



Summer 2009 Quarterly Newsletter

Published August 27, 2009

Funding for Region VIII Community Health Centers

On August 23, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced \$25.7 million in grants to America's health centers. Over \$20 million will go to existing CHCs to add or increase mental health/substance abuse, enabling, oral health, and pharmacy services, and about \$4 million will be distributed as planning grants to areas currently without health centers to help them develop new service delivery sites. **Congratulations to the following Region VIII Grantees!**

- ★ Clinica Family Health Services, CO
- ★ Missoula City/County Health Department, MT
- ★ Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, CO
- ★ Plains Medical Center, CO
- ★ Butte-Silver Bow Primary Health Center, MT
- ★ Horizon Health Care, Inc., SD
- ★ City of Sioux Falls, SD
- ★ Colorado West Regional Mental Health, Inc., CO
- ★ Sapphire Community Health, Inc., MT
- ★ Midvale Family Health Clinic, Inc., UT

For more information about these awards, please review the related 08/23/09 HHS press release by visiting <http://www.hhs.gov/news>.

Registration Now: 2009 Annual Primary Care Conference

CHAMPS and Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) invite you to join us in Seattle, WA October 24-28 for the 2009 Annual Primary Care Conference, **Navigating the New Healthcare Terrain: an invitation to Generate Positive Solutions**. The conference will focus on quality, productivity, and innovative models of care and service, with an eye to understanding the status of healthcare reform to date. Highlights include training for new Medical Directors, multiple sessions about health center workforce, up-to-the-minute briefings by national leaders, more on the "medical home" or "healthcare home," and Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement policies. **Learn more and register at <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Conference.asp>.**

Additional Conference Events:

- ★ CHAMPS Executive Committee Strategic Planning Meeting: Saturday, 10/24, full day
- ★ CHAMPS Annual Board of Directors Meeting: Sunday, 10/25, 5:30-7:30 pm
- ★ Welcome Reception: Sunday, 10/25, 7-9 pm
- ★ Mountain/Plains Clinical Network Steering Committee Meeting: Monday, 10/26, 4-8 pm

Inside this Issue:

- CHAMPS: Membership Benefits; Upcoming Strategic Planning; RVIII Directory; NACHC Awards for RVIII
- Workforce: Upcoming Job Fair; Independent Learning Opportunities; HRSA Workforce Summit; Loan Repayment for Nurses and Faculty; Distance Training for Nurses
- MPCN: Immunization Update Teleconference; Clinical Sessions at Annual Conference; Medical Home in Safety Net Clinics
- Regional & National News: CHC Governance; ARRA Reporting; National Health Center Week; CO CHC Performs Dental Outreach
- Upcoming Events & Contact Us

Don't Miss Out on CHAMPS Membership Benefits

Over 50 Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations have already become CHAMPS Organizational Members for the **2009-2010 CHAMPS Membership Year**. In thanks for their ongoing support of CHAMPS programs and services, these organizations qualify to receive:

- ★ **Free access to CHAMPS webcasts and teleconferences (including CME credit)**
- ★ **Discounted registration for the NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference**
- ★ **NEW: Annual Conference scholarship funds**
- ★ **Annual Conference travel reimbursement for clinicians**
- ★ **Free copies of CHAMPS products developed during the membership year**

For more information about CHAMPS membership please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org. Visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/About/CHAMPS/Org_Members.asp for a current membership list.

Upcoming Strategic Planning Survey

In the next month, a consultant working for CHAMPS will distribute a **CHAMPS Strategic Planning Survey** to senior leadership staff at Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations. All responses will be anonymous, and the information gathered during the survey will be used during a Strategic Planning Session held by the CHAMPS Executive Committee during the NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference in late October. ***We thank you in advance for your thoughtful input; this information will guide CHAMPS programs and services.***



Coming Soon: CHAMPS Region VIII Directory of CHCs

CHAMPS thanks the Region VIII community, migrant, and homeless health centers (CHCs) that have provided updates to their organizational information in anticipation of the upcoming **CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Directory**. This publication, due out in October 2009, will include information about administrative and service sites, executive leadership staff, and clinical staff for each Region VIII CHC. A searchable online version of the directory has been available in the Members Only section of the CHAMPS website for several years, and CHAMPS plans to update this resource with additional search features during the upcoming year.

