

**COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF MOUNTAIN/PLAINS STATES (CHAMPS)
ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2006
DENVER MARRIOTT CITY CENTER, DENVER, CO**

CALL TO ORDER

President Pam Locken called the meeting to order at approximately 5:35 p.m. MT.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Dennis Royal took the roll and established that a quorum was present.

The Minutes from the CHAMPS Board of Directors meeting of October 23, 2005, contained in the packet, were reviewed. Annette Kowal moved to accept the Minutes. The motion was seconded by John Mengenhausen, and passed unanimously.

A cumulative summary of the actions of the CHAMPS Executive Committee from October 2005 to September 2006, contained in the packet, was reviewed. Dan Euell moved to accept the summary of Executive Committee actions. The motion was seconded by John Mengenhausen, and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Kate Wilson reviewed the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 3/31/06 Together with the Independent Auditor's Report (contained in the meeting packet). Cindy Stergar moved to accept the Auditor's Report. The motion was seconded by Byron Geer, and passed unanimously

Ms. Wilson also reviewed the financial reports for five periods ending August 31, 2006, which were contained in the meeting packet. Scot Graff moved to accept the financial reports. Jerry Brasher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Wilson also reviewed the annual budget for 2006-2007, which was contained in the meeting packet. Cindy Stergar moved to accept the annual budget. John Mengenhausen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CHAMPS STAFF REPORT

Julie Hulstein, CHAMPS Executive Director presented the Annual Report for FY 05/06 (contained in meeting packet). CHAMPS is keeping its members abreast of important policy issues, educational and funding opportunities, and advocating and educating on important issues. CHAMPS provides accessible education and training opportunities for grantees, promotes collaboration and networking between grantees, and provides workforce development tools and resources. The Fall 2006 CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletter Annual Conference Edition was included in the meeting packet.

According to 2005 UDS Data, Region VIII has 54 health center grantees with 649,495 users and income from all sources totaling \$345 million. In CY 2006 (as of 10/06), Region VIII CHC grantees received \$286,521 in new federal funding. Since 2001, Region VIII CHCs have received \$30.7 million in new federal funding.

The Tenth Annual CHAMPS/NWRPCA Primary Care Conference will be held October 20-24, 2007 in Seattle, WA at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel. Tracks will include Administrative, Board, Clinical, PCA/PCO, and Fiscal. Travel reimbursement will be available from CHAMPS to member Region VIII health care providers. Preliminary planning for the 2007 conference will begin in the spring. A calendar listing all upcoming CHAMPS, HDC, Region VIII PCA and NACHC meetings was included in the packet.

The CHAMPS web site, www.champsonline.org, continues to expand and improve. It contains links to CHAMPS staff members as well as all Primary Care Associations (PCAs) in the nation with web sites and all Region VIII CHCs with websites. The CHAMPS web site also contains the CHAMPS quarterly bulletins, calendar of events and training opportunities, recruitment and retention tools, Job Opportunities Bank, links to CHAMPS webcasts (both live and archived), information on all of CHAMPS' products, lists of Executive Committee and MPCN Steering Committee members, clinical, patient education and QI tools, and much more. Please be sure to visit it often and peruse the wonderful tools and resources!

The results of CHAMPS 2006 Satisfaction Survey were included in the meeting packet. Ninety-four Region VIII grantee staff members responded to the survey and provided input into CHAMPS programs and services. Eighty-eight percent of respondents rated CHAMPS overall as excellent or good, 80% rated CHAMPS services and products as very useful or useful, and 81% are very likely or likely to recommend CHAMPS services and products to others. Also included in the satisfaction survey were opportunities for grantees to suggest ideas for future CHAMPS offerings and general comments regarding CHAMPS.

CHAMPS staff sincerely thanked Executive Committee and Board of Directors members for their support of CHAMPS and dedication to serving the medically underserved.

CHAMPS' workforce development program is going strong. Andrea Martin is responsible for maintaining the Regional Job Opportunities Bank (JOB) on the CHAMPS website listing all clinical and non-clinical CHC job opportunities in Region VIII; updating the Recruitment and Retention web-based tools; and offering web-based trainings to Region VIII health center staff, in addition to many other projects. The regional job bank (JOB) provides a central clearinghouse of CHC jobs in the region, augmenting and complementing Region VIII SPCA recruitment activities; the web-based R&R manual affords health center staff quick and convenient access to helpful recruitment and retention resources; and, the free web-based trainings provide an excellent learning opportunity for Region VIII health center clinical and non-clinical staff (as well as CHC board members). CHAMPS webcasts held earlier in the year include Rheumatoid Arthritis and Osteoarthritis Treatment, Opioids for Chronic Pain: Striking a Balance, Dealing with the Cranky, Crusty, and Crabby: Serving the Difficult Customer. Archived webcasts include Introduction to CPT Coding, Managing Acute Otitis Media, Delivering Exceptional Customer Service, and CHC Board Legal Roles and Responsibilities. A live webcast on managing overweight and obese patients will be held in November. Included in the meeting packet was a listing of CHAMPS products (clinical videos and DVDs, clinical pocket cards, exam room posters, salary survey reports, health center directory, etc.) and documents highlighting CHAMPS live and archived webcasts as well as a listing of the clinical and non-clinical resources available from CHAMPS Lending Library and the Lending Library borrowing form. CHAMPS staff also attended a variety of job fairs this year to promote the CHC model and advertise Region VIII CHC job openings.

