



**Community  
Health  
Association of  
Mountain/  
Plains  
States**

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# Summer 2022 Quarterly Newsletter

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## CHAMPS/NWRPCA 2022 Fall Primary Care Conference

Registration is now open for the [2022 CHAMPS/Northwest Regional Primary Care Association \(NWRPCA\) Fall Primary Care Conference](#) taking place Sunday, October 15 – Tuesday, October 18, 2022, in Denver, CO. The conference theme, **The Power of Together**, celebrates the 25th anniversary of the CHAMPS and NWRPCA Fall Conference partnership. Over the past two and a half decades, this collaboration has enabled the health centers of Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) and Region X (AK, ID, OR, and WA) to come together with peers and colleagues, creating strong relationships while learning from experts and each other, and ultimately enhancing their ability to serve their patients and communities.



The [2022 Fall Primary Conference Agenda](#) (subject to change) details the educational sessions across nine tracks (see page 2 for more details), two plenary sessions, networking opportunities, exhibitors, 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, and more designed to meet the needs of health center staff. This year's conference is a hybrid event featuring both in-person and virtual opportunities; in-person registrants will have access to both in-person and virtual programming, while virtual registrants will have access to materials and recordings related to the online portion of the conference. Join your peers from Regions VIII and X ("Region 18") and across the nation to hear from thought leaders and engage with colleagues from the forefront of primary care.

**Register by Friday, September 2, 2022 to take advantage of Early-Bird Discounts.**

Attendees from [CHAMPS Organizational Members](#) qualify for discounted registration and may be eligible for [Registration or Clinical Travel Reimbursement](#).

For more information on COVID-19 protocols at the conference, visit the [Duty of Care Statement](#).

For additional health and safety protocols, review the full [Terms and Conditions](#).

For complete conference details, please visit the [CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.

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### 2022 Fall Primary Care Conference Educational Session Highlights

The upcoming [CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Primary Care Conference](#) will feature 46 in-person and 10 virtual educational sessions across nine tracks, including:

**Clinical and Care Innovations:** Didactic and interactive sessions related to historical trauma, compassion fatigue and burnout, un-silo opioid disorder treatment, cancer screening, quality improvement, and more.

**Fiscal Optimization:** Sessions addressing financial health and growth, including capital development, accounting and auditing, value-based data, extending health center services, health-center specific compensation data, etc.

**Governance Essentials:** An introduction to the Health Center Movement as well as sessions addressing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, strategic planning, board requirements, roles, and responsibilities, and more.

**Healthy Communities:** Offerings to assist health centers with transforming the health system for formerly incarcerated individuals, safe firearm storage, health equity for LGBTQ+ populations, and increasing self-efficacy among community health workers.

**Hot Topics:** Emerging topics impacting health centers; sessions will be finalized closer to the conference.

**HR/Workforce:** Interactive sessions featuring tools and strategies addressing culture and employee wellness, integrating community health workers, first steps to implementing a workforce development program, partnerships to build equity, and trauma informed care.

**Leadership:** Sessions focusing on implicit and unconscious bias, cultivating a coaching mindset, change management, and more.

**Operational Excellence:** Sessions addressing care team incentive programs, cybersecurity and privacy, compliant 340B drug pricing programs, how to manage priorities with low staffing, utilizing renewable energy for resilience and cost-savings, emergency preparedness lessons learned, and CMS regulations.

**Policy:** Experts addressing current national and state-based issues and priorities.

*For more details explore the [Conference Agenda](#) (subject to change) and visit the [CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.*

### 2021 Region VIII UDS Information

***In 2021, Region VIII Health Center Program Grantees served almost 1,090,00 patients, provided over 4,200,000 visits, and employed over 10,200 Full-Time Equivalent employees.***

Each year CHAMPS compiles a summary of Region VIII Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) Uniform Data System (UDS) information, focusing on data relating to grantees, sites, staffing, visits, income, and patients, as well as trends for medical, dental, and mental/behavioral health productivity, factors impacting financial trends, and performance for a variety of clinical measures. The full 2021 Region VIII UDS Summary as well as a two-page 2021 Region VIII UDS Fact Sheet will be released soon.

*Visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage to review Region VIII UDS summaries and fact sheets from prior years. See page 10 for more information about the recent release of 2021 UDS information.*

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



## 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](#).*

### CHAMPS 2022 Next Level Skills Training Begins September 1

**BEYOND CORE  
COMPETENCIES:  
NEXT LEVEL  
SKILLS FOR  
HEALTH CENTER  
SUPERVISORS  
AND MANAGERS**



Registration is now closed for the CHAMPS [2022 Beyond CORE Competencies: Next Level Skills for Health Center Supervisors and Managers](#) intensive course, to be held online over six Thursday mornings from September 1 to October 6, 2022. Facilitator Lisa Mouscher of Sogence Training and Consulting will welcome 50 participants from all six Region VIII states with a review of the crucial skills needed to hire, coach, retain, and manage others. The

group will then delve deeper into the best practices, knowledge, and skills needed to be a great manager including effectively engaging a diverse workforce, avoiding, circumventing, and de-escalating conflict, strengthening day-to-day decision-making practices, and successfully managing change. Periodic and guided homework assignments will ensure attendees can put their new skills into immediate action.

*This course is made possible through support from Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH), Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN), Montana Primary Care Association (MPCA), Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD), and Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA).*

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

### New CHAMPS Podcast Series Highlights CHW Programs

In June 2022, CHAMPS released [Emerging Issues in Health Workforce: Community Health Workers](#), a three-part podcast series highlighting the knowledge and experience of national, state, and local organizations with innovative community health worker (CHW) programs. These interviews with [MHP Salud](#), the [Association for Utah Community Health](#) (AUCH), and [Tepeyac Community Health Center](#) (CO) provide information about the history of CHWs, the important roles this care team member play, and how CHWs can have a positive impact on the health center workforce, community, and patients.

*Visit the CHAMPS [Podcasts](#) webpage for free, listen-only episodes and related resources.*

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

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

### Recording of CHAMPS Grow Your Own Webcast Now Available

CHAMPS hosted the [Grow-Your Own Clinical Workforce with HP-ET Strategic Planning](#) webcast in June 2022, highlighting the California Primary Care Association's (CPCA) and Education Health Center Initiative's (EHCI) HP-ET Template for Assessment and Action. Participants were introduced to the template, learned how it can be leveraged for their own workforce efforts, and explored the key elements of strategic workforce planning for Health Professions Education and Training (HP-ET) programs. A recording of the event, instructions for downloading a free copy of the template, and participant handouts with slides are now available on the [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

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

#### **Continuing Education on Your Schedule**

CHAMPS webcasts are recorded to give health center staff extra opportunities to enhance professional development while gaining knowledge and strategies. View all currently available Clinical and Quality, Health Equity, and Workforce offerings on the [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### 2022 CHAMPS Salary Survey Data Analysis Underway

Every two years CHAMPS undertakes a [Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey](#) of all health centers within Region VIII. Data collection took place throughout the spring and early summer of 2022, and CHAMPS staff are working to analyze the data received. Reports of aggregated data will be distributed beginning in October/November 2022. CHAMPS would like to sincerely thank the Advisory Committee of Region VIII health center and Primary Care Association (PCA) representatives that provided expertise to guide this year's project, the 50 Region VIII health centers that submitted data for over 9,100 employees, and our partners at Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) for their help on this project.

*If you have any questions regarding the 2022 Salary Survey and related reports, please contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development and Member Services Director](#).*

#### **LAUNCHING SOON: Teaching Health Center Funding Opportunities**

[Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education](#) (THCGME)

[Teaching Health Center Planning and Development](#) (THCPD)

**Questions?** Join the [Informational Webinar](#) Wednesday, August 24, 2022, 12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT.

**Need Assistance?** Contact the [Education Health Center Initiative](#) (EHCI, a CHAMPS/NWRPCA collaboration) and read the EHCI [Education Health Center Guide](#).

### ATSU Hometown Scholars Kit

A.T. Still University's (ATSU) [Hometown Scholars Program](#), offered in collaboration with the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC), is a strategy to help health centers grow their own workforce. Through this program, health center leaders let ATSU know who within their community is interested in the Hometown Scholars program, would have a health center heart and desire to assist underserved communities, apply and attend ATSU, and then go back to serve their communities in CHCs. This Hometown Scholars endorsement then becomes a component of that individual's application to become a student in one of ATSU's healthcare education programs. Health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) can now promote the program with the help of the Hometown Scholars Kit that includes advertising and resources to distribute to interested staff.

