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WINTER 2012 Quarterly Newsletter

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CHAMPS Membership Year Ends

As CHAMPS closes out our 26th year and enters 2012, we would like to extend our deepest thanks to the 53 Community Health Centers (CHCs) and State Primary Care Associations (SPCAs) who supported CHAMPS through organizational membership in 2011-2012. Organizational members make CHAMPS quality programs and services possible. Throughout this issue are several articles with information about the many products and services CHAMPS offered to support Region VIII last year (see "Membership Year in Review," page 2), and programs to come in 2012-2013.

Thank You, Members!

2012 CHAMPS Trainings:

Something for Every Health Center, Every Employee

CHAMPS is offering a variety of valuable in person and distance trainings for Region VIII health centers in the coming months. Look for more information about these exciting learning opportunities throughout this issue:

- ★ CHAMPS and the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) are presenting a free dental-specific **Webcast: Oral Health, Systemic Health and Pharmacology** on Monday, March 5, 2012. *Page 7*
- ★ The **Geiger Gibson Capstone Program in Health Policy and Leadership** will allow mid-level and executive level health center staff to learn about health policy and processes in Washington DC, April 16-18, 2012. *Page 4*
- ★ Space is still available in CHAMPS' popular **Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals** training in Denver, CO, April 20-23, 2012. *Page 7*
- ★ **Critical Skills for Mid-Level Managers** aims to enable managers to inspire excellence in their staff. Space is still available for this April 25-27, 2012 training in Denver, CO! *Page 3*
- ★ **Enhancing Collaborative Management in CHCs: Developing Clinical Operations Teams** is open for CHC clinical-operations teams to learn to lead their health centers into the future; the training is to be held June 18-21, 2012 in Seattle, WA. *Page 3*
- ★ **CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference** will offer many more opportunities for professional development October 14-17, 2012 in Denver, CO.

Inside this Issue:

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- **Workforce (pg. 3-6):** *Critical Skills for Mid-Level Managers, Enhancing Collaborative Management, Geiger Gibson Capstone Program, Region VIII R&R Survey, Colorado Provider Recruitment Webpage, NACHC HR Clearinghouse, New HR Core Competencies Tool*
- **Clinical (pg. 7-8):** *Spanish Language Training, NNOHA Oral Health Webcast, PCMH Policy & Procedure Resources, UpToDate GPO, AHRQ Patient-Centered Outcomes Initiative, CHAMPS Clinicians Listserv*
- **Region and Nation (pg. 8-9):** *Funding Opportunity, NACHC P&I, CCHN Social Media, NHSC Loan Repayment, Medicaid.gov, HRSA Website Update*

CHAMPS Membership Year in Review: 2011-2012

CHAMPS provided face-to-face and remote **Learning Opportunities** for almost **800** participants from Region VIII and awarded more than **1,200** hours of continuing education (CE) credit.

CLICK ON THE BRIGHT BLUE TEXT FOR MORE INFORMATION!

CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference:

- ✓ Travel reimbursement and scholarships to attend
- ✓ Educational sessions, networking, HRSA/NACHC updates
- ✓ Addressed HOT TOPICS such as Patient-Centered Medical Home and Health System Transformation

Nine Live and Archived Distance Learning Events:

- ✓ Operations: Meaningful Use for CHCs, Maximizing National Health Service Corps, Managing Change
- ✓ Clinical: Immunizations, Bipolar vs. Borderline Personality Disorders, 340B Pharmacy Programs

Face to Face Trainings including:

- ✓ **Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals**
- ✓ **Community Health Leadership Institute**

Coming in March 2012!
Oral Health, Systemic Health and Pharmacology Webcast

CHAMPS **Advertised Careers** in Region VIII health centers, advocated for the CHC model of care, and addressed **Workforce Issues** with regional and national partners.

