programs Coordinator, Workforce and Communications](#) with a word or short phrase about CHAMPS and/or the value of a regional association. At the end of our 35th Anniversary year CHAMPS will create and share a word cloud.

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 Salary Survey

Every two years CHAMPS undertakes a Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey of all health centers within Region VIII. Data collection took place throughout the spring and early summer of 2020, and CHAMPS staff are working to analyze the data received. Reports of aggregated data will be distributed beginning in October/November 2020. CHAMPS would like to sincerely thank all the Region VIII health centers that submitted data and our partners at Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) for their help on this project.

If you have any questions regarding the 2020 Salary Survey, please contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development and Member Services Director](#).

CHAMPS COVID-19 Webpage: Employment Resources

The CHAMPS [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Resources](#) webpage, a clearinghouse of materials pertinent to health center staff, operations, and training in the face of COVID-19, includes an [Employment Resources](#) section. This portion of the webpage contains a plethora of information related to staff wellness and remote work including webinars, podcasts, checklists, toolkits, and articles.

If you have any questions regarding the COVID-19 Resources webpage, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Population Health](#).

CHAMPS Sample Job Descriptions Webpage



CHAMPS has compiled samples of job descriptions utilized by health centers to assist with recruitment and Human Resources activities. The CHAMPS [Sample Job Descriptions](#) webpage contains over 200 health center job descriptions for administrative/management, administrative support, behavioral health provider, behavioral health support, dental provider, dental support, medical provider, and medical support positions. Recently added job descriptions include administrative assistant, community health worker, COVID-19 specific care coordinator and tester, HR recruiter, and licensed clinical psychologist.

If you have any questions regarding the Sample Job Descriptions webpage, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Workforce and Communications](#).

CHAMPS Job Opportunities Bank

Is your Region VIII health center or Primary Care Association (PCA) hiring? Post your open positions on the CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank](#) (JOB). JOB is a free resource that can be utilized by any Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY) health center or PCA. CHAMPS staff attend job fairs to promote open positions, and send out a monthly email to prospective employees with recently posted positions from CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#).

If you have an open position you would like added to the CHAMPS Job Opportunities Bank, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Workforce and Communications](#).

If you want to sign up for the CHAMPS monthly JOB email, visit the CHAMPS [Job Bank](#) webpage.

Continuing Education on Your Schedule

Live CHAMPS distance learning events are recorded to give health center staff extra opportunities to enhance professional development, gain clinical knowledge, and learn workforce strategies. View current offerings [here](#).

National Health Service Corps COVID-19 Flexibility

[National Health Service Corps](#) (NHSC) understands that COVID-19 has a direct impact on NHSC clinicians and sites and is providing flexibility to those having difficulty meeting service requirements due to the ongoing pandemic. This includes individuals required to be away from their approved service site for more than the allotted seven weeks per service year, those that become unemployed as a direct result of the outbreak, or when employers direct NHSC participants to provide care outside of an NHSC-approved health care facility.



If you are an NHSC or Nurse Corps participant that has been directly affected by COVID-19, visit the NHSC [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage or contact your program analyst via the Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) [Customer Service Portal](#).

Addressing Workforce Needs in Rural Communities

Submitted by Ali Murray, National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement

The [National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement](#) (NIMAA) was developed to address the need for elevated Medical Assistant (MA) training while simultaneously providing education and employment opportunities in underserved communities, which is particularly important for both students and health centers in rural areas. NIMAA recruits students from within the communities that health centers serve, and this grassroots approach is especially favorable for students who would normally have to travel long distances outside of their hometowns and into cities to participate in quality MA training. This model has proven to work well with NIMAA's newest partner, [Northwest Community Health Center](#), located in Libby, Montana, and with several additional rural Colorado partners.

