Region VIII Receives New Funding

In June of 2012 Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced new awards expanding the Health Center Program. These grants, made possible through the Affordable Care Act (ACA), total $128.6 million and will go to 219 health centers from 41 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands. It is estimated that these funds will create 5,640 new jobs and expand services to more than 1.25 million new patients. Congratulations to all the new health center sites in Region VIII and welcome to the Region VIII Health Center family! We are excited to work with you.

Congratulations to the Region VIII Health Center Program Awardees!

NEWLY FUNDED HEALTH CENTERS
★ Bighorn Valley Health Center, MT
★ Mineral Regional Health Center, MT
★ Olathe Community Clinic, Inc., CO
★ University of Colorado Denver (Sheridan Health Services), CO

EXPANDED FUNDING
★ Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurse Association, Inc., CO
★ Metro Community Provider Network, CO
★ Plains Medical Center, Inc., CO

Registration Open for Fall 2012 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Conference!

Registration is now open for the CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Conference in Denver, CO! Read the full article on Page 2 of this newsletter for more details, and visit the CHAMPS Conference webpage for links to online registration, exhibitor prospectus, hotel details, tourist information, and more.
2012 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Primary Care Conference

Please join CHAMPS and Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) for the 2012 Fall Primary Care Conference October 14-17, 2012 at the Westin Denver Downtown Hotel in Denver, CO. Participants will enjoy four days of success stories, refreshing new perspectives, and solid strategies for leading change. Highlights include: networking with Region 18 colleagues; HRSA and NACHC updates; educational sessions addressing Patient-Centered Medical Home, Health System Transformation, clinical topics addressing medical and behavioral health, and more! Keynote speaker T.R. Reid, former Washington Post reporter and current international correspondent and author, will bring the conference to a grand finale.

CHAMPS Organizational Members are eligible for Registration Reimbursement for one staff member, in addition to Clinician Travel Reimbursement! Each CHAMPS Organizational Member may request conference registration reimbursement of up to $730 for one line staff, medical support staff, or mid-level manager/supervisor staff member (providers and Executive Directors/CEOs are not eligible). Qualifying clinicians working at least .5 FTE may apply for travel reimbursement to the conference for up to $700.

Conference Events:
- Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) Steering Committee Meeting – Saturday, 10/13, Evening
- CHAMPS Executive Committee Meeting – Sunday, 10/14, Evening
- CHAMPS Annual Board of Directors Meeting – Monday, 10/15, Evening
- Welcome Reception – Monday, 10/15, Evening
- Region VIII Meet & Greet – Tuesday, 10/16, Evening

For more details and a link to online registration, visit the CHAMPS Conference webpage.

CHAMPS Membership Benefits

In addition to the conference discounts and travel reimbursement mentioned above, CHAMPS Organizational Members also enjoy:
★ FREE participation in webcasts and teleconferences and CME credit
★ FREE access to the CHAMPS Lending Library
★ DISCOUNTS on all CHAMPS Products
★ FREE printed copy of the 2012 Salary Survey Report

Questions about membership? Contact julie@CHAMPSonline.org.

Introducing New CHAMPS Staffer

CHAMPS welcomes Chelsea Skovgaard as the new Member Services and Programs Coordinator! Chelsea will support the success of Region VIII health centers by coordinating and implementing communications, trainings, and various workforce, operations, and clinical CHAMPS programs. Ms. Skovgaard obtained a bachelor’s degree in English, humanities, and political science from the University of Colorado Boulder, and has worked at a number of nonprofits in the Denver metro area that serve disadvantaged clients, including working in Homeless Outreach Services for a Health Center Program grantee. Chelsea will be directly responsible for CHAMPS’ recruitment and retention programs, including coordination of the CHAMPS online Job Opportunities Bank. Please feel free to contact her at chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org or 303-867-9584.
Region VIII UDS Summary Illustrates Trends

Each year CHAMPS produces a three-five year history of Uniform Data System information for Region VIII. The newly released 2007-2011 Region VIII BPHC Uniform Data System (UDS) Summary includes:

★ Five-year regional trend data for health center users, staffing, encounters, and income
  o In 2011, over 58% of Region VIII users were at 100% FPL and below; 43% were uninsured, and almost 31% were on regular Medicaid.
  o Region VIII Pharmacy FTEs were up over 26% between 2010 and 2011.