Online Job Opportunities Bank (JOB)—a free resource for advertising open positions at Region VIII CHCs

Career Fair and Conference Exhibiting—advertising jobs and advocating for the community health center model

Participation on **Advisory Committees** for multiple regional and national workforce initiatives

CHAMPS provided professional, administrative, and educational **Support to Clinicians** practicing in Region VIII CHCs through the **Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN)**.

Coordinated the **MPCN Steering Committee** to guide CHAMPS' clinical projects

Group Purchasing Offer provided discounted UpToDate subscriptions for clinicians

Encouraged information sharing and peer support via the **CHAMPS Clinicians' Listserv**

CHAMPS provided **Region-wide Information and Data**, allowing Region VIII CHCs and PCAs to maintain an accurate understanding of **Current Trends** affecting their health centers.

CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletters
2011-2012 Region VIII Health Center Directory
Job Opportunities Bank (JOB) Data Comparison Report

Region VIII UDS Data Summary with focus on health center financial performance and diabetes and hypertension outcomes and disparities

Coming Soon!
2011 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Recruitment & Retention Survey Report
Region VIII Data Summaries addressing Demographics, Mortality, Women's and Behavioral Health

CHAMPS' website, www.CHAMPSonline.org, remained a vital resource for board members and clinical and non-clinical staff of Region VIII CHCs with **New and Updated Resources**.

Diabetes Treatment Resources
HIV/AIDS Treatment Resources
Spanish Language Patient Education Handouts
Resources for Retaining CHC Staff

Needs Assessment Data Resources
Patient-Centered Medical Home Information and Resources including **Templates and Samples of PCMH Policies and Procedures**

The 2012-2013 **CHAMPS Membership Year begins April 1, 2012**. Membership requests will be sent in late March. **Thank you** for your ongoing support of CHAMPS' programs and services!

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

CHAMPS Trainings

CHAMPS offers a variety of training programs to support the Region VIII Health Center workforce including these upcoming 2012 opportunities:

Training	Dates	See Page
Oral Health, Systemic Health and Pharmacology (Clinical)	March 5	6
Geiger Gibson Capstone Program in Health Policy and Leadership	April 16-18	4
Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals (Clinical)	April 20-23	6
Critical Skills for Mid-Level Managers	April-October	Below
Enhancing Collaborative Management in CHCs: Developing Clinical-Operations Teams	June 18-20	Below

Critical Skills for Mid-Level Managers

Critical Skills for Mid-level Managers is a six-month hybrid in-person and virtual training for new and experienced mid-level CHC managers. Up to 30 mid-level managers can **register with a mentor** who will help reinforce management skills in their home clinic. The course kicks off with an in-person training **April 25-27, 2012** in Denver, CO and includes supporting webinars in the months before the culminating session at the CHAMPS annual conference in mid-October 2012.

Mid-Level Managing

Hiring
Retention
Time Management
Team Building
Employment Law
Accountability

“Early-bird” registrants can take advantage of the **deeply discounted hotel rate**, \$147 per night, at the Hampton Inn and Suites—Downtown Denver until **March 25, 2012**. The course fee is **\$850 for CHAMPS members** and includes training and support for mentors for the duration of the course. CHAMPS joined Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) and consulted a health center steering committee to make sure that this critical training is driven by CHCs and develops lasting and effective skills. **Registration deadline is April 12, 2012 and is limited to 30 participants** (not including mentors.)

For complete details and link to online registration, please visit [CHAMPS’ Leadership Learning Opportunities: Critical Skills for Mid-Level Managers](#)
OR [Download a Printable Flyer](#) to share with colleagues.

Enhancing Collaborative Management in CHCs: Developing Clinical-Operations Teams

Collaborative Management Skills

Recruitment and Retention
Provider Productivity
Performance Compensation
Strengthening Group Process
Enhancing Motivation
Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
Political Advocacy

This unique training will help clinical and operations leaders join together as a team at a time when Patient-Centered Medical Home accreditation pushes health centers to operate team-based health management. CHCs can enroll a **two-person team: one clinician and one operations leader**, to develop side-by-side in practical application and ongoing process improvement. The training will be taught by two Harvard faculty, Paul Campbell, MPA, ScD and Dr. Robert Hoch, MPH, who have run executive education programs at Harvard for 25 years.

