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Spring 2015 Quarterly Newsletter

Published May 11, 2015

Save the Date!

NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference



CHAMPS and the Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA), in partnership with Western Clinicians Network (WCN), are hosting the Annual Primary Care Conference Saturday, October 17 through Tuesday, October 20, 2015 in Seattle, WA. The conference will include clinical, operations, IT, fiscal, workforce, outreach and enrollment, community health improvement, PCMH, policy, and governance tracks and provide numerous networking opportunities. Health centers and other partners with innovative programs and best practices to share should consider submitting an abstract to present during the conference. The abstract portal is currently open, and submissions are due by Friday, June 19, 2015.

For more information and a link to the online abstract portal, Please visit the [CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.

CHAMPS Hits the Road: Attending Events across Region VIII

During the spring of 2015, CHAMPS supported state and national partners and strengthened connections with health center and Primary Care Association (PCA) staff by attending the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) Triannual Meeting, the Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA) Annual Spring Symposium (*rally for Medicaid expansion at the Montana capital during the Symposium at right*), the Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD) Annual Conference, the Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA) Annual Training Conference, the Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) Annual Primary Care Conference, and the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) National Farmworker Health Conference. CHAMPS values these opportunities to make connections across the region and looks forward to new and continued collaborations.



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MPCN Steering Committee Thoughts: Anniversaries for CHAMPS and Mountain/Plains Clinical Network

In addition to CHAMPS celebrating 30 years of service this year, the Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) is celebrating 25 years of clinicians from health centers in Region VIII working together to ensure the delivery of the highest quality health care to their communities. The [MPCN Steering Committee](#) has shared their thoughts on these milestones and what CHAMPS means to them.

CHAMPS is an invaluable organization. It supports me clinically to provide excellent patient care, it gives me tools to manage my team effectively and efficiently, and it informs me with the necessary political background to know what's going on in the CHC world in general. I've felt more prepared and confident at several big steps in my career thanks to resources it has been able to provide.

*~Matt Allen, DDS
Dentist, Clinica Family Health Services, Inc., CO*

CHAMPS has had a significant impact on my life both personally and professionally, and has allowed me to grow into leadership roles within my organization and CHAMPS. As far as I am concerned, the community health center model is the best solution for grassroots, whole person, family focused, and community centered care. CHAMPS leadership ensures health centers have access to the latest advocacy, training, and networking opportunities. Together, our struggles are shared and identified opportunities to overcome any obstacle become infinite.

*~Ken Davis, PA-C
Medical Director of Integrated CARE, Mountain Family Health Centers, CO*

CHAMPS is my "go-to" for all education and training resources related to Coal Country Community Health Center's development and delivery of quality patient care. I have gained such a vast knowledge base through viewing live and archived webcasts, online resources, and most importantly at the annual conference through peer to peer networking and best practice presentations. Thank you to the CHAMPS staff for also being such a reachable resource and always extending a helping hand!

*~Chastity L. Dolbec, RN, BSN
Director of Patient Care & Innovation, Coal Country Community Health Centers, ND*

Being part of the MPCN Steering Committee has provided me the opportunity to have input and participate with clinical updates, continuing education, and exposure to best practices.

*~Chad Hess, MPAS, MBA, PA-C
Associate Medical Director, Pueblo Community Health Center, Inc., CO*

Congratulations to CHAMPS for 30 years of committed service in providing health care leadership to those serving the underserved. They are great leaders and are always looking for ways to improve the service they provide to the Health Centers and Health Care Providers in Region 8.

*~Kim McFarlane, MPAS, PA-C
Medical Director, Green River Medical Center, UT*

Explore Highlights of CHAMPS' 30th Anniversary

- ★ Visit the [CHAMPS 30th Anniversary Timeline](#) to view an interactive electronic timeline highlighting CHAMPS leadership, programs, and changes over the past thirty years.
- ★ Learn about CHAMPS milestones, Region VIII health centers, CHAMPS fast facts, and cultural references from 1985 with the [CHAMPS Highlights Infographic](#).
- ★ View a membership history of CHAMPS with the [Membership Milestones Flyer](#).
- ★ Celebrate the [25th Anniversary of MPCN](#).



