Fall 2006 Quarterly Newsletter

Hundreds Enjoy Annual Primary Care Conference

CHAMPS and Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) welcomed over 400 attendees, exhibitors, and presenters to this year’s Annual Primary Care Conference held at the Denver Marriott City Center in Denver, Colorado October 21 – 25, 2006. Participants enjoyed formal and informal networking and educational opportunities combining clinicians, board members, and administrative staff from health centers, Primary Care Associations, governmental offices, and related organizations in Regions VIII and X and from across the country.

The 2007 Annual Primary Care Conference will be held October 20 – 24, 2007 in Seattle, WA.

Congratulations to 2006 CHAMPS Awardees

Each year, in conjunction with the Annual Primary Care Conference, CHAMPS recognizes outstanding contributions to the Community Health Center movement by individuals in Region VIII. Nominations are submitted by Region VIII Health Centers and Primary Care Associations, and awardees are chosen by the CHAMPS Executive Committee. CHAMPS honored the following individuals with awards during the CHAMPS Board of Directors Meeting on Sunday, October 22nd:

Barry Martin, MD: Exceptional Clinical Leadership Award
Vice President for Clinical Affairs, Metro Community Provider Network, CO

Carolyn Wenger: Exceptional Board Leadership Award
Board of Directors Member, Deering Community Health Center, MT

Dianne Smith: Outstanding Administrative Leadership Award
Executive Director, Dove Creek Community Health Clinic, CO

Ken Kamis: Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award
Retired, Past Volunteer, Cheyenne Health and Wellness, WY

LaVal B. Jensen: Exceptional Administrative Leadership Award
Executive Director, Bear Lake Community Health Center, UT

Pam Locken: Presidential Leadership Award
Executive Director, Prairie Community Health, SD

Inside this Issue:
- Region VIII EMC Award, New Salud Building Celebrates Leader, CHAMPS Satisfaction Survey, NAP & PCA Guidance, OPR 2007 Schedule, NACHC CHI Recap
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Published November 8, 2006
CHAMPS Board Elects New Executive Committee

The 2006-2008 CHAMPS Executive Committee Members were elected at the CHAMPS Board of Directors Meeting in October in Denver, Colorado. Thanks to the following folks willing to give their time and expertise to make CHAMPS a strong and successful organization:

- **President:** Dan Euell, Denver Health Community Health Services  
- **Vice-President:** Kate Wilson, Cooperative Health Center  
- **Immediate Past President:** Pam Locken, Prairie Community Health  
- **Secretary:** Gina Flanagan, Wayne Community Health Center  
- **Treasurer:** John Mengenhausen, Horizon Health Care, Inc.  
- **North Dakota Representative:** Tom Nehring, Coal Country Community Health Center  
- **Wyoming Representative:** Sharon Montagnino, Cheyenne Health and Wellness Center  
- **Clinical Representative:** Jim McNeely, CFNP, Rural Health Care, Inc.

Visit [http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/CHAMPS/exec_members.asp](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/CHAMPS/exec_members.asp) for Executive Committee contact information.

CHAMPS Satisfaction Survey Results are In

In early October CHAMPS distributed the **2006 CHAMPS Satisfaction Survey** to over 450 executives, administrators, and clinicians at Region VIII health centers, Primary Care Associations, and Primary Care Offices. The survey had a 19.7% response rate, representing individuals from all six Region VIII states and from a variety of disciplines. Over 85% of the respondents felt CHAMPS overall rated as Excellent or Good, and 90% felt that CHAMPS services and products were Very Useful or Useful. CHAMPS will be using information gathered from the survey to analyze current programs and services and to help design future offerings.

CHAMPS thanks all who participated for their time and assistance.

MT Center Receives Expanded Medical Capacity (EMC) Award

On August 16, 2006 Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt announced $10 million in grants to expand health center services to an additional 65,000 migrant and seasonal farmworkers and people who are homeless. These grants increase the number of new or expanded health center sites funded under the President’s Initiative to about 900; the nation’s 3,800 health center sites are expected to serve an estimated 14.6 million patients in 2006.

We extend our congratulations to **Community Health Partners** in Livingston, Montana, Region VIII’s recipient of a FY2006 EMC for Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers and Homeless Persons Grant.