CHAMPS' Clinical Programs Director, Stephanie Wasserman, provided a brief presentation of the activities of Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN). Stephanie acknowledged the dedication and commitment of the MPCN Steering Committee members, who provide guidance for CHAMPS clinical activities. MPCN conducted a needs assessment of all Region VIII CHC clinicians this spring and the MPCN Steering Committee held a strategic planning meeting in May to review and revise its work plan. The MPCN 2006 work plan was contained in the meeting packet. Educational events sponsored by CHAMPS/MPCN in 2006 include the CHAMPS/NWRPCA Primary Care Conference, a three-day Spanish language training for providers, and several webcasts. MPCN provides clinical tools to providers that are based on best practices. CHAMPS has distributed a variety of provider and patient education products. These include videos, DVDs, exam room posters, and provider pocket cards.

CHAMPS continues to build its online library of clinical tools. CHAMPS has updated and expanded the Clinical Guidelines page, further added to its Quality Improvement Tools page, and continues to provide links to other online resources of interest. It is a priority of MPCN to foster peer support among Region VIII clinicians and provide ongoing communications and networking opportunities. Included in the meeting packet were an overview of MPCN programs, a list of MPCN Steering Committee members, and a flyer for the November live webcast entitled Practical Approaches to Managing Your Overweight and Obese Patient. For the first time this year, the annual conference is offering Harvard School of Public Health's four-day Managing Ambulatory Care: A Program for Physicians in CHCs.

NACHC BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

NACHC Chair Elect Lil Anderson and NACHC staff member Joe Gallegos gave the NACHC update. Region VIII NACHC Board Members Jerry Brasher, Pam Locken, and Lil Anderson were acknowledged and thanked for their service. The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Board of Directors met in September in Chicago, IL in conjunction with the NACHC Community Health Institute (CHI). NACHC continues to focus on RAMS: Reauthorization, Appropriations, Medicaid, and State-based initiatives.

The next NACHC Board of Directors meeting will be held in Arizona in November and then the Board will meet again in Miami, FL in January as part of NACHC's annual leadership and strategic planning retreat. Lil encouraged Region VIII grantees to join NACHC and serve on NACHC Committees. Included in the meeting packet were the NACHC Washington Update Hotline for the week of October 16, 2006 and the NACHC Health Center Fact Sheet for CHCs in the US. President Locken noted that Dan Hawkins would be giving further NACHC updates during the conference.

BUREAU OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE & HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) Director Jim Macrae presented BPHC's priorities: 1. complete expansion of CHCs, 2. high poverty county initiative, 3. workforce, 4. quality data strategy. Mr. Macrae requested assistance from grantees in the form of comments on proposed policies and feedback on what/how BPHC is doing. There will be an annual grantee survey in the near future to formally request this information. There will also be a 2008 all grantee meeting. The theme of the all grantee meeting will be partnership.

Angela Powell, Regional Division Director for the HRSA Office of Performance Review (OPR) Region VIII gave a brief report. Rebecca Spitzgo became Acting Associate Administrator of OPR in May 2006. It is projected that 12 Region VIII CHCs will have a performance review in 2007. Ms. Powell discussed the performance measures for CHCs and the purpose of strategic partnership sessions. In 2007 North Central UT will undergo a community strategic partnership session and UT state will as well.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Locken outlined the major goals in CHAMPS' strategic plan (included in the packet): Provide clarity of purpose of CHAMPS as an organization for CHAMPS' internal customers/audience/community, Increase CHAMPS visibility and promote CHAMPS' purpose to CHAMPS' internal community, Strengthen working relationships with Region VIII SPCAs, Collaborate with Region VIII CMS, and Identify and pursue new funding sources and opportunities.

Included in the meeting packet were the minutes of the September 13, 2006 CHAMPS Nominating Committee conference call. The Nominating Committee recommends the following slate of officers/members for the 2006-2008 CHAMPS Executive Committee:

President - Dan Euell (Executive Liaison for Community and Government Relations of Denver Health in Denver, CO)

Vice President - Kate Wilson (ED of Cooperative Health Center in Helena, MT)

Immediate Past President - Pam Locken (ED of Prairie Community Health in Isabel, SD)

Treasurer - John Mengenhausen (ED of Horizon Health Care in Howard, SD)

Secretary – Gina Flanagan (ED of Wayne CHC in Bicknell, UT)

ND Representative - Tom Nehring (ED of Coal Country CHC in Beulah, ND)

WY Representative – Sharon Montagnino (ED of Cheyenne Health & Wellness Center in Cheyenne, WY)

MPCN Representative - To Be Shared by MPCN Steering Committee Chair & Co-Chair

Dr. Paul Melinkovich moved to accept the slate of nominees recommended by the Nominating Committee. Cindy Stergar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

CHAMPS Executive Committee members presented the following awards to very worthy recipients from Region VIII grantees:

CHAMPS Presidential Award to **Pam Locken**

Exceptional Board Leadership Award to **Carolyn Wenger**

Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award to **Ken Kamis**

Exceptional Administrative Leadership Award to **LaVal B. Jensen**

Exceptional Clinical Leadership Award to **Barry Martin, MD**

Outstanding Administrative Leadership Award to **Dianne Smith**

ADJOURNMENT

President Locken adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:50 p.m. MT.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Dennis Royal