***To view all these features and more, visit the
[CHAMPS Celebrates 30 Years of Service to Region VIII](#) webpage.***

CHAMPS 2015-2016 Membership

CHAMPS thanks the health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that have recently paid membership dues to become **2015-2016 CHAMPS Organizational Members**. The CHAMPS membership year corresponds with our fiscal year, April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016. The benefits of CHAMPS Organizational Membership include:

- ★ Two seats on the **CHAMPS Board of Directors**
- ★ Free access to online CHAMPS Live and Archived **Webcasts** and CD-ROM copies of CHAMPS Archived Webcasts
- ★ Two free copies of the **2015-2016 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Directory**
- ★ Option to participate in the **CHAMPS/CliftonLarsonAllen Financial Benchmarking Project**
- ★ Discounted registration for the **NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference** with travel reimbursement for some attendees
- ★ Discounted registration for **CHAMPS face-to-face trainings** including Spanish Language for Health Professionals and Supervisor/Manager Trainings
- ★ **Job Posting Highlights** in the monthly CHAMPS JOB Email
- ★ Discounted pricing for **UpToDate, Clinic Library, and ICD-10 Training with Optum**
- ★ Access to the **Members Only section** of the CHAMPS Website

2014-2015 Organizational Members enjoy a 60 day grace period in the new fiscal year. Member benefits for 2014-2015 members that have not paid 2015-2016 dues will expire on 06/01/15.

Visit the CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#) webpage to find out if your organization was a 2014-2015 CHAMPS Member. A list of current 2015-2016 Organizational Members will be posted by 06/01/15.

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.

First-Time Supervisors and Managers Develop Practical Skills at CORE Competency Training

During the spring of 2015, CHAMPS hosted the **CORE Competency Training for (Relatively) New CHC Supervisors and Managers** (*participants pictured at right*) with support from Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA), Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA), and Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN). The course, led by Lisa Mouscher of Sogence Training and Consulting, was designed to assist newer supervisors and managers gain the core competencies necessary to successfully navigate a supervisory or management role in a health care setting. Beginning with the two-day training in Westminster, CO in April 2015, participants learned about the history of the health center movement, transitioning from a peer to supervisor, behavioral interviewing, communication skills, leading teams, employment law, performance management, and customer service. The discussion continues with a follow-up conference call in May to talk about challenges and successes in implementing new skills, plus additional CHAMPS training materials to encourage ongoing professional development. Participants gave the training positive reviews; evaluation comments included:



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- ★ *Each of the presenters was extremely articulate and their presentations were full of very useful and essential material pertaining to my job.*
- ★ *This training has provided me with tools and skills that will build my confidence to lead an effective team vs. just being their boss.*
- ★ *I wish I could have done this training at the beginning of my new role!*

For more information, visit the CHAMPS [Leadership Learning Opportunities](#) webpage and/or email andrea@CHAMPSonline.org.

Continuing Education on Your Schedule

Don't miss your opportunity to learn from these archived CHAMPS trainings.

Live CHAMPS Distance Learning Events are recorded to allow ongoing access to online archives, giving health center staff extra opportunities to enhance professional development, clinical knowledge, and workforce strategies. Current archived events include:

Create Great Credit (Online through 05/20/15)

- ★ Information about the credit system with tips on building and improving credit scores

Foundations for Influencing (A) - Presuming Good Intent (Online through 06/18/15)

- ★ Influencing and confrontation through recognizing the importance of accountability, respect, and honesty

Foundations for Influencing (B) – The Art of Developing Trust & Personal Power (Core Dimensions) (Online through 07/23/15)

- ★ Defining and using the Core Dimensions in the workplace to build trust

Foundations for Influencing (C) – Influencing through Negotiation (Online through 08/20/15)

- ★ Defining and using negotiation in the workplace to move toward a common goal

Strategic Clinical Workforce Partnerships: Lutheran Medical Center Dental Residency (Online through 09/16/15)

- ★ Exploring dental residency programs as a workforce resource

Motivational Interviewing: An Introduction to Encouraging Health Behavior Change (Online through 09/17/15)

- ★ Understanding why motivational interviewing is used as a health improvement technique

2014 Region VIII Health Center Workforce Data (Online through 01/13/16)

- ★ Understanding and utilizing data and metrics from the 2014 CHAMPS Region VIII Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Project
- ★ 1.5 general HR recertification credits available through 12/31/15 for online archive only

Behavioral Health Integration Models for CHCs: Balancing the Team and Workflow (Online through 02/25/16)

- ★ Identifying models of behavioral health staffing and integration into primary care

Retention of the Medical Provider at a CHC (Online through 03/18/16)

- ★ Developing plans, skills, and strategies for provider retention

Student Loan Management and Repayment Options (Online through 04/15/16)

- ★ Understanding how to utilize information and tools to manage student loans

For more details about each event, including links to archive recordings, credit opportunities, and possible costs, visit the CHAMPS [Distance Learning](#) webpage.

