



# Spring 2022 Quarterly Newsletter

Published May 2022

## CHAMPS Newsletter Evaluation – Please Provide Input!

CHAMPS is currently undertaking a thorough review of our [Quarterly Newsletter](#) – help us improve it by letting us know what you think! All questions are optional, and all responses are anonymous. Individuals who complete the evaluation by Friday, June 3, 2022 will have the option to be entered in a drawing to win one of several \$35 gift cards. Your opinions and ideas are extremely valuable and greatly appreciated.

*Please take a few minutes to evaluate the CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletter by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022NewsletterEval>.*

## Current/Upcoming CHAMPS Events and Trainings

- ★ 2022 CORE Competencies for Health Center Supervisors and Managers, Wednesday mornings, April 27-May 25, 2022 (*Learn more on page 5.*)
- ★ 2022 Resiliency Collaborative, first Friday of each month May through September 2022 (*Learn more on page 8.*)
- ★ 2022 Immunization Update, Wednesday, June 1, 2022 (*Learn more on page 7.*)
- ★ 2022 Live Your Best Life (With Diabetes) Train-the-Trainer, June 6-7 & June 8-9, 2022 (*Learn more on page 8.*)
- ★ Grow Your Own Clinical Workforce with HP-ET Strategic Planning, Thursday, June 23, 2022 (*Learn more on page 4.*)
- ★ 2022 Next Level Skills for Health Center Supervisors and Managers Training, Thursday mornings, September 1-October 6, 2022 (*Learn more on page 6.*)

### CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Primary Care Conference Update

The [CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Primary Care Conference](#) will be held in Denver, CO October 15-18, 2022. Please note that the format for the 2022 Fall Conference is scheduled to be in person. The conference Call for Abstracts portal will open in June. To stay up to date on pre-conference happenings, please visit the CHAMPS [Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.

### Inside this Issue

- ★ [CHAMPS News \(pg.2-4\)](#): 2021-2022 Membership Year in Review, 2022-2023 Membership, Region VIII Health Center Directory, New CHAMPS Coordinator
- ★ [Workforce News \(pg.4-7\)](#): Wellbeing Bulletin, HP-ET Strategic Planning Webcast, New Community Health Worker Podcast Series, Region VIII Salary Survey Update, CORE Competencies Training, Next Level Skills Training, Job Opportunities Bank, NACHC Workforce Report, STAR<sup>2</sup> Center Updates, NIMAA Updates
- ★ [MPCN News \(pg.7-9\)](#): 2022 Immunization Update, New Patient Education Handouts, Resiliency Collaborative, Live Your Best Life (With Diabetes) Train-the-Trainer Series, Spanish Language Training Highlights
- ★ [Health Equity News \(pg.9-10\)](#): Region VIII Health Care for the Homeless Collaborative, New Indigenous Health Resources Webpage, White House Latino Regional Economic 2022 Summit Recap
- ★ [COVID-19 News \(pg.10-11\)](#): Test to Treat Initiative, COVID.gov Now Available
- ★ [Regional & National News \(pg.11-13\)](#): Outstanding Migrant Health Center Board Member Award, Kugel & Zuroweste Health Justice Award, HRSA Funding to Support Data-Drive Approaches, HHS Funding to Expand Access to School-Based Health Services, National Health Center Week, Maternal Mental Health Hotline, Federally Qualified Health Center Financial Performance Report, Region VIII in the News
- ★ [Events Calendar & CHAMPS Contacts \(pg.14\)](#)

# CHAMPS Membership Year in Review

## From April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022, CHAMPS...

Offered over 150 hours of remote [Learning Opportunities](#) to over 2,600 participants:

- 1 [Annual Primary Care Conference](#) with 48 educational sessions addressing governance, leadership, workforce, clinical quality, operations, finance, healthy communities, and more
- 2 [CHC Supervisor/Manager Training Courses](#)
- 2 educational [Learning Collaborative](#) series with 9 sessions total addressing childhood obesity and maternal health
- 4 [Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals Courses](#)
- 5 [Working on Wellness On-Demand Learning Modules](#)
- 10 [Webcasts](#) addressing health professions training, workforce data, health equity, wildfire preparation, and immunizations

Maintained and enhanced the [CHAMPS Website](#), which remains a vital resource for staff and board members of Region VIII health centers:

- 180+ total pages of information addressing [CHAMPS and the Health Center Movement](#); [Events and Trainings](#); [Health Center Board](#), [Clinical](#), [Quality Improvement](#), [Recruitment & Retention](#), and [Cross-Disciplinary Resources](#); and more
- 6 new webpages on [Pipeline Development](#) were released
- 7 [COVID-19](#) specific webpages included up-to-date information and resources
- Added new resources on [Screening and Addressing Social Determinants of Health](#) and [Health Center Recruitment](#)