CHAMPS and Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) are collaborating with the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) to present the course in **Seattle, WA, June 18-21, 2012**. The course fee is **\$3,500 per team for CHAMPS members**. Registration is limited to 30 teams and the course fee includes both the clinical and operations registrant. **Registration deadline is June 11, 2012**.

For details and registration information, visit:
[CHAMPS’ Leadership Learning Opportunities: Enhancing Collaborative Management in CHCs](#)
OR email julie@CHAMPSonline.org

CHAMPS Trainings, continued

Geiger Gibson Capstone Program in Health Policy and Leadership: FULL!

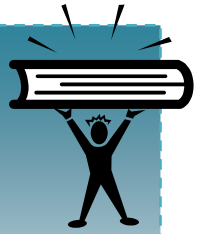
Mid-level and senior level staff pursuing executive leadership careers in CHCs have the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of health policy making in the nation's capital, Washington, DC. The program is presented by CHAMPS, Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA), and the Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health at the George Washington University's School of Public Health and Health Services. The capstone experience aims to provide an interactive experience with health policy analysts and policymakers and a foundation in health policy issues. The class is now full and registration is closed, but interested parties may look for the opportunity in the future.

Policy and Leadership
 Key Health Policy Issues
 Policy-Making Process
 Interact with Policymakers
 Access Health Services Research

Visit the George Washington University's [Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy](#) webpage. Contact merlec@gwu.edu for more information.

Did You Know?

CHAMPS has oodles of distance learning resources, available for **FREE** to CHAMPS members!



Don't miss your chance to view these webcasts archived online:

Bipolar vs. Borderline Personality Disorders (through 02/28/12) *Pharming: 340B Pharmacy Programs (through 03/28/12)*
Meaningful Use for CHCs (through 05/17/12) *Making NHSC Work for You (through 07/20/12)*

Visit the [Distance Learning Webpage](#) on www.CHAMPSonline.org

Coming Soon!

Region VIII Health Center R&R Survey Results

In early December 2011, CHAMPS sent an online survey to staff of all disciplines at Region VIII's 57 health center organizations. The **Region VIII Health Center Recruitment and Retention Survey** gathered information to help CHAMPS, Region VIII State Primary Care Associations, and participating health centers assess existing offerings and design new programs specifically supporting the successful staff recruitment and retention. *With more than 1,200 support staff, providers, and executive leaders providing input, the response was overwhelming!*

"We take great care of patients and practice patient centered care— every patient, every time."
 -Region VIII Provider

An electronic report of this valuable information will be released in early March and will:

- **Include Baselines** for tracking workforce characteristics over time (e.g., gender, age, years of employment, fluency, etc.)
- **Provide valuable recruiting information**, including the most useful and commonly used resources for seeking employment, the most common reasons why employees decide to work for a health center, where employees came from before being hired by their health center, etc.
- **Identify Region VIII health center successes and weaknesses** in terms of staff satisfaction, with the goal of determining the best ways to promote the health center model of care, and to illustrate the areas where grantees, CHAMPS, and the SPCAs might most effectively and efficiently augment and improve their programs and services
- **Anticipate upcoming turnover** and identify the reasons people may be planning to leave

CHAMPS thanks all survey respondents for their participation!

Please contact andrea@CHAMPSonline.org with questions about this project.

Sharing Human Resources Information across the Nation

Health centers can easily access and share their knowledge and best practices on the National Association of Community Health Centers' (NACHC) new Human Resources (HR) Clearinghouse. The **HR Clearinghouse** is a searchable database developed by NACHC and health center and PCA HR staff to support information sharing nationally. The HR Clearinghouse houses policies and procedures, best practices, surveys, eLearning and training opportunities, and more. There are more than 150 resources added by health center peers already available on topics such as benefits, credentialing, diversity and job descriptions.