During COVID-19, there has been increased attention on educational programs that can be delivered remotely and lead to direct employment. NIMAA does exactly that. NIMAA applicants frequently cite the online education model and the ability to fulfill clinical hours near home as reasons they choose NIMAA over other programs. The Montana Primary Care Association saw the value in the NIMAA model and has offered scholarships to several students that will complete their clinical experience at Northwest Community Health Center. NIMAA has also partnered with county workforce centers around the Libby community to provide tuition assistance for students. By partnering with local entities to support student experience and financial assistance, NIMAA reinforces students' connection to their community, a key component for successful rural "grow your own" workforce strategies.

NIMAA is currently accepting new health center partners for the spring and fall 2021 cohorts.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a NIMAA externship organization, please contact [Elena Thomas Faulkner](#).

Summer Updates from the STAR² Center

Submitted by Mariah Blake, Association of Clinicians for the Underserved

The STAR² Center team has been hard at work this summer both planning and producing resources and training opportunities to support recruitment and retention efforts at health centers across the country. In June, the center released the annual update of interactive, individual health center recruitment and retention [Data Profile Dashboards](#) to health center CEOs. This year's update included an upgraded PCA dashboard that will allow [interested PCA teams](#) to view aggregate reports from their states. The team also launched the first episodes of the new [STAR² Center Chats with Workforce Leaders](#) podcast and [new online courses](#) for workforce teams to access and learn from at their own pace. As the STAR² Center looks ahead to the full slate of virtual training opportunities this fall, they hope workforce staff will join their free Wednesday, August 26, 2020 webinar, [Addressing Stigma, Health Disparities, and COVID-19's Role in Affecting Workforce Retention](#), and consider applying to join the [High-Functioning Managers Learning Collaborative](#).

For individual or team technical assistance, please contact info@chcworkforce.org.

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](#).

MPCN Steering Committee Welcomes New Members

The Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) Steering Committee (SC) would like to introduce five new members. Representing Colorado, the SC gains David Gurule, PharmD, and Jonathan Muther, PhD. David is a Clinical Pharmacist from Valley-Wide Health Systems in La Junta, and Jonathan is a Psychologist and Vice President of Medical Services for Salud Family Health Centers, at the Commerce City location. From South Dakota, the Steering Committee welcomes Misty Rudebusch, BSN, PA-C, a Physician Assistant and Medical Director at Horizon Health Care in Howard. Wyoming's newest member is Joseph Davidson, PA-C, a Physician Assistant from Heritage Health Center in Powell. Finally, Betty Housey, RN, from Grand Folks, North Dakota joins the Steering Committee as the Quality Improvement Consultant. Betty is a nurse and the Clinical Director for Spectra Health. MPCN is excited that these clinical leaders have decided to share their expertise and passion for the health center movement with the committee.

MPCN seeks additional clinicians, including behavioral and oral health providers, from Montana and Utah in particular, to serve on the Steering Committee.

If you are interested in joining the MPCN Steering Committee, please visit the CHAMPS [MPCN Steering Committee Members](#) webpage or contact the CHAMPS [Clinical Quality Improvement Director](#).

New CHAMPS Clinical and QI Website Tutorials Available

The CHAMPS website includes a multitude of online tools and resources designed to support Region VIII Health Centers in serving their patients. There are so many resources, it may be difficult to know where to begin. In addition to the CHAMPS overall website tutorial, found on the [CHAMPS Homepage](#), the Clinical Site Tutorial has recently been updated and a Quality Improvement (QI) Site Tutorial has been newly created to share more details about the types of tools and resources available to clinical and quality improvement staff.

*To view the Clinical Site Tutorial, please visit the CHAMPS [Clinical Resources](#) webpage.
To view the new QI Site Tutorial, please visit the CHAMPS [Quality Improvement Resources](#) webpage.
To view all available Site Tutorials, please visit the [CHAMPS Website Tutorials](#) webpage.*

New SUD Podcast Episodes



The second and third episodes of the second season of podcasts in the [CHAMPS Substance Use Disorder Interview Series](#) are now available!

