



# 2023 CHAMPS Awardees

Virtual Awards Ceremony | Monday, January 22, 2024

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***Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award***  
**Ross Brooks, Former Chief Executive Officer**  
**Mountain Family Health Centers, CO**

Ross Brooks has been an integral part of the Colorado CHC Movement for over two decades. He began working with Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) in 2002 and was hired as the CEO of Mountain Family Health Centers in 2012. As a tireless advocate for the uninsured, Ross has used his position of power and his morally courageous voice to move Coloradans closer to universal coverage.

In early 2008, Ross was selected to receive the prestigious Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader award from the National Association of Community Health Centers. In that NACHC nomination statement over 15 years ago, Ross was recognized for the same qualities that he continues to be known for. As he grew into new positions, gained more experience, and fought through legislative sessions, his passion never wavered. Former Executive Director of Northern Colorado Health Alliance Mike Bloom said at the time, "I am impressed by Ross' curiosity, listening skills, and willingness to ask questions when he confronts new situations. Ross, despite his youth, has an exceptional feel for the complicated mix of factors that FQHCs must manage at the community level."

As a legislative leader, Ross' career contributions are many. He was a present, prepared, and thoughtful contributor to CCHN Public Affairs meetings, always ensuring that the committee was looking at the big picture. He was a leader in engaging state legislators from both sides of the aisle, creating strong CHC advocates at the Capitol. Most notably, Ross championed the creation and expansion of the Colorado Health Service Corps, which distributed over \$34 million in loan repayment funds to CHC providers.

Though he left Mountain Family this past August, his colleagues are confident that he is continuing to use his energy, expertise, creativity, and joyfulness to make this world a better place.

*We are pleased to present Ross Brooks with the  
CHAMPS Outstanding Advocate of the Underserved Award  
for his long-lasting advocacy for the medically vulnerable  
and his passion for advancing the CHC Movement.*