Provided additional professional administrative and education support to clinicians through the [Mountain/Plains Clinical Network \(MPCN\)](#):

- 2 Oral Health Learning Collaborative sessions
- 4 [Resiliency Collaborative](#) sessions
- [MPCN Minute e-Bulletin](#)
- [MPCN Steering Committee](#)

Published [Region-Wide Data, Trends, and Communications](#) to assist with future planning and facilitation of best practices:

- [BPHC UDS Summary, Fact Sheet, and Workforce Infographic](#)
- CHAMPS Board of Directors Digest
- [CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletter](#)
- [CHAMPS Wellbeing e-Bulletin](#)
- COVID-19 Data Summaries and Infographics
- CHC T/TA Needs Assessment
- Demographics, Health Behaviors, Mortality, and Women's Health [Data Summaries](#)
- Health Center Clinical Staff and Provider Productivity Expectations [Reports](#)
- [Job Opportunities Bank Data Comparison Report and Infographic](#)
- CHAMPS LinkedIn [Company Page](#)

Supported [Health Equity](#) efforts through resources, trainings, and communications:

- 4 [Healthcare for the Homeless Learning Collaborative](#) sessions
- [Health Equity Digest](#)

Addressed workforce needs through promotion of [Health Center Career Opportunities](#) and additional communications:

- 430 positions advertised via the CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#)
- 650+ job seekers received monthly [JOB Highlights Emails](#)
- Attended a recruitment event targeting nursing students
- [Workforce Focus e-Bulletin](#)



**The 2022-2023 CHAMPS Membership Year began on April 1, 2022. CHAMPS has accomplished a lot in the first month and a half of the new Membership Year, so keep reading the newsletter to see what else CHAMPS has been up to!**

## CHAMPS 2022-2023 Membership

CHAMPS sincerely thanks the health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that have recently become 2022-2023 CHAMPS Organizational Members. The CHAMPS membership year corresponds with our fiscal year, April 1, 2022-March 31, 2023.

The benefits of a CHAMPS Organizational Membership include:

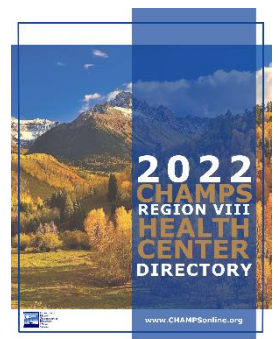
- ★ Two seats on the CHAMPS Board of Directors.
- ★ Free access to all CHAMPS [live and archived](#) webcasts, podcasts, etc. developed in 2022-2023.
- ★ Up to two free copies of the [2022 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Report](#) as well as priority access to the electronic version of this salary/benefits report, plus free electronic copies of the [2022 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Staffing and Productivity Expectations Reports](#).
- ★ Option to join the CHAMPS [Employee Screening Preferred Pricing Program \(PPP\)](#).
- ★ Discounted registration fees for CHAMPS-sponsored intensive trainings, including [Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals](#) and [Supervisor/Manager Trainings](#).
- ★ Discounted registration plus opportunities for registration and clinical travel reimbursement for the [CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference](#).
- ★ Access to the [Members Only](#) section of the CHAMPS website, including a printable and a searchable Region VIII health center directory and printable CHAMPS salary survey reports.
- ★ Direct advertising of new CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#) posts to job seekers.
- ★ Quarterly CHAMPS Board of Directors Digests, containing CHAMPS, HRSA, NACHC, and other updates relating to upcoming trainings, new resources, and more.

2021-2022 Organizational Members enjoy a 60-day grace period in the new membership year. Member benefits from 2021-2022 members that have not paid 2022-2023 dues will expire on June 1, 2022.

Visit the CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#) webpage for a list of current members.  
Questions about membership?  
Contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development and Member Services Director](#).

## Coming Soon: 2022 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Directory

Every two years, CHAMPS produces a [Region VIII Health Center Directory](#) which provides details about all Region VIII Community, Homeless, and Migrant Health Centers, including contact information for each organization's main ("administrative") and satellite sites, as well as for each health center's administrative and clinical leadership. CHAMPS has been working on the most recent edition of the Directory for the past few months and is excited to announce it will be mailed to CHAMPS Organizational Members, as well as to nonmember organizations that provided updates to their contact information, in the coming weeks. CHAMPS board members also have access to an online version that is searchable by state, organization, staff name, and more, and to a downloadable PDF of the print version.



Visit the [Members Only](#) section of the CHAMPS website for searchable and PDF versions of the 2022 Directory.  
Questions? Contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Membership & Communications](#).

Stay up to date with all the latest news and CHAMPS offerings and resources through the CHAMPS [LinkedIn Company Page!](#)

LinkedIn

### Meet the New CHAMPS Coordinator

CHAMPS is pleased to welcome a new staff member, Kathryn King!