Episode two features an interview with Jillian Adams, MSW, the Director of Strategic Initiatives at Illuminate Colorado. Ms. Adams discusses the Colorado Perinatal Substance Use Provider Toolkit and how health care providers and staff can successfully use it to improve their practice.

The third episode features an interview with Brett Kessler, DDS, practicing dentist, Trustee, 14th District to the American Dental Association. Dr. Kessler discusses the role oral health care providers can play in addressing patient substance use as well as the complexities of substance use among health care professionals.

To download and listen to these episodes, read the transcripts, and access the additional resources, please visit the CHAMPS [Podcasts](#) webpage.

Healthy People 2030

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services set more than 350 measurable goals, including social determinants for the first time, in its new 10-year plan called Healthy People 2030 unveiled August 18, 2020.

Read the plan [here](#).

CHAMPS COVID-19 Webpage: Telehealth Resources

The CHAMPS [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Resources](#) webpage, a clearinghouse of resources pertinent to health center staff, operations, and training in the face of COVID-19, includes a [Telehealth Practice Resources](#) section that is filled with telehealth information for general practice, behavioral health, primary care, and teledentistry.

If you have any questions regarding the COVID-19 Resources webpage, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Population Health](#).

Region VIII Data Summaries

CHAMPS is pleased to offer a series of documents summarizing Region VIII demographic and health data pulled from numerous sources including census data, national surveys on health behaviors, and vital statistics.

The summaries provide a region-wide compilation of population-based health trends. By offering state, regional, and national side-by-side data on socio-economic information, lifestyle issues, and morbidity and mortality rates, the summary charts can be used for creating community needs assessments, program and service development, and quality improvement efforts.



To access the Demographics, Health Behaviors, Mortality, and Women's Health Data Summaries, please visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.

Archives Now Available:

CHAMPS/WMT AHEC Building Resiliency Skills— Walking Together Towards Healing in a Time of Collective Loss

Throughout May 2020, Region VIII Health Center and Primary Care Association (PCA) staff attended a series of four 60-minute interactive learning sessions focused on building individual resiliency skills. Recordings of the didactic portion of each of those sessions are now available on the CHAMPS website. Topics include: Understanding the Impact of Collective Loss, Trauma and Resiliency, The Mindful Present, and Positive Psychology in Difficult Times.

To view these archived sessions, please visit the CHAMPS [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

Archive Now Available: CHAMPS 2020 Immunization Update

On June 4, 2020 CHAMPS hosted 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), addressed the 2020 vaccine schedules and the latest recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

To view this recorded event, please visit the CHAMPS [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

HRSA Immunization Toolkit

As a part of National Immunization Awareness month, HRSA is urging health centers to “catch up and get ahead” on childhood immunizations after the decline in well-child visits and routine vaccination rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sites might consider improving access by extending hours, informing parents of COVID-19 precautions, communicating the importance of childhood vaccines, and using the [Catch-Up and Get Ahead Toolkit](#) social media messages and graphics.

Wyoming Primary Care Association's PCMH Summit III

Submitted by Brenda Burnett, Wyoming Primary Care Association



The Wyoming Primary Care Association's (WYPCA) Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Summit III is nearly here. Registration is open to all interested parties for this no cost, virtual National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) PCMH training sponsored by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), scheduled for September 14–18, 2020. The curriculum includes both the Introduction to PCMH and Advanced PCMH programs. Learners will receive continuing education credits or maintenance of certification credits for NCQA's PCMH Certified Content Experts™ (CCE).

To learn more about this opportunity, review the agenda, or register, please visit the WYPCA [PCMH Summit III](#) webpage. Still have questions? Please contact [Brenda Burnett](#).

New Four-Part COVID-19 Series in Spanish for Community Health Workers/Promotores

Submitted by Claire Hutkins Seda, Migrant Clinicians Network

Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) invites Community Health Workers and promotores de salud to a new four-part ECHO series on COVID-19. The series, conducted entirely in Spanish, will take place virtually on September 8, 15, 22, and 29, starting at 1:00PM MT / 2:00PM CT.