Access resources or contribute to the clearinghouse by visiting [NACHC's HR Clearinghouse](#).

Did You Know?

Region VIII Health Centers can post open positions on the [CHAMPS Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#) for free!
Email stephanie@CHAMPSonline.org to post a position.

Human Resources Tool: Core Competencies for a Stronger Workforce

Hiring and assessing a workforce with a specialized skill set can be difficult, but the Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice developed a tool kit that more than half of state health departments are currently using to bridge the gap between academia and practice. The Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals is a set of standards developed by academic institutions and professional organizations that health centers can use towards for workforce development including assessing knowledge and skill gaps, crafting job descriptions, or implementing performance reviews. They are divided into a three tier continuum that describes the skills necessary for each level of staff: entry, management, and senior staff (see box on the right).

Download the [Core Competencies from the PHF website](#),
OR see [examples of how other organizations use the competencies](#).

Tier 1-Entry level staff

Competency example:

"Skills to **identify** the health status of populations and their related determinants of health and illness"

Tier 2-Supervisors and managers

Competency Example:

"Can **assess** the health status of populations and their related determinants of health and illness"

Tier 3-Senior managers and CEOs

Competency Example:

"Can **review** the health status of populations and their related determinants of health and illness"

NEW: "Search Colorado" for Providers and Health Centers

Colorado Provider Recruitment (CPR), a nonprofit recruitment program in Colorado, recently launched a new website: www.coproviderrecruitment.org. CPR revamped the website to accommodate both the recruiting needs of rural healthcare facilities and job seekers.

The site is a one-stop shop for providers interested in Colorado's rural and urban-underserved job market to learn what jobs are available and sign up with CPR to receive information, and learn about where the jobs are located. CPR has a new and improved *Search Colorado* page so that providers can continue to explore Colorado's landscape and find out what all of the amazing rural communities have to offer them and their family.

The "For Employers" webpage provides a place to review all of CPR's services including the Community Opportunity Form to post new vacancies at any time. CPR also included information pertinent to employers and providers such as loan repayment, the J-1 Visa waiver program, upcoming events related to workforce, and more. CPR is a service of the Colorado Rural Health Center, administered by Colorado's State Office of Rural Health.



Browse through the user-friendly website to find out more about CPR's services for health centers and providers: www.COProviderRecruitment.org

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 Upcoming Clinical Trainings:

Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals

CHAMPS and the Denver Medical Society (DMS) will once again host the annual **Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals** intensive course at the DMS offices in Denver, CO, **Friday, April 20 through Monday, April 23, 2012**. The training uses an effective immersion learning approach designed for people with limited time who need to use their new language skills with Spanish-speaking patients immediately. The course offers 42.5-45 hours of continuing medical education (CME) credits from multiple institutions. CHAMPS members can register for the **discounted price of \$499**.

Spanish for Clinicians:

Take a Medical History
Conduct a Physical
Vocabulary of 1,500 Spanish Words
Cultural Attitudes and Idioms
Complex Tenses and Moods



Rios Associates has been teaching CHAMPS' Spanish course for more than a decade. The team's energetic presentation style and useful subject matter has consistently earned them high scores from past students in Region VIII. Since 1983, Rios Associates has been helping health professionals build their vocabulary, acquire necessary skills for routine clinical interactions, and develop Latino cultural awareness across the US. Registration is open until April 2, 2012, but applicants should be aware that the course fills up quickly!

To access the registration form and details about the event, please visit: [CHAMPS' Events and Trainings Page: Spanish Language Intensive](#) or contact Stephanie Booker at 303-867-9584 or stephanie@CHAMPSonline.org.