Kathryn joined CHAMPS in April 2022. In her role, Kathryn focuses on promoting health equity, including supporting special and vulnerable populations and outreach and enrollment initiatives, as well as supporting CHAMPS' clinical and quality improvement programs. She possesses a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Penn State University. During her time at Penn State, she worked with local nonprofit and philanthropic groups to connect her community with local resources and healthcare funding. In her free time, Kathryn enjoys listening to music, hiking, and spending time with friends. Kathryn can be contacted via email at [Kathryn@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Kathryn@CHAMPSonline.org).



*Please visit the CHAMPS [Contact Us](#) webpage for more information about our team and details for all CHAMPS staff members.*

### 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. Learn more [here](#).*

### Subscribe to the New CHAMPS Wellbeing Bulletin



The [CHAMPS Wellbeing Bulletin](#) is a new communication for all Region VIII health center, Primary Care Association, and Primary Care Office staff. It is designed to share uplifting and informative articles to support wellbeing, including those related to resiliency, wellness, mindfulness, etc., as well as to highlight information on related current and upcoming events, resources, trends, tips, best and promising practices, and funding opportunities.

*To view the inaugural Spring 2022 edition (which went out in March), please visit the [CHAMPS Wellbeing Bulletin](#) webpage. [Click here to subscribe.](#)*

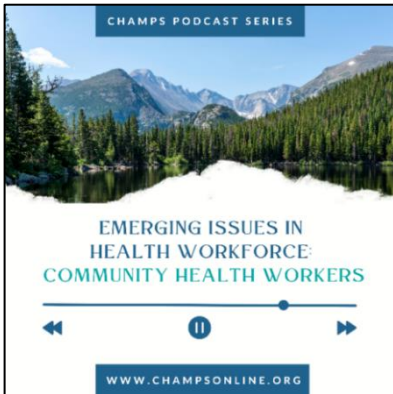
### Upcoming Event: CHAMPS HP-ET Strategic Planning Webcast

Join CHAMPS on Thursday, June 23, 2022, from 12:00-1:30PM MT / 1:00-2:30PM CT, for the Grow-Your-Own Clinical Workforce with HP-ET Strategic Planning webcast. This presentation will feature the California Primary Care Association's (CPCA) and Education Health Center Initiative's (EHCI) "HP-ET Template for Assessment and Action." Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about this free tool and the key elements of strategic workforce planning for Health Professions Education and Training (HP-ET) programs and gain an understanding of how they can leverage this resource for their own workforce efforts.

*Registration and additional details can be found on the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Health Center Workforce](#).*

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### New CHAMPS Podcast Series Coming Soon Emerging Issues in Health Workforce: Community Health Workers



CHAMPS is continuously looking for new ways to address emerging issues facing the health center workforce, and one component of this effort is highlighting the new and ongoing work of Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations. This new podcast series, "Emerging Issues in Health Workforce: Community Health Workers," will highlight the knowledge and experiences of national, state, and local organizations that utilize community health workers (CHWs) to enhance care for patients within their communities. Free episodes and related resources will be published on the CHAMPS [Podcasts](#) webpage in June 2022.

*Are you or your health center interested in being interviewed as part of this series?*

*Please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Health Center Workforce](#).*

### CHAMPS Salary Survey Data Collection Complete

Every two years CHAMPS undertakes a Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey (Salary Survey) of all health centers within Region VIII. Data collection for 2022 began in mid-March and is wrapping up in April and May. CHAMPS staff are working to clean and analyze the data received, and reports of the submitted data will be distributed beginning in October/November 2022. CHAMPS would like to sincerely thank all the Region VIII health centers that submitted data, and specifically the staff members who gave so generously of their time while working on this project!

*Questions about the 2022 Region VIII Health Center Salary Survey?*

*Please contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development and Member Services Director](#).*

### CHAMPS 2022 CORE Competencies Training is Underway

The CHAMPS 2022 CORE Competencies for Health Center Supervisors and Managers Training is currently in progress. This five-week course, supported by Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD), Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA), and Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA), brings together forty-five participants from eighteen health centers to learn best practices for hiring, training, developing, engaging, and retaining health center staff. In addition to weekly sessions, participants are encouraged to complete homework assignments designed to help them implement their learning in their home health centers.



*For more information about CHAMPS health center supervisor and manager trainings, please visit the CHAMPS [Leadership Learning Opportunities](#) webpage.*

---

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### Coming Soon: CHAMPS Next Level Skills Training

Registration will open in early summer 2022 for the CHAMPS Beyond CORE Competencies: Next Level Skills for Health Center Supervisors and Managers Training, which will take place virtually on Thursday mornings, September 1 – October 6, 2022. This course will allow health center managers and supervisors to delve deeper into the best practices, knowledge, and skills needed to be a great manager. Lisa Mouscher, CEO and Lead Consultant at Sogence Training and Consulting, will begin with a review of crucial skills needed to hire, coach, retain, and manage others. Participants will then move to higher-level learning for effectively engaging a diverse workforce; avoiding, circumventing, and de-escalating conflict; strengthening day-to-day decision-making practices; and successfully managing change.