Sessions in this series include What Health Care Providers Need to Know: Updates on COVID-19, Risks and Prevention in the Workplace, Testing, Immunization, & Contact Tracing, and Psychosocial Support with MCN's Witness to Witness.



To learn more about this series, please visit MCN's [Project ECHO](#) webpage.

HEALTH EQUITY NEWS

Assisting Primary Care Associations and health centers in pursuing health equity and addressing health disparities by affecting the social determinants of health in their communities. Learn more [here](#).

CHAMPS COVID-19 Webpage: Specific Population Resources

The CHAMPS [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Resources](#) webpage, a clearinghouse of materials pertinent to health center staff, operations, and training in the face of COVID-19, includes a [Specific Populations Resources](#) section that contains information both for people who are part of those populations, and for people serving those populations. The ever-expanding section includes information on children and pregnant people, elderly people, immigrants, incarcerated, justice-involved, and re-entry populations, LGBTQ+ people, Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers (MSAWs) and their Families, people with substance use disorders, rural communities, and many more.

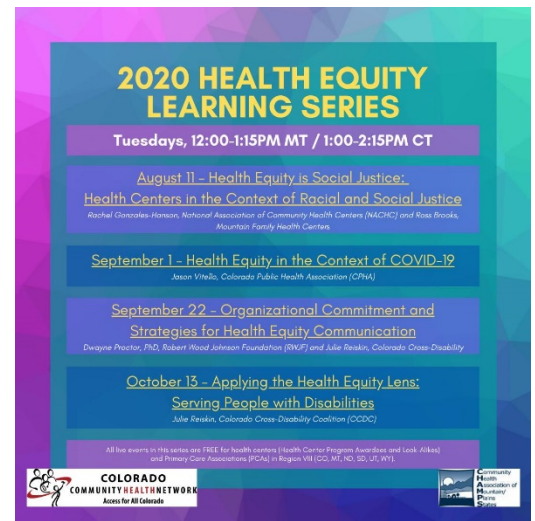
If you have any questions regarding the COVID-19 Resources webpage, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Population Health](#).

CCHN/CHAMPS Health Equity Learning Series Underway

The four-part CCHN/CHAMPS 2020 Health Equity Learning Series is designed to introduce all levels of staff to the Community Health Center Movement's position and continued efforts in the journey towards a more equitable and just health system. Participants will come away from the series with a greater understanding of the organizational and personal positions in this work as well as a few strategies to assist moving the work forward. Join for any one session or the whole series. All live events in this series are free for health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) in Region VIII.

The first session, Health Equity is Social Justice: Health Centers in the Context of Racial and Social Justice, was held on August 11. The remaining sessions take place on Tuesdays from 12:00-1:15PM MT/1:00-2:15PM CT, including:

- ★ September 1: Health Equity in the Context of COVID-19
- ★ September 22: Organizational Commitment and Strategies for Health Equity Communication
- ★ October 13: Applying the Health Equity Lens: Serving People with Disabilities



For more information and to register for sessions in the series, please visit the CHAMPS [Upcoming Distance Learning Series Events webpage](#).

To access a recording of the first session, please visit the CHAMPS [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events webpage](#).

New CHAMPS Region VIII Health Equity Digest

CHAMPS has launched a new quarterly email digest, the Region VIII Health Equity Digest, which is designed to assist Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) in addressing health inequities. The digest focuses on health disparities, obstacles to health, social determinants of health, programs and resources to help close the gaps, and more. The first issue was emailed in July 2020.

To subscribe to the CHAMPS Region VIII Health Equity Digest, please click [here](#). For more information, please visit the CHAMPS [Region VIII Health Equity Digest Archive webpage](#).

Racial Justice—The Health Center Role

CHAMPS stands in solidarity with, and steadfast support of, those who seek and are committed to equity and justice.