★ Three-year comparisons of Region VIII and national figures for two fiscal performance measures: total cost per patient and medical cost per medical encounter, including a look at factors impacting these costs
  o Total cost per patient increased over 6% between 2010 and 2011 in Region VIII, while medical cost per medical encounter increased over 4%.
  o The number of Region VIII enabling services patients increased almost 11% between 2010 and 2011, while the enabling cost per enabling patient dropped almost 10% during that same time.

★ Three-year comparisons of Region VIII and national figures for diabetes and hypertension health outcomes and disparities
  o Diabetes patients were 7.12%-10.9% of adult medical patients (18-75) in the Region VIII states, but represented almost 12% of the same patients nationally.
  o Hypertension patients were 13.27%-18.52% of adult medical patients (18-85) in the Region VIII states, but represented almost 22% of the same patients nationally.

★ State breakdowns for all of the information described above plus percentages for various sub-categories by state, region, and nation (e.g., UT Homeless Users as % of All UT Users)

★ NEW section tracking three years of progress toward six selected Healthy People 2020 (HP2020) Goals
  o As a whole, Region VIII is consistently meeting only two of the six selected HP2020 goals (those relating to hypertension and low birth weight).

To view and download this updated version, please link to CHAMPS’ 2007-2011 Region VIII BPHC Uniform Data System (UDS) Summary.

To view and download data summaries from prior years, please visit the CHAMPS Region VIII BPHC Uniform Data System (UDS) Summaries webpage.
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

Coming Soon: CHAMPS 2012 Salary Survey Report

**Huge thanks** to the 81% of Region VIII’s Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers that participated in the CHAMPS 2012 Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, and Turnover Survey! The data from these 46 organizations is being analyzed, and will be presented in a written report scheduled for distribution in October 2012. This report will provide a regional snapshot of salary and benefits structures and workforce trends across the Mountain/Plains states including:

- Average (mean) salaries for each position title, as well as salary levels at 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles
- Average dollar amount of benefits, plus the average benefits as a percentage of salary
- Breakdowns of salary and benefits information by annual budget range to help centers compare themselves with others of similar size
- Salary and benefits information for executive team employees and for clinical providers and mid-level staff broken down by years of service, budget range of organization, location, etc.
- Comparisons of 2012 Region VIII data with historical Region VIII data and other state, regional, and national surveys
- **NEW** salary and benefits information for selected administrative and clinical support staff (including Billing Staff/Patient Accounts, Medical Assistant, and more) broken down by years of service

CHAMPS Organizational Members and all participating organizations will receive a free copy of the final report. Others will be invited to purchase a copy.

*Please contact [andrea@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:andrea@CHAMPSonline.org) with your questions about this invaluable project.*

EHCI Develops Partnerships between Family Medicine Residencies and Community Health Centers

Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States (CHAMPS) and Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) entered into a partnership three years ago with the University of Washington (UW) Department of Family Medicine and UW Family Medicine Residency Network to form the **Education Health Center Initiative (EHCI).** EHCI provides consulting services, educational materials, and information about developing relationships between health centers and residency programs. EHCI staff and partners can conduct an initial feasibility assessment to determine a member’s organizational capacity and to recommend next steps. This innovative program seeks to educate physicians while contributing to the stability of the primary care safety net.

*Visit [The Education Health Center Initiative](http://www.champs.org/ehci) to learn more.*
Continuing Education on Your Schedule?
Check out CHAMPS’ Archived Trainings

Oral Health, Systemic Health and Pharmacology – Webcast
- Online archive available through 03/05/2013
- CME available through 03/05/2013
To access this free webcast, visit the National Network for Oral Health Access website.

2012 Immunization Update – Teleconference
- Online and phone archives available through 10/25/2012
- 1-888-284-7564, code 2906401#
- http://audio3.confpro.com/2906401, click on the .wav file
Access is free. For more details, check out the article on page 6 of this newsletter.