*To learn more, please visit the CHAMPS [Leadership Learning Opportunities](#) webpage.*

### CHAMPS Job Opportunities Bank

Is your Region VIII health center or Primary Care Association (PCA) hiring? Post your open positions on the CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#). JOB is a free resource, and CHAMPS staff attend job fairs to promote open positions and send a monthly email to prospective employees highlighting positions recently posted by CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#).

*To post an opening or update a current position, please contact the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Health Center Workforce](#).  
To sign up for the monthly JOB email, visit the CHAMPS [Job Bank](#) webpage.*

### Now Available: NACHC Workforce Report

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) recently released the “Current State of the Health Center Workforce” report which highlights the significant workforce losses experienced by health centers in 2021 due to the pandemic. This NACHC survey found that 68% of participating health centers lost 5-25% of their workforce in the last six months with an additional 15% of health centers losing 25-50%. The most cited reason for staff departure was financial opportunity at a larger health care organization. This report brings into focus the need for continued investment in the health care workforce to ensure pandemic readiness and recovery for health centers and the communities they serve.

*Read the NACHC Workforce Report on their [Current State of the Health Center Workforce](#) webpage.*

### Spring Updates from the STAR<sup>2</sup> Center

Submitted by: Mariah Blake, Association of Clinicians for the Underserved

The STAR<sup>2</sup> Center is preparing an exciting array of spring workforce training and technical activities! The [Pay Equity Checklist](#) was recently released to help health centers review their compensation practices to provide staff with equal pay for equal work of equal value. New episodes of the [STAR<sup>2</sup> Center Talks Workforce Success](#) podcast focused on employee self-care are also now available to listen to online or through your favorite podcast player.

The STAR<sup>2</sup> Center is looking forward to releasing the annual update of the [Data Profile Dashboards](#) to health center executives and Primary Care Association (PCA) partners in the coming weeks. Those focusing on workforce issues are encouraged to [revisit last year's supporting documents](#) and be on the lookout for more information coming soon. Finally, the STAR<sup>2</sup> Center will be hosting a variety of webinars over the next month that support health center managers in providing productive feedback and those exploring Health Professions Education and Training (HP-ET) programs.

*Please visit the STAR<sup>2</sup> Center's [Training Calendar](#) for information on recent and upcoming webinars and keep an eye on their [Twitter](#) and [newsletter](#) for the latest information.  
The STAR<sup>2</sup> Center also encourages health center staff to [contact them](#) to let them know how they can best support your workforce goals.*

---

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### NIMAA Speaks Out: Improving Healthcare Workforce Pipelines

Submitted by: Stephanie Ivers Heine, Community Health Center, Inc.

As workforce development in the healthcare sector has become a hot topic across the country, the National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement (NIMAA) continues to advocate for innovative solutions that benefit not only primary care practices but also community members who might not otherwise have access to quality health career training.

On February 10, 2022, Norma Quinones, Nursing Services Manager, Employee Health Coordinator, and NIMAA Program Coordinator at Clinica Family Health (CO), testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety about the importance of affordable, accessible, high-quality education models – like NIMAA – in building a pipeline for long-term health careers and diversifying the U.S. workforce.

NIMAA's Chief Executive Officer Elena Thomas Faulkner also spoke to the Public News Service about workforce challenges health centers in Colorado and across the country are experiencing and how employing medical assistants can help address these concerns and benefit the entire primary care team. NIMAA's unique training model not only meets a workforce need, but also creates an accessible entry-point to a health career for students coming from and representing diverse communities across the United States.

*To listen to the full Senate HELP Subcommittee testimony, [click here](#).  
To hear Elena Thomas Faulkner's interview, visit the [Public News Service](#) website.  
Learn more about [NIMAA](#) on their website.*

---

## MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS

*Providing professional, administrative, and educational support to all clinicians who 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. Learn more [here](#).*

### CHAMPS 2022 Immunization Update Webcast

On Wednesday, June 1, 2022, from 11:30AM-1:00PM MT / 12:30-2:00PM CT, CHAMPS will host its annual Immunization Update webcast. Dr. Patricia Wodi, Public Health Physician with the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will address the latest vaccine schedules and the most recent Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for adults, children, and adolescents. Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits have been applied for. Clinical leadership, clinicians, clinical support staff, and other interested healthcare professionals at health centers in Region VIII are encouraged to attend this free event.

*To learn more and register, visit the [CHAMPS Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.*

#### **New CHAMPS Patient Education Handouts**

The Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) Steering Committee recently reviewed and revamped three Patient Education Handouts which address stress management topics. Health center staff are encouraged to download these free, customizable handouts for use at their health center.