*If interested in the ATSU Hometown Scholars Kit, please contact Hometown Scholars Coordinator Nelida Acosta at [nacosta@atsu.edu](mailto:nacosta@atsu.edu).*

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

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

The STAR<sup>2</sup> Center team recently released a slate of new checklists, factsheets, and other resources to support the health center workforce, including [Self-Care for the Health Center Workforce](#), [Workforce Planning Resource Repository](#), [Best Practices for Adapting to the Remote and Hybrid Workforce in Team-Based Care](#), [Supporting Staff Mental Health Through Compensation Equity and Inclusive Benefits](#), and archives of the [Building Health Professions Education & Training \(HP-ET\) Programs](#) webinar series. Health center teams are invited to apply for upcoming STAR<sup>2</sup> Center learning collaboratives including [Recruitment Boot Camp: Mental Health Staff Edition](#) (apply by August 25) and [Implementing and Responding to Staff Satisfaction Surveys](#) (apply by September 8). STAR<sup>2</sup> Center is also looking for interested individuals from health center or Primary Care Association (PCA) teams to participate in the upcoming season of the [STAR<sup>2</sup> Center Talks Workforce Success](#) podcast. If interested in participating in a 20-30 minute interview focused on the importance of employee and organizational well-being to address burnout and compassion fatigue, please contact [Michelle Fernández Gabilondo](#).

*Reach out to the [STAR<sup>2</sup> Center team](#) with any questions or for technical assistance and keep an eye on the [STAR<sup>2</sup> Center Newsletter](#) for the latest updates as the year unfolds.*

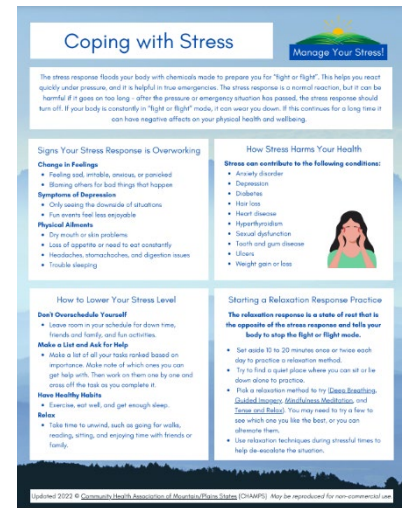
# MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS

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](#).

## New CHAMPS Patient Education Handouts

The [Mountain/Plains Clinical Network \(MPCN\) Steering Committee](#) recently reviewed and revamped two patient education handouts addressing stress management topics. Both are available as PDFs in English and Spanish, and health center staff are encouraged to download these free resources for use at their center.

- ★ The **Coping with Stress** handout presents signs your stress response is overworking, how stress harms your health, how to lower your stress level, and starting a relaxation response practice. Download Now: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- ★ The **Guided Imagery** handout provides simple steps for undertaking a guided imagery practice, including a link to a video of the technique. Download Now: [English](#), [Spanish](#)



To view other downloadable resources that can be shared with patients, visit the [CHAMPS Patient Education Handouts](#) webpage.

## CHAMPS 2022 Resiliency Collaborative Concludes in September

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 not only shares didactic information but is highly activity focused, incorporating the practice of mindfulness techniques, meditation, practical body awareness exercises, journaling, goal setting, etc. The collaborative is free and open to all clinical, administrative, and support staff at Region VIII health centers. Sessions have been held on the first Friday of each month, May through September, from 12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT.

Recordings from past sessions are posted to the CHAMPS [Events & Training](#) webpage, including:

- ★ Reflecting on the Pandemic: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going
- ★ Secondary Trauma: Basic Skills to Activate Resilience
- ★ Opening to the Presence of Peace and Joy
- ★ Resilience Practice Skills: Connection

Please join CHAMPS for the final session on September 2 to review what has been learned throughout the series and to look ahead at integrating these practices into daily lives moving forward.

For more information, to listen to prior sessions, and to register for the 9/2/22 event, please visit the [CHAMPS Events & Trainings](#) webpage.