Region VIII Awards at the NACHC CHI

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) recently held the **2009 Community Health Institute (CHI) and Expo** in Chicago, IL. During this event, NACHC honored eight health center individuals and teams with **2009 Community Health Care Awards of Excellence** for their dedication and contributions to the health center mission.

Three of these award winners were from Region VIII:

- ★ **Michael D. Welch, DO**, Vice President of Medical Affairs at Peak Vista Community Health Centers in Colorado Springs, CO, was awarded the *Samuel U Rodgers Achievement Award*.
- ★ **Marguerite Salazar**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Valley-Wide Health Systems, Inc. in Alamosa, CO, was the recipient of the *Aaron L. Brown Memorial Public Service Award*.
- ★ **Mitzi Moran**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Sunrise Community Health Center in Evans, CO, received the *Health Professions Education and Training Award*.

Additionally, NACHC honored **Stanley J. ("Jerry") Brasher**, Executive Director of Salud Family Health Centers in Fort Lupton, CO. Jerry received the *Cornell Scott Excellence in Leadership Award* to celebrate his 35 years of visionary leadership, guiding the health center movement.

CHAMPS congratulates these amazing Region VIII health center representatives!



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 Job Fair: Please Update Your Postings!

CHAMPS will attend the **2009 Regis University Health Professions Job Fair** on Tuesday, October 13 to promote the CHC model of care while advertising career opportunities listed on the CHAMPS Online **Job Opportunities Bank (JOB)**. Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations are invited to post any open positions on the Job Opportunities Bank at no charge. If you would like to post or update a position on JOB, please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

Don't Miss: Independent Continuing Education Opportunities

ARCHIVED WEBCASTS AND TELECONFERENCES: CHAMPS webcasts are archived online for one year, and recordings of CHAMPS teleconferences are available for 90 days. Access is free for staff and board members of CHAMPS Organizational Members (including continuing education credit). Other participants will be charged \$75 per computer link, \$50 per teleconference access, and \$15 per person for credit unless otherwise indicated.

Introduction to SBIRT Webcast Series*

Session 3 – New SBIRT Guidelines

- Online archive available through 09/30/09
 - CME available through 10/04/09
- <http://www.vcall.com/replay>, # 2146002289

**Due to generous funding through Colorado Clinical Guidelines Collaborative (CCGC), access to the Introduction to SBIRT Series is also free to all participants from Colorado (including credit).*

Lifestyle Modification for Prevention and Management of Diabetes Mellitus Webcast

- Online archive available through 04/14/10
 - CME available through 04/15/09
- <http://www.vcall.com/replay>, # 2146003387

Customer Service in Health Centers Series

Session 1 – The Culture of Customer Service Teleconference (for HR staff and managers)

- Archived as streaming audio online and over the phone through 09/30/09
- CME is not available

Contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org to access this recording

Session 2 – Customer Service: The Art of Caring Webcast (for all staff)

- Online archive available through 07/21/10
 - CME available through 07/21/10
- <http://www.vcall.com/replay>, # 2146003844

For more details about each archived event, including speakers, topics, and available follow-up materials, visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp.

CHAMPS LENDING LIBRARY: Borrow previous training events on CD, DVD, and video for up to four weeks at a time! Resources include past CHAMPS webcasts plus Spanish language, chronic condition, and clinical leadership resources. Free for CHAMPS Organizational Members! Learn more at <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/LendingLibrary/>.

CHAMPS PRODUCTS: Purchase publications, archived educational events, and reference materials (discounted for members)! Resources include past CHAMPS webcasts on CD, clinical reference resources, patient education materials, and more. Download an order form at <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/PubsMediaDocs/CHAMPSProductsOrderForm.pdf>.