Recent events have highlighted the structural inequities, injustices, and racism that Community Health Centers have long sought to address. Community Health Centers are, at their core, rooted in social justice: the Community Health Center Movement began in the 1960s as part of the Civil Rights Movement with the mission of eliminating health disparities and ensuring the availability of quality health care for all—including, and especially, for the most underserved, disadvantaged, and disenfranchised.

Over fifty years later, the mission of Community Health Centers (CHCs) is more critical than ever. The CHC Movement must not only continue to fulfill its essential role, but also act as an agent of change and advance the fight against social inequalities and racism. There will only be true healing, and individuals and communities will only be truly healthy, once social injustice and discrimination are addressed.

CHAMPS is incredibly grateful to support the meaningful and necessary work of CHCs in Region VIII—now more than ever. We sincerely thank you for your inspirational and impactful work, and for all you do that is helping to bring about a more peaceful, healthy, and equitable world.

Structural Competency: A Framework to Analyze and Address Social Determinants of Health and Health Disparities

Submitted by Cynthia Selmi, Health Outreach Partners

Health center efforts to advance health equity and address health disparities must include an analysis of the structural factors—social, economic, and political systems—that impact the health and quality of life of their patients and communities. Approaches related to cultural competency and social determinants of health are touted as effective ways to explain and address health disparities. Yet, they are limited and often do not include an analysis of the root causes of poverty and inequities, which are largely due to policies, systems, and social hierarchies of structural racism, power, and privilege. In this workshop, participants will be introduced to the Structural Competency framework and related key concepts, including defining and discussing structural racism, structural violence and vulnerability. Participants will develop a broader understanding of structures and have a lens and shared language to use in order to be better advocates for their patients and communities.

To access these webinars, please visit Health Outreach Partner's [Webinars](#) webpage. If you have questions, please contact [Cynthia Selmi](#).

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

Health Center Advocacy Opportunities

The COVID-19 pandemic has proven to be a time of critical advocacy for health centers. With funding challenges, 340B changes, public charge litigation, and more, there is no time like the present to become a health center advocate. The National Association of Community Health Centers' (NACHC) Health Center Advocacy Network (HCAAdvocacy) offers advocates updates on current issues impacting health centers, and opportunities to show legislators their support for this critical safety net. Visit the [HCAAdvocacy homepage](#) to learn more about the role health center staff and supporters can play in advocating for health centers.

Additionally, health centers can be a powerful place for civic engagement by registering patients to vote. [Community Health Vote](#) is an organization that wants to support health centers in establishing non-partisan voter registration as one of the services they provide to their patients and communities on an ongoing basis. Their [tools and resources](#) include state-by-state voter information, webinars and video tutorials, sample scripts, and more.

Finally, the 2020 Census is a critical effort that translates directly into health center funding. The U.S. Census Bureau recently moved the deadline for the response and data collection period to September 30, 2020. NACHC has assembled resources to help guide your census efforts [here](#).

To learn more about health centers' vital role in helping their patients register to vote, visit CHAMPS [Voter Registration and Ballot Measure Advocacy Resources](#).

CHAMPS COVID-19 Webpage: State-Specific Resources

The CHAMPS [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Resources](#) webpage, a clearinghouse of resources pertinent to health center staff, operations, and training in the face of COVID-19, includes a [Region VIII State-Specific Resources](#) section. This portion of the webpage contains compiled Region VIII state results from the weekly Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) COVID-19 Health Center Survey as well as resources specific to Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.



If you have any questions regarding the COVID-19 Resources webpage, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Population Health](#).

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

Becoming a NACHC Board Member

Becoming a National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Board Member is an excellent opportunity to be a leader in the National Community Health Center Movement. The NACHC Board consists of eight nationally elected officers, plus two representatives from each of the ten regions, two nationally elected clinician representatives, and two nationally elected health center board members. Requirements to serve on the NACHC Board include:

- ★ **NACHC Individual Membership:** Must be a NACHC Individual Member in good standing and have maintained current Individual Membership for the past three consecutive years.
- ★ **Representing NACHC Organizational Member or Chartered Regional Affiliate:** Must be employed by or serve on the board of a NACHC Organizational Member in good standing that has maintained current membership for the past three consecutive years, or be employed by a chartered State, Territorial, or Regional Affiliate for the past three consecutive years.
- ★ **NACHC Committee Participation:** Must have served on at least two different NACHC committees at any time within the last five years, with at least a 50% record of attendance on each committee.