- ★ [Deep Breathing Method](#)
- ★ [Mindfulness Meditation](#)
- ★ [Tense and Relax Method](#)

To view other downloadable resources, visit the CHAMPS [Patient Education Tools](#) webpage.

### CHAMPS Resiliency Collaborative is Back in a New Format!

The CHAMPS/Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center (RMPHTC) Resiliency Collaborative is an online facilitated peer group for Region VIII health center staff. Each session will not only share didactic information but will also be highly activity-focused, incorporating the practice of mindfulness techniques, meditation, practical body awareness exercises, journaling, goal setting, etc. Attendees should come ready to share their thoughts with peers if that's what they would like or are free to sit quietly and reflect on the activities presented - all needs will be honored and welcomed in this series. These sessions will be a one-hour gift to yourself once a month!



The collaborative is free and open to all clinical, administrative, and support staff at Region VIII health centers. Sessions are held on the first Friday of each month, May through September, from 12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT. As the events occur, recordings will be posted to the CHAMPS website.



- ★ May 6: Reflecting on the Pandemic: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going? with Molly Molloy, LCSW
- ★ June 3: Secondary Trauma: Basic Skills to Activate Resilience with Andrew Laue, LCSW
- ★ July 1: Opening to the Presence of Peace and Joy with Gina Pate-Terry, LCSW
- ★ August 5: Resilience Practice Skills: Connection with Andrew Laue, LCSW
- ★ September 2: Reviewing What We Have Learned and Looking Ahead with Molly Molloy, LCSW

*For more information and to register, please visit the [CHAMPS Events & Trainings](#) webpage.*

### CHAMPS/MPCA/RMPHTC Live Your Best Life (with Diabetes) Train-the-Trainer Series



The popular Live Your Best Life (with Diabetes) Train-the-Trainer course, developed by the [Montana Primary Care Association](#) (MPCA), will soon be offered to health centers from across Region VIII. CHAMPS will offer two cohorts of this training, the first on June 6-7 and the second on June 8-9. Participants will learn how to deploy Living Your Best Life (With Diabetes) in their own communities.

The interactive curriculum focuses on helping people with diabetes and pre-diabetes more fully understand their condition and learn how to thrive every day by engaging in positive self-management strategies. The curriculum is designed to help patients, relatives, and caregivers gain a better understanding of diabetes self-care. This opportunity has been made available at no cost to Region VIII health centers with the generous support of the [Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center](#) (RMPHTC).

*To learn more and register, visit the [CHAMPS Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.*

#### Chronicling the Community Health Center Story

This new book project celebrates and documents the exceptional vision and value of health centers in urban and rural communities across the country. To learn more and read the book, visit the [RCHN Community Health Foundation](#) webpage.



### CHAMPS/DMS Spanish Language Training Highlights

CHAMPS and the Denver Medical Society (DMS) recently hosted several Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals online events. Throughout April 2022, CHAMPS held four different Spanish Language trainings, including three two-day courses (originally introduced in 2021): 17 participants joined the Spanish Language for Oral Health Providers offering, 12 attended the Spanish Language for Behavioral Health Providers training, and 12 joined the Medical Spanish for Advanced Speakers sessions. Twenty-six learners joined the traditional four-day course that CHAMPS has held for over 30 years, ranging from beginner to intermediate skill levels.



Each of the courses contained content related to medical diagnosis, and included roleplays, visual aids, and cross-cultural diagnosis. Attendees also engaged in discussions on cultural humility and awareness. Participants reported that the immersive and joyful teaching style, conversations and discussions, practice scenarios, and the opportunity to get to know other Region VIII health center staff were the best aspects of the training. CHAMPS plans to offer these trainings again in Spring 2023.

*For more medical Spanish resources, visit the [CHAMPS Spanish Language Resources](#) webpage. For information about next year's Spanish Language Trainings, watch the [CHAMPS Events and Trainings](#) webpage.*

---

## HEALTH EQUITY NEWS

*Assisting Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations in pursuing health equity and addressing health disparities by affecting the social determinants of health in their communities. Learn more [here](#).*

### CHAMPS Region VIII Health Care for the Homeless Collaborative

The CHAMPS Region VIII Healthcare for the Homeless Collaborative is a valuable resource hosted quarterly for Region VIII Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) Grantees, other interested health centers, and Primary Care Associations (PCAs). These online meetings act as a safe platform for health centers that serve people experiencing homelessness, to facilitate discussion and regional collaboration, share best practices, discuss challenges, hear from experts in their field, and identify desired training/technical assistance.

*Learn more on the [CHAMPS Homeless and Public Housing Resources](#) webpage.*

#### **Now Available: Indigenous Health Resources Webpage**

In May 2022, CHAMPS published a new webpage to support health centers as they engage with Indigenous patient populations and tribal communities. The Indigenous Health Resources webpage contains up-to-date reports and services for Indigenous-specific health topics, health equity issues, and provider education. This curation of resources was created to provide culturally appropriate information and connections to health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that work with Indigenous communities. For additional information, visit the [CHAMPS Indigenous Health Resources](#) webpage.

