CHAMPS Congratulates Region VIII Honorees

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) recently presented 2011 Betsey K. Cooke Advocacy MVP Awards to ten individuals in recognition of their hard work and dedication to building Health Center Advocacy power and furthering the Health Center Policy Agenda in Congress last year. This year's Region VIII awardees included Maureen Maxwell, Communications Manager at Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), and Karen Larsen, Deputy Director of Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD).

The George Washington University School of Public Health and Human Services Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy annually bestows its Emerging Leader Award on one or more individuals that have distinguished themselves through their accomplishments as a new generation of health center leaders. Jenny Dohrmann, MSHA, Vice President of Operations, Clinica Family Health Services, was one of the five 2011 awardees.

Through the Champions of Change project, the Obama Administration has been recognizing ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things in their communities. Each week the Administration recognizes a different group with innovative ideas that are strengthening America. In late March, former Peace Corps volunteers visited the White House to attend a recognition ceremony and share ideas on how encouraging service can help win the future. One of these twelve honored panelists was Ed Hendrikson, PhD, PA-C, Environmental Health Director and practicing Physician Assistant at Salud Family Health Centers.

To learn more about Champions of Change and view a short video of Dr. Hendrikson speaking, please visit www.whitehouse.gov/champions/peace-corps.

Congratulations Maureen, Karen, Jenny, and Ed on these amazing honors!

Save the Date: 2011 Fall CHAMPS Conference

Mark your calendars for the 2011 Fall NWRPCA/CHAMPS Primary Care Conference, to be held October 22-25, 2011 in Seattle, WA. CHAMPS and NWRPCA are currently seeking abstracts for conference sessions; please consider sharing innovative programs or process changes for the benefit of other health centers. The abstract submission deadline is June 10, 2011. Review more conference details and instructions for submitting abstracts at www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Conference.html.
**CHAMPS 2011-2012 Membership Year**

CHAMPS thanks the Community Health Centers (CHCs) and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that have recently paid membership dues to become **2011-2012 CHAMPS Organizational Members**. The benefits of CHAMPS Organizational Membership extend to all staff and board members, including:

- Free participation in webcasts and teleconferences (including CME credit)
- Discounted registration for Spanish Language Trainings, Annual Conferences, and other CHAMPS-sponsored face-to-face events
- Conference travel reimbursement for qualifying clinicians
- Free access to the CHAMPS Lending Library and discounted rates on all CHAMPS Products

To determine if your CHC or PCA is a current CHAMPS Organizational Member, please visit [www.CHAMPSonline.org/About/CHAMPS/OrgMembers.html](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/About/CHAMPS/OrgMembers.html).

**PLEASE NOTE:** 2010-2011 members enjoy a 60 day grace period in the new fiscal year. Member benefits for 2010-2011 members that have not paid 2011-2012 dues will expire on 06/01/11.

**NEW CHAMPS Web Resources for CHCs**

Over the past several months CHAMPS has been working hard to add a variety of new tools and resources to [www.CHAMPSonline.org](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org), each benefiting the Region VIII CHC community. Throughout this newsletter, look for the **New CHAMPSOnline Resource(s)!** feature (seen at left) marking information about these valuable new materials.

The largest collection of new information is contained in the new **Needs Assessment Data Resources** section of the site. This new series of nine webpages discusses federal regulations and offers information and tips for collecting assessment data. Additionally, the section includes lists of suggested national data sources as well as sources for data specific to each state in Region VIII. These materials are designed to assist CHCs document the needs of their target populations and update information about their service areas.

To utilize these new Needs Assessment resources, visit [www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/CrossDiscResources/NeedsAssessmentData.html](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/CrossDiscResources/NeedsAssessmentData.html).

Also added to the CHAMPS website is a new webpage of **Meaningful Use Information & Resources**. The page offers a general overview of the initiative with links to in-depth resources about the ongoing development of Meaningful Use. Learn the definition and importance of this project, the history and background behind it, and the three stages of Meaningful Use. For CHCs in the process of implementing Meaningful Use, and for those considering the process, this webpage offers venues for support in addition to these helpful resources.

To explore this Meaningful Use resource, please visit [www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/CrossDiscResources/HealthInfoTechnology/MeaningfulUse.html](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/CrossDiscResources/HealthInfoTechnology/MeaningfulUse.html).

To further support Region VIII CHCs in their Meaningful Use efforts, CHAMPS is sponsoring **Meaningful Use for CHCs: From Visionary Concept to Actualized Practice**. This webcast will be broadcast live on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 11:30 AM Mountain Time (12:30 PM Central Time), and will be made available after the live event as an online archive and on CD-ROM.