*To learn more about NACHC Committees, please visit the NACHC [Committees](#) webpage.
For more information about current Region VIII representatives to the NACHC Board, please visit CHAMPS [Region VIII NACHC Board of Directors Members](#) webpage.*

HRSA Funding Updates

Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME)

In July, HRSA provided funding to 60 grantees across 23 states for the THCGME program, including awards to establish seven new Teaching Health Centers. This program helps to establish residency programs in community-based settings to improve the distribution of the primary care workforce in rural and underserved areas and increase access to primary care services.

To learn more, please visit the HRSA [THCGME](#) webpage.

Health Professions Education and Training (HP-ET)

State and Regional Primary Care Associations (PCA) received additional funding to support expanded workforce training and technical assistance (T/TA) as part of the HP-ET initiative. This initiative will enhance health centers' capabilities to recruit, develop, and retain their workforce by exposing health and allied health professions students, trainees, and residents to education and training programs at health centers.

To learn more, please visit the HRSA [State and Regional Primary Care Association Cooperative Agreements Workforce Funding Overview](#) webpage.

COVID-19 Funding

In June, HRSA awarded \$8 million to PCAs and National Training and Technical Assistance Partners (NTTAPs) to increase COVID-19 T/TA to health centers. Additionally, on July 9, \$21 million was awarded to health centers to support their COVID-19 response efforts. A majority of that funding went to Health Center Program look-alikes to expand their testing capacity.

To learn more, please visit the HRSA [COVID-19 Information](#) webpage.

Free Bi-Weekly Education Health Center Peer Networking Calls

Join the Education Health Center Initiative (EHCI) team and your peers bi-weekly on Wednesdays at 1:30PM MT / 2:30PM CT for a free informational and support Zoom meeting. These meetings allow participants from across the country to learn about and discuss best and emerging practices for COVID-19 response and other current and emerging topics critical to Education Health Centers.

To join the calls, please email krondou@nwrpca.org with the subject: BI-WEEKLY EHC MEETINGS.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

HRSA Quarterly Progress Reports

Recipients of the Health Resource and Services Administration's (HRSA) COVID-19 supplemental funding must submit quarterly progress reports. The first was due in July, and the remaining progress reports will be due in October 2020, January 2021, and April 2021. Awardees will detail activities in staff and patient safety, testing, maintaining or increasing health center capacity and staffing levels, telehealth, and minor alteration/renovation activities.

To learn more, please visit HRSA's [FY 2020 Coronavirus Supplemental Funding for Health Centers](#) webpage.

Weekly COVID-19 Survey

CHAMPS strongly encourages all health centers to complete the weekly HRSA survey tracking COVID-19 testing. Survey results help CHAMPS better serve Region VIII health centers and the findings also influence policy and funding decisions at a national level.

To learn more, visit HRSA's [COVID-19 Information for Health Centers and Partners](#) webpage.

Now Available: 2019 UDS Data

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) 2019 Uniform Data Systems (UDS) data on patient demographics, services provided, clinical indicators, utilization rates, costs, and revenues at the national, state, and health center level is now available. CHAMPS will release the 2019 Region VIII UDS Summary and a related two-page 2019 Region VIII Health Center Fact Sheet soon.

To view the 2019 UDS data, please visit HRSA's [Health Center Data & Reporting](#) webpage. To view prior Region VIII BPHC UDS summaries, please visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.

NACHC CHI@Home



The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) will be hosting CHI@Home August 31-September 1, 2020 in place of their annual Community Health Institute (CHI) & EXPO. CHI@Home will feature two general sessions, 24 educational workshops (including tracks for Health Center Governance, Health Center Essentials, Innovation and Transformation, Public Policy, Workforce Investment in the Future and Emerging Issues), virtual poster sessions, networking roundtables, and a digital product showcase.