---

## HEALTH EQUITY NEWS, *Continued*

### White House Latino Regional Economic 2022 Summit Recap

Submitted by: Nick Zucconi, HRSA Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs Region 8 Office

On March 26, 2022 First Lady Jill Biden, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra, and several members of Colorado's congressional delegation spoke to approximately 200 people at the *White House Latino Regional Economic Summit* in Denver, Colorado. During the first half of the event, the First Lady recognized that the federal government is listening to what Latino leaders need to succeed and highlighted the importance of the Latino community in Denver. Secretary Becerra reflected on his father's career as a builder and touted the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Becerra focused on the BIL's provisions related to access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet which will work to build an economic future for Latino communities that includes good-paying jobs and opportunities to participate equally in school learning and health care.

The second half of the summit featured four breakout sessions, including one which involved regional HHS leadership facilitating a session with leaders of eight Colorado health centers. These individuals discussed their experiences using telehealth/virtual care during the pandemic and the transformational impact of delivering care virtually today. It was conveyed to attendees that health centers relied largely on audio-only telephone visits during the pandemic, and they were grateful for the flexibility HHS allowed to reimburse those types of visits.

Among the notable stories shared during the event were:

- ★ A health center that enlisted the assistance of children and their iPhones to enable parents to adhere to Suboxone addiction treatment protocols.
- ★ A health center for people experiencing homelessness that equipped their outreach workers with video equipment which enabled facility-based providers to provide real-time clinical assessments "on the street."

Visit the [U.S. Department of Education](#) website to learn more about the 2022 White House Latino Regional Economic Summit.

---

## COVID-19 NEWS

*Providing resources, data, and support to Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations to assist in the response to the ongoing Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic. Learn more [here](#).*

### The Biden-Harris Administration's Test to Treat Initiative

In March 2022, the Biden-Harris Administration launched a new nationwide Test to Treat initiative to give individuals a way to quickly access free, lifesaving oral antiviral treatment for COVID-19. Through this program, individuals who get tested, are positive, and know treatments are appropriate for them, can receive a prescription from a health care provider and have prescriptions filled at one location.

These "One-Stop Test to Treat" sites are available at hundreds of locations nationwide, including pharmacy-based clinics, health centers, and long-term care facilities. Individuals can continue to be tested and treated by their own health care providers who can appropriately prescribe oral antivirals at locations where the medicines are distributed.

*More information on these resources can be found on the CHAMPS [General COVID-19 Resources](#) webpage.*

*Download the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Test to Treat Resources [here](#).*

---

## COVID-19 NEWS, *Continued*

### Available Now - COVID.gov

The Biden Administration launched [COVID.gov](https://www.covid.gov) in March 2022 as a one-stop-shop where individuals can find access to vaccines, tests, treatments, and high-quality masks. [COVID.gov](https://www.covid.gov) also provides an easy way to find the level of COVID-19 in one's community. The website is available in English, Spanish, and Simplified Chinese and is accessible for those using assistive technologies. All online COVID-19 tools are also available over the phone through the National Hotline, 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489), which supports over 150 languages.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has also created a [Therapeutic Management of Nonhospitalized Adults With COVID-19](#) webpage that contains an overview of therapeutic options for the treatment of nonhospitalized adults with mild to moderate COVID-19 who are at high risk of disease progression.

*More information on these resources can be found on the [CHAMPS General COVID-19 Resources](#) and [Provider Resources for COVID-19](#) webpages.*

---

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

### NACHC Outstanding Migrant Health Center Board Member Award

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) 2022 Conference for Agricultural Worker Health took place May 2-4 in Denver, Colorado. During the Networking Lunch on May 2, Vice-Chair of Salud Family Health Centers (CO) Board of Directors Colleen Laeger was presented with the Outstanding Migrant Health Center Board Member Award. This honor is given to someone who has demonstrated an outstanding level of service and commitment as a board member of a migrant health center. Laeger has served various roles on the Salud Board of Directors for the past 36 years and is highly regarded as a faithful, effective, and committed leader. Congratulations Colleen, and thank you for your service to Salud Family Health Centers and the people and communities it serves!



*Learn more about the Migrant Health Awards on the [NACHC](#) website.*

### Migrant Clinicians Network Kugel & Zuroweste Health Justice Award

The Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) Kugel & Zuroweste Health Justice Award recognizes frontline clinicians who make an impact at the intersections of health and vulnerability within migrant and mobile populations. This year's winner, Paulina Segovia, PA-C, RDN, has been with Tepeyac Community Health Center (CO) for two years and already has made a significant impact on her community. Her strong commitment and passion to service in the Latinx community has been evident as she never misses an extra moment with a patient and frequently takes the time to fully learn of the socioeconomic barriers a patient may face. Segovia was awarded the Kugel & Zuroweste Health Justice Award on April 19, 2022 at a virtual ceremony hosted by MCN. Congratulations Paulina, and thank you for your service to Tepeyac Community Health Center and the people and communities it serves!