Recap: HRSA Health Workforce Summit

In early August 2009, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) sponsored **A Summit on the Future of Primary Care in Rural and Urban America** in Washington, DC to provide a forum to generate new and innovative ideas about primary care workforce issues and potential solutions for rural and urban underserved communities while bringing together stakeholders to share best practices and strategies for future action. CHAMPS staff, along with representatives from Region VIII Primary Care Associations and health centers met with other health care organizations, associations, providers, state officials, and academic health centers interested in the primary health care workforce in rural and urban communities. National experts addressed payment reform, diversity, community-driven medical education, workforce data, and more, while participants submitted short-term suggestions for what HRSA can be doing immediately to address workforce issues and shortages and long-term ideas that HRSA should consider about the future of primary care workforce.

Participants in this summit are encouraged to submit additional ideas and suggestions through September 30, 2009. Email workforcesummit@hrsa.gov.

For more information about the event, please visit <http://www.team-psa.com/workforcesummit2009/home.asp>.

HHS Provides Funds to Assist Nurses and Nursing Faculty

On August 12, Health and Human Services (HHS) Deputy Secretary Bill Corr announced \$13.4 million in financial assistance to help practicing nurses repay their school loans and ease the shortage of nurses created by faculty shortages. Over \$8 million in funding will be distributed through the **Nurse Education Loan Repayment Programs (NELRP)**, which will repay 60 percent of the education loan balance for registered nurses in exchange for two years of service in a critical shortage area. An additional \$5.3 million will be distributed through the **Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP)**; following graduation, loan recipients may cancel up to 85 percent of their debt in exchange for four years of service as full-time nursing faculty. These funds were made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).



*For more information about **loan repayment and other ARRA programs supporting health care professionals**, please visit <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/recovery>.*

Train Your Nurses In Your Facility!

The Northwest Rural Nurse Residency (NWRNR) program is offered by Idaho State University (ISU) in partnership with health organizations throughout the West and Northwest. It provides 12-month trainings by top rural nursing experts (64-hours of seminars and a 104-hour supervised clinical experience) to help reduce turnover of new and transitioning nurses in rural community health centers. This program is conveniently held within health facilities and communities using new technologies such as web-conferencing, telemedicine, and high tech simulations, which make it possible to offer the program for no cost to participants. Program faculty and staff provide a supportive and informative role for preceptors, residents, and nurse administrators to help ensure successful completion of the program. Sessions are starting in September 2009 and January 2010, and applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

To learn more about NWRNR please call (208) 282-2982, email nurseopd@isu.edu, or visit <http://www.isu.edu/nursing/opd/nwrnr.shtml>.

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

Fall 2009 Immunization Update Teleconference: H1N1 Virus



CHAMPS and the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) will join together again to host an immunization update teleconference. The *Fall 2009 Immunization Update Teleconference: H1N1 Virus* will take place on **Wednesday, September 16, 2009, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm MT.**

This teleconference is targeted to clinical health center staff (physicians, PAs, nurses, mid-level clinicians, health educators, and clinical support staff) who treat patients with H1N1 and/or will be involved with providing the H1N1 vaccine.

During this teleconference participants will learn:

- ★ The epidemiology and clinical features of H1N1
- ★ The current status of transmission of H1N1
- ★ How H1N1 is diagnosed
- ★ Treatment recommendations for H1N1
- ★ Administration of the H1N1 vaccine
- ★ Talking points to help educate patients about H1N1 and the H1N1 vaccine

Presenters will include **Dr. John Ogle**, Director of Pediatrics at Denver Health and Hospital Authority, **Dr. Simon Hambidge**, Director of General Pediatrics at Denver Health Community Health Services, **Dr. Matthew Daley**, Director of the International Adoption Clinic at the Children's Hospital in Denver, and **Margaret Huffman**, Provider Services Unit Manager and Pandemic Influenza Coordinator at the Colorado Immunization Program of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The teleconference will offer 1.5 hours of continuing medical education (CME) credits through the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), pending approval.

The teleconference will be provided **free to health professionals in Region VIII** (Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota, and North Dakota). CME will be provided free of charge to members of CHAMPS or CCHN. Those requesting CME who are not members of CHAMPS or CCHN will be charged \$15. **All individuals must register to participate in the teleconference by September 11.** A group representative may register each person in a health center group.

Please contact Dawn Foster Jeffries, CCHN Special Projects Assistant, at 303-861-5165 ext. 287 or dawn@cchn.org to register for this exciting event.