## CHAMPS 2022 Immunization Update Recoding

In June 2022 CHAMPS hosted its annual [Immunization Update](#) webcast. Patricia Wodi, MD, Public Health Physician with the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), addressed the 2022 vaccine schedules and the latest recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), including COVID-19 vaccine recommendations.

To download the presentation slides and view this recorded event, please visit the [Online Archived CHAMPS Distance Learning Events](#) 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](#).

### Register Now: CHAMPS/CCHN 2022 Health Equity Learning Series

Registration is open for the three-part Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN)/CHAMPS [2022 Health Equity Learning Series](#). These events will examine foundational topics in health center equity and highlight a path towards accessible healthcare for all. Speakers will address topics to help participants equip themselves with actionable strategies to progress care for their patients. Participants may join for one session or the whole series; participation is free for Region VIII health centers and PCAs. Sessions will be held virtually from 12:00-1:15 PM MT / 1:00-2:15PM CT and will be recorded for future reference.

- ★ Wednesday, August 31: **Racism in Healthcare: Why Does it Matter and What is Mine to Do?**  
Presented by Nadia Ali, MPA and Mikayla Branz, MPH/MSW with Integrated Work
- ★ Wednesday, September 14: **JEDI! Burnout and Self Care**  
Presented by Trent Norman and Moira Perez, PhD with Integrated Work
- ★ Wednesday, September 28: **Creating Safe Spaces in Healthcare for LGBTQ+ People**  
Presented by Patricia Jane Lose, RN, CNM, ANP with STRIDE Community Health Center

*For more information and registration details, visit the [CHAMPS Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.*

### Explore New CHAMPS Website Resources

In July 2022, CHAMPS launched a new [Suicide Prevention Resources](#) webpage compiling information for health centers and providers as they support quality health care for patients at risk for suicide. The page contains links to organizations providing up-to-date reports, relevant training, and community-specific information. In addition to research and provider and general patient resources, this page includes specific resources for adolescents, Indigenous communities, older adults, and veterans.

CHAMPS also recently added [Care Coordination Resources](#) within the [Team-Based Care Resources](#) webpage (which contains tools, articles, and guides on implementing team-based care practices); these new materials provide an overview of standard practices, goal-setting, program implementation, and more to help community health centers implement and strengthen care coordination.

Additionally, the CHAMPS [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender \(LGBT\) Resources](#) webpage was updated to include sections addressing [Adolescent Health](#) and [Mental Health](#). These new special topics areas contain up-to-date reports and services for specific health topics, health equity issues, and provider education. This curation of resources was created to provide more information and connections to health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that work with LBGTQIA+ communities.

*If you utilize any beneficial resources not included on these pages, please feel free to share those by contacting the CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Population Health](#).*

The CHAMPS virtual **Region VIII Healthcare for the Homeless (HCH) Collaborative** takes place quarterly, providing an opportunity for health centers in Region VIII that serve those experiencing homelessness to share best practices, discuss challenges, hear from experts in their field, and identify desired training/technical assistance.

For more information about the collaborative, visit the CHAMPS [Homeless and Public Housing Resources](#) webpage.

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## HEALTH EQUITY NEWS, *Continued*

### Upcoming Summit Celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month

Submitted by: Saray Amundson, HRSA Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA), Region 8

The two-day (half day) virtual **Latino Health Summit: Road to Resiliency** will celebrate and recognize the efforts and contributions of the Hispanic/Latino community during the pandemic. The event, which will be available in Spanish and English, will highlight the innovation and replicability of different approaches implemented by organizations serving the Hispanic/Latino community while fostering collaboration and partnerships among participants. A Hispanic/Latino Serving Organizations Directory will be featured during the summit.

- ★ **Dates:** Thursday, September 15 – Friday, September 16, 2022
- ★ **Times:** 11:00AM-3:00PM MT / 12:00-4:00PM CT each day
- ★ **Event Hosts:** HRSA/IEA in Regions 2 and 8; Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health/Office of Regional Health Operations (OASH/ORHO) Regions 2, 6, and 8; and Department of Labor/Wage and Hour Division (DOL/WHD)
- ★ **Target Audience:** Community organizations, clinical and social service organizations, and anyone who serves or wants to serve the Hispanic/Latino community.
- ★ **Highlighted Topics:** Healthcare Access (e.g., maternal health/community services connecting mothers with resources, COVID-19 outreach/health & social service care, pharmacy), Child & Adolescent Health, Workforce, and Environmental Health/Justice.