*Learn more about this award and awardee on the [MCN](#) website.*

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### HRSA Announces \$90 Million to Support Data-Driven Approaches for Health Centers

In April 2022, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) announced nearly \$90 million in new funding via the American Rescue Plan (ARP). The FY 2022 American Rescue Plan Uniform Data System Patient-Level Submission Funding (ARP-UDS+) opportunity was created with the purpose of supporting new data-driven efforts to identify and reduce health disparities in HRSA Health Center Program-supported health centers and look-alikes.

It also will compliment HRSA's modernized data collection and reporting initiative, Uniform Data System Patient-Level Submission (UDS+). UDS+ was designed to collect more and better data on social determinants of health and improve data quality reporting for health centers. The combination of these initiatives will assist health centers in tailoring their efforts to advance health equity and improve health outcomes while targeting specific community or patient needs.

*Read the press release about this funding on the [HHS.gov](https://www.hhs.gov) website. To apply, visit the [FY 2022 ARP-UDS+](#) webpage.*

### HHS Awards Nearly \$25 Million to Expand Access to School-Based Health Services

In May 2022, 125 health centers were awarded nearly \$25 million to improve and strengthen access to school-based health services in communities across the U.S. This funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) and will support local collaboration and partnerships between health centers and schools to ensure children and youth are provided necessary comprehensive physical and mental care. Five Region VIII health centers were awarded this funding including two in Colorado, two in Montana, and one in Wyoming.

*To learn more about this funding and view the awardees, read the [HHS.gov press release](#).*

### National Health Center Week

[National Health Center Week](#) will take place August 7-13, 2022. The theme for this year's event is "Community Health Centers: The Chemistry for Strong Communities." Focus areas will include Public Housing Health Day, Healthcare for the Homeless Day, Agricultural Worker Health Day, Patient Appreciation Day, Stakeholder Appreciation Day, Health Center Staff Appreciation Day, and Children's Health Day. Additional details about events, focus days, and more should be released soon on the National Health Center Week website.



*Graphics for 2022 National Health Center Week will be available on the NHCW [Media Toolkit](#) webpage.*

#### Maternal Mental Health Hotline

On May 8, 2022, the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) launched a new, confidential, toll-free hotline with counselors available to provide mental health support for expecting and new mothers experiencing mental health challenges. The hotline is accessible by phone or text at 1-833-9-HELP4MOMS (1-833-943-5746) in English and Spanish.

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### Factors Associated with Federally Qualified Health Center Financial Performance

A study published in March 2022 by researchers from the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), in collaboration with the University of Chicago, was created to better understand the drivers of financial stability at health centers. Researchers reviewed six measures of health center financial performance and determined that higher percentages of Medicaid patients, non-physician health care providers, and a Patient-Centered Medical Home recognition had positive associations with a health center's financial sustainability. Researchers also found that since 2012, the financial health of health centers has improved which can be attributed, in part, to Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act.

*Learn more and read the entire study in the National Library of Medicine [Health Center Library](#).*

#### National Funding Opportunities

- ★ [HRSA Transforming Pediatrics for Early Childhood](#) (05/23/2022)
- ★ [HRSA FY 2022 American Rescue Plan Uniform Data System Patient-Level Submission](#) (05/23/2022)
- ★ [HRSA Healthy Start Supplement: Community-Based Doula](#) (05/31/2022)
- ★ [HRSA State Maternal Health Innovation & Data Capacity Program](#) (06/13/2022)
- ★ [HRSA Community Health Worker Training Program \(CHWTP\)](#) (06/14/2022)
- ★ [HRSA Accelerating Cancer Screening \(AxCS\)](#) (06/15/2022)
- ★ [Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health Demonstrating Policy Effectiveness to Promote Black Youth Mental Health](#) (06/22/2022)

