



Winter 2007 Quarterly Newsletter

Fast Approaching: 2007 NACHC Policy & Issues Forum

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) will be hosting the **2007 Policy & Issues Forum** (P&I) March 15-21, 2007 at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, DC. The P&I provides an opportunity for health center clinicians, board members, administrators, and community partners to look at the challenges ahead and approach the new Congress on pressing health issues. Attendees will examine proposals for expanding access to affordable health care, analyze the Congressional Fiscal Year 2007 budget, hear reports from government officials, visit Capitol Hill, and choose from over 45 education and training sessions.

Visit http://www.nachc.com/p_i%202007/default.html for registration and hotel information, schedules, State Delegation Meetings, exhibitor details, and special announcements.

CHAMPS Meetings at the NACHC P&I:

**CHAMPS Executive Committee
Lunch Meeting**
Monday, March 19th
Place and Time TBD

**CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care
Conference Planning Committee Meeting**
Tuesday, March 20th
Place and Time TBD

Questions about these meetings? Contact julie@CHAMPSonline.org.

Newly Released: Region VIII Data Summaries

CHAMPS is pleased to offer the first in a series of documents summarizing **Region VIII demographic and health data**, culled from numerous sources including census information, national behavioral health surveys, and vital statistics. The summaries offer state, regional, and national side-by-side data on socio-economic information, lifestyle issues, and morbidity and mortality rates, which can play a useful role in needs assessments, program and service development, and quality improvement efforts.

★ The **Region VIII Demographics Data Summary** looks at population, race, disability status, poverty level, and more.

★ The **Region VIII Women's Health Data Summary** addresses women's reproductive health and preventive health and wellness.

View and print these summaries at

<http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/Publications/default.asp#data>

Inside this Issue:

- Online CHC Board Resources, HRSA Quality & Data Strategy, EMR vs. EHR
- Workforce Development: Webcasts, Recruiting Events, NHSC Job List
- MPCN: New Clinicians' Listserv, Tobacco Cessation, Recruiting Steering Committee Members, Lending Library
- Regional & National News
- Upcoming Events
- CHAMPS Contacts

CHAMPS Website Focus: CHC Board Resources

CHC Executive Directors and Board of Directors members, don't miss these online resources designed specifically for you. The **CHC Board Resources** portion of the CHAMPS website contains valuable information, downloadable documents, and links to other reputable online resources, all which will assist your valuable mission-oriented work.

Visit <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/CHCBoardResources/> or click below to explore:

[CHC Board Composition & Recruitment](#)
[Board Member Orientation & Retention](#)
[CHC Board Roles & Responsibilities](#)
[The ED/BOD Relationship](#)
[Effective Board Meetings](#)

[CHC Board Committees](#)
[Evaluation & Assessment](#)
[Continuing CHC Board Education](#)
[Other Online Board Resources](#)

HRSA's Quality & Data Strategy for Health Centers

Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Administrator Elizabeth Duke recently addressed the **role of health centers in performance measurement and health information technology (IT) initiatives**. To address these initiatives, HRSA would like to expand on the successes of the Health Disparities Collaboratives (HDC) through the pursuit of a four-point quality and data strategy:

- ★ Establish a core set of clinical performance measures for all health centers while improving and streamlining overall grantee data collection and reporting requirements.
- ★ Update clinical program expectations for health centers to accelerate current health center efforts to improve the overall quality of care provided to patients.
- ★ Promote evidence-based practices and the sharing of best practices among the health center community while utilizing Primary Care Associations (PCAs) to provide additional assistance in the areas of data and quality reporting, clinical and quality improvement, and implementation of innovative quality activities.
- ★ Support health center participation in health IT and electronic health records through the establishment of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and setting functional requirements and interoperability standards to benefit providers and patients.

The HRSA Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT) will work closely with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). OHIT and AHRQ have established a web site where health centers can access information about health IT, share best practices, and support collaborative efforts to expand access to health IT services. Contact OHIT for access to the web site, and browse some of the resources at <http://healthit.ahrq.gov>.

Electronic Alphabet Soup

The terms **electronic medical record** (EMR) and **electronic health record** (EHR) are often used interchangeably. However, the two should be understood as very different concepts. According to the HIMSS Analytics White Paper entitled "Electronic Medical Records vs. Electronic Health Records: Yes There Is a Difference", an **EMR** is the legal record that is the source of data for the EHR. An **EHR** allows easy sharing of medical information and lets a patient's information follow him or her through various modalities of care. For more information please visit:



Electronic Medical Records vs. Electronic Health Records: Yes There Is a Difference

http://www.himssanalytics.org/docs/WP_EMR_EHR.pdf

Medical Economics Technology Consultant – EMR or HER?