*To register for the event, please visit the Summit's [Meeting Registration](#) page. Organizations or individuals interested on being part of the directory, please contact Saray Amundson at [samundson@hrsa.gov](mailto:samundson@hrsa.gov).*

### Upcoming Webinar Addresses the Changing Role of Outreach

Submitted by: Liam Spurgeon, Health Outreach Partners (HOP)

The role of outreach has changed dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic. Health Outreach Partners (HOP) will host the **Essential Then, Essential Now: What the Pandemic has Taught Us About the Role of Outreach Workers** webinar on Thursday, September 1, 2022 from 12:00-1:00PM MT / 1:00-2:00PM CT to explore how outreach has been essential for health centers during the pandemic, look to the future at how health centers can grow and reimagine the role of outreach workers, and emphasize self-care and resilience for their staff who have endured the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their community.



*To register for the event, visit the HOP [Webinar Registration](#) page.*

### Download Free Health Outreach Partners Tips Sheets

Submitted by: Liam Spurgeon, Health Outreach Partners (HOP)

- ★ **[Tips to Help Health Centers Address Disability and Chronic Disease Discrimination](#)**  
Tips, electronic resources, and new screening tools for health centers to help patients with disabilities and chronic diseases, covering topics such as employment, immigration, education, and Long COVID (a companion to [The Unique Role of Medical-Legal Partnerships in Helping Health Centers Address Disability & Chronic Disease Discrimination](#) webinar series).
- ★ **[COVID-19 Vaccination Outreach Tip Sheet](#)**  
Outlines best practices for COVID-19 vaccination outreach for community health workers (CHWs) and clinicians, including talking about vaccination and encouraging uptake, dispelling misinformation and addressing vaccine hesitancy, and focusing on community-centered outreach approaches.

*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](#).*

### Update on Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccines

On June 18, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH, endorsed the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation that all children six months through five years of age should receive a COVID-19 vaccine. This authorization expands eligibility for vaccination to nearly 20 million additional children and means that all Americans ages six months and older are now eligible for vaccinations. Parents and caregivers can now obtain Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines for their children six months through five years. All children, including children who have already had COVID-19, should get vaccinated.

*For more about COVID-19 vaccinations for children, visit the [Pediatric Vaccine Resources](#) section of the CHAMPS [COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccine Resources](#) webpage.*

### FDA Issues COVID-19 Related Emergency Use Authorizations

On July 6, 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) revised the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir and ritonavir), to authorize state-licensed pharmacists to prescribe Paxlovid to eligible patients, with certain limitations to ensure appropriate patient assessment and prescribing of the medication.

Alongside this, on July 13, 2022, the FDA issued an EUA for the Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted for the prevention of COVID-19 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in individuals 18 years of age and older. Six days later, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendation followed the FDA's authorization of the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use in individuals 18 years and older as a primary vaccination series against COVID-19, and an Advisory Community on Immunization Practices' (ACIP's) recommendation for use of this vaccine.

*To learn more about Paxlovid, visit the [Outpatient Treatment Options for COVID-19](#) section of the CHAMPS [Provider Resources for COVID-19](#) webpage.*

*For more information on Novavax, visit the CHAMPS [COVID-19 Vaccine Resources](#) webpage.*

### Total Confirmed U.S. Cases of Monkeypox/Orthopoxvirus as of August 18, 2022: 14,115

Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the Monkeypox virus, which is part of the same family of viruses as variola virus, the virus that causes smallpox. Its symptoms are similar to smallpox symptoms, but milder and rarely fatal. Monkeypox is not related to chickenpox. Symptoms may include a rash located on or near the genitals or anus and on other areas like the hands, feet, chest, face, or mouth. Other symptoms of monkeypox can include fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, exhaustion, muscle aches and backache, headache, and respiratory symptoms (e.g., sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough). The virus is spreading mainly through close, intimate contact with someone who has Monkeypox. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends vaccination for people who have been exposed to Monkeypox and people who are at higher risk of being exposed. The CDC is urging healthcare providers in the U.S. to be alert for patients who have rash illnesses consistent with Monkeypox.