### Region VIII in the News

- ★ Inner City Health Center: [Coloradans Receive Medical Services Which Were Put Off During the Pandemic](#) (*CBS4 Denver*, April 9)
- ★ Denver Health Community Health Services: [Young Woman Credits Life-Changing Surgery to ROSA Machine at Denver Health's Brook Gordon](#) (*Patch*, April 12)
- ★ Montana Primary Care Association: [Cvent Excellence Award Winners Honored at Cvent CONNECT 2022](#) (*Business Wire*, April 13)
- ★ STRIDE Community Health Center: [Cherry Creek Schools and STRIDE Team Up to Preserve Student Health](#) (*CBS4 Denver*, April 15)
- ★ Family Healthcare: [Family Healthcare Illustrates the High Value of a Community Health Center in Southwest Utah](#) (*St. George News*, April 18)
- ★ Uncompahgre Medical Center: [UMC Receives Recent Accolades](#) (*Telluride News*, May 20)
- ★ Peak Vista Community Health Centers: [Peak Vista Community Health Centers Opens News Downtown Location for Homeless, Low-Income Residents](#) (*The Gazette*, April 20)
- ★ Denver Health Community Health Centers: [DPS, Denver Health Adds 19<sup>th</sup> School-Based Health Center](#) (*Fox 31*, April 12)
- ★ MarillacHealth: [What's in a Name: MarillacHealth](#) (*The Daily Sentinel*, April 24)
- ★ STRIDE Community Health Center: [Physicians Are Uneasy as Colorado Collects Providers' Diversity Data](#) (*KHN*, April 25)
- ★ RiverStone Health: [Letter to the Editor: John Felton Exemplifies Leadership](#) (*Billings Gazette*, May 1)
- ★ Peak Vista Community Health Centers: [Peak Vista Chief Operations Officer announced as 2022 Colorado Titan 100](#) (*KRDO*, May 3)
- ★ Spectra Health: [HHS Awards \\$7.3 Million to North Dakota, Spectra Health](#) (*Cramer.Senate.gov*, May 5)
- ★ Denver Health: [As 'Nursing Week' Begins, Denver Health Nurses Continue to Show Their Resiliency](#) (*CBS4 Denver*, May 6)
- ★ Salud Family Health Centers: [Weld County Resident Awarded for Work in Migrant Health at Conference for Agricultural Worker Health](#) (*Greeley Tribune*, May 11)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## May

**CHAMPS 2022 CORE Competencies Training for Health Center Supervisors & Managers**

May 18, 25

**MCN The Road to Patient Activation Series**

May 19, 26; June 2

**NCECE Addressing Social Determinants of Health Through Community Based Palliative Care Learning Collaborative – Session 4**

May 24

**NCFH Creating Your Own Diabetes Resource Toolbox Webinar**

May 24

**School-Based Health Alliance Addressing Diabetes Risk Factors in School-aged Children Webinar**

May 24

**AAMC Center for Health Justice Maternal Health Incubator Two-Day Virtual Convening**

May 24-25

**NCMLP The Unique Role of Medical-Legal Partnerships in Helping Health Centers Address Disability & Chronic Disease Discrimination Webinar**

May 25; June 8

**MPCA Medication for Opioid Use Disorder Course**

May 26

**National Advisory Council on Migrant Health Virtual Meeting**

May 31-June 3

**NCHPH Screening for Broadband Access and Digital Health Literacy in Public Housing Patients Webinar**

May 31

## July

**AUCH Mental Health First Aid Webinar**

July 11

**Today with Macrae: Health Center Program Updates**

July 11

**MPCA Moving Beyond the Barriers of Treating Opioid Use Disorder Webinar**

July 15

**National Nurse-Led Consortium Chronic Stress, Housing, and Health: Patient Experiences and Strategies for Comprehensive Care**

July 15

**MPCA Solution Focused Brief Therapy Two-Day Course with Teri Pichot**

July 27-28

**ACU 2022 Conference Resilience & Transformation in Care**

July 31-August 3

## June

**CHAMPS 2022 Immunization Update Webinar**

June 1

**HRSA 2022 Health Grants Workshops**

June 1, 15, 29; July 13, 27; August 10

**CHAMPS 2022 Resiliency Collaborative**

June 3; July 1; August 5, September 2

**Today with Macrae: Health Center Program Updates**

June 4

**CHAMPS 2022 Live Your Best Life (With Diabetes) Virtual Train-the-Trainer**

June 6-7; June 7-8

**NACHC Virtual Train the Trainer (TTT) Program: The Happiness Advantage Webinar**

June 7-8

**National Nurse-Led Consortium National Diabetes Prevention Program Community of Practice Webinar Series**

June 8

**MPCA Cover Montana Learning Series Understanding Behavioral Health Access and Coverage**

June 9

**ACU STAR<sup>2</sup> Center PCA & HCCN Workforce Professional Development Series**

June 14

**CHAD Wildfire Preparedness for Health Centers Webinar**

June 16

**AUCH Workplace Violence De-escalation Techniques Webinar**

June 21

**2022 National School-Based Health Care Virtual Conference**

June 27-30

### **Newsletter Contributors:**

*Jen Anderson, Mariah Blake, Cat Galley, Kathryn King, Stephanie Ivers Heine, Julie Hulstein, Emily Krizmanich, Andrea Martin, Kristen Sergi, Nick Zucconi*

Please contact [Catherine@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Catherine@CHAMPSonline.org) with questions or comments, to sign up to receive the newsletter, change your subscription email, or submit articles for publication.

*This resource was supported by the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$705,800 with 22% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).*