Archived CHAMPS Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Events are also available. See page 8 for more details.

Many archived events are also available on CD. Visit the CHAMPS [Lending Library](#) and [Electronic Media](#) webpages to learn more.

Don't Forget: CHAMPS Region VIII Job Opportunities Bank

Did you know the CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank](#) receives **over 5,000+ views** each month? CHAMPS not only posts positions on the Job Opportunities Bank, but also advertises them at local, regional, and national career fairs. Upcoming fairs include the American Academy of Family Physicians National Conference, AT Still University Recruitment and Networking Fair, and Regis University Health Care Professions Fair. Posting is **FREE** for Region VIII health centers. Make sure your health center's openings are listed and update them today!

To post and update your openings, email chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org.

Take a Break to Learn with the 2015 “Lunchtime Learning” Professional Skill Development Series

CHAMPS and Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) are partnering to host the “**Lunchtime Learning**” **Professional Skill Development Series**, a set of six webinars designed to provide professional development and skills improvement to positively impact retention rates at Region VIII health centers. These events are primarily targeted at health center administrative and clinical support staff, although all health center staff members are welcome. All webinars will take place 12:00-1:00PM MT (1:00-2:00PM CT) and are FREE for health centers (Health Center Program Grantees and FQHC Look-Alikes) and Primary Care Associations in Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY).



- ★ **Student Loan Management and Repayment Options**
 - Presented on April 15, 2015; archived online until April 15, 2016
 - Learn how to utilize relevant websites and tools to manage student loans, identify repayment options such as public service loan forgiveness, and design a student loan payoff strategy
- ★ **Customer Service: The Art of Caring**, Wednesday, May 20, 2015
 - Understand the critical importance of service excellence, gain skills to handle challenging situations, increase the positive impact of interactions, and strengthen communication skills
- ★ **Civility in the Workplace: Creating a Friendlier and More Productive Work Environment**, Wednesday, June 17, 2015
 - Gain strategies to address challenges, understand the cost of workplace incivility and the benefits of workplace civility, and learn practical ways to strengthen workplace civility and internal service excellence
- ★ **Asking for What You Want**, Wednesday, July 15, 2015
 - Identify conversation smoke screens, understand how to move a conversation forward, know how to presume good intent, and learn the three P's of challenging conversations: preparation, practice, and plexi-glass
- ★ **Facilitation of Problem Solving**, Wednesday, August 19, 2015
 - Define problems, learn the natural stages of a problem, recognize specific behaviors in the Problem Solving Model, understand the importance of demonstrating empathy, and review key phrases to move the conversation forward
- ★ **Cultural Competency**, Wednesday, September 16, 2015
 - Understand the applicability of cultural competency in a health center setting

For more details about each event, including links to registration and possible costs, please visit the CHAMPS [Distance Learning](#) webpage.

Webpage of Health Center Job Description Samples

CHAMPS has compiled samples of job descriptions utilized by health centers to assist others in their recruitment and Human Resources activities. This webpage includes downloadable samples of administrative/management, administrative support, behavioral health, dental, and medical job descriptions. Available titles include Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director, Human Resources Director, Customer Service Support, Nurse Practitioner, Dentist, Pharmacy Technician, and more! This page will continue to be updated as new job descriptions are shared. If you have additional job descriptions you would like to share, please email them to chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org.

Visit the CHAMPS [Sample Job Descriptions](#) webpage to download samples.

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.

Register Now: CHAMPS Immunization Update Webcast

On Tuesday, June 9, 2015, 11:30AM-12:45PM MT (12:30-1:45PM CT), CHAMPS will host the annual Immunization Update. Donna Weaver, RN, MN, nurse educator for the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will provide an update on the latest vaccine schedules and ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) recommendations. Topics will include 2015 immunization schedules, vaccine coverage rates, VIS (vaccine information statements) updates, measles update, influenza update, recent ACIP recommendations including HPV and PCV13, new vaccine products including MenB and DTaP-IPV, and immunization resources.

For more information and to register, visit the CHAMPS [Distance Learning](#) webpage.

Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals Fills to Capacity Again!