<http://www.memag.com/memag/article/articleDetail.jsp?id=131518&&pageID=1>

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 Live Webcasts

Region VIII CHC providers and non-clinical staff, don't miss these upcoming opportunities to learn from the experts and improve your ability to provide high-quality care to your service populations.

GESTATIONAL DIABETES: NEW CONCEPTS, NEW GUIDELINES

Presented by Linda Barbour, MD, MSPH

Emerging research suggests that maternal environment influences future health risks for the fetus, and that a child born to a mother with gestational diabetes is significantly more likely to be overweight or obese by the age of five.

Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2007

Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM MT

Target Participants: CHC Clinical Staff

Participants in this webcast will be able to:

- ★ Understand the existing controversies in the diagnosis and management of gestational diabetes
- ★ Interpret the findings from the most recent landmark trials which shaped the recommendations from the 5th International Workshop on Gestational Diabetes
- ★ Describe how to use a fetal-based strategy for the optimal treatment of GDM
- ★ Recognize the long term implications of GDM for both infant and mother and the appropriate postpartum recommendations



*If you're online, click here to link directly to the registration page for this event.
This registration link can also be found at www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp.*

PROMOTING SUCCESSFUL TOBACCO CESSATION: TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS & SYSTEMS CHANGES FOR CHCs

Presented by Jeffrey J. Cain, MD

Sponsored by Colorado Community Managed Care Network (CCMCN)

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in our country. Brief interventions by CHC health care providers and staff can increase quit rates with proven outcomes and cost effectiveness.

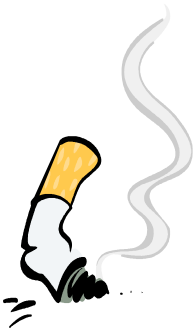
Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM MT

Target Participants:
CHC Clinical and Non-Clinical Staff

Participants in this webcast will be able to:

- ★ Understand the principles of effective clinic tobacco cessation
- ★ Appropriately prescribe tobacco cessation aids
- ★ Promote system-wide comprehensive approaches to successful tobacco cessation
- ★ Utilize community resources and tools to promote tobacco cessation in clinics



*If you're online, click here to link directly to the registration page for this event.
This registration link can also be found at www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp.*

These events will be offered for 1.5 hours of CME credit each.

*CHAMPS webcasts are **FREE** to Region VIII Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers. Other participants will be billed \$50 per link to each webcast and \$15 per person for CME credit.*

Advance registration is required! Registration closes 24 hours before each event.

Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States – Winter 2007 Quarterly Newsletter

Available Archived CHAMPS Webcasts

ONLINE ARCHIVES

Recordings of previous CHAMPS webcasts are available online for one year after the live presentation date. Current available online archives include:

Opioids for Chronic Pain: Striking a Balance

Presented by Richard Brown, MD
Online through March 2007
CME available

Dealing with the Cranky, Crusty, & Crabby: Serving the Difficult Customer

Presented by Kevin R. Miller
Online through May 2007
CME available

Practical Approaches to Managing Your Overweight and Obese Patients

Presented by Victoria Catenacci, MD
Online through October 2007
CME available

*Click here or visit www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp
for log-on instructions for each online archived webcast.*

ARCHIVES ON CD-ROM

All past CHAMPS webcasts are available on CD-ROM, and many are still available for CME credit. CHAMPS webcasts on CD-ROM may be purchased or borrowed through the CHAMPS Lending Library.

*Click here or visit www.CHAMPSonline.org/Tools/PubsElectronicMedia/VideosCDROMsDVDs/
for more details about webcasts on CD-ROM or to print out an Order Form or Borrowing Form.*

CHAMPS Recruits for Region VIII Health Centers

Early 2007 is full of opportunities for CHAMPS staff to advertise open positions at Region VIII health centers while promoting the Community Health Center model. In January CHAMPS partnered with the Colorado Rural Health Center and Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) at the three-day **Rocky Mountain Dental Convention** in Denver, reaching dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and students. CHAMPS will continue its recruiting support at the **Natural and Health Sciences Fair** at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley in February, and at the **2007 Career Fair** for various disciplines at Regis University in Denver in March.