In Celebration of a Building and a Leader

On Monday, September 18, 2006 Salud Family Health Centers based in Fort Lupton, Colorado, celebrated a ribbon-cutting at the new **Salud Family Health Centers Stanley J. Brasher Administration and Training Center**. The building is named after the organization’s Executive Director of 32 years, Jerry Brasher, and the event simultaneously honored a long-time leader of the health center movement while marking the opening of a cutting-edge facility designed to improve the quality of service provided by Salud sites in Northeast Colorado. CHAMPS congratulates Salud on its continuing journey of high quality health care.

Thank you, Jerry, for your dedicated leadership!
Dr. Duke Receives 2006 Presidential Rank Award

CHAMPS congratulates Dr. Elizabeth Duke for being named the Health Resources and Services Administration’s recipient of a Distinguished Presidential Rank Award. These awards are the most prestigious awards given to federal senior executives and senior professionals, in recognition of their exemplary service to the American people. Nominations for these awards are made by each agency, and then are reviewed in a process that includes private citizens. Recipients are honored for their leadership and career achievement, in addition to their commitment to public service.

Region VIII NACHC Representatives Elected

Congratulations to Jerry Brasher, Executive Director of Salud Family Health Centers in Fort Lupton, Colorado, and John Mengenhausen, Chief Executive Officer of Horizon Health Care, Inc. in Howard, South Dakota. Jerry and John were chosen by Region VIII National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) members to represent the region on the NACHC Board of Directors for 2007.

2007 New Access Point Guidance Released

New Access Point (NAP) Guidance for FY2007 was released in early October, with a submission date of December 6, 2006. This activity is a key factor in fulfilling the President’s Health Centers Initiative to strengthen the health care safety net by establishing or expanding health centers to 1,200 of the country’s neediest communities in five years. All applications must be submitted electronically through the Grants.gov website. Access the NAP Guidance by visiting: https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/FundingOppDetails.asp?FundingCycleId=0EB7DE12-6620-4142-A478-C0C214F1D67C&ViewMode=EU&GoBack=&PrintMode=&OnlineAvailabilityFlag=&pageNumber=&version=&NC= &Popup

2007 Primary Care Association Continuing Guidance Released

Guidance for the Non-competing Continuation of State and Regional Primary Care Associations (PCA) Cooperative Agreements for FY2007 was released in early November. This program allows the provision of training and technical assistance (T/TA) in fiscal and program management, as well as operational and administrative support. The application process includes two deadlines: the due date for submission in Grants.gov is December 15th; the due date for supplemental information via EHB (HRSA Electronic Handbooks) is December 29th. To download the Application Instructions and Application Package, please visit http://www.grants.gov/Apply.

Office of Performance Review Releases 2007 Schedule

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Office of Performance Review (OPR) has released the grantee performance review schedule for Calendar Year (CY) 2007. Visit http://www.hrsa.gov/performancereview for a list of organizations identified to participate in a CY 2007 performance review.

RECAP: NACHC Community Health Institute

Region VIII made a strong showing at the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) 37th Annual Convention and Community Health Institute in Chicago in August. Montanan Lil Anderson was elected NACHC Board Chair-Elect. Lewis Reyes of Colorado was the recipient of NACHC’s 2006 Ethel Bond Memorial Consumer Award, and fellow Coloradan John McFarland, DDS was honored with NACHC’s 2006 Samuel U. Rodgers Achievement Award. Congratulations to all.
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

Regional Salary Survey Now Available

The 2006 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Salary Survey Report has been published and distributed to CHAMPS Organizational Members as well as to non-member organizations that participated in the survey. This is the second edition of a project that began in 2004 as a collaboration between CHAMPS and the State Primary Care Associations of Region VIII. The 2006 report is similar to the 2004 version, containing profiles of participating organizations, average salary and salary ranges by position title, average benefits information, breakdowns of salary and benefits information by annual budget range, comparisons of 2006 Region VIII data with other current state and national surveys, and summarized turnover and compensation information.

New features in the 2006 edition include salary and benefits information for executive level employees (Executive Director, Fiscal Director, etc.) broken down by years of service, number of service sites, annual budget range, and location; comparisons of 2006 Region VIII data with 2004 Region VIII data; and Point-in-Time Vacancy data looking at open positions.