CHAMPS and the Denver Medical Society (DMS) hosted the Spanish Language Training for Health Care Professionals April 17-20, 2015, in Denver, CO. Forty-three participants were immersed in four full days of medical Spanish language training in three separate classes for beginners, more advance beginners, and intermediate/advanced students. The training was attended by staff members from eleven different community health centers and several private practices. Participants reported that the "energetic trainers," "four-days of immersion," "conversing with classmates," "role playing," and "information about Latin culture" were the best aspects of the training.

CHAMPS plans to offer the training again in the spring of 2016. Check the CHAMPS [Events & Trainings](#) webpage in early 2016 for exact dates and to register.

Openings on the MPCN Steering Committee

The Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) encompasses all health care providers working at Region VIII community, migrant, and homeless health centers in addition to National Health Service Corps (NHSC) participants working in Region VIII. The mission of MPCN is to facilitate the professional, administrative, and educational development of all Region VIII health center providers. The MPCN Steering Committee guides MPCN programs and services to ensure they meet the needs and challenges of Region VIII clinicians. The Steering Committee may be comprised of up to four representatives from each state in Region VIII; two medical, one dental, and one behavioral provider. **Currently, there are positions open for MPCN Steering Committee representatives in each state.**

Serving on the MPCN Steering Committee allows members to voice the needs and desires of clinicians in their area to ensure the most appropriate programs/services are developed and maintained by CHAMPS. It also gives clinicians the experience of contributing to a committee and offers a great opportunity to network with other clinicians in Region VIII.

Visit the CHAMPS [MPCN Leadership](#) webpage to learn more.

If you would like to apply for an open position on the MPCN Steering Committee, email shannon@CHAMPSonline.org.

Registration is now open for the **National Sexual Health Conference 2015!** The conference aims to create opportunities to share information, efforts, and best practices around sexual health across the lifespan by bridging the varied disciplines of education, advocacy, and clinical care. The event will take place Monday, July 13 through Tuesday, July 14, 2015 in Keystone, CO.

For more information and to register, visit the [National Sexual Health Conference](#) webpage.

Updated Region VIII Data Summaries

CHAMPS recently updated the **Region VIII Demographics, Mortality, Behavioral Health, and Women's Health Data Summaries**. These four data summary tables provide useful statistics on population and health trends for states in Region VIII, the region overall, and the nation. Viewing the three levels of data side-by-side can assist users with needs assessments, program and service development, and quality improvement efforts. For example, the Demographics Data Summary shows that the percentage of the population less than five years of age is significantly higher in Region VIII than in the US overall, at 21.5% and 12.3% respectively. Also, per the Mortality Data Summary, all six states in Region VIII have lower age-adjusted death rates for diseases of the heart than the nation overall, but Region VIII states have higher rates of deaths due to accidents than the nation overall.

To view the data summaries, visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.

American Cancer Society Provides Resources for Health Centers

The American Cancer Society (ACS) and the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable recently issued **[Steps for Increasing Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates: A Manual for Community Health Centers](#)**. The publication provides step-by-step instructions to help health centers implement processes that will reduce physician workloads and increase colorectal cancer screenings. Topics include calculating baseline screening rates, assessing capacity, and preparing the team.

In addition, the ACS provides information on successfully implementing an **[ACS FluFOBT Program](#)**. The program is intended to assist medical practices with increasing colorectal cancer screenings by offering take-home fecal occult blood tests (FOBTs) or fecal immunochemical tests (FITs) to patients at the time of their annual flu shot. It has been demonstrated in medical literature that offering such tests at the time of a flu shot, or during flu shot clinics, increases colorectal cancer screening rates.

Lastly, the ACS, National Cancer Survivorship Resource Center, and George Washington University Cancer Institute collaborated to develop the **[Cancer Survivorship E-Learning Series for Primary Care Providers](#)**. The seven-module series is designed to help primary care providers better understand the needs of cancer survivors and deliver better follow-up care. The seven modules can be completed in any order at any time.

Check Out this App! The **[STD Treatment \(Tx\) Guide App](#)** is an easy-to-use reference that helps health care providers identify and treat patients for STDs. STD Tx Guide combines information from the STD Treatment Guidelines as well as Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) updates, and features a streamlined interface so providers can access treatment and diagnostic information. The free app is available for Apple and Android devices.