CHAMPS uses these and other events to advertise positions currently posted on the CHAMPS online **Job Opportunities Bank (JOB)**, <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/JobBank>. Region VIII CHCs and PCAs are welcome to recruit open positions on this site at no charge.

To post a position on JOB, please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

NHSC Job Opportunities List

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) uses its **Job Opportunities List** to attract clinicians looking for health care jobs in underserved areas, including those participating in NHSC's Scholar and Loan Repayment Programs. Posting positions is free for qualified Community Health Centers, once an NHSC Recruitment & Retention Assistance (R&R) application and site profile have been completed and approved; approval is good for three years. Once approved, contact the NHSC Recruitment, Training, and Support Center (RTSC) at 1-866-897-7872 or CustomerService@NHSCSupportCenter.net to post a vacancy.

Visit <http://nhsc.bhpr.hrsa.gov/applications/rraa.asp> to download an R&R application & site profile.

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 Launches Region VIII Clinicians' Email Listserv

CHAMPS recently launched an email listserv for Region VIII Community Health Center clinicians interested in joining a free discussion forum for exchanging important patient care, clinical quality, and other useful information. The **Region VIII CHC Clinicians' Listserv** is an effort to improve communication strategies between Region VIII providers, as well as to advance the clinical needs of the region and to improve care for the underserved. The Listserv allows providers the opportunity to share or seek advice about topics critical to their work.



The purpose of the Region VIII CHC Clinicians' Listserv is to:

- ★ Encourage professional networking across the region
- ★ Raise the level of proficiency among Listserv members
- ★ Offer an efficient method of sharing tools and resources
- ★ Share information about topics relevant to Community Health Center providers

Listsers participants will benefit through the sharing of best practices, learning more about emerging health issues, and discussing quality improvement efforts. Listsers members may post articles, questions, announcements, or discussion topics, and are free to unsubscribe at anytime.

Would you like to enroll in the Region VIII CHC Clinicians' Listserv?
Contact Stephanie@CHAMPSonline.org.

Tobacco Cessation Resources and Activities

Most of us know that smoking causes heart disease, stroke, multiple cancers, respiratory diseases, pregnancy complications, and other costly health problems; we also know that smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. But did you know that about 23% of American adults and 28% of teens smoke, and more than 70% want to quit? **Few succeed without help, and tobacco use treatment doubles quitting success rates.*** The following CHAMPS resources can help enhance your tobacco cessation efforts with your service populations:



The **TOBACCO CESSATION RESOURCES** page of the CHAMPS website is an online library of documents and links to useful tools, pocket cards, and reference materials to help providers counsel patients who smoke. Visit <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/tools/ClinicalResources/TobaccoCessation/> to view and download:

Tobacco Cessation Provider Education Resources, including a link to the US Surgeon General's *Clinician's Packet for Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence* as well as a downloadable *Tobacco Cessation Intervention Pocket Card*.

Tobacco Cessation Patient Education Resources, including links to a variety of online patient education sites and a printable flyer that can be distributed to patients.

The **EVIDENCE BASED CLINICAL GUIDELINES LIST** page of the CHAMPS website includes links to the most current **tobacco cessation and reduction guidelines** developed by Kaiser Permanente's Colorado Regional Prevention Committee and the Colorado Clinical Guidelines Collaborative (CCGC). To view this list of resources, visit:

http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/tools/ClinicalResources/EvidenceBasedClinicalGuidelines/guidelines_list.asp

*National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion,
http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/educational_materials/cessation/index.html

Tobacco Cessation Resources and Activities, continued

Finally, don't miss the upcoming CHAMPS webcast, **Promoting Successful Tobacco Cessation: Treatment Recommendations & Systems Changes for CHCs**. See page three of this newsletter or visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp for more details.

MPCN Steering Committee Recruitment

Are you interested in guiding the development of clinical support programs throughout Region VIII? If so, CHAMPS may need your input and expertise on the MPCN Steering Committee. We are currently looking for clinicians practicing in federally funded Community, Migrant, and Homeless Health Centers in Montana, North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. MPCN Steering Committee Members are asked to participate in conference calls every other month and attend at least one face-to-face meeting annually to help guide the development of CHAMPS clinical programs and activities. For more details about MPCN, please visit <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/about/MPCN/>.