For more information, see page 3 of this newsletter or visit [www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/DistanceLearning.html#mu](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/DistanceLearning.html#mu).
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

UPCOMING CHAMPS WEBCAST FOCUSES ON MEANINGFUL USE

CHAMPS invites Region VIII Community Health Centers and other interested organizations to attend
Meaningful Use for CHCs: From Visionary Concept to Actualized Practice. This 90-minute live
webcast will give participants insight into the intent behind this pivotal issue and an understanding of
its requirements. Attendees will gain a greater understanding of registration, payment, and timelines,
while learning about potentially problematic areas and gaps between current and prospective practice.
Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit is available.

★ Wednesday, May 18, 2011
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Mountain Time (12:30 PM – 2:00 PM Central Time)
★ Presented by: Dr. Christopher Tonozzi, Mountain Family Health Center,
Heather Stocker, Colorado Community Managed Care Network (CCMCN)

For more event details and a link to online registration, please visit
www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/DistanceLearning.html#mu.

For additional information about this initiative, including history, stages, support, and online trainings,
please visit the CHAMPS Meaningful Use Information and Resources webpage:
www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/CrossDiscResources/HealthInfoTechnology/MeaningfulUse.html

DID YOU MISS THESE CHAMPS DISTANCE LEARNING EVENTS?

CHAMPS Distance Learning Events (webcasts and teleconferences) are available as archives for those
who could not attend the live offerings or would like to review what they have already seen. To learn
more details, including topics, possible costs, and instructions for accessing the archives, visit
www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/DistanceLearning.html. Currently available archives include:

Clinically-Themed Webcasts

**Bipolar vs. Borderline Personality Disorders**
Online archive available through 02/28/12
CME available through 03/01/12

**Pharming: 340B Pharmacy Programs**
Online archive available through 03/28/12
CME approval is pending

Managing Change CHCs Webcast Series: Empowering CHCs to Succeed

**Governance Session: Considerations for Governance in Managing Change**
Online archive available through 05/11
CME is not available

**Staff Session #2: Roles within the Change Process**
Online archive available through 10/05/11
CME available through 10/05/11

**Staff Session #1: Change as a Process**
Online archive available through 08/24/11
CME available through 08/24/11

**Staff Session #3: Resistance to Change**
Online archive available through 11/30/11
CME available through 11/30/11

**Audio Archive: 2010 Region VIII CHC Salary Survey Follow-Up Web Conference**
Audio archive available through 12/31/11
CME is not available

Purchase or borrow CDs of CHAMPS archived webcasts!
Visit www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/PublicationsMedia/ElectronicMedia.html for details.
Partial Attendance Opportunity!
Health System Transformation (HST) Learning Network

Community Health Center (CHC) teams and individuals are invited to join all or part of the Health System Transformation (HST) Learning Network, a Learning Community aimed at strategically positioning health centers for success in the era of system transformation. Nationally-recognized Roger Chaufournier of CSI Solutions has designed the program and recruited top-notch faculty to help health centers optimize their operational potential. The eight-month certification program, offering CEUs, is aimed at CHCs that are committed to high performance but not currently working with an externally led quality improvement program. Participants will engage in facilitated peer learning with practical application through face-to-face and distance learning opportunities, including a four-month Improvement Cycle in the field and a six-week Sustainability Cycle to ensure ongoing success. The face-to-face component begins May 21-22 in Seattle, WA; however, interested parties who cannot attend this portion of the Learning Network have the opportunity to participate in other components, including the October 22-23 face-to-face sessions during the CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Conference.

For more information about the training, please visit www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/LeadershipLearningOpportunities.html#HST.

New CHAMPS Website Resources Aim to Improve R&R at Region VIII CHCs

In March of 2011 CHAMPS released updated online materials addressing the recruitment and retention of staff and board members at Community Health Centers (CHCs).

Best-Practices for Retaining CHC Staff Members:
The completely overhauled Retaining CHC Staff webpage offers extensive information on best practices for retaining staff, including: recruiting for retention, creating a retention plan, creating a culture of engagement, compensation and recognition, professional development, burnout, considerations for retaining providers, and what to do if a staff member leaves. Among the many new features are downloadable sample satisfaction/engagement surveys (developed and utilized by Region VIII CHCs), retention plans, and exit interview questionnaires.

Explore the overhauled Retaining CHC Staff page at www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/RRResources/RetainingStaff.html.

If your CHC is willing to share electronic versions of retention tools for use on the site, please contact Shealyn@CHAMPSonline.org.