The 2006 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Salary Survey Report is available in printable format on the Members Only section of http://www.CHAMPSonline.org. Printed copies of the report can be purchased at a cost of $35.00 for Members and $70 for non-members. Visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/Publications/default.asp to download an order form. Questions? Please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

Upcoming Live Clinical Webcasts

PRACTICAL APPROACHES TO MANAGING YOUR OVERWEIGHT AND OBESE PATIENTS
Presented by Victoria A. Catenacci, MD
Date: Thursday, November 16, 2006
Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM MT
Target Participants: CHC Clinical Staff
Topics:
Obtain the practical knowledge and tools to manage obesity in a primary care setting including:
• An understanding of the trends in national rates of overweight and obesity in adults, children, and minority populations
• Identification of environmental factors that contribute to the obesity epidemic by promoting positive energy balance and weight gain
• Major health risks associated with overweight and obesity, and recognition that modest body weight reduction can substantially impact health
• Assessment of overweight and obesity in the clinical setting, risk factors for obesity related complications, and an approach to discussing obesity with patients
• Current evidence based treatment guidelines based on BMI/risk, including diet and physical activity options, medication options, and surgical options

This event will be offered for 1.5 hours of CME credit.
The webcast is FREE to Region VIII Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers. Other participants will be billed $50 per link to the webcast and $15 per person for CME credit.

SAVE THE DATE: UPCOMING “GESTATIONAL DIABETES” WEBCAST
Clinicians, mark your calendars: CHAMPS will be hosting a webcast about Gestational Diabetes on Wednesday, February 28, 2007 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM MT. Registration for this event will open in December. Please see page six of this publication for additional details.
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, CONTINUED

Available Archived CHAMPS Webcasts

ONLINE ARCHIVES
All of CHAMPS webcasts are also archived online for one year after the live presentation date. Below are the current archives available online:

Rheumatoid Arthritis & Osteoarthritis Treatment
Presented by David H. Collier, MD
Through November 2006 – CME available

Dealing with the Cranky, Crusty, & Crabby: Serving the Difficult Customer
Presented by Kevin R. Miller
Through May 2007 – CME available

Opioids for Chronic Pain: Striking a Balance
Presented by Richard L. Brown, MD, MPH
Through March 2007 – CME available

CD-ROMS AVAILABLE
All past CHAMPS webcasts are available on CD-ROM, and some are still available for CME credit. CD-ROMs can be borrowed or purchased. Please follow the link below for more details.

Visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/VideosCDROMsDVDs/ to print an order form or a borrowing form for CHAMPS Archived Webcasts on CD-ROM.

RECAP: CHAMPS Attends Job Fairs

CHAMPS staff members have been promoting the Community Health Center model and advertising open positions at Region VIII health centers at two recent events. Several hundred students at the Fall Career Expo 2006 at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center (UCDHSC) in late September were introduced to clinical and non-clinical career opportunities at health centers, while students from the Regis Rueckert-Hartman School for Health Professions were introduced to regional opportunities at the 2006 Health Professions Career Fair in early October.

CHAMPS uses these and other events to advertise positions currently posted on the CHAMPS online Job Opportunities Bank (JOB), http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/JobBank. Region VIII CHCs and PCAs are welcome to recruit open positions on this site at no charge.

To post a position on JOB, please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Changes

The NHSC has announced a significant change to the Loan Repayment Program for fiscal year 2007: the submission deadline for applications and all supplemental documentation will be Friday, March 30, 2007 (postmarked). In previous years the NHSC had allowed some supplemental documentation to be submitted as late as mid-July. However, in order to make awards and disburse loan repayment funds as soon as possible, all materials must be submitted by the March 30th deadline for 2007. Application materials can be obtained by calling 1-800-638-0824 or emailing NHSC@discoverylogic.com.

Please note: there have been other recent changes to NHSC programs regarding amended and extended contracts, HPSA levels for funding preferences, and more. Contact your state Primary Care Office (PCO) for more information. Region VIII PCO contact information can be found at http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/tools/RRResources/HPSA_MUA/contacts.asp.
Upcoming Obesity-Related Education Opportunities

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a report in September indicating that the prevalence of obesity has increased in all states, and that in 2005 almost 24% of adults in the US were obese. (Visit the September 2005 edition of CDC’s MMWR Weekly for more information, http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5536a1.htm.) An upcoming live CHAMPS webcast, Practical Approaches to Managing Your Overweight and Obese Patients, will give primary care providers tools and knowledge for managing their obese patients. This event is scheduled for Thursday, November 16th from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Mountain Time; please see page four for more details and registration instructions.

