Please Join Us in Seattle

Don’t miss the 10th Anniversary Edition of the NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference October 20-24, 2007 at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel in Seattle, Washington. This multi-day, multi-track conference offers a variety of sessions designed to meet the needs of health center staff and Board members at all levels. Network with your peers from Regions VIII and X and learn more about current events and best practices for your discipline.

To download a conference brochure with session and registration information, view an online schedule of sessions, and access hotel information, online registration and more, please visit https://www.nwrpca.org/onevent/details.php?id=1107.

Meetings to Note:
- CHAMPS Executive Committee Dinner Meeting, Saturday, October 20th
- CHAMPS Annual Board of Directors Meeting, the evening of Sunday, October 21st
- Mountain/Plains Clinical Network Steering Committee Lunch Meeting, Monday, October 22nd

Expansion in Region VIII: NAP and EMC Awards

On May 25, 2007 US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Mike Leavitt announced grants worth almost $125 million to help health centers increase access to health care for low-income and uninsured Americans. In addition to $25 million in supplemental base grant awards, $45 million will be used to establish 86 new health center sites (New Access Points/NAP), and $55 million will expand medical capacity at 132 existing health centers (Expanded Medical Capacity/EMC).

CHAMPS congratulates Region VIII recipients of these awards:

New Access Point Awards
- Bullhook Community Health Center (Havre, MT)
- Cooperative Health Center, Inc., Parker Medical Center (Lincoln, MT)
- Midtown Community Health Center, Davis Community Health Center (Farmington, UT)
- Wind River Health Systems, Inc., Riverton Community Health Center (Riverton, WY)

Expanded Medical Capacity Awards
- Peak Vista Community Health Centers (Colorado Springs, CO)
- Salud Family Health Centers (Fort Lupton, CO)
- Clinica Campesina Family Health Services (Lafayette, CO)
- Ashland Community Health Center (Ashland, MT)
- Lincoln County Community Health Center (Libby, MT)
- City of Sioux Falls Health Department (Sioux Falls, SD)
- Mountainlands Community Health Center (Provo, UT)
**CHAMPS Staff News**

- On April 21st Workforce Development and Member Services Director Andrea Martin and husband Dusty welcomed their first child, Sophie Lusela Martin.
- On August 11th Executive Director Julie Hulstein married Anders Kristoffersson at Devil’s Thumb Ranch near Tabernash, Colorado.
- On August 27th Development Officer Erin Cummings will marry Aaron Morrissette in Jamaica. Soon after Erin will be changing her last name to Morrissette.

**Arriving Soon: Region VIII Health Center Directory**

In early October 2007 CHAMPS will publish the 2007-2008 Region VIII Health Center Directory. The directory, to be available in print and online, is a comprehensive listing of all Region VIII main grantee and satellite sites, including Community, Homeless, and Migrant Health Centers (CHCs) as well as state Primary Care Associations. The CHC listings will provide details about each organization, the names and contact information for the organization’s executive leadership staff, and the names and specialties of clinical staff working at each site.

The finalized directory will showcase Region VIII’s health centers while facilitating networking and the sharing of best practices between professional staff. CHAMPS Organizational Members will receive one free copy of the printed version of the directory, and will have access to the online version located in the Members Only section of the CHAMPS website. Non-members and other interested parties nationwide will be invited to purchase a copy.

To determine if your organization is a 2007-2008 CHAMPS Organizational Member, please visit [http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/CHAMPS/org_members.asp](http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/CHAMPS/org_members.asp).

Questions about the 2007-2008 Region VIII Health Center Directory? Please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

**Salt Lake Meeting Provides Direction**

The CHAMPS Executive Committee and staff members recently met in Salt Lake City, UT to participate in Strategic Planning for 2007-2009. CHAMPS extends many thanks to the 96 Region VIII Health Center, Primary Care Association, and Primary Care Office administrators and clinicians that responded to the 2007 CHAMPS Strategic Planning Survey. Your ideas and comments were vital to our planning process, and we look forward to many years of growth and service. **Congratulations to our Amazon.com gift certificate winners, chosen at random from all who completed the online survey:** Jim McNeely of Rural Health Care, Inc., Claudia Calabrese of Salud Family Health Centers, and Kathryn Dean of Horizon Health Care, Inc.

**Welcome New Denver Division Director, OPR**

On June 11th Beth Dillon returned to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as the new Director of the Denver Regional Division, Office of Performance Review (OPR). Ms. Dillon has many years of experience working with HIV and STD issues, including 14 years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
BPHC Realignment and Region VIII

The Bureau of Primary Healthcare (BPHC) has completed an organizational realignment designed to help achieve program results and outcomes, better align primary health care activities, reduce Project Officer workloads while increasing time to assist individual grantees, and reinforce policy and process consistency and coordination. The new Eastern, Central Mid-Atlantic, and Western Divisions are responsible for program management of health centers and Primary Care Associations.

