Welcome to Denver!

CHAMPS and NWRPCA extend a warm welcome to all attendees of this year’s CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference. We encourage you to take full advantage of the networking and educational opportunities taking place at the Denver Marriott City Center over the next several days. Please refer to your conference brochure for descriptions of sessions, locations of events, and Continuing Education Credit forms.

Don’t Miss these Meetings Held in Conjunction with the Annual Conference:

- **CHAMPS Executive Committee Dinner Meeting**
  Saturday, October 21, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
- **CHAMPS Annual Board Meeting**
  Sunday, October 22, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
  (Snack provided)
- **MPCN Steering Committee Dinner Meeting**
  Monday, October 23, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
- **Regions VIII and X Migrant Health Grantees Breakfast Meeting**
  Tuesday, October 24, 8:00 – 9:00 AM

Reminder for Region VIII Clinicians: Providers working for CHAMPS Organizational Members may qualify for up to $700 in travel reimbursement to attend the conference. Pick up a reimbursement form at the Conference Registration Desk. To determine if your organization is a current CHAMPS Organizational Member, please visit: [http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/CHAMPS/org_members.asp](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/CHAMPS/org_members.asp).

Montana Center Receives Round Two 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 both in Colorado and nationally 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!

CHAMPS Satisfaction Survey Results are Being Tallied

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. Initial results from this online survey indicate a strong response from all six Region VIII states and from a variety of disciplines. CHAMPS will be using information gathered from the survey to analyze current programs and services and to help design future offerings. Preliminary results will be available to CHAMPS Board of Directors members at the Annual Primary Care Conference in Denver in late October.

2007 New Access Point Guidance Released

New Access Point (NAP) Guidance for FY 2007 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. The guidance details eligibility requirements, review criteria, and awarding factors. 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

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. The site also includes a grantee replacement list, the Performance Review Protocol, the protocol guide, and other relevant review templates.

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. Eligio G. White of Utah began his year as NACHC Board Chair, while 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!
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 $50 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 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM MT. Registration for this event will open in December. Please see page five of this publication for additional details.
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:

Managing Acute Otitis Media
Presented by Peggy Kelley, MD
Through October 2006 – CME available

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

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

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 30 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 Patient, will give primary care providers tools and knowledge for managing their obese patients. This event is scheduled for Thursday, November 16 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Mountain Time; please see page three 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 gestation 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 borrow 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.

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.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) has educated women about early breast cancer detection, diagnosis, and treatment for over 20 years. In an effort to increase impact, NBCAM is encouraging all women to take charge of their own breast health through regular self-exams and scheduling annual mammograms when appropriate. Materials to help people understand the disease and encourage them to participate in building awareness are available at http://www.cancer.org/docroot/PED/ped_10_4.asp.

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 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

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 21st – Wednesday, October 25th
CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference
Marriott Denver City Center, Denver, CO
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Conference.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

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

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