



Fall 2005 Quarterly Newsletter

RECAP: 9th Annual CHAMPS/NWRPCA Primary Care Conference *Sustainability & Quality through Collaboration*



Henry Granger leads the
Electric Slide

This year's Annual Conference, held October 22-26 in Seattle, Washington, brought together over 450 health care professionals from CHCs, PCAs, and PCOs throughout 10 Northwest and Mountain/Plains states and the nation. Over 60 sessions were offered within nine different tracks, and other highlights included a tour to Peninsula Community Health Services, 24 exhibitors from across the country, and an impromptu *Electric Slide* lesson at the Opening Reception. CHAMPS thanks all of the Region VIII participants that shared their expertise by presenting or sharing their knowledge at roundtables and other networking sessions. This spirit of collaboration serves to strengthen the entire combined "Region 18"!

For more information about this conference including photographs and a downloadable *Participants' List*, and for a look forward to the 10th Annual Primary Care Conference in Denver, Colorado in October 2006, visit www.champsonline.org/Events/Conference.asp.

CHAMPS 2005 Award Recipients

For the past several years CHAMPS has used the Annual Primary Conference as a venue to honor Region VIII CHC, PCA, and federal board members, clinicians, and executives for outstanding advocacy, leadership, and dedication to the CHC mission. This year CHAMPS was pleased to pay tribute to the following outstanding professionals:

Susan Jaworowski, HRSA Office of Performance Review, Denver Regional Division (retired)

Exceptional Federal Partnership Award, for her support and assistance, dedication and commitment to Region VIII CHCs

Lewis Reyes, Clinica Campesina

Exceptional Board Leadership Award, in recognition of his untiring efforts to enhance the lives of the medically underserved

Donna Singer, Utah Navajo Health Systems

Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award, for demonstrating dedication to the health center mission through the spirit of collaboration

Elizabeth Vierra, Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH)

Outstanding Administrative Leadership Award, for demonstrating dedication and commitment to the CHC mission

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CHAMPS 20th Anniversary

CHAMPS' 20th Anniversary year is almost over, and we have greatly enjoyed our opportunity to provide high-quality programs and services to Region VIII CHCs, PCAs, and PCOs since 1985. Thank you all for your continued dedication to CHAMPS and to the CHC community.



CHAMPS Website Focus: Health Information Technology Resources

The newly created **Health Information Technology (HIT) Resources** page of the CHAMPS website was compiled to help Region VIII CHCs stay informed about the new and quickly changing world of HIT. The page offers links to resources compiled by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), press releases from the White House, highlights of HIT efforts in Region VIII, and online educational tools. Check it out at www.championonline.org/Tools/CrossDiscResources/HealthInfoTechnology/.

Do you have a Region VIII HIT story to share with your peers? Contact Andrea@championonline.org.

Region VIII CHC Executive to Become NACHC Board Chair

Eligio G. White, Executive Director of Community Health Centers, Inc. in Salt Lake City, Utah, was elected Chair-Elect of the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Board of Directors at the NACHC Community Health Institute in Miami, FL in September. Eligio previously served as the Treasurer of the NACHC Board of Directors. (Lil Anderson, Executive Director of Deering Community Health Center in Billings, Montana, continues in her role as NACHC Board Secretary.)

Congratulations, Eligio, and we wish you much success in your new role!

Online Nonprofit Resources

Looking for information about nonprofits and too busy to spend hours searching through large amounts of material on the Internet? Here are a few valuable websites that may just have what you're looking for:



National Council of Nonprofit Associations

Offers: public policy & events
www.ncna.org

Independent Sector

Offers: accountability, ethical standards, etc.
www.independentsector.org

National Center of Charitable Statistics

Offers: national & regional statistics on giving
www.nccs.urban.org

Chronicle of Philanthropy

Offers: stories about public policy, including trends & issues
<http://philanthropy.com>

Guidestar

Offers: financial information about nonprofits nationwide
www.guidestar.org

TechSoup

Offers: articles & FAQs about hardware, software, & all things technological
www.techsoup.org

Nonprofit Genie

Offers: FAQs, links, & information about nonprofit questions
www.genie.org

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

CHAMPS Website Focus: About CHCs and CHC Terms & Acronyms

Do your CHC employees really know what a Community Health Center is? Are they overwhelmed by the alphabet soup of terms and acronyms that have become a part of daily life in the center? Community Health Centers are a unique, and not always understood, model of care. The following CHAMPS webpages may help new (and even experienced) employees understand the valuable nature of CHCs and the extended CHC community.