Recruiting and Retaining CHC Board of Directors Members:
CHAMPS has also provided updated resources aimed at recruiting and retaining CHC Board of Directors members. Specifically designed with CHCs in mind, these materials were compiled to help CHCs build and maintain a well-staffed Board of Directors. The CHC Board Composition and Recruitment page provides resources for CHCs creating a board from scratch or seeking to add new members to an existing board. The Board Member Orientation and Retention page provides useful information on how to provide a thorough and effective orientation for new board members and tips for retaining the valuable board members currently serving.

Link to these pages, and explore all of CHAMPS’ CHC Board of Directors Resources, at www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/CHCBoardResources.html.
**Toolkit Encourages CHC/Residency Partnerships**

In March 2011, the Education Health Center Initiative (EHCI) released the **Education Health Center Toolkit**, a resource designed to assist Community Health Centers (CHCs) and Family Medicine Residency programs (FMRs) take advantage of new funding streams and successfully affiliate. Sponsored by the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, the kit addresses the issues of mission, governance, administration and operations, finance, and legal, and includes a focus on the similarities and differences between CHCs and FMRs. Both types of entities face challenges and opportunities, and this toolkit will help the two create successful partnerships while expanding care and increasing the number of trained family physicians.

*To learn more about the Education Health Center Initiative, visit* [www.teachinghealthcenter.org](http://www.teachinghealthcenter.org).

*To download the Education Health Center Toolkit, visit* [www.teachinghealthcenter.org/resources/ehciToolkit.pdf](http://www.teachinghealthcenter.org/resources/ehciToolkit.pdf).

**NHSC Updates & Announcements**

The **National Health Service Corps (NHSC)** is a vital resource for recruiting medical, dental, and mental health providers into positions in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). Through scholarships and loan repayment, professionals in various disciplines benefit financially for their willingness to provide service at safety-net health care organizations like Community Health Centers (CHCs). In recent months, NHSC has made several program updates and announcements:

- ★ NHSC Loan Repayors currently fulfilling their service obligation through full-time clinical practice may be able to convert their obligation to half-time (however, there is no authority for clinicians with half-time service to convert to full-time); please refer to the following link for more details:

- ★ Sites that qualify for Scholar placement may now apply for up to two scholars at that site; applications for more than one scholar will be considered on a case-by-case basis; please refer to the following link for additional details:

- ★ Approved NHSC sites must renew their NHSC Site Application every three years; however, NHSC is in the process of improving its Site Application process, so all sites with renewal deadlines prior to September 30, 2011 have had their deadlines extended to September 30, 2011; for more information, please visit:

- ★ The 2011-2012 Scholarship Program Application Cycle is now open, with applications due by 5:00 PM Eastern Time on Thursday, June 9, 2011. For more information, visit:

**NACHC Human Resources Clearinghouse**

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) recently launched their **HR Clearinghouse** for use by Community Health Centers (CHCs) and Primary Care Associations (PCAs). The site provides useful HR-related resources on topics such as policies and procedures, hiring and credentialing, benefits and compensation, and more. Visitors may explore the resources already posted, submit new resources to be used by others, and ask questions for other HR specialists to answer.

*Visit* [www.nachc.com](http://www.nachc.com), *then select “Health Center Information” and “HR Clearinghouse.”*  
*Login required. Non-members are welcome.*
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 Emphasizes Spanish Provider & Patient Resources

Don’t Miss: New Spanish Resources for Patients

New Spanish-language Patient Education Handouts are now available on the CHAMPS website. These Spanish handouts were created to mirror the English-language versions developed by CHAMPS and posted on the CHAMPS website in February 2011. Both the English resources and Spanish translations cover 44 topics relevant to CHC patients including asthma, back pain, child safety, chronic pain, colds/flu, diabetes, depression, exercise, relaxation methods, smoking cessation and withdrawal, and more. The handouts are customizable, allowing CHCs to easily download a handout and insert their health center name, address, logo, etc. Please utilize these resources freely as a resource for your CHC patients.


CHAMPS 2011 Spanish Language Training

In late April and early May, 2011, 42 health care providers from Region VIII CHCs and other Denver-area practices came together to participate in the intensive, four-day Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals training in downtown Denver. This training was sponsored by CHAMPS, Denver Medical Society, and Rios Associates (leaders in medical Spanish language training). Providers laughed and learned as they participated in this rigorous conversational and medical Spanish workshop that included medical dialogues, role-plays, cross-cultural discussions, and “edutainment.” CHAMPS has offered this intensive training on an annual basis, as supported by demand.