*For up-to-date information on Monkeypox including prevention, symptoms, case counts, and more visit the CDC's [Monkeypox](#) webpage.*



## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

### The Dakotas Celebrate National Health Center Week

Submitted by: Carmen Toft, Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD)

The Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD) and health centers in North Dakota and South Dakota rolled out the red carpet to thank staff, patients, and the communities they serve during



National Health Center Week, embracing their bi-state theme, "I love my health center." As part of CHAD's strategic plan, they have been looking for opportunities to tell the story of health centers and highlight the different attributes that make them so special. Select partner organizations received t-shirts with the "I love my health center" message. Those organizations and their staff joined the Health Center Week celebration on social media, sharing photos and their reasons for loving their local health center. CHAD staff also joined in the fun!

#### HRSA Heart of a Health Center Video

Released during National Health Center Week 2022, this 2:18 minute video features and celebrates what makes a health center truly great. Five centers from across the U.S. are featured including [4th Street Clinic](#) (UT). To watch, visit the [HRSA YouTube channel](#).

### Recent Funding for Health Centers in Region VIII and Nationwide

**HHS Awards New and Existing Teaching Health Centers:** In early July 2022, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [awarded approximately \\$155 million](#) to 72 teaching health centers, to support primary medical care and dental residency programs in underserved and rural communities. Awards included funding for new resident positions within existing and new teaching health centers and to support training in Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education residency programs. Region VIII's [RiverStone Health](#) (MT) was awarded funding for their [Montana Family Medicine Residency](#) program.

**Phase 1 Winners of the Racial Equity in Postpartum Care Challenge:** In late July 2022 HHS announced [25 Phase 1 winners](#) in the [Racial Equity in Postpartum Care Challenge](#), sponsored by HHS Office of Women's Health and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to improve equity in postpartum care for Black or African American and American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) women enrolled in Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The Region VIII Phase 1 winner, [One Health](#) (MT), offers a program that utilizes American Indian peer support specialists to connect families with individualized services.

**Rural Residency Planning and Development Funds:** In early August 2022, as one component of nearly \$60 million in investments to grow the health workforce and increase access to quality health care in rural communities, the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) announced [nearly \\$10 million in funding](#) to support [13 organizations](#) establish new medical residency programs to increase the number of physicians training in rural settings. Region VIII's [RiverStone Health](#) (MT) was awarded funding for their [Montana Family Medicine Residency](#) program.

**Funding to Advance Health Equity through Better Data:** In early August 2022, HHS [awarded nearly \\$90 million](#) to nearly [1,400 community health centers across the nation](#) to support and advance health equity through better data collection and reporting, which includes data modernization, identification and response to specific needs to patients and communities, further the COVID-19 response, mitigation, and recovery efforts, and more. [Forty-three Region VIII health centers](#) received these UDS+ Awards, funded through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### Three Region VIII PCAs Receive HCCN Awards

In July 2022 three Region VIII State Primary Care Associations (SPCAs) received [Fiscal Year 2022 Health Center Controlled Networks \(HCCN\) Awards](#), including [Montana Primary Care Association \(MPCA\)](#), [Community HealthCare Associations of the Dakotas \(CHAD\)](#), and [Association for Utah Community Health \(AUCH\)](#). [Colorado Community Managed Care Network \(CCMCN\)](#) also received funding. These awards support the ability of HCCNs to strengthen and leverage health information technology (HIT), improving health center operational and clinical practices and resulting in better outcomes in communities they serve.

Visit the HRSA [Health Center Controlled Networks](#) webpage for more details.

### Explore State and National 2021 UDS Data

State and national [Bureau of Primary Health Care \(BPHC\) Uniform Data System \(UDS\)](#) figures for 2021 were released in early August. Each year, Health Center Program awardees and look-alikes are required to report a core set of information, including data on patient characteristics, services provided, clinical processes and health outcomes, patients' use of services, staffing, costs, and revenues as part of a standardized reporting system. CHAMPS compiles this information from across Region VIII to create a regional summarized history of UDS information, providing two, three, and five year trends of selected Region VIII and national data, plus breakdowns of data by state, Region VIII, and nation for the current year. A two-page 2021 Region VIII Health Center Fact Sheet and full 2021 Region VIII BPHC UDS Summary will be released by CHAMPS soon.