If interested in serving, or if you have questions, please contact Stephanie@CHAMPSonline.org.

New Obesity Prevention & Treatment Resource Added to the CHAMPS Lending Library



CHAMPS is pleased to offer a new obesity prevention and treatment resource through our Lending Library. This 30-minute training DVD, **Counseling Overweight & Obese Patients**, is aimed at healthcare professionals wishing to improve their counseling skills for overweight and obese patients. Created by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and presented by Dan Bessesen, MD, the DVD demonstrates specific communication strategies including the Five A's in weight management counseling, motivational interviewing, the 10-point scale, and patient self-monitoring.

CHAMPS members may borrow items at no cost for up to four weeks by completing a Lending Library Borrowing Form and faxing it to the CHAMPS office at (303) 861-5315. If there is not a waiting list, the material may be renewed for an additional two weeks by calling Nadine Carr (ext. 221). Non-members may also borrow the DVD, but must pay a non-refundable fee. Please allow two to three weeks for delivery.

*To access the **Lending Library Borrowing Form** and to review other resources available through the CHAMPS Lending Library, please visit <http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/tools/PubsElectronicMedia/LendingLibrary/>.*

RELATED RESOURCES:

View the online archive of the recent CHAMPS webcast, **Practical Approaches to Managing Your Overweight and Obese Patients**. Use of the online archive is free to Region VIII CHCs, including the provision of 1.5 hours of CME credit. Visit http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp#archived for instructions.

A link to the newly developed **Evidence-Based Clinical Guidelines on Adult Obesity**, recently finalized by the Colorado Clinical Guidelines Collaborative (CCGC), can be found on the CHAMPS website. Please visit: http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/tools/ClinicalResources/EvidenceBasedClinicalGuidelines/guidelines_list.asp

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

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

CCHN Hosts Round Four of HPI Scholarship Program

Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) recently began **Round Four of its Health Professions Initiative (HPI) Program** awarding qualifying high-achieving, entry-level employees with scholarships for continued education in health profession support staff positions. To promote the program, CCHN traveled to Denver Health, Mountain Family Health Center in Glenwood Springs, and Peak Vista Community Health Center in Colorado Springs before blizzard conditions prohibited trips to Salud Family Health Center in Fort Lupton and Sunrise Community Health Center in Greeley. During these visits, CCHN hosted information sessions for CHC leadership teams and potential interested applicants. Despite the treacherous weather, CCHN received 29 applications statewide, more than in any other scholarship round to date. Round Four HPI scholarship awards will be announced in early February. For more information on the HPI scholarship program contact Amber Galloway at amber@cchn.org or 303-861-5165 x 234.

Johnson & Johnson/UCLA Health Care Executive Program

Applications for enrollment in the fifth year of the **Johnson & Johnson/UCLA Health Care Executive Program** are due March 2, 2007. The two week-long intensive sessions that make up this management development program, to be held during the summer of 2007, are aimed at Executive Directors and leaders of community-based health care organizations with curriculum developed to meet the needs of Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grantees. The sessions will focus on institutional finance (factual knowledge of the regulatory and institutional environment of community-based health), leadership (interpersonal and planning skills), and management (business fundamentals). Eligibility is limited to organizations that are currently funded partially or wholly, directly or indirectly, by HRSA.

Please visit <http://www.anderson.ucla.edu/healthcare.xml> for more information about the program and for application procedures.

Nation Receives Annual Check-Up



In December 2006 the United Health Foundation, a not-for-profit foundation dedicated to providing information in support of the health and medical decisions made by physicians and health professionals, released the 17th annual edition of **America's Health Rankings: A Call to Action for People & Their Communities** in partnership with the American Public Health Association and Partnership for Prevention. The report provides a comprehensive view of the health of all 50 states, separately and collectively, based on analysis of determining factors such as personal behaviors, environment, the decisions of public and elected officials, and the quality of medical care.

Highlights from this edition include a ranking of states from healthiest (Minnesota) to least-healthy (Mississippi), an assessment of the overall health of the nation (Americans as a whole are 0.3 percent healthier than they were last year, a stagnation caused by persistent tobacco use, a high infant mortality rate, and consistently increasing rates of obesity), a look at the nation's uninsured (15.9% of the population today, up from 13.4% in 1990), comparisons of US rankings with other nations, and documentation of health disparities among minority populations.

Visit <http://www.americashealthrankings.org> to view the entire report.