Webinar: Oral Health, Systemic Health and Pharmacology

This free webinar from CHAMPS and the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) will address the linkage between oral and systemic health and provide strategies for collaboration between dental and medical providers and patients to resolve common barriers. Dental directors and dentists from any health center can register to take part in the event presented by Bob Russell, DDS, Iowa Department of Public Health, and Sandra Leal, PharmD, El Rio Health Center. Register early, space is limited.

Oral Health, Systemic Health, Meds:

Oral and Systemic Disease Relationships
Medication Impact on Oral Health
Role of Primary Care Clinician
Strategize for optimal collaboration

Date: Monday, March 5, 2012

Time: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. MT/12:30-2:00 p.m. CT

Register on the [CHAMPS Distance Learning page](#).

For more information contact Shannon Kolman at shannon@CHAMPSonline.org

New CHAMPS Webpage: Templates and Samples of PCMH Policies and Procedures

CHAMPS' newest online resource includes downloadable templates of policies, procedures and documentation submitted by two CHCs who received the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Recognition. We honor *Clinica Family Health Services* and *High Plains Community Health Center* for achieving NCQA Level 3 PCMH Recognition, and thank them for their willingness to share their documentation and best practices!



Visit the [PCMH Policies and Procedures webpage](#) to access dozens of informative and useful PCMH documents.

CHAMPS UpToDate Group Purchasing Offer Available Again!

The CHAMPS UpToDate Group Purchasing Offer (GPO) will **re-open April 1, 2012**. UpToDate is an evidenced-based, peer-reviewed information resource available to healthcare providers on computers and most mobile devices. It can be used as a point of care decision making device or as a research tool that allows providers to earn continuing medical education (CME) credits for literature reviews.

During 2011, 11 CHAMPS member health centers took advantage of the GPO and **saved hundreds of dollars** on individual subscriptions of UpToDate. Although UpToDate raised rates across the board in February 2012, CHAMPS was able to negotiate a new GPO. From April 1-December 1, 2012, **CHAMPS member health centers can purchase any number of individual provider subscriptions for \$80 off**

the retail price per subscription. The CHAMPS GPO price per subscription is **\$419** (with a one-time \$15 processing fee) compared to the retail rate of \$499. In addition, subscribers can renew in 2013 for \$419 with no processing fee. This is a savings of \$30 over the retail renewal rate of \$449.

The CHAMPS UpToDate GPO is best for health centers with less than 20 providers. Large health centers with at least 20 providers may want to consider the UpToDate Enterprise product (institutional subscription) which allows all health center providers to access UpToDate within the health center's Electronic Health Record (EHR). The Enterprise product costs \$395 per provider with a minimum purchase of \$8,000.

To purchase subscriptions or find out more about the CHAMPS UpToDate GPO please contact Shannon Kolman at 303-867-9583 or shannon@CHAMPSonline.org.

Reproductive Health Access Project: Contraceptive Pearls Help Keep Clinicians Informed



The Reproductive Health Access Project (RHAP) recently began offering Continuing Medical Education Credit (CME) from the American Academy of Physicians for their email publication, **Contraceptive Pearl**. The publication highlights evidence-based clinical practices to educate family physicians about contraceptive care. RHAP provides clinical tools, scientific publications, and patient-centered educational information on their website and through the publication. Recent Contraceptive

Pearls included an *Emergency Contraception Clinician Guide*, *Progesterin Implant Update*, and information about *Contraception for HIV Infected Women*.

To sign up for the Contraceptive Pearl email publication visit www.reproductiveaccess.org.

Stay Connected on CHAMPS Clinicians Listserv

In this age of technology it is easier than ever to stay current with Region VIII clinical happenings by utilizing the CHAMPS Clinicians Listserv. CHAMPS' Clinicians Listserv is for all health care providers at Region VIII CHCs. This listserv is a group email service that allows members to post information, updates, announcements, and to ask questions of their colleagues simply by sending an email.

Join the CHAMPS Clinicians Listserv discussion by contacting shannon@CHAMPSonline.org and ask to be added.