Archived 2012 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Primary Care Conference Sessions
- Adverse Childhood Experiences: Adult Health & Policy Implications
- Medication Safety and Managing Pain
- Practice-Based Research Network: A.T. Still University & HRSA’s CHARN Project
- Health Center Role in Graduating "PRIME" Providers
- Managing Diabetes & Hypertension Patients Using EMR Reports
For instructions on how to access, visit CHAMPS’ Distance Learning webpage.
$75 fee for CHAMPS Members and $100 fee for non-member organizations.

Implications for Physician Recruitment & Retention: JABFM Study on Satisfaction within Health Centers
The July/August 2012 edition of the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine (JABFM) includes a report on a recent study assessing the satisfaction of family physicians working in community health centers (CHCs). The results of the study showed several differences between CHC and non-CHC physicians. A higher proportion of CHC physicians were highly satisfied with residency training and choice of specialty. However, the study also showed that lower proportions of CHC physicians were highly satisfied with their employers. Writers cite this difference as having implications for recruitment and retention in CHC settings.

Link to the complete seven-page report, including information about survey participants, statistical methods, and additional discussion: Satisfaction of Family Physicians Working in Community Health Centers

GOT JOBS? Let CHAMPS Advertise for You!
The CHAMPS Region VIII Job Opportunities Bank (JOB) is an interactive, online job bank of administrative, clinical, and support openings at Health Centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) throughout Region VIII. Take advantage of this no-cost and easy recruitment resource! To post a position, email chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org with job description, location, how to apply, and any other important details.
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

**MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS**

**CHAMPS 2012 Immunization Teleconference**

On July 25th, over 70 Region VIII health center staff participated in the annual CHAMPS Immunization Update Teleconference. Dr. Beysolow of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention presented current immunization recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Highlighted recommendations included:

- PCV13 for immunocompromised adults
- Tdap for adults and adolescents
- Influenza update
- HepB for adults with diabetes
- HPV4 routine recommendation for males

*The live teleconference offered 1.25 Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits. An archive of the immunization update is available on the CHAMPS Distance Learning webpage.*

A researcher from the Stanford University School of Medicine found that **community health centers provide better care than private practices.** Click [HERE](#) to read the university’s article about the study, which was published July 10th in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine.*

**Updated Region VIII Data Summaries**

CHAMPS recently updated the annual **Region VIII Demographics Data Summary** with new information from the American Community Survey and Census Population Estimates for 2011, and the annual **Region VIII Behavioral Health Data Summary** with new information from the recently released Youth Behavioral Surveillance Survey data.

These updated summaries show interesting changes and trends:

- Nationally and regionally, the population has continued to **grow older.** In both the US and Region VIII, the percentage of the population less than five years of age has declined as the percentage of the population over age 65 has increased.
- The population is now **more likely to speak a language other than English** in their homes than in 2000, nationally and in five of six Region VIII states.
- The population is becoming **less rural**, nationally and in five of six Region VIII states.
- Alcohol use and binge drinking among youth is down regionally and nationally.
- Youth who have had sexual intercourse increased nationally and in five of six Region VIII states.

*CHAMPS also produces annual Region VIII summaries addressing Women’s Health and Mortality. Download any of these four data summaries on the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.*

*If you have any questions about the Region VIII data summaries, please contact shannon@CHAMPSonline.org or call 303-867-9583.*
Early Identification of Adolescent Substance Use & Mental Health Problems

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently published a new free resource, *Identifying Mental Health and Substance Use Problems of Children and Adolescents: A Guide for Child-Serving Organizations*. This free resource offers useful tools to identify mental health or substance use problems in a range of settings including shelters, primary care, and schools.

Learn more and download the digital guide at SAMHSA’s [Publications Ordering webpage](#).

New Spanish Language Resources for Epilepsy and Type 2 Diabetes

The National Center for Farmworker Health (NCFH) and the Epilepsy Foundation have partnered to provide culturally appropriate education materials to the Spanish-speaking community. These videos include first aid tips, discussion of common myths, and information on epilepsy during pregnancy.