Emerging research also suggests that maternal environment influences future health risks for the fetus, and that a child born to a mother with gestational diabetes is significantly more likely to be overweight or obese by the age of five. An upcoming live CHAMPS webcast will help Region VIII clinicians learn more about populations at high risk for gestational diabetes, plus etiology, risk factors, screening and treatment guidelines for the general practitioner, new developments in medications and treatments, and more. The webcast will be presented by Lynn Barbour, OB/GYN, Associate Professor in Endocrinology and Maternal-Fetal Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, on Wednesday, February 28, 2007 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Mountain Time. Registration for this event opens in December 2006.

Successful Spanish Language Training Leads to Expansion of the CHAMPS Lending Library

According to a July 20, 2006 New England Journal of Medicine article, one of the biggest barriers to health care is language. Studies show that patients who face language barriers have difficulty accessing care, receive fewer preventive services, and are less likely to accurately follow medication directions. With a growing US population of people who speak languages other than English at home and have limited English proficiency, CHAMPS offered an opportunity for clinicians to address these barriers to care. On September 14-16, 2006, 56 clinicians from six states and 25 health centers attended the CHAMPS Spanish Language Training for Health Professionals in Denver, taught by RIOS Associates and providing an experience of language immersion learning. Responses from participant evaluations indicate that 93% felt the training offered a good or great deal of practical utility, and 89% reported a good or great deal of improvement in their understanding of Spanish. In terms of future offerings, 94% of participants want this training at least annually, and 73% want even more frequent mini-trainings or facilitated Spanish conversational groups. CHAMPS will be exploring additional Spanish Language training tools, resources, and events.

In the meantime, CHAMPS has purchased a complete set of RIOS Associates Course Material as the newest component of the CHAMPS Lending Library. This set includes two text books, 14 Audio CDs (15 Lessons) and a set of three Video CD-ROMs. For a fee, RIOS Associates will award AMA CME credits upon completion and evaluation of each test. CHAMPS members can borrow this set from the Lending Library for up to a month at no cost. Non-members may also borrow these items for up to a month, but must pay a $50 non-refundable borrowing fee. These items may be renewed for up to two more weeks by calling Nadine Carr (ext. 221), if there is not a waiting list.

To access the Lending Library Borrowing Form and review other resources available through the Lending Library, please visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/tools/PubsElectronicMedia/.
REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS
To submit an article about state, regional, or national news, please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

**CCHN Annual Uniform Data System (UDS) Training**

Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) will be hosting its **Annual UDS Training** on Tuesday, December 5, 2006 from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM at the Antlers Hilton Hotel, located at 4 South Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO, 80903. Topics will include the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) expectations on UDS, defining key terms, common errors, financial tables, and service, demographics, and clinical tables. The trainer will also include a demonstration of the reporting software and CCHN staff will provide a lesson on the CCHN Supplemental UDS.

CCHN will also hold an **Advanced UDS Training** in conjunction with the December Quarterly meeting on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Attendees will receive an in-depth review of the UDS Comparison Report and its potential uses in the health center. A sample report will be used in a case study to show how the report can be used to inform key staff, conduct strategic planning, assess operations, negotiate with payors, and provide content for grant applications and press releases. For more information contact Tanah Wagenseller at 303-861-5165 ext. 241 or tanah@cchn.org.

**Midtown Community Health Center Opens New Facility**

On Friday, June 2, 2006 the **Midtown Community Health Center (MTCHC)** hosted an open house to introduce their new facility in Ogden, Utah (shown at right). This building project has been part of an on-going effort by MTCHC to increase medical capacity to better meet the growing numbers of uninsured and underserved residents of Northern Utah.

Unprecedented patient growth prompted the need for a larger, more suitable health center. The health center’s patient population grew from 2,873 in 1994 to 14,157 patients in 2005. Over 36,000 patient visits occurred last year alone. Seventy-two percent of individuals served in 2005 were uninsured and did not have another source of health care. Midtown Community Health Center experiences, on average, an increase in patients at the rate of 1,000 annually.

In order to accommodate current and future patient demands, the architectural firm of Richard Chong and Associates designed a 15,000 square foot facility including additional exam rooms, an in-house pharmacy, and enhanced primary care including laboratory and radiology services. Construction was completed by R&O Construction, an Ogden based contractor. Local community members contributed enormous support for the project. More than $2.3 million was raised from supporters including the Alan and Jeanne Hall Foundation, the Crosland Family Foundation, The Diana S. Ellis Foundation, the Dr. W. C. Swanson Family Foundation, the Dr. Ezekiel R. and Edna Wattis Dumke Foundation, the Edith D. Green Foundation, the Elliott Hall Company, Intermountain Health Care, the John A. and Telitha E. Lindquist Foundation, the Junior E. and Blanche B. Rich Foundation, the Lawrence T. and Janet T. Dee Foundation, the Nebeker Family Foundation, Ogden Regional Medical Center, the Ralph Nye Charitable Foundation, the Roman Catholic Diocese, the Stephen G. and Susan E. Denkers Family Foundation, the United Way of Northern Utah, the Willard L. Eccles Charitable Foundation, and numerous individuals.