Clinical Sessions at the CHAMPS Annual Conference

The 2009 NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference will offer an **exciting and innovative clinical track** for Region VIII and Region X CHC clinicians and clinical support staff. Highlights include a full-day training for new medical directors, a multi-session focus on obesity and nutrition, and a panel presentation of the new medical home initiative taking place in Regions VIII and X. Don't miss these new, informative sessions spotlighting many of the hottest current issues in community health:

- ★ Training for New Medical Directors
- ★ New Insights into Obesity and Chronic Diseases in Underserved Populations
- ★ Addressing Weight Management in Primary Care: Pedometers to Promotors
- ★ Pediatric Obesity Related Disorders: Recognizing, Evaluating and Treating
- ★ Providing Great Services to Challenging Patients: Guided Problem-Solving for Clinical and Non-Clinical Staff
- ★ Clinicians' Roundtable
- ★ An Overview of the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative: Transforming Safety Net Practices into Medical Homes
- ★ Enhancing Oral Health Care for Kids in the Primary Care Setting

For more information and conference registration please visit <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Conference.asp>.

Medical Home Transformation in Safety Net Clinics

The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) is accelerating efforts to support medical home transformation in Colorado Safety Net Clinics through a partnership with The Commonwealth Fund, The Colorado Health Foundation, Qualis Health, and The MacColl Institute for Healthcare Innovation. Colorado is one of five states selected for the **Safety Net Medical Home Initiative**, a four-year initiative to work with existing safety net clinics and community stakeholders to reach high levels of quality, efficiency, and patient experience.

CCHN, Idaho Primary Care Association (IPCA), Oregon Primary Care Association (OPCA), Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, and the Pittsburgh Regional Health Initiative were selected as Regional Coordinating Centers for this national demonstration project. The initiative calls for partnerships between safety net providers and community stakeholders to work towards a new model of primary care delivery that has shown promise as a way to provide high-quality, cost effective health care to low-income and minority patients while simultaneously reducing racial and ethnic health disparities.

Qualis, CCHN, IPCA, and OPCA will be presenting a panel session entitled *An Overview of the Safety Net Medical Home Initiative: Transforming Safety Net Practices into Medical Homes* at the NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference in Seattle, WA on Monday, October 26. Don't miss this exciting and informational session!

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

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

HRSA Seeks Input on Proposed Health Center Governance Requirements and Expectations

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has recently released a draft Policy Information Notice (PIN) entitled, "Health Center Governance Requirements and Expectations". HRSA is seeking comments on this draft PIN; when providing comments, please be as specific as possible, and reference the section of the PIN and/or page numbers. A final PIN, along with a summary and general response to comments, will be published as soon as possible after the comment submission deadline. The purpose of this draft PIN is to:

- a. Convey and clarify HRSA's policy regarding Health Center Program statutory and regulatory governance requirements for all Health Center Program grantees, including FQHC Look-Alikes;
- b. Provide clarification regarding board requirements for public centers under co-applicant arrangements; and
- c. Outline the eligibility and qualifying expectations for HRSA approval of a governance waiver for the fifty-one percent consumer/patient majority governance requirement for eligible Section 330 grantees and FQHC Look-Alikes. PLEASE NOTE: This PIN eliminates the monthly meeting requirement from waiver consideration.



Review the entire draft PIN at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/draftsforcomment/governance/draftgovernancepin.htm>.

Submit comments to OPPDGeneral@hrsa.gov by close of business October 26, 2009.

ARRA Fund Recipients Encouraged to Register for Reporting

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is encouraging health center recipients of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to **begin the process of reporting on the expenditure of funds** by pre-registering at <http://www.FederalReporting.gov>. This website will also be used to collect government-wide ARRA data between October 1 and October 10, 2009, and the site includes downloadable templates and documentation, as well as a substantial Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section. The Service Desk at FederalReporting.gov is currently offering phone, email, and live chat technical support to fund recipients, and HRSA will be providing sample Recipient Reports to health center grantees in the near future. **Additional reporting support resources include:**

- ★ Technical aids addressing reporting available on the Recovery.gov website, including a Data Dictionary, XML Schema, Excel Spreadsheet Templates, and additional FAQs. Review and download these resources at <http://www.recovery.gov/?q=content/recipient-reporting>.
- ★ Audio recordings and presentation slides of the July 20 Office of management and Budget (OMB) General Reporting Overview webinar. Access these files and others from the webinar series at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/Recovery/WebinarTrainingMaterials/>.