For more information and to request free copies of the DVDs, contact Karla Bell at [bell@ncfh.org](mailto:bell@ncfh.org) or 1-866-748-8008.

The US Department of Health and Human Services’ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) announces a new resource, *Aprende a vivir (Learn to Live)*. This free three-episode videonovela provides information about type 2 diabetes management in Spanish, and explores the importance of adhering to medical instructions and using diet and exercise to manage diabetes.

Visit AHRQ’s website [Healthcare 411 - Aprende a vivir](#) to view the video or contact [jessica.reed@ahrq.hhs.gov](mailto:jessica.reed@ahrq.hhs.gov) to request a free copy.

STD Treatment Update Webinars

The Denver Prevention Center and several state Departments of Health are partnering to deliver STD treatment update webinars targeted at specific state trends. These webinars offer information on trends, testing resources, expedited partner therapy, clinical management, and risk-reduction messages. Webinars will take place:

- Wednesday, August 15, 2012: South Dakota STD Treatment Update Webinar 11:00 - 12:00 PM (Central Time)
- Monday, August 20, 2012: Montana STD Treatment Update Webinar 11:00 - 12:00 PM (Mountain Time)
- Thursday, August 23, 2012: North Dakota STD Treatment Update Webinar 11:00 - 12:00 PM (Central Time)
- Thursday, November 15, 2012: Wyoming Partner Treatment Update Webinar 12:00 - 1:00 PM (Mountain Time)

The webinars are free but registration is limited. To register, visit the [Denver Prevention Center](#) webpage (scroll down to reach information).

Need more multi-lingual materials? Check out the CHAMPS Spanish Language Resources webpage.
REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

**Supreme Court’s Medicaid Decision May Affect Health Centers**

The Geiger Gibson/RCHN Community Health Foundation Research Collaborative recently published a policy brief giving early estimates of how the Supreme Court’s Medicaid decision may affect health centers. The researchers conclude that the Affordable Care Act’s reforms would enable health centers to **more than double the number of patients served to 19.8 million**. These expansions **could be limited by the court’s decision to bar the Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary from withholding current Medicaid funding from states that fail to cover the expansion population.** Without the Medicaid expansion, new patient capacity at health centers would be reduced by nearly 27% or 5.3 million new patients. The report breaks these numbers down by state and delves into the implications of limited Medicaid expansion for the nation’s health centers.

Visit [RCHN Community Health Foundation](http://www.rchn.org) to read the policy brief. Visit the [Clinical Directors Network](http://www.clinicaldirectorsnetwork.org) website to register for a free RCHN Community Health Foundation Research Collaborative webinar on this topic (2:00 PM Eastern Time on Thursday, August 16, 2012).

---

**Upcoming NACHC CHI: The Road Ahead for Community Health Care**

The 2012 National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) **Community Health Institute & Expo (CHI)** will be held September 7-11, 2012 in Orlando, FL. The CHI is the largest annual conference of health center professionals nationwide, with opportunities for participants to gather, learn, network, and collaborate.

For more CHI information including schedule, workshops, and link to online registration, visit NACHC’s [Community Health Institute (CHI) & EXPO](http://www.nachc.org) webpage.

---

**IAF’s Leveraging Social Determinants of Health Project features a Region VIII Health Center**

The Institute for Alternative Futures’ (IAF) project “Community Health Centers Leveraging the Social Determinants of Health” **examines the social, economic, and physical conditions that shape patients’ health.** Through case studies, the IAF’s report offers methods to move beyond health care services to address community and individual needs. One of the case studies features a Region VIII health center in Livingston, Montana, **Community Health Partners (CHP).** Through efforts including providing workplace training, promoting childhood literacy, offering parenting classes, and collaborating with community partners, CHP addresses social determinants of health and builds a stronger community. In addition to the case studies featured, IAF continues to gather examples of health center efforts to leverage the social determinants of health. Health centers are invited to submit their own cases detailing their efforts or nominate other organizations.