ICD-10 Transition: Possible Timeline Extension

The switch to ICD-10 from ICD-9 diagnosis and procedure codes takes effect on October 1, 2013, but the acting head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently stated that the timeline may be extended. Providers should have already begun testing the Version 5010 transaction standards by January 1, 2012. Marilyn Tavenner told reporters last week that CMS may extend the deadline for implementation due to the challenges of competing priorities with meaningful use and preparing for exchanges. The new codes are alphanumeric and are more descriptive than the ICD-9 codes.

Access more information and support for [Version 5010/ICD-10 Transition on the CMS website](#).

AHRQ Launches Regional Partnership Development Initiative to Promote Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) recently launched efforts to promote patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR) in patient and professional communities in all 50 states. AHRQ has established five Regional Partnership Development Offices that are cultivating sustainable partnerships with hospitals and health systems, patient advocacy organizations, businesses, and other groups that serve clinicians, consumers, and policymakers. CHCs are invited to learn more about PCOR and to partner with AHRQ by using free PCOR reports and materials that support efforts to improve the quality of health care in communities.

PCOR provides information to help clinicians and patients work together to treat an illness or condition. PCOR compares drugs, medical devices, tests, surgeries, or ways to deliver health

care. The research findings don't tell clinicians how to practice medicine or which treatment is best, but they provide evidence-based information on the effectiveness and risks of different treatments. Clinicians and patients can use this information to make informed treatment decisions based on each individual's circumstances.

AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program works with researchers, research centers, and academic organizations to conduct the research and focuses on 14 priority health conditions, including: cardiovascular and related diseases, diabetes, arthritis, mental health disorders, and pregnancy. Organizations that are using the PCOR findings include Mayo Clinic, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and AARP, among many others.

To learn more about PCOR or to become part of this growing partnership network, please contact Kate Stabrawa in AHRQ's Denver Regional Partnership Development Office at 303-382-2444 OR kate.stabrawa@ahrq.hhs.gov OR visit the website at www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov.

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

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

Funding Opportunity!

Bank of the West Charitable Investments



Bank of the West operates a Charitable Investments Program to support nonprofits in five Region VIII states: Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Investments are given to nonprofits who serve low- to moderate-income communities in the categories of health and human care including community health and mental health counseling services and homeless and crisis shelters and services. Bank of the West committed to providing \$100 million in charitable contributions by 2015.

Apply for a [Charitable Investment on the Bank of the West website](#).

Upcoming: NACHC P&I

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) will hold the annual Policy and Issues Forum (P&I) **March 21-25, 2012** at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. The event will allow participants to understand the impact of the midterm election on the implementation of health reform and critical health center policy and programmatic issues. In light of changes under the Affordable Care Act, the forum will focus on preserving and expanding health center programming, increasing capacity, Patient-Centered Medical Home recognitions, and advocating for the health center model.



For more details, including links to information visit [NACHC's P&I webpage](#).

NHSC Loan Repayment Now Tied to HPSA Scores

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) recently opened their Loan Repayment Program (LRP) application cycle with a significant change: loan repayment amounts are now based on the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) score at the provider's health center. Providers at sites with HPSA scores of from zero to 13 are eligible for \$40,000 for a full-time two-year commitment. Clinicians at sites with HPSA scores of 14 and higher are eligible for up to \$60,000 for a full-time two-year commitment.



The NHSC Loan Repayment Program provides physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dentists, hygienists, behavioral health professionals, and others the opportunity to repay their student loans when they work in a HPSA. The current loan cycle is open until May 2012.

View an [LRP fact sheet from the Health Resources and Services Administration](#) website.

Medicaid.gov Launched

The Center for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program Services (CMCS) launched a new website, **Medicaid.gov**, devoted to information and policies about CMCS. The website provides resources, frequently asked questions, Federal policy guidance, State-specific program information, and information about the Affordable Care Act implementation. CMCS designed the website to increase usability and is requesting feedback on the site via the CMS Idea Factory.