2007 Federal Poverty Guidelines Available

The US Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) has posted the **2007 HHS Poverty Guidelines**. Released annually, these guidelines are a simplification of the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds, and are used for administrative purposes (e.g. determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs). Visit <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/07poverty.shtml> for the 2007 HHS Poverty Guidelines, including Frequently Asked Questions, computations, and further resources.

Studies Illustrate Missed Opportunities

Two studies released in January, the **2006 National Healthcare Quality Report** and the **National Healthcare Disparities Report** (HHS Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality/AHRQ), found that while the overall quality of the US health care system is improving, the use of several proven prevention strategies lags behind other gains.

- ★ Only 52% of adults reported receiving recommended colorectal cancer screenings
- ★ Fewer than half of obese adults reported being counseled about diet by a health care professional
- ★ Only 49% of people with asthma were reportedly told how to change their environment, and only 28% reported receiving an asthma management plan
- ★ Only 48% of adults with diabetes received all three recommended screenings to prevent complications (blood sugar tests, foot exams, and eye exams)

Overall, quality improved 7.8% in hospitals, 3.2% in ambulatory care settings, and 1% in nursing home and home health care environments. For more details, please view:

The **National Healthcare Quality Report** at <http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/nhqr06/nhqr06.htm>
The **National Healthcare Disparities Report** at <http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/nhdr06/nhdr06.htm>

RESOURCE: New IRS Online Training – Stay Exempt!



The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has developed an online training to help organizations obtain and maintain their 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. These five interactive courses, each between 30 and 60 minutes long, provide tools and knowledge in plain language, and include a Resource Library of course descriptions, a glossary of terms, and links to each IRS form and publication discussed. Courses include:

★ **Tax-Exempt Status**

How can you keep your 501(c)(3) exempt?

★ **Unrelated Business Income**

Does your organization generate taxable income?

★ **Employment Issues**

How should you treat your workers for tax purposes?

★ **Form 990**

Would you like to file an error-free return?

★ **Required Disclosures**

To whom do you have to show your records?

Visit <http://www.stayexempt.org/> to learn more and participate in these online courses.

RESOURCE: Tools to Improve Alcohol Problems

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), recently announced the update of **Helping Patients Who Drink Too Much: A Clinician's Guide**. This updated guide includes a new medications management program, improving treatment in non-specialty settings, as well as a new handout with strategies for helping patients cut down on drinking or quit, online supporting resources for clinicians and patients, and information about a newly approved, injectable drug to treat alcohol dependence. The updated guide and related materials are available on the NIAAA website, <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/guide>.

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

FEBRUARY

Tuesday, February 20th – Wednesday, February 21st
CCHN Annual Policy & Issues Forum
Warwick Hotel, Denver, CO
tanah@cchn.org

Monday, February 26th – Wednesday, February 28th
2007 Rural Health Policy Institute
Grand Hyatt Washington, Washington, DC
<http://www.NRHArural.org/conferences/sub/PI.html>

Wednesday, February 28th
Gestational Diabetes: New Concepts, New Guidelines
CHAMPS Live Online Webcast
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp

Wednesday, February 14th
St. Valentine's Day

Monday, February 19th
Presidents' Day



MARCH

Friday, March 16th – Wednesday, March 21st
2007 NACHC Policy & Issues Forum
Hilton Washington Hotel, Washington, DC
<http://www.nachc.com>

Tuesday, March 20th – Thursday, March 22nd
2007 Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health
Best Western Seven Seas & Conference Center, Mandan, ND
<http://www.bismarckstate.edu/cce/ruralhealth/>

Wednesday, March 28th
**Promoting Successful Tobacco Cessation:
Treatment Recommendations & Systems Changes for CHCs**
CHAMPS/CCMCN Live Online Webcast
http://www.CHAMPSonline.org/Events/Distance_Learning.asp

Thursday, March 8th
International Women's Day

Sunday, March 11th
Daylight Saving Time begins

Saturday, March 17th
St. Patrick's Day



Looking Forward

**National Farmworker
Health Conference**
May 9-12, 2007
<http://www.ncfh.org>

2007 Rural Women's Health Conference
August 13-15, 2007
<http://www.esi-bethesda.com/ruralfrontier2007/>

**NACHC 2007 Convention &
Community Health Institute**
August 24-29, 2007
<http://www.nachc.com>

Please let us know if your email address has changed.

CONTACT US

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