Efforts to Address Opioid Abuse

On March 26, 2015, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a targeted initiative aimed at reducing prescription opioid and heroin related overdose, death, and dependence. The President's 2016 budget includes investments to intensify efforts to reduce opioid misuse and abuse. The importance of addressing this issue is highlighted by statistics showing that 37 percent of drug overdose deaths in 2013 involved prescription opioids. Health care providers can provide safer prescribing of opioids and better care to chronic pain patients by participating in the **COPE (Collaborative Opioid Prescribing Education)-REMS (Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy) program**. COPE-REMS is a free four-hour, CME-accredited training that is fully REMS compliant. The course is online, self-paced, and interactive, and uses video vignettes to demonstrate best clinical practices.

View the related HHS [Press Release](#).

Visit the CHAMPS [Events and Trainings](#) webpage to learn more about COPE-REMS.

OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT NEWS

Assisting Primary Care Associations and health centers
in maximizing health insurance coverage for health center patients
and communities across Region VIII.

Archived O&E Distance Learning Events

In 2014, CHAMPS partnered with Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) and Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) to offer a distance learning series on outreach and enrollment. All events are archived online, to allow ongoing learning opportunities, including:

Best Practice for Young Adult Outreach (Online through 05/20/15)

- ★ Ways health centers can reach young adults in their communities

Maximizing O&E Staff and Continued Enrollment (Online through 06/03/15)

- ★ Ways health center outreach workers can engage patients and communities

Rural Outreach Strategies (Online through 06/24/15)

- ★ Reaching rural populations to educate about health coverage options

Outreach to Special Populations (Online through 07/22/15)

- ★ Techniques for successful outreach to American Indian and Migrant Farmworker communities

Planning for Successful Outreach (Online through 08/19/15)

- ★ How to plan, conduct, and track outreach activities

Conducting Effective Outreach for Open Enrollment (Online through 08/20/15)

- ★ Strategies and tools for planning outreach efforts

Patient Education: They're Covered, Now What? (Online through 09/10/15)

- ★ How to educate patients on effective coverage utilization

Diving Deep on Premium Tax Credits (Online through 09/23/15)

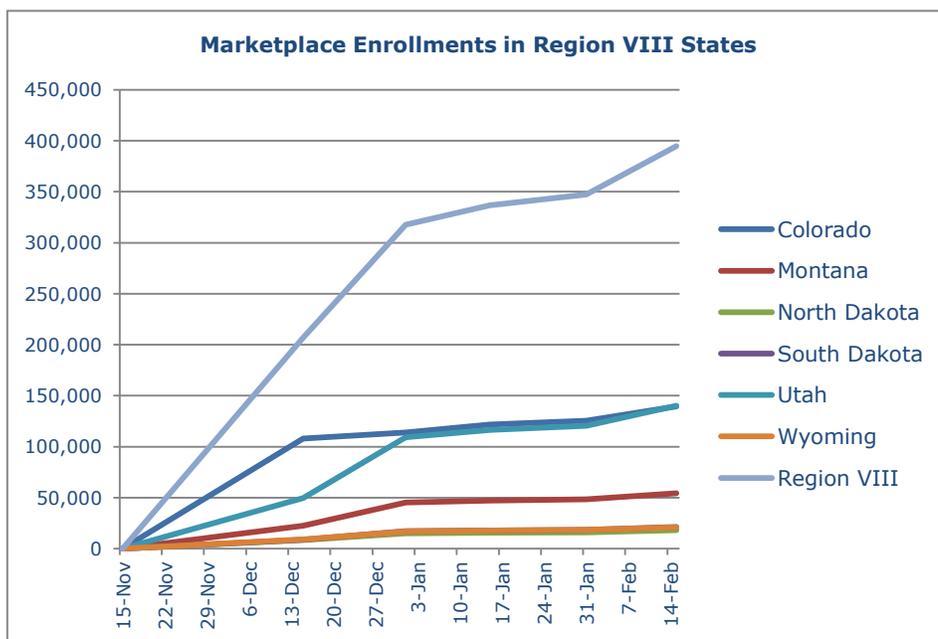
- ★ Explanation of Advance Premium Tax Credits and Cost-Sharing Reductions

Personal Identifiable Information (PII) – the Dos and Don'ts (Online through 01/07/16)

- ★ Information on guidelines, dos, and don'ts for obtaining personal identifiable information

For more details about each event, visit the CHAMPS [Distance Learning](#) webpage.
See page 4 for information about other available archived CHAMPS trainings.