To learn more and register, please visit NACHC's [Introducing CHI@Home](#) webpage.

NACHC Podcast Series

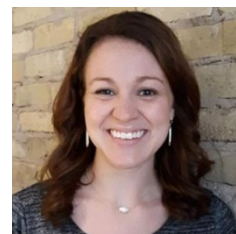
The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) partnered with BKD, LLP to produce a five-part podcast series titled, "Financial Office Hours: Strategies to Manage Financial Operations During COVID-19." This podcast series covers topics including managing your health center's cash flow, paycheck protection, provider relief funding, grants management, and staffing.

To listen to the podcast episode, please visit the NACHC [Finance Podcast Series](#) webpage.

NHCHC Region VIII Scholarship Winner

The National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC) recently announced their 2020 award and scholarship winners. Congratulations to Kali Luecke, a physician assistant at Family HealthCare in Fargo, North Dakota, who was awarded the 2020 John N. Lozier Scholarship for New Members.

To learn more about Luecke's work and the scholarship she won, please visit the [NHCHC Award Winners](#) webpage.



Region VIII in the News

- ★ Horizon Health Care: [Committed to Their Communities: Two Rural Medical Professionals Go the Extra Miles](#) (*South Dakota News Watch*, July 2)
- ★ Inner City Health Center: [Denver Health Center Expands COVID-19 Testing After Receiving \\$216,000 Grant](#) (*KDVR*, July 13)
- ★ Mountain Family Health Centers: [New Tri-County COVID-19 Testing Strategy Aims to Reduce Turn-Around Times for Results](#) (*Aspen Public Radio*, July 13)
- ★ Clínica Tepeyac: [Snap2Save Deploys Healthy Food Incentive Applications](#) (*Yahoo*, July 16)
- ★ Educational Health Center of Wyoming: [New UW Primary Care Residency Training Prepares Physicians for Rural Practice](#) (*Powell Tribune*, July 16)
- ★ Summit Community Care Clinic: [State Sen. Bob Rankin Visits Summit Community Care Clinic to Hear Concerns](#) (*Summit Daily*, July 17)
- ★ Flathead Community Health Center and Northwest Community Health Center: [Federal Grant Enhances Rural Residency Program](#) (*Daily Inter Lake*, July 18)
- ★ Sunrise Community Health: [Sunrise Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Mark Wallace Discusses Preparations, Expectations for a Second Surge](#) (*Greeley Tribune*, July 18)
- ★ RiverStone Health: [RiverStone Hires Two Dozen Temporary Workers to Help Keep Up with COVID-19 Contact Tracing](#) (*Billings Gazette*, July 20)
- ★ Uncompahgre Medical Center: [COVID-19 Update: Positive Cases Continue to Increase](#) (*Telluride News*, July 21)
- ★ Partnership Health Center: [PHC Explains Dental Services, New Board Member Welcomed](#) (*Pathfinder*, July 23)
- ★ Alluvion Health: [Alluvion Health Moves COVID-19 Testing Center and Shifts Focus](#) (*KRTV*, July 24)
- ★ Bullhook Community Health Center: [Health Board: Symptomatic COVID Cases and Contacts Top Priority](#) (*Havre Daily News*, July 27)
- ★ Partnership Health Center: [Health Beat: Mask Mandates and the Health of our Community](#) (*Missoula Current*, July 28)
- ★ Montana Health Centers: [\\$1M Allocated to Help Montanans Affected by COVID-19 Find Health Insurance](#) (*KPAX*, July 31)
- ★ Valley-Wide Health Systems: [Nurses Heal the Whole Patient, Body and Mind](#) (*The Pueblo Chieftain*, July 31)
- ★ Southwest Montana Community Health Center: [Snapshots: Chalk Art Contest for Kids](#) (*Montana Standard*, August 3)
- ★ STRIDE Community Health Center: [Douglas County Approves New Measures to Fight COVID-19](#) (*Parker Chronicle*, August 3)
- ★ Wayne Community Health Center: [How a Rural Doctor and his Staff are Helping a Utah County Divided Over Masks See the Danger of the Coronavirus](#) (*The Salt Lake Tribune*, August 3)
- ★ Valley-Wide Health Systems: [Valley-Wide Health Center Opens in Buena Vista](#) (*Ark Valley Voices*, August 5)
- ★ Valley-Wide Health Systems: [National Health Center Week to be Celebrated Sunday through August 15](#) (*La Junta Tribune-Democrat*, August 6)
- ★ Montana Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Council: [Pandemic Picking: Support Network in Place for Seasonal Montana Cherry Orchard Laborers](#) (*Missoulian*, August 8)
- ★ Southwest Montana Community Health Center: [Guest View: Butte's CHC Exists to Provide Affordable Health Care to All](#) (*Montana Standard*, August 9)
- ★ Salud Family Health Centers: [Salud Family Health Centers – August is National Immunization Awareness Month](#) (*Estes Park Trail Gazette*, August 10)
- ★ Salud Family Health Centers: [Dr. Morgan Hungenberg Graduates from Rural Training Track Residency Program](#) (*Fort Morgan Times*, August 11)