Regions VII, VIII, IX, and X make up the Western Division, led by the following management team:
- Division Director – Angela Powell
- Operations Director – Jack Wescott
- Northwest Branch Chief (MT and WY) – Sherine Abdul-Khaliq
- West Central Branch Chief (CO, ND, SD, and UT) – Judy Rodgers
(301) 594-4445

New Region VIII Data Summaries Available

The 2002-2006 Region VIII BPHC UDS Summary is now available. This one-page report provides a five-year comparison of regional summarized data regarding CHC users, staffing, encounters, and income information. To download this resource and to review similar reports from previous years, please visit:

http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/Publications/default.asp#UDSsummary

The newest report in a series of summarized regional demographic and health data, Region VIII Mortality Data Summary, is now available on the CHAMPS website. These summaries offer state, regional, and national side-by-side data as a useful tool for needs assessments, program and service development, and quality improvement efforts. To view and print the Region VIII Demographics, Region VIII Women’s Health, and Region VIII Mortality Data Summaries, please visit:

http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/tools/PubsElectronicMedia/Publications/default.asp#data

Fast Approaching: NACHC CHI

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) 2007 Community Health Institute (CHI) and Expo will be held August 24 – 28, 2007 at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas, TX. For more information about registration, sessions, speakers, and events, please visit http://www.nachc.com. Qualified NACHC Members, you are encouraged to attend the House of Delegates on Sunday, August 26th. If you cannot attend, please designate a proxy by sending a letter on your center’s stationery, signed by the Board Chair or his or her designee, to the Credentials Committee stating the name of the person who will be holding the proxy.

CHAMPS endorses Anita Monoian, Chief Executive Officer of Yakima Neighborhood Health Services in Yakima, WA, for Chair-Elect of the NACHC Board of Directors.

Lil Anderson, Executive Director of Deering Community Health Centers in Billings, MT, will step into her new role as Chair of the NACHC Board of Directors during the CHI. Congratulations, Lil! CHAMPS will be co-sponsoring a reception honoring Lil on Sunday, August 26th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the Wedgwood Room. Region VIII CHC and PCA staff and board members are invited to attend.

NEW OPPORTUNITY: Community Health Leadership Institute

The dramatic growth and increasing complexity of health centers has created a demand for mid and senior level managers who possess full knowledge of health center management and operations. The Northwest Community Health Leadership Institute (CHLI, affectionately known as “chili”) will provide opportunities for current and future health center leaders to collaborate and build the knowledge and skills needed for effective leadership and management of health centers in Regions VIII and X. The six-month program combines classroom experience with distance learning and will provide 13 graduate level credits. Visit https://www.nwrpca.org/content/index.php?pid=17 to learn more about curriculum, tuition, classroom dates, and more.
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 Webcast Series

**CHANGE FOR THE BETTER: CREATING WORK RELATIONSHIPS THAT WORK**
Presented by Libby Wagner
Target Audience: CHC & PCA clinical staff, non-clinical staff, & board members

Description: This three-webcast series is designed to help participants create positive relationships with coworkers, ultimately improving productivity, trust, and morale in the workplace. The series focuses on improving interpersonal and communication skills, so your staff and board can focus on the work of serving your patients and communities. Each session includes an interactive question and answer session, and participants will leave each session with concrete resources, specific communication tools, and immediately useable skills for creating positive change in the workplace.

**SESSION 1 – CREATING POSITIVE WORK RELATIONSHIPS:**
Tools for Increasing Trust and Building Commitment to Shared Goals
Date: Thursday, October 4, 2007
Time: 11:30am – 1:00pm Mountain Time
Topics:
*Using Four Core Dimensions: Respect, Empathy, Specificity, and Genuineness
*How to gain buy-in and commitment
*Behavioral strategies for improving relationships - even the difficult ones!
Registration Link: https://compx17.eventcenterlive.com/cfmx/ec/register/reg.cfm?BID=1&RegID=03585612

**SESSION 2 – INTRODUCTION TO ETHICAL INFLUENCING:**
Asking for What You Want and Making Behavior Requests
Date: Wednesday, December 5, 2007
Time: 11:30am – 1:00pm Mountain Time
Topics:
*Converting undesirable behaviors to desirable behaviors
*Dealing with real-time issues that need to be resolved
*Utilizing specific, positive feedback as an additional influencing tool
Registration Link: https://compx17.eventcenterlive.com/cfmx/ec/register/reg.cfm?BID=1&RegID=037683D7

**SESSION 3 – CONFRONTATION WITHOUT CONFLICT:**
How to Address Difficult Issues Directly and Respectfully
Date: Thursday, February 7, 2008
Time: 11:30am – 1:00pm Mountain Time
Topics:
*Three kinds of respectful confrontations
*Dealing with tough emotional interactions
*Strengthening relationships through honest communication
Registration Link: https://compx17.eventcenterlive.com/cfmx/ec/register/reg.cfm?BID=1&RegID=038144E5

You may attend any combination of sessions.
Please register for each session separately, and at least 24 hours before each live event.