To explore grantee and look-alike data, visit the [Health Center Program UDS Data Overview](#) webpage. To view past Region VIII UDS summaries/fact sheets and to view the 2021 versions once released, please visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.

Now Available: Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA)  
[Fiscal Year 2021 Fact Sheets and Fact Sheet Maps](#)

### SAMHSA's New 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Resources

In July 2022, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline transitioned to the [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#), sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This resource was designed to help those looking for information on understanding the background, history, implementation, and funding opportunities for strengthening suicide prevention and mental health crisis services. There is also a help line available with call, chat, and text messaging options for those who are, or know someone who is, struggling or in crisis. The SAMHSA [988 Partner Toolkit](#) is intended to facilitate collaboration and align communications in reference to the resources. Partners will find key messages, frequently asked questions, logo and branding, social media shareables, and more.

Visit the [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#) webpage to learn more and explore all available resources. For additional related information, visit the CHAMPS [Suicide Prevention Resources](#) webpage.

### Don't Miss These Upcoming NACHC Conferences

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) hosts multiple conferences each year, enabling health center stakeholders to gain perspectives, share ideas/best practices, network, support and advance policy goals, and more.

- ★ The NACHC [2022 Community Health Institute \(CHI\) & EXPO](#) will begin with Committee Meetings on Friday, August 26 and run through Tuesday, August 30 in Chicago, IL.
- ★ The NACHC [2022 Primary Care Association \(PCA\) & Health Center Controlled Network \(HCCN\) Conference](#) will be held Monday, November 14 – Tuesday, November 15 in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

## REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### National Funding Opportunities

- ★ [HRSA State Systems Development Initiative](#) (08/24/2022)
- ★ [HRSA Strengthen the Evidence for Maternal and Child Health Programs](#) (09/08/2022)
- ★ [FY 2023 Service Area Competition and Service Area Competition Additional Areas](#) (09/12/2022)
- ★ [HRSA Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program](#) (10/12/2022)
- ★ [HRSA National Training and Technical Assistance Partner Cooperative Agreements](#) (Grants.gov: 10/14/2022; Electronic Handbooks: 11/14/2022)
- ★ [HHS Geriatrics Academic Career Award Program](#) (11/03/2022)
- ★ Coming Soon: [Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education](#) (THCGME)
- ★ Coming Soon: [Teaching Health Center Planning and Development](#) (THCPD)

### Region VIII in the News

- ★ RiverStone Health: [RiverStone Health Offering COVID Vaccine for Kids 6 Months to 4 Years](#) (*KTVQ*, June 21)
- ★ Denver Health Community Health Services: [Denver Health Names Donna Lynne Next CEO](#) (*Business Wire*, June 23)
- ★ Summit Community Care Clinic: [Summit Community Care Clinic, The Summit Foundation Receives \\$30k from El Pomar Foundation](#) (*Summit Daily*, June 23)
- ★ One Health: [Sheridan Health Center to Merge with One Health](#) (*The Sheridan Press*, June 29)
- ★ FourPoints Health - Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah: ['Ready to Grow': Paiute Indian Tribe Receives Grant to Fund Community Health Care Center in Cedar City](#) (*St. George News*, June 30)
- ★ STRIDE Community Health Center: [Cherry Creek School District to Open Third Health Clinic in Partnership with STRIDE](#) (*Sentinel*, July 11)
- ★ Tepeyac Community Health Center: [Rate of COVID Vaccination Among Colorado Hispanic Population Continues to Lag Behind](#) (*9News*, July 14)
- ★ RiverStone Health: [Achievers: RiverStone Health Announces Staff Changes and Achievements](#) (*Billings Gazette*, July 14)
- ★ Greater Valley Health Center: [Greater Valley Health Center Expands Services](#) (*Flathead Beacon*, July 18)
- ★ High Plains Community Health Center: [High Plains Director Provides Hiring Update for County Commissioners](#) (*The Prowers Journal*, August 1)
- ★ RiverStone Health: [Give Your Kids Best Shots for Staying Healthy](#) (*Billings Gazette*, August 1)
- ★ Peak Vista Community Health Centers: [Free Health Screenings Offered for Uninsured Women in Colorado](#) (*KRDO*, August 4)
- ★ Wayne Community Health Center: [Rural Nursing Showcased in New Film](#) (*TheU*, August 4)
- ★ Peak Vista Community Health Centers: [Peak Vista to Conclude Family Medicine Residency Program in 2024](#) (*State of Reform*, August 5)
- ★ Summit Community Care Clinic: [Summit Community Care Clinic Hosting Annual Golf Tournament on August 29](#) (*Summit Daily*, August 6)
- ★ RiverStone Health: [HHS Invests Nearly \\$60 Million to Address Workforce Shortages and Increase Access to Health Care in Rural Communities](#) (*HRSA Announcement*, August 8)
- ★ Partnership Health Center: [Community Care Team Provides Services and Resources at Authorized Campsite](#) (*Montana Right Now*, August 9)
- ★ Falls Community Health: [Run or Walk to Raise Awareness of Colorectal Cancer](#) (*City of Sioux Falls*, August 13)