Explore Information about ARRA and CHCs

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) has a new webpage, **Health Centers and Economic Stimulus**, with information about the funding that health centers nationwide have received through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Explore background information about the stimulus package; review information by topics including infrastructure, operations, workforce, health information technology, and accountability; and locate NACHC contacts for each topic. The site also includes an interactive map providing state stimulus data and health center stimulus stories. Learn more at <http://www.nachc.com/health-center-stimulus-map.cfm>.

Celebrating YOU! National Health Center Week

Health centers across the nation celebrated **National Health Center Week** August 9-15. The commemoration highlighted the conjunction of access and quality care provided by health centers with a focus on the "Access for All America" plan to provide a health care home for 30 million patients by 2015. It also featured *Health Care for the Homeless Day* and *Farmworker Health Day* to bring individual attention to populations who are often left outside the mainstream health care system. Dozens of special events were held across Region VIII through the week, emphasizing the needs in our communities and the high costs of failure to provide primary care and preventive health. For more information, please visit <http://www.healthcenterweek.com/>.

Bringing Dental Care to Needy Children

Peak Vista Community Health Centers based in Colorado Springs, CO, spent two weeks early this summer providing dental care for underserved children in Teller & Park counties (including the towns of Lake George & Cripple Creek) through its Ronald McDonald Care Mobile. Services included routine and periodontal exams, x-rays, cleanings, filling of cavities, and extractions. This unique opportunity was available because of a generous grant from Pikes Peak Rotary Club to assist those children who had Medicaid, CHP+, or no insurance. Peak Vista's dental team saw a total of 86 children and planned to return to Cripple Creek to do follow up treatments. Currently, eight Colorado counties do not have a dentist and 18 counties do not have a dentist who accepts Medicaid. About 50 percent of children seen by safety-net programs in Colorado, like Peak Vista, have untreated dental disease. Learn more about Peak Vista Community Health Centers at <http://www.peakvista.org>.



UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 10th – Friday, September 11th

HRSA 2009 Telehealth Workshop

Salt Lake City Marriot University Park, Salt Lake City, UT

http://www.utahtelehealth.net/hrsa_workshop/index.html

Tuesday, September 15th – Wednesday, September 16th

EHR/HIT Conference

Crowne Plaza, Billings, MT

<http://www.communityhealthcare.net/training/trainingcalendar.html>

Wednesday, September 16th

Fall 2009 Immunization Update: Novel Influenza A (H1N1)

CHAMPS Live Teleconference

http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp#H1N1

*Labor Day, September 7
Grandparent's Day, September 13
Rosh Hashanah, September 19
Autumnal Equinox, September 22
Yom Kippur, September 28*

*Columbus Day, October 12
Halloween, October 31*

*Daylight Saving Time Ends,
November 1
Election Day, November 3
Veterans' Day, November 11
Thanksgiving Day, November 26
Eid al-Adha, November 28*

OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 7th

ATSU/NACHC Medical and Dental Recruitment Fair

AT Still University, Mesa, AZ

Sunday, October 24th – Wednesday, October 28th

NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference

Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA

<http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Conference.asp>



NOVEMBER

Monday, November 2nd – Wednesday, November 4th

National Primary Oral Health Conference

Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN

<http://www.nnoha.org/conference/npohc.html>

Monday, November 16th – Wednesday, November 18th

NACHC State/Regional Primary Care Association Conference

Albuquerque Marriott, Albuquerque, NM

<http://www.nachc.com>

Thursday, November 19th – Saturday, November 21st

Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum

Isla Grand Beach Resort, South Padre Island, TX

<http://www.ncfh.org>

Looking Forward

NACHC Policy & Issues Forum

February 24-28, 2010

<http://www.nachc.com>

Please let us know if your email address has changed.

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