About CHCs

Basic characteristics & expectations of CHCs

www.champsonline.org/about/CHCS/

CHC Terms and Acronyms

Over 150 CHC-related terms and acronyms

www.champsonline.org/Tools/CrossDiscResources/TermsAcronyms/

Archived CHAMPS Webcasts

Looking for additional professional training and/or continuing education credit, but having a hard time getting away from the office? All of CHAMPS webcasts for CHC board members and clinical and non-clinical staff are archived online for one year after the live presentation date, and are available on CD-ROM. Take advantage of these continuing education opportunities...no travel required!

Managing Acute Otitis Media

CME Availability Extended!

Presented by Dr. Peggy Kelley

Archived online and available for 1.5 CME credit hours through October 2006

Customers Only Want Two Things!

Delivering Exceptional Customer Service

Presented by Kevin Miller

Archived online and available for 1.5 CME credit hours through January 2006

Introduction to CPT Coding

Presented by Maureen Hong, PA, FNP, MHA

Archived online and available for 1.5 CME credit hours through April 2006

CHC Boards: Legal Roles & Responsibilities

Presented by Henry Granger, MEd

Archived online through June 2006 (CME credit hours not available)

Rheumatoid Arthritis and Osteoarthritis Treatment

Presented by Dr. David H. Collier, MD

Archived online and available for 1.5 CME credit hours through December 2006

CHAMPS Live and Archived webcasts are provided FREE to CHC and PCA staff and Board members in Region VIII!

To view these offerings online, visit www.champsonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp

To borrow or purchase the CD-ROM version of these offerings, visit www.champsonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/VideosCDROMsDVDs/

CCHN Awards Health Professions Initiative Scholarships

In September 2005, CCHN announced the first recipients of the Health Professions Initiative (HPI) scholarship awards. The scholarship program helps high-achieving, entry-level staff at Colorado's CHCs train to become allied health professionals committed to serving the underserved. The awardees, with their professional goals, are:



- **Julie Rutkosky**, Salud Family Health Centers (Registered Sonographer)
- **Kirsten Wiegert**, Plains Medical Center (Registered Nurse)
- **Maria Hernandez**, Metro Community Provider Network (Licensed Practical Nurse)
- **Milagros Medina**, Clinica Campesina (Expanded Duties Dental Assistant)
- **Paula Harvey**, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (Licensed Practical Nurse)
- **Tim Miller**, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (Registered Nurse)
- **Sara Danielson**, Peak Vista CHC (Registered Nurse)

Medicare Rx Training Course for Continuing Education Credit

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is offering a computer-based training course for providers that can be downloaded from their website. The training covers information about the fundamental components of Medicare prescription drug coverage, types of plans, Medicare resources for providers and Medicare patients, and important dates in 2005 and 2006. The University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) is offering 1.5 CME Category 1 credits for doctors, 1.8 CNE contact hours for nurses, and 1.5 credit hours for other health care professionals who complete the course and receive a passing score on the post assessment. There is a nominal fee for credit.

For more information, please visit www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/DrugCoverage-training.asp.

HEALTH DISPARITIES COLLABORATIVES (HDC) NEWS

Excelling in patient self-management, clinical decision support, positive delivery system redesign, clinical information systems, and strong partnerships with local and community organizations in order to delay or decrease the complications of chronic diseases



CHAMPS Website Focus: HDC Terms & Acronyms

Just when you thought you'd figured out the acronyms used in the CHC world, the Health Disparities Collaboratives (HDC) program throws more into the mix. To help Region VIII CHCs navigate this ever-expanding language, CHAMPS has created the following useful webpages:

HDC Acronyms List

26 HDC-specific acronyms

www.champsonline.org/about/HDCs/acronyms.asp

HDC Glossary of Terms and Concepts

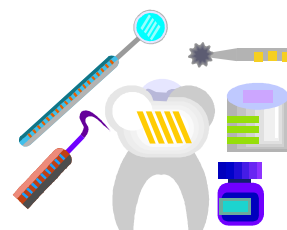
52 HDC-specific terms and concepts

www.champsonline.org/about/HDCs/terms.asp



Oral Health Disparities Pilot

Three Colorado Community Health Centers have been selected to participate in the Oral Health Disparities Pilot Collaborative. This collaborative, the first of its kind in the country, focuses on oral health and pregnancy-related outcomes, and the prevention and treatment of early childhood caries (tooth decay). Emerging research indicates that a pregnant woman with periodontal disease has a higher risk of delivering a pre-term, low-birth weight baby than women without periodontal disease. In addition, early childhood caries is the most common chronic illness among children, but caries is completely preventable. The pilot is sponsored by the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). Colleen Lampron, MPH, the Director of Clinical Quality at Colorado Community Health Network, has been selected as the co-chair for the pilot collaborative.



“Reaching the Underserved: Connecting Mobile and Homeless People to the Health Disparities Collaboratives”

“Reaching the Underserved” is a joint e-newsletter of the Migrant Clinicians Network and Healthcare for the Homeless Clinicians’ Network, focusing on the special needs of mobile and homeless populations and improving health care services to these populations through the Health Disparities Collaboratives. To access a recent edition of this publication, and for more tools and resources for working with mobile and homeless groups, visit www.nhchc.org/collaboratives.html.

MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS

Providing professional, administrative, and educational support to all clinicians that practice in community, migrant, and homeless health centers in Region VIII to ensure the delivery of the highest possible quality of care to poor and underserved populations



CHAMPS Website Focus: Emergency Preparedness & Response Resources

Recent natural disasters have illustrated the important role CHCs play as first responders for their communities. CHAMPS’ newly created **Emergency Preparedness and Response Resources** webpage is an online library of resources, references, and documents to assist Region VIII clinicians and other health center staff in planning for and responding to public health emergencies. Link to downloadable materials relating to subjects ranging from personal protective equipment and decontamination issues to pandemic influenza plans and the mental health effects of large community emergencies by visiting www.championline.org/Tools/CrossDiscResources/EmergencyPreparedness/.

Welcome New CHAMPS Staff!

CHAMPS is pleased to welcome Stephanie Wasserman as our new Clinical Programs Director. Stephanie joined CHAMPS at the beginning of October, jumping enthusiastically into her roll. She has an MSPH from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and worked for almost eight years on a CDC grant to provide public health policy information to state lawmakers. Prior to that she worked at National Jewish Hospital in the Occupational and Environmental Health Division. Welcome, Stephanie!

To contact Stephanie, email Stephanie@champsonline.org or call (303) 861-5165 x236.

MPCN Steering Committee Recruitment

CHAMPS is recruiting additional MPCN Steering Committee members from Colorado, North Dakota, and Wyoming. These positions are open to any interested clinician practicing in a federally-funded Community, Migrant, or Homeless Health Center in these states. CHAMPS is also recruiting a Health Promotion and Disease Prevention specialist from any state in Region VIII. MPCN Steering Committee members are asked to participate in conference calls every other month and two face-to-face meetings annually. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and network with colleagues while guiding clinical programs and offerings throughout the region. For more information about MPCN programs and activities, please visit www.champsonline.org/about/MPCN. If interested in volunteering, or if you have questions, please contact Stephanie@champsonline.org.

RECAP: Region VIII Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Oral Health Institute

On November 2-3, 2005, Denver was host to a Region VIII MCH Oral Health Institute bringing together federal officials, national oral health experts, state MCH and Oral Health Directors, Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) directors, and others. Participants strategized ways states can better integrate oral health into their MCH and CSHCN programs to enhance their capacity to build public private partnerships to address unmet oral health needs of MCH populations in Region VIII. For information about the meeting or copies of resources, including state reports on oral health status in Region VIII, please contact Stephanie@champsonline.org.

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

2nd Annual National Family History Day

US Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona has called on all Americans to know their family history as a key to disease prevention efforts and the promotion of personal health. This Thanksgiving marks the 2nd Annual National Family History Day, and all Americans are encouraged to use the holiday (or any other family gathering) to collect important health history information. To assist this effort, Dr. Carmona has released a free Web-based tool called "My Family Health Portrait" which organizes family health information into a printout that can be taken to healthcare professionals when creating personalized action plans for persons at increased risk for hereditary diseases. Visit www.hhs.gov/familyhistory to access this tool.

Open Enrollment Has Begun!