### Stay Up to Date on All Things Region VIII

Sign Up for CHAMPS Communications

[Health Equity Digest](#) [Monthly JOB Email](#) [MPCN Minute](#) [Quarterly Newsletter](#) [Wellbeing Bulletin](#) [Workforce Focus](#)

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## August

### [NCECE Caring for an Aging Population Webinar Series](#)

August 24 & 31

### [MHP Salud CHW Association Virtual](#)

#### [Technical Assistance](#)

August 25

### [NACHC Community Health Institute \(CHI\) & Expo](#)

August 25-30

### [NCFH Increasing Prevention Efforts and Self-Management Through Community Outreach and Partnership Webinar](#)

August 30

### [CCHN/CHAMPS 2022 Health Equity Learning Series: Racism in Healthcare: Why Does it Matter and What is Mine to Do?](#)

August 31

## September

### [CHAMPS Next Level Skills for Health Center](#)

#### [Supervisors and Managers Training](#)

September 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

### [HOP Essential Then, Essential Now: What the Pandemic has Taught Us About the Role of Outreach](#)

#### [Workers Webinar](#)

September 1

### [CHAMPS Resiliency Collaborative](#)

September 2

### [UDS Mapper Better Assess Your Community](#)

#### [Using the UDS Mapper Webinar](#)

September 6

### [MCN Managing Stress in Challenging Times](#)

#### [Peer Support Group](#)

September 8, 15, 22, & 29

### [CDC/NACHC Million Hearts Self-Measured](#)

#### [Blood Pressure Forum Quarterly Meetings](#)

September 8

### [HITEQ Highlights: Cybersecurity Ask Me](#)

#### [Anything Webinar](#)

September 8

### [AAPCHO Health Equity Response Network \(CHERN\) Learning Series](#)

September 14 & 28

### [CCHN/CHAMPS 2022 Health Equity Learning Series: JEDI! Burnout and Self Care](#)

September 14

### [NCECE Care Mapping Webinar: A Valuable Tool for Working with Older Adults and Family Caregivers](#)

September 14

### [Today with Macrae](#)

September 14

### [MPCA 2022 Montana Healthcare Conference](#)

September 20-23

### [CityMatCH Leadership and MCH Epidemiology Conference](#)

September 21-23

### [NCFH Special and Vulnerable Populations](#)

#### [COVID-19 Forum](#)

September 23

### [CCHN/CHAMPS 2022 Health Equity Learning Series: Creating Safe Spaces in Healthcare for LGBTQ+ People](#)

September 28

## October

### [CHAMPS Next Level Skills for Health Center](#)

#### [Supervisors and Managers Training](#)

October 6

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

#### [Conference](#)

October 15-18

### [AAPCHO Health Equity Response Network](#)

#### [\(CHERN\) Learning Series](#)

October 19

### **Looking Forward:**

[NNOHA Annual Conference](#), November 6-9

[NACHC PCA/HCCN Conference](#), November 14-16

[CHAMPS Region VIII Health Care for the Homeless Collaborative](#), November 16

[NCFH Special and Vulnerable Populations COVID-19 Forum](#), November 18

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