If you think you might be interested in this training in 2012, contact Shannon@CHAMPSonline.org to be added to the Spanish Language Training mailing list.

Other Available CHAMPS Resources

For those who cannot attend the face-to-face intensive training, or desire additional Spanish language practice, CHAMPS offers a self-paced Spanish language course set through the CHAMPS Lending Library. Region VIII CHC staff can borrow the Rios Associates Spanish Language for Health Professionals Complete Course Set, including two books, audio CDs, and CD-ROM workbooks.

Find information about the CHAMPS Lending Library and borrowing the Spanish language course set at www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/PublicationsMedia/LendingLibrary.html#spanish.

CHAMPS also provides Spanish language resources, including links to classes, tutorials, medical reference materials, translated documents, and patient education resources on the Spanish Language for Health Professions page of the CHAMPS website. These resources were compiled specifically to support Region VIII CHCs in treating and supporting Spanish speaking patients.

View the CHAMPS Spanish Language for Health Professionals webpage at www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/CrossDiscResources/SpanishLanguage.html.

Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States – Spring 2011 Quarterly Newsletter
New Provider and Patient Resources for Diabetes Treatment

CHAMPS is pleased to announce the launch of the Diabetes Treatment Resources webpage. This new page offers diabetes resources for health care providers and their patients, including clinical guidelines, articles, webcasts, provider treatment tools, and patient education tools. Follow the link below to explore this resource, and contact Shannon Kolman, CHAMPS Clinical Programs Director, at Shannon@CHAMPSonline.org if you know of other resources that would be useful to CHCs in treating and supporting patients with diabetes.

Explore these Diabetes Treatment Resources at www.CHAMPSonline.org/ToolsProducts/ClinicalResources/DiseaseConditionResources/Diabetes.

Public Service Videos Inspire Healthy Kids

Colorado Public Television has created a series of 28 online videos aimed at inspiring children ages three to eight to run, play, and eat well. Many of the Let’s Play! Let’s Grow Strong! videos are targeted for children to watch, showing kids playing outside, playing inside, and eating healthy in a variety of ways. Others, targeted at parents, discuss topics such as fun ways to keep kids active, quick and healthy meals for busy families, and sleep for kids. These videos were sponsored by the Colorado Tri-County Health Department and the Children’s Hospital and are available for anyone to watch, share, and download.


REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

To submit an article about state, regional, or national news, please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org

National FQHC Branding

As part of the “Community of Community Health Centers” Campaign, the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) recently adopted a national Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) brand identity mark. The new FQHC logo is to be used (with permission) in conjunction with a health center’s or Primary Care Association’s existing logo to promote recognition of all FQHCs, including look-alikes, as part of a unified, nationwide network of quality providers. This national branding campaign will also help distinguish FQHCs from non-FQHCs that use the generic term “community health center.”

For more information on the FQHC logo and to access other tools promoting a “Community of Community Health Centers,” please visit www.nachc.org.
Visit the New BPHC Website

In April 2011 the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) unveiled a new website highlighting the wide range of BPHC's activities and resources. The site includes improved navigation and access to content, allowing users to locate information quickly and easily. All previous resources are still available, although many website addresses have changed. Site improvements include:

- A home page section of BPHC Open Funding Opportunities displaying all currently available funding opportunities
- Site navigation that includes the Health Center Data and Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) pages
- Highlighted Technical Assistance pages

Explore the new site at http://bphc.hrsa.gov.

HRSA Programs and Funding by State

The Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA’s) newest online tool, HRSA in Your State, provides up-to-date information on HRSA programs, grants, health centers, National Health Service Corps (NHSC) members, and 340B program participating providers. This information is offered on both state and county levels, is always the most up-to-date data available, and is updated from HRSA’s Data Warehouse on a nightly basis. The easy-to-use resource also offers printable snapshots of HRSA programs and investments in each state, providing funding levels by program and by county.

To explore this new tool, visit http://hrsainyourstate.hrsa.gov.

HHS Releases 2011 Guidelines for Poverty

The 2011 Federal Poverty Guidelines are now available from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). These guidelines are updated every year and are used for administrative purposes such as determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs, including Medicare’s subsidized prescription drug coverage, the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Head Start. (Please note that large parts of Medicaid and other programs do not use these guidelines in determining eligibility.) Also note that the poverty thresholds, used by the US Census Bureau for statistical purposes like estimating the number of Americans in poverty each year, differ from the poverty guidelines, which are simplifications of the thresholds and used for administrative purposes. For a list of programs that use the guidelines, visit http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/faq.shtml#programs.