Medicare beneficiaries began enrolling in Part D prescription drug coverage plans on November 15, 2005. This new benefit will go into effect January 1, 2006 and covers payment for all brand name and generic drugs. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) realizes the enrollment process can be confusing due to the number of available plans, so they have trained state-based coalitions to provide assistance to providers and patients with questions concerning Medicare Part D. Here are phone numbers for State Health Insurance Assistance Programs throughout Region VIII:

CO: 800-503-5190

SD: 800-536-8197 or 605-773-3656

MT: 800-551-3191 or 406-444-4077

UT: 800-541-7735 or 801-538-3910

ND: 800-247-0560 or 701-328-2440

WY: 800-856-4398 or 307-856-6880

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) has released a guide to assist centers with pharmacies in negotiating Medicare Part D contracts with PDPs with reasonable terms and rates. The ***Health Center Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Strategic Guide*** has been emailed to health centers with pharmacies that are on the NACHC Pharmacy Directors e-list. If any CHC Pharmacy Directors have not received this guide, please contact fmitchem@nachc.com.

Upcoming Uniform Data System (UDS) Trainings in Region VIII

- ★ Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) will be holding a one-day basic UDS training in Pueblo, Colorado on December 7. This training covers expectations, terms, financial tables (current forms and proposed changes), reporting software, and supplemental reporting. CCHN will also host an advanced UDS training for executive leaders on December 8 titled "Using the UDS as a Strategic Management Tool". Visit www.cchn.org for more information.
- ★ Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) is holding a two-day UDS training in West Valley City, Utah January 12-13, 2006. Day One is a full day of instruction of UDS basics, including UDS background and history, general descriptions, and critical definitions and instructions. Day Two is an advanced training, reviewing ways to use management reports, common mistakes, and checking conclusions. For more information about this opportunity, please contact Amy Sawaya at (801) 974-5563 x2848 or email workforce@auch.org.

Special Thanks

CHAMPS would like to extend our appreciation to the following partner organizations for helping create successful and memorable programs over the past quarter. Thank you all!

*...every single day,
I found something to be
grateful for and that's a
powerful lesson.*

- Alice Barrett

Colorado Community Managed Care Network (CCMCN) – for bringing the archived CHAMPS/CCMCN "Managing Acute Otitis Media" webcast to almost 100 Colorado CHC providers since November 2004 and coordinating the extension of CME credit so providers can continue to learn from and earn credit for this valuable resource in the year to come.

Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) - for working so hard to create one of our most successful Annual Primary Care Conferences; with more participants than ever before, ever-expanding networking and continuing education opportunities, and so much more, this has been an amazingly successful long-term partnership for CHAMPS and for Region VIII. (For more information about NWRPCA, please visit www.nwrpca.org.)

Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation - for their cooperation creating the recent CHAMPS continuing education webcast for Region VIII clinicians, "Rheumatoid Arthritis and Osteoarthritis Treatment". (For more information about the Arthritis Foundation, please visit www.arthritis.org.)

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS



***CHAMPS Wishes You a Happy and Safe
Thanksgiving Holiday***

DECEMBER 2005

Monday, December 5th – Tuesday, December 6th
NWRPCA Uniform Data System (UDS) Training
Doubletree Guest Suites Seattle – Southcenter, Seattle, WA
www.nwrpca.org

Monday, December 5th – Wednesday, December 7th
2005 National Public Health Stroke Summit
Omni Interlocken Hotel, Denver (Broomfield), CO
www.stroke.org

Wednesday, December 7th – Thursday, December 8th
CCHN Uniform Data System (UDS) Training
Pueblo Convention Center, Pueblo, CO
www.cchn.org

JANUARY 2006

Thursday, January 12th – Friday, January 13th
AUCH Uniform Data System (UDS) Training
Crystal Inn, West Valley City, UT
www.auch.org

Friday, January 27th – Sunday, January 29th
15th Annual Western Migrant Stream Forum
Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront, Portland, OR
www.nwrpca.org

Looking Forward

**HDC WCC Regional Summit
#3 (CO, UT, NM)**
March 21-22, 2006
www.healthdisparities.net

**2006 Annual Dakota Conference
On Rural and Public Health**
March 22-24, 2006
www.bismarckstate.edu/cce/ruralhealth/

**NACHC Annual
Policy & Issues Forum**
March 24-29, 2006
www.nachc.com

Please let us know if your email address has changed.

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