Visit the new [Medicaid.gov](#) website and provide your feedback on the [CMS Idea Factory!](#)

New TA Search Engine on HRSA.gov

The Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) recently added a new search engine to the Training and Technical Assistance (TA). The tool makes it easy to search for any word, topic, or resource for more accurate and efficient search results. The enhancement on the BPHC TA website allows users to access the hundreds of TA topics including needs assessments, information on special populations, and many other grantee resources.

Try the new search engine on your next [BPHC TA website](#) visit.

Colorado Community Health Network Launches Social Media

The Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) has introduced a new mix of social media channels to expand opportunities for the public to get news and updates about Colorado Community Health Centers, which provide a health care home to one in 10 people in Colorado. Coloradans can now be a fan of CCHN on Facebook, follow the organization on Twitter, and see videos of health care providers on YouTube. Anyone can follow the activities of Colorado's Community Health Centers:



Click the buttons to find Colorado Community Health Centers on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube:



CCHN also updated and redesigned their organizational website. Patients and professionals can find a Colorado Community Health Center (CHC), learn what CHCs are, learn how to start one, and find out about job opportunities by visiting [www.cchn.org](#).

Contact Maureen Maxwell, maureen@cchn.org for more information.

Find Your Region VIII State PCA on Facebook!

[Association for Utah Community Health](#)

[Montana Primary Care Association](#)

[Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas](#)

[Wyoming Primary Care Association](#)

[Colorado Community Health Network](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

FEBRUARY

February 27-29, 2012

[National Medical Home Summit](#)



MARCH

March 5, 2012, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. PT/12:30 p.m.-2 p.m. CT

[CHAMPS/NNOHA Webinar: Oral Health, Systemic Health, and Pharmacology](#)

March 21-23, 2012

[NACHC Policy & Issues Forum](#)

Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC

APRIL

April 11-12, 2012

[PCMH for CHCs and MPCA Annual Meeting](#)

Best Western Helena Great Northern Hotel, Helena, MT

April 16-18, 2012

[Geiger Gibson Capstone Program](#)

Department of Health Policy, Washington, DC

April 20-23, 2012

[CHAMPS Training: Spanish for Health Professionals](#)

Denver Medical Society, Denver, CO

April 25-27, 2012

[CHAMPS Training: Critical Skills for Mid-Level Managers](#)

Hampton Inn and Suites—Denver Downtown, Denver, CO

MAY

May 1-2, 2012

[Health Care for Residents of Public Housing](#)

[National Training Conference](#)

Westin Alexandria, Alexandria, VA

May 8-9, 2012

[CHAD Annual Meeting](#)

Fargo, ND

May 9-11, 2012

[National Farmworker Health Conference](#)

Westin City Center, Denver, CO

May 15-18, 2012

[National Health Care for the Homeless Conference](#)

Sheraton Kansas City at the Crown Center, Kansas City, MO

February

Heart Month
Mardi Gras, 2/21
Ash Wednesday, 2/22

March

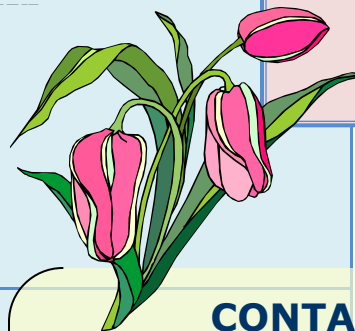
National Nutrition Month
Native American HIV/AIDS Day, 3/20
Daylight Saving Time Begins, 3/11
St. Patrick's Day, 3/17

April

Minority Health Month
Passover Begins, 4/06
Good Friday, 4/06
Easter, 4/08
Earth Day, 4/22

May

Mental Health Month
Mother's Day, 5/13
Memorial Day, 5/28



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!

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Please contact Stephanie Booker with any questions or comments about this newsletter.