Region VIII Enrolls 394,675 People in Marketplace Insurance



From November 15, 2014 to February 15, 2015, application assisters in Region VIII enrolled **394,675** people in Marketplace insurance policies. This total was a significant increase from the first open enrollment period (October 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014), when there were 282,228 enrollments. The state enrollments for 2014-2015 are as follows: **Colorado - 140,327, Montana - 54,346, North Dakota - 18,125, South Dakota - 21,183, Utah - 140,221, Wyoming - 21,148.** See left for a graph of enrollments in each Region VIII state in addition to the region as a whole.

OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT NEWS, *Continued*

Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Series

CHAMPS and Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) are partnering to present the 2015 Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Series highlighting effective outreach and enrollment strategies, discussing specific issues affecting health center enrollment staff, and looking ahead to the third open enrollment period. The events are intended for outreach and enrollment staff; however, other health center and primary care association (PCA) staff members may find some content applicable to their positions. All webinars will take place 1:00-2:00PM MT (2:00-3:00PM CT) and are FREE for health centers (Health Center Program Grantees and FQHC Look-Alikes) and Primary Care Associations in Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY). Other participants will be charged \$50/link after viewing the event.

- ★ **Integrating Outreach and Enrollment into CHC Workflow**, Thursday, May 14, 2015
 - Learn strategies and techniques for incorporating outreach and enrollment into existing health center systems and workflow
- ★ **Building Effective Community Partnerships**, Thursday, June 18, 2015
 - Hear from the Take Care Utah partnership about how to build a collaborative state-wide enrollment network
- ★ **School-Based Outreach: A Recipe for Success**, Thursday, July 9, 2015
 - Learn techniques for partnering with school districts to increase enrollments among students and their families
- ★ **Taxes and Consumer Education**, Thursday, August 13, 2015
 - Understand tax rules as they apply to Marketplace customers, learn what tax issues are within the scope of application assisters, and hear techniques to discuss tax issues with consumers
- ★ **Motivating Consumers to Enroll in Coverage**, Thursday, September 10, 2015
 - Understand basic motivational interviewing techniques and how to apply them during an enrollment appointment
- ★ **Communication Strategies for OE3**, Thursday, October 8, 2015
 - Hear successful techniques for gaining earned media coverage and learn strategies for combatting Affordable Care Act negativity

For more information and to register for the series, visit the CHAMPS [Distance Learning](#) webpage.

Farmworker Justice Offers ACA Resources

Submitted by Alexis Guild, Migrant Health Policy Analyst, Farmworker Justice

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) presents unique challenges to health centers serving migrant and seasonal agricultural workers. This is especially true for health centers that serve areas with temporary non-immigrant workers who are in the US with H-2A and H-2B visas. H-2A and H-2B workers are eligible to enroll in health insurance in the Marketplace and may be subject to the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate. Because they are not eligible for Medicaid due to their immigration status, they also qualify for subsidies (including the advanced premium tax credits) between 0% and 400% of the Federal Poverty Level.



Farmworker Justice has developed fact sheets on the Affordable Care Act for health centers and for agricultural workers. These fact sheets, available in English and Spanish, provide basic information on what workers and health centers need to know about health insurance options under the ACA. In addition to fact sheets, Farmworker Justice has created a training curriculum to help outreach workers provide basic information to farmworkers on the ACA and access to affordable health care. Farmworker Justice also hosts webinars featuring local and national experts who share information and strategies to help health centers overcome barriers to providing care to farmworkers.

Visit the [Farmworker Justice](#) website to access these materials.
For questions and individual technical assistance, contact aguild@farmworkerjustice.org.

OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT NEWS, *Continued*

Montana Becomes the 30th State to Expand Medicaid



On April 29, 2015, Governor Steve Bullock signed S.B. 405, the Montana Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership (HELP) Act, into law. Once this bill is approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Montana will become the 30th state to expand Medicaid to all individuals and families earning less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). Currently, only Colorado and North Dakota have elected to expand Medicaid in Region VIII. Unlike Colorado and North Dakota, Montana has elected to pursue an alternative Medicaid expansion plan. Some of the provisions include:

- ★ A premium for coverage amounting to two percent of the household's annual income. Enrollees earning under 100 percent FPL cannot lose coverage for nonpayment of premiums, but the premium can become a collectable debt by the state. Individuals and families earning more than 100 but less than 138 percent FPL can be unenrolled after 90 days due to nonpayment. They are eligible for reenrollment upon payment.
- ★ Cost-sharing (copayments or coinsurance) for certain services. This amount can be up to 3 percent of the enrollee's annual income.
- ★ An asset based fee provision for individuals and families with assets in excess of \$250,000 of equity in a primary residence or a primary vehicle and \$50,000 in additional cash or cash equivalent assets.