Visit the [Institute for Alternative Futures](http://www.instituteforaltfutures.org) webpage to read the complete report. Learn more about the [Community Health Partners of Montana Case Study](http://www.instituteforaltfutures.org/case-studies/community-health-partners-montana). To submit a case or nominate an organization, visit [Institute for Alternative Futures Leveraging SDH](http://www.instituteforaltfutures.org) and scroll to the bottom of the page.
**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Provides Region VIII Updates**

Do you have questions about the latest CMS program issues? Check out CMS' new, bi-monthly teleconference series. Staff will be available on these calls to listen to your concerns and respond to your questions. Topics will address Medicare & Medicaid programs, Health Exchanges, and more. If you are interested in participating, call 1-877-267-1577, Meeting ID: 2845. No registration is needed, but space is limited so CMS requests that multiple participants from the same location share phone lines if possible.

Calls take place on Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30 PM (Mountain Time) on:

- August 1, 2012
- October 3, 2012
- December 5, 2012
- February 6, 2013
- April 3, 2013

If you would like to request to add an agenda item, please email your request to dennis.delpizzo@cms.hhs.gov and cecelia.robl@cms.hhs.gov.

**Medical-Dental Relationships Conference**

The Idaho Oral Health Alliance is holding a one-day conference focusing on medical/dental collaboration. This conference brings nationally known speakers to discuss emerging best practice models that integrate medical and dental care. These models provide opportunities for both oral health and medical professionals to develop more efficient referral systems. Although the conference is being held in Idaho, the information is relevant for medical and dental professionals throughout the northwest and mountain/plains region.

For more information about the conference, including registration information, visit The Idaho Oral Health Alliance webpage.

**National Health Center Week**

August 5-11, 2012 marked nearly the thirtieth annual celebration of National Health Center Week. This year's theme “Celebrating America's Health Centers: Powering Healthier Communities” highlighted the work of health centers to empower and power healthier communities. Region VIII events included: Sunrise Community Health’s Bone Marrow Drive in Evans, CO; an open house at Flathead Community Health Center in Kalispell, MT; Metro Community Provider Network’s launch of their first mobile dental van in Edgewater, CO; and a pancake breakfast at Northland Community Health Center in Rolette, ND.

Learn more about National Health Center Week.
### AUGUST
August 21, 2012, 11:00-12:30 PM (MT)
CHAMPS/NWRPCA [Critical Skills for Mid-Level Managers](#) Webinar
Web Event

### SEPTEMBER
September 7-11, 2012
NACHC [Community Health Institute (CHI) & Expo](#)
Orlando, FL

September 30-October 3, 2012
NNOHA [National Primary Oral Health Conference](#)
San Diego, CA

### OCTOBER
October 14-17, 2012
CHAMPS/NWRPCA [Annual Primary Care Conference](#)
Denver, CO

October 29-31, 2012
NACHC [S/RPCA Conference](#)
Charleston, SC

### LOOKING AHEAD
NCFH [Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum](#)
November 8-10, 2012
San Antonio, TX

NACHC [Policy & Issues Forum](#)
March 20-23, 2013
Washington, DC

NACHC [National Farmworker Health Conference](#)
May 7-10, 2013
San Diego, CA

Visit the interactive [online CHAMPS calendar](#) for continuing updates!

**Newsletter Contributors:**
Julie Hulstein, Shannon Kolman, Andrea Martin, and Chelsea Skovgaard

The CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletter is supported by Grant Number 5 H68CS00150-20-00 from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of CHAMPS and do not necessarily represent the official views of HRSA/BPHC.

Please contact Chelsea Skovgaard with any questions or comments about this newsletter.

**August**
Immunization Awareness Month
Ramadan Ends, 8/18

**September**
Labor Day, 9/3

**October**
Columbus Day, 10/8
Halloween, 10/31

**CONTACT US**

Please let us know if you would like to sign up for the newsletter or if your email address has changed. Thank you!

Julie Hulstein, Executive Director; julie@CHAMPSonline.org, 303-867-9582

Shannon Kolman, Clinical Programs Director; shannon@CHAMPSonline.org, 303-867-9583

Andrea Martin, Workforce Development and Member Services Director; andrea@CHAMPSonline.org, 303-867-9581

Chelsea Skovgaard, Member Services and Programs Coordinator; chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org, 303-867-9584