These events will be offered for 1.5 hours of CME credit (determination of credit is pending).

Participation is free for Region VIII Community Health Centers and Primary Care Associations.
Other participants will be charged $50/webcast link and $15/person for CME credit after the event.

These registration links, as well as details about these and other Distance Learning opportunities, can be found at www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp.
Online Archived Webcasts

All CHAMPS live webcasts are archived online for one year beyond the live presentation date, and most are also available for 1.5 hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit for one year. Please visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp for more information about the following available online archives:

**Practical Approaches to Managing Your Overweight & Obese Patients**  
Presented by Victoria Catenacci, MD  
*Online through October 2007*  
CME available

**Gestational Diabetes: New Concepts, New Guidelines**  
Presented by Linda Barbour, MD, MSPH  
*Online through February 2008*  
CME available

**Promoting Successful Tobacco Cessation: Treatment Recommendations & Systems Changes for CHCs**  
Presented by Jeffrey J. Cain, MD  
*Online through March 2008*  
CME not available  
Visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/events/DistanceDocuments/TobCessWebcastUpdates.pdf to download and print a list of *Updates, Clarifications, and More Useful Material* for this webcast.

Archived Webcasts on CD-ROM

CD-ROMs of these events and all other past CHAMPS webcasts may be purchased or borrowed through the CHAMPS Lending Library. For more information about buying or borrowing archived webcasts on CD-ROM, please visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia.

Upcoming Job Fair

In early October CHAMPS staff will be exhibiting at the 2007 Health Professions Career Fair at Regis University, advertising available positions at Region VIII health centers while promoting the CHC model. Students pursuing Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Nursing, Health Care Administration, and Health Information Management will attend the event.

CHAMPS will promote any openings currently listed on the CHAMPS Online Job Opportunities Bank (JOB), http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/JobBank/. This recruitment resource is free for Region VIII CHCs and PCAs. To post a position on JOB, please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

Article: Competency-Based Hiring

The process of identifying core competencies (specialized expertise in specific areas) has become a key strategy in successful hiring practices. Do you know what two groups of factors determine an individual’s core competencies? Or, what the two different types of core competencies are? **Introduction to Competency-Based Hiring**, an article on GuideStar.org, introduces these concepts, takes readers through recommendations for adopting a competency-based hiring model, and provides additional resources for continued exploration of the model.

Read the entire article at http://www.guidestar.org/DisplayArticle.do?articleId=1142.
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

Spanish Language Immersion Training – Openings Available

CHAMPS is pleased to offer Spanish Language Training for Healthcare Professionals on September 20-22, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Select Denver Cherry Creek. This three day intensive is geared toward the healthcare professional desiring to initiate or improve medical Spanish skills with a focus on cultural competency. Instruction will be provided by RIOS Associates, a company that has trained healthcare professionals in Spanish-language acquisition skills since 1985. Participants will be eligible for 24 hours of prescribed Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit. Registration fees are $400 for participants employed by Organizational Members of CHAMPS and $550 for non-members. Openings are still available, but space is limited.

To determine if your organization is a 2007-2008 CHAMPS Organizational Member, please visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/CHAMPS/org_members.asp.

For registration and hotel information, please visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/events or email stephanie@CHAMPSonline.org.

Immunization Teleconference Recording Available Online

The recent live CHAMPS tele-conference entitled An Update on Immunization Guidelines and Using VFC Vaccine in Region VIII CHCs was recorded and can be accessed online through October 15th. Speakers addressed new evidence-based immunization protocols and guidelines for children and adults, as well as Region VIII Community Health Center access and payor issues by highlighting state and national topics related to the Medicaid and the Vaccines for Children (VFC) programs.

To listen to the online recording, please visit http://audio.confpro.com/ and enter Data Conference Reference Number 158094. The first minutes of the recording include the introductory dial-in period. If you would like to skip ahead and begin listening at the time the speakers start the presentation, please advance the recording forward approximately 10 minutes.