Expanding Medicaid in Montana will extend coverage to 35,000 individuals who currently fall into the coverage gap, which includes people who earn less than 100 percent FPL (\$11,770 for an individual or \$20,090 for a family of four in 2015) and thus do not qualify for subsidies on the Marketplace, but live in a non-expanded state and do not fall into the state's narrow coverage requirements for Medicaid.

Application Available for 2015 Navigator Grant Funding

In mid-April, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for 2015 Navigator grants. These grants are given to individuals and organizations in federally-facilitated and state-partnership Marketplaces to help facilitate enrollments in both qualified health plans (QHPs) and Medicaid. This year, the project period has been extended from 12 months to 36 months. The funding period is one year, with additional years to be funded incrementally based on funding availability. HHS is planning to award up to \$67 million for the 37 federally-facilitated Marketplace (FFM) and state-partnership Marketplace (SPM) states. At least \$600,000 in funding is available for each state. Small entities and individuals proposing to serve smaller, hard-to-reach, or underserved populations are encouraged to apply, particularly by partnering with other entities and/or individuals to form a consortium which serves a larger portion of the population.

Key Dates for Applicants

Pre-Application Calls:

Wednesday, May 20, 2015, 9:00-10:30AM MT (10:00-11:30AM CT)

- ★ Click [HERE](#) to register.

Wednesday, June 3, 2015, 12:00-1:30PM MT (1:00-2:30PM CT)

- ★ Click [HERE](#) to register.

Letter of Intent to apply (required): June 3, 2015

Application due date: June 15, 2015, 11:00AM MT (12:00PM CT)

Anticipated award date: September 2, 2015



Click [HERE](#) to view the initial announcement for the Navigator grants or visit Grants.gov and search for CDFIA number 93.332.

SPECIAL POPULATIONS NEWS

Increasing the ability of Region VIII health centers to effectively serve populations with limited access to health care by increasing knowledge and enhancing collaborations.

10th Anniversary Medical-Legal Partnership Summit

Submitted by Sharena Hagins, MPH, CHES, Senior Research Assistant, National Center for Medical-Legal Partnerships



Photo credit: Z. Miller Photography, The National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership 10 Year Anniversary Summit. From left to right: Vincent Keane, President and CEO, Unity Health Care, Ellen Lawton, JD, Co-Principal Investigator, The National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership, Bethany Hamilton, JD, Program Specialist (Policy), National Association of Community Health Centers, Suma Nair, MS, RD, Director, Office of Quality Improvement (OQI), Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Julie Breen, Public Health Analyst, Strategic Partnerships Division (SPD)/OQI, Jacqueline Rodrigue, Team Lead, SPD/OQI, Tracey Orloff, Director, SPD/OQI, Don Blanchon, MPH, MPA, Executive Director, Whitman-Walker Health

The National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership (NCMLP) recently hosted its **10th Anniversary Medical-Legal Partnership Summit** in McLean, VA. With 400 people in attendance, the Summit brought together leaders in health care, law, public health, social work, and government to share ideas, insights, and best practices about how the integration of legal care and health care can help address social determinants of health for vulnerable populations. As a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-funded National Cooperative Agreement, this year's NCMLP Summit had multiple sessions with a focus on the delivery of care at health centers. The topics discussed included challenges and lessons learned at health centers with implementing medical-legal partnerships, improving patient care, and aligning medical-legal partnerships with outreach and enabling services in the health center context.

For more information on medical-legal partnerships, the Summit, and resources for health centers, please visit the [National Center Medical-Legal Partnership](#) website.

Training to Assist Community Providers in Treating Veterans

In an April Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) Primary Health Care Digest, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) noted the benefits of military culture training for community providers. The **Military Cultural Awareness Training** is offered through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) at no cost to all Veteran care providers. The training includes the following modules: Self-Assessment/Intro to Military Ethos, Military Organization and Roles, Stressors and Resources, and Treatment, Resources, and Tools. In addition to this resource, providers can access a webpage of resources developed by CHAMPS to help health centers better serve veterans both as patients and as potential candidates for employment. The CHAMPS **Veterans Resources** webpage has information on terms, acronyms, and ranks in the military, and also includes fact sheets and reports on various issues relating to veterans. Also included is information for providers caring for veterans, workforce resources for health centers interested in hiring veterans, state-specific resources, and tools for outreach and enrollment to veterans.