National Funding Opportunities

- ★ NRHA [Rural Health Fellows Program](#) (September 3)
- ★ HRSA [Women's Preventive Services Initiative](#) (October 5)
- ★ HRSA [Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program](#) (October 6)
- ★ HRSA [Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A HIV Emergency Relief Grant Program](#) (October 7)
- ★ HRSA [AIDS Drug Assistance Program Emergency Relief Fund](#) (October 26)

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

[HITEQ Highlights: Preparing for Value-Based Care through Sustainable Telehealth Workflows](#)

August 27, 2020
12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT

[NACHC CHI@Home](#)

August 31, 2020
8:00AM-3:30PM MT / 9:00AM-4:30PM CT

September

[CCHN/CHAMPS Health Equity Learning Series](#)

September 1 and 22, 2020
12:00-1:15PM MT / 1:00-2:15PM CT

[NACHC CHI@Home](#)

September 1, 2020
8:00AM-3:30PM MT / 9:00AM-4:30PM CT

[HRSA Healthy Grants Web Series](#)

September 1 and 15, 2020
11:00AM-2:00PM MT / 12:00-3:00PM CT

[UDS Mapper Webinars](#)

September 2, 17, and 23, 2020
12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT

[CCHN Virtual Triannual](#)

September 10, 2020

[ACU Virtual Conference](#)

September 14-18, 2020
9:00AM-2:30PM MT / 10:00AM-3:30PM CT

[WYPCA PCMH Summit III](#)

September 14-18, 2020

[AUCH Virtual Triannual](#)

September 17, 2020

[OMH Virtual Symposium to Advance the Response to COVID-19](#)

September 17, 2020
10:00AM-4:00PM MT / 11:00AM-5:00PM CT

[Today with Macrae: Health Center Program Updates](#)

September 17, 2020
12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT

October

[Today with Macrae: Health Center Program Updates](#)

October 1 and 29, 2020
12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT

[MPCA Virtual Healthcare Conference](#)

October 5-8, 2020

[CCHN/CHAMPS Health Equity Learning Series](#)

October 13, 2020
12:00-1:15PM MT / 1:00-2:15PM CT

[MPCA Virtual Convening-Population Health Summit](#)

October 13-15, 2020

[CHAMPS/NWRPCA Virtual Primary Care Conference](#)

October 19-22, 2020

[NNOHA Virtual Conference](#)

October 25-28, 2020

November

[NACHC PCA & HCCN Virtual Conference](#)

November 16-18, 2020

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



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Please contact Ashley@CHAMPSonline.org with questions or comments, to sign up to receive the newsletter, to change your subscription email address, or to submit articles for publication.

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