The community benefits from this medical expansion effort are considerable. Utah is proud to highlight Midtown Community Health Center leadership, staff, board members, and community citizens in their efforts to fulfill the health center mission set forth forty years ago.
REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS, CONTINUED

National Primary Oral Health Care Conference Approaches

The Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) is sponsoring the Health Disparities Collaboratives (HDC) 2006 National Primary Oral Health Care Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona December 10 – 14, 2006. This conference will focus on best practices in providing oral health care services to low income and disadvantaged populations served by Health Center programs.

For more information about this event, including a Call for Abstracts and registration details, please visit http://www.eventrebels.com/hdc2006/oralhealth

30th Annual Great American Smokeout

Smokers across the nation are encouraged to take part in this year's Great American Smokeout, scheduled for November 16th, by smoking less or quitting for the day. Held on the third Thursday of November each year, the event is designed to challenge people to stop using tobacco and to raise awareness about effective ways to quit. Visit http://www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/ped_10_4.asp for more information about activities across the nation.

RESOURCE: Salud Para Todos

Salud para Todos (Health for All), a creation of Migrant Health Promotion, is a program for training Community Health Workers (Promotores and Promotoras) to address mental health, substance abuse, stress, and violence in migrant camps and communities. Migrant Health Promotion encourages sites to replicate Salud Para Todos in their communities; program materials including a manual for health workers, curriculum, and an implementation guide are available at http://migranthealth.org/our_programs/program_models/salud_para.todos.php.

RESOURCE: Back to School

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), has created the NIDA Goes Back to School (NGBTS) campaign for children, teens, and the adults that influence them including teachers, curriculum developers, school nurses, and more. Free science-based publications and teaching materials for grades K-12 emphasize the consequences of drug abuse on the brain and body, and aim to increase scientific literacy.

Visit http://www.backtoschool.drugabuse.gov to order free publications and teaching materials.

RESOURCE: Report from Campaign for Children’s Health Care

A September 2006 report from Campaign for Children’s Health Care entitled No Shelter from the Storm: America's Uninsured Children reports that one out of every five uninsured Americans is a child and that one of every nine children is uninsured; this includes approximately 11% of children under the age of 19 in Region VIII. The report takes a closer look at these uninsured children, detailing who they are and what services they miss out on because of being uninsured.

To review the full report, plus key findings, state fact sheets, charts, and more, visit http://www.childrenshealthcampaign.org/tools/reports/no-shelter-from-the-storm.html.
UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Visit the interactive online CHAMPS calendar - http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Calendar.asp

NOVEMBER

Thursday, November 9th – Saturday, November 11th
Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town, Albuquerque, NM
http://www.ncfh.org

Monday, November 13th – Wednesday, November 15th
NACHC State/Regional Primary Care Association Meeting
Mondrian Scottsdale Hotel, Scottsdale, AZ
http://www.nachc.com

Thursday, November 16th
Practical Approaches to Managing Your Overweight and Obese Patient
CHAMPS Live Online Webcast
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp

DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 5th
North Dakota Health Workforce Summit
Kelly Inn, Bismarck, ND
http://medicine.nodak.edu/crh/events

Tuesday, December 5th – Wednesday, December 6th
CCHN Annual UDS Training & Advanced UDS Training
Antlers Hilton Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO
Tanah@cchn.org

Sunday, December 10th – Thursday, December 14th
HRSA Health Disparities Collaboratives National Primary Oral Health Care Conference
Camelback Inn, Scottsdale, AZ
http://www.eventrebels.com/hdc2006/oralhealth

Looking Forward

CHAMPS Live Webcast:
Gestational Diabetes
February 28, 2007
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org

NACHC 2007 Policy and Issues Forum (P&I)
March 15-21, 2007
http://www.nachc.com

National Farmworker Health Conference
April 9-12, 2007
http://www.ncfh.org

Please let us know if your email address has changed.

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Please contact Andrea Martin with any questions or comments about this newsletter.

Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States – Fall 2006 Quarterly Newsletter