Visit the [ADVANCE](#) website to access the Military Cultural Awareness Training.

To learn more, visit the CHAMPS [Veterans Resources](#) webpage.

**For additional special populations resources,
follow CHAMPS on LinkedIn!**

- ★ Follow the [CHAMPS Company Page](#).
- ★ Join the [CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Program Network Discussion Group](#).

30 Clinicians Making a Difference

Submitted by Claire Hutkins Seda, Staff Writer and Editor, Migrant Clinicians Network

In May 2015, Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) is celebrating its 30th year of working to create practical solutions at the intersection of poverty, migration, and health. To commemorate this anniversary, MCN launched the **30 Clinicians Making a Difference** webpage, celebrating the work of 30 individuals who have dedicated their lives to migrant health - from diverse backgrounds, in a variety of professional careers, at different stages of their careers, and across the US and from abroad. These clinicians include **John McFarland, DDS, from Salud Family Health Centers in CO**. Each full-length website profile highlights the obstacles these clinicians have encountered and the innovative programs they have created with a look toward the future of health care and migrant health.

Congratulations, Dr. McFarland!

Read more about MCN's work on their [website](#) and view all 30 profiles on the [30 Clinicians Making a Difference](#) webpage.

America's Health Centers: 50 Years of Success in Healthcare Access

In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the health center movement, National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) recently launched an online resource featuring the unique history and accomplishments of health centers. The site includes:

- ★ A history of the health center model
- ★ Infographics about health centers
- ★ Videos and photographs about the health center movement
- ★ Images and other communication tools to share on social media



Click [HERE](#) to view the website.

HHS OIG and Industry Leaders Release Joint Guidance for Health Care Boards

In April, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS OIG), the American Health Lawyers Association (AHLA), the Association of Healthcare Internal Auditors (AHIA) and the Health Care Compliance Association (HCCA) partnered to release Practical Guidance for Health Care Governing Boards on Compliance Oversight to assist governing boards of health care organizations carry out their compliance plan oversight obligations. This resource provides practical ideas for boards to implement at their organizations including processes for identifying risks, tools for improving adherence to program objectives, and effective reporting tools for board meetings.

Visit the [Office of Inspector General](#) webpage to access the resource.

Summer Food Service Program Services Low-Income Children

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has created two resources to help community partners assist children in finding summer meals through the Summer Food Service Program. This service ensures that low-income children and teens age 18 and younger continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. The [Summer Meals Site Finder](#) is an interactive map that allows visitors to input the city, state, or zip code and the map will identify current Summer Meals sites operating in that defined area. USDA has also created [Summer Meals Flyers](#) to build awareness, providing different photo options so communities can tailor the flyer to match their demographics.

Visit the [Summer Food Service Program](#) to learn more.

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MAY 2015

May 14, 2015

CHAMPS/CCHN [Integrating Outreach and Enrollment to the CHC Workflow Webcast](#)

Online

May 20, 2015

CHAMPS/CCHN [Customer Service: The Art of Caring Webcast](#)

Online

JUNE 2015

June 1-3, 2015

Association of Clinicians for the Underserved [Annual Conference](#)

Alexandria, VA

June 2-4, 2015

[Dakota Conference on Rural and Public Health](#)

Minot, ND

June 16-19, 2015

[National School-Based Health Care Convention](#)

Austin, TX

June 17, 2015

CHAMPS/CCHN [Civility in the Workplace Webcast](#)

Online

June 18, 2015

CHAMPS/CCHN [Building Effective Community Partnerships Webcast](#)

Online

JULY 2015

July 9, 2015

CHAMPS/CCHN [School-Based Outreach: A Recipe for Success Webcast](#)

Online

July 13-14, 2015

[National Sexual Health Conference](#)

Keystone, CO

July 15, 2015

CHAMPS/CCHN [Asking for What You Want Webcast](#)

Online

LOOKING AHEAD

[NACHC Community Health Institute & Expo](#)

August 23-25, 2015

Orlando, FL

[NWRPCA/CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#)

October 17-20, 2015

Seattle, WA

May

Mental Health Month

Mother's Day, 05/10

Memorial Day, 05/25

June

Men's Health Month

Father's Day, 06/21

July

Independence Day, 07/04



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This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under cooperative agreement number U58CS06861, "State and Regional Primary Care Associations," total award of \$519,941, 22% of the total PCA project is financed with non-federal sources. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the US Government.