For copies of PowerPoint slides and handouts as well as information about answers to questions raised during the presentation, please email stephanie@CHAMPSonline.org.

RESOURCE: Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Resource Library

The MCH Library, an online site housed at Georgetown University, recently released a new edition of Knowledge Path: Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention. MCH Library Knowledge Paths contain a selection of current online tools and resources including links to websites, electronic publications, databases, discussion groups, and more. The new Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Knowledge Path presents a selection of current, high-quality resources that measure, document, and monitor the problem; identify risk and protective factors; and report on promising intervention strategies. Knowledge Paths are intended for use by health professionals, policymakers, researchers, and others who are interested in tracking information on this topic. Separate sections identify resources for families and schools.

View the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention path and link to other MCH Library resources at http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_adolpreg.html
REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS
To submit an article about state, regional, or national news, please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

New Colorado Loan Repayment Program

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter recently signed legislation to make it easier for health care professionals in Colorado to work in medically underserved areas of the state. SB232, proposed by Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), creates a state-funded student loan repayment program for health care professionals in medically underserved areas of the state. This bill will enable up to six health care providers to be placed in medically underserved communities each year by providing student loan repayment assistance, ultimately providing access to care for an estimated 6,000 patients per year. The program is funded with a combination of tobacco settlement funds; a contribution from CollegeInvest, the Colorado Department of Higher Education’s education financing division; and an expected federal match through the National Health Service Corps.

MedPAC Health Center Representative

Dr. Thomas M. Dean of Horizon Health Care, Inc. in South Dakota has been appointed to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) and will serve on the panel through 2010. Dr. Dean served as a National Health Service Corps physician in 1978, and is the former President of the National Rural Health Association (NRHA). MedPAC is an independent federal body that advises Congress on Medicare payment policy, access to care, quality of care, and other Medicare issues. Dr. Dean is the first health center representative on this panel.

Risk Management Training – CO

Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is offering a special training opportunity for Executive Teams, Risk Managers, Quality staff, Medical Directors, Dental Directors, Nursing Directors, and HR personnel. This National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) sponsored program, Fundamentals of Patient Safety and Risk Management for Community Health Centers, will be presented by Petra S. Berger, RN, PhD, CPHRM. The one-day program will be held include Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at the Hilton Fort Collins, Fort Collins, CO. The training will provide current information related to malpractice and medical errors, demonstrate communication techniques to enhance teamwork, improve techniques related to high-risk services, enhance patient outcomes and patient satisfaction, and much more. The registration fee is $100 for the workshop. Please contact Brandi Raiford at 303-861-5165 ext. 235 or brandi@cchn.org for more information.

Documenting Disability Training – UT

The Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) is sponsoring Documenting Disability, a live and video-broadcast training on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 from 1:00 – 4:30 PM at the University of Utah Campus in Salt Lake City, UT. The sessions are designed for physicians, psychologists, and others who are authorized to provide medical evidence of impairments in support of SSI/SSDI applications and other clinicians who assist with documentation of medical impairments. Participants will learn how to expedite Federal disability benefits (SSI/SSDI) for individuals with severe medical impairments and why it is especially important for clinicians to support poor and homeless patients’ disability claims and how they can do so efficiently and effectively. Continuing Education credit will be provided. Contact Amy Sawaya at workforce@auch.org or 801-716-4610 for more information.
UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

AUGUST

Thursday, August 23rd - Sunday, August 26th
2007 Minority Women’s Health Summit
Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill,
Washington DC
http://www.womenshealth.gov/mwhs

Friday, August 24th – Wednesday, August 29th
NACHC 2007 Community Health Institute (CHI) and Expo
Hilton Anatole, Dallas, TX
http://www.nachc.com

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 17th – Wednesday, September 19th
Public Health in the Rockies 2007 Conference
Hilton Fort Collins, Fort Collins, CO
http://www.coloradopublichealth.org

Thursday, September 17th – Saturday, September 22nd
CHAMPS Spanish Language Training for Health Professionals
Holiday Inn Select Denver Cherry Creek, Denver, CO
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/events/

OCTOBER

Thursday, October 4th
Creating Positive Work Relationships
CHAMPS Live Webcast
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp

Saturday, October 20th – Wednesday, October 24th
NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference
Renaissance Seattle Hotel, Seattle, WA
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Conference.asp

Looking Forward

NACHC Regional/State Primary Care Association Meeting
November 5-7, 2007
http://www.nachc.com

CHAMPS Live Webcast: Introduction to Ethical Influencing
December 5, 2007
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp

17th Annual Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum
December 6-8, 2007
http://www.ncfh.org

CONTACT US

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