Share Your Voice with the Safety Net

Health care safety net professionals can connect with colleagues, access news, use a library of peer-reviewed resources, team up with like-minded professionals, and post and view jobs and events at Community Clinic Voice. This online gathering place is free for anyone involved with community health and is open to CEOs, Medical Directors, clinicians, fundraisers, operations staff members, and more. Users can track interesting issues on a customizable, personal home page.

Learn more and join the community at www.communityclinicvoice.org.
Utah CHC Awarded GE Foundation Grant

**Community Health Centers, Inc.** (CHC, Inc.) of Salt Lake City, Utah, recently received a $500,000 grant from the GE Foundation (the philanthropic organization of the General Electric Company) to support the parenting, pre-natal care, and literacy work at its Oquirrh View and Central City sites. Accompanying the grant is a GE employee volunteer program at Oquirrh View; GE teams and clinic staff will work together on business-based process improvements and other value-added skills benefiting patients and workflow.

*Congratulations, Community Health Centers, Inc.!*


Potential CHC Grant Opportunities

Region VIII Health Centers may benefit from the following grant opportunities. Additionally, visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and [www.hrsa.gov/grants/index.html](http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/index.html) for currently available federal funding.

**Commonwealth Fund Grants:** The Commonwealth Fund offers grants to non-profit organizations aiming to improve health care practice and policy given to projects that seek to solve problems affecting vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, low-income families, minorities, and the uninsured. Letters of inquiry are accepted on an on-going basis and should be submitted online.


**Hearst Foundations Health Grants:** Health grants are available from the William Randolph Hearst Foundations to regional hospitals, medical centers, and specialized medical institutions that direct medical services that promote wellness, prevention, and rehabilitation. This foundation's areas of interest include: cancer, geriatrics, neonatology, perinatology, pediatrics, women's health, and the disabled, but funding may also be awarded for nursing and advanced professional education and training. Proposals are welcome throughout the year and must be submitted online.


**RGK Foundation Grants:** The RGK Foundation offers grants that support education, community, and medicine and health. Their current medical and health interests lie in promoting the health and well-being of children and programs that promote access to health services. Nonprofit organizations, including qualified hospitals, educational institutions, and governmental institutions are encouraged to apply. Letters of inquiry are welcome on an on-going basis and must be submitted electronically.


**Verizon Foundation Grants:** The Verizon Foundation’s focus areas include technology for healthcare and healthcare accessibility, as well as education, literacy, and domestic violence prevention. Applications are due September 30, 2011 and must be submitted electronically.


**Wal-Mart Foundation State Giving Program:** The Wal-Mart Foundation offers grants to non-profit organizations in the areas of education, workforce development/economic opportunity, health and wellness, and environmental sustainability. Grants for health and wellness are awarded to organizations improving access to health care, reducing health care disparities, and promoting nutrition. Applications are due September 9, 2011 and must be submitted online.

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Visit the interactive online CHAMPS calendar – www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Calendar.html.

MAY

Wednesday, May 18, 2011; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM MT
CHAMPS Meaningful Use for CHCs Webcast
www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/DistanceLearning.html#mu

Thursday, May 19 – Saturday, May 21, 2011
University of Washington Community Health Leadership Institute (CHLI)
Talaris Conference Center, Seattle, WA
www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/LeadershipLearningOpportunities.html#CHLI

Saturday, May 21 – Sunday, May 22, 2011
NWRPCA Health System Transformation (HST) Learning Network
Renaissance Hotel, Seattle, WA
www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/LeadershipLearningOpportunities.html#HST

JUNE

Thursday, June 23 – Saturday, June 25, 2011
NHSC Scholar Orientation and Placement Conference
Saddlebrook Tampa, Wesley Chapel, FL
www.nhscsevents.com/scholarplacement2011/index.cfm

Thursday, June 23 – Saturday, June 25, 2011
National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium
Hyatt Regency Washington Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

Saturday, June 25 – Wednesday, June 29, 2011
NASBHC National School-Based Health Care Convention
Marriott Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL
www.nasbhc.org/site/c.jsJKPWFJrH/b.2708163/k.9443/Convention_Intro.htm

Looking Forward

Health Care for Residents of Public Housing National Training Conference
July 13-15, 2011
http://healthandpublichousing.org/

Community Health Leadership Institute
July 28-30, 2011
www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/LeadershipLearningOpportunities.html#CHLI

National Health Center Week
August 7-13, 2011
www.healthcenterweek.org/

NACHC Community Health Institute (CHI)
August 26-30, 2011
www.nachc.org

Please let us know if your email address has changed. Thank you!

CONTACT US

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Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States – Spring 2011 Quarterly Newsletter