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# Spring 2016 Quarterly Newsletter

Published May 10, 2016

## Save the Date!

### CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference

CHAMPS and the Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA), in partnership with Western Clinicians Network (WCN), are hosting their Annual Primary Care Conference Saturday, October 15 through Tuesday, October 18, 2016 in Denver, CO. The conference will include clinical, operations, fiscal, workforce, dental health integration, behavioral health, outreach and enrollment, community health improvement, quality transformation/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 17, 2016.



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

## Registration Open: FTCA University

Taking place in Denver, CO June 16-17, 2016, the **Federal Tort Claims Act University (FTCAU) for Region VIII Health Centers** is an innovative and new training conference that provides a great opportunity for seasoned quality and risk management professionals and new professionals to learn from experts, leaders, and government officials about FTCA, healthcare quality and risk management, and related subjects. Over the course of two days, attendees will participate in interactive presentations and exercises that are geared toward health center grantees in the states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Registration for staff at Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) health center grantees, look-alikes, and primary care associations is \$195 and closes Friday, June 3, 2016 or once the class is filled.

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

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## CHAMPS 2016-2017 Membership

**CHAMPS thanks** the health centers and Primary Care Associations (PCAs) that have recently paid membership dues to become **2016-2017 CHAMPS Organizational Members**. The CHAMPS membership year corresponds with our fiscal year, April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017. 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 **2016 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Report**
- ★ Option to participate in the **CHAMPS/CliftonLarsonAllen Financial Benchmarking Project**
- ★ Discounted registration plus opportunities for registration and clinical travel reimbursement for the **CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Primary Care Conference**
- ★ 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
- ★ Access to the **Members Only section** of the CHAMPS Website including a searchable Region VIII Health Center Directory, electronic copies of the Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey Report, Medical Staffing Report, and Medical Provider Productivity Expectations, and more

*2015-2016 Organizational Members enjoy a 60 day grace period in the new fiscal year. Member benefits for 2015-2016 members that have not paid 2016-2017 dues will expire on 06/01/16.*

*Visit the CHAMPS [Organizational Members](#) webpage to find out if your organization was a 2015-2016 CHAMPS Member.*

## CHAMPS Attends Events across Region VIII

During the spring of 2016, 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 (photo of CHAMPS exhibiting at right), and the Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD) Annual Conference. CHAMPS will also be attending the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) Conference for Agricultural Worker Health, Wyoming Primary Care Association (WYPCA) Annual Training Conference, the Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) Annual Primary Care Conference (additional information on page 9), and the National Health Care for the Homeless Conference in May 2016. CHAMPS values these opportunities to make connections across the region and looks forward to new and continued collaborations.



## Fiscal Year 2017 New Access Points Funding Released

In April 2016, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) released the **2017 New Access Points (NAP) funding opportunity announcement (FOA)**. Approximately \$50 million will be available for 75 awards to new and existing health centers for operational support of new primary care service delivery sites. Applications are due in Grants.gov by June 17, 2016 and in HRSA's Electronic Handbook (EHB) by July 15, 2016.

*For more information and to apply, visit HRSA's [Health Center Program New Access Points](#) webpage.*

### Region VIII Health Centers Receive HRSA Awards

In March 2016, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced **\$94 million in awards to health centers to help treat the prescription opioid abuse and heroin epidemic**. Seven health centers in Region VIII received over \$2.8 million to improve and expand their delivery of substance abuse services, including Bighorn Valley Health Center (MT), Bullhook Community Health Center (MT), Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CO), Denver Health and Hospital Authority (CO), HealthWorks (WY), Metro Community Provider Network (CO), Midtown Community Health Center (UT), Sheridan Health Services (CO), and Salud Family Health Centers (CO). In May 2016, HHS announced **\$260 million in awards for health infrastructure investment**. Eleven health centers in Region VIII received over \$12.4 million in investment including Carbon Medical Service Association, Inc. (UT), Clinica Family Health (CO), Community Health Centers, Inc. (UT), Community Health Partners (MT), Glacier Community Health Center (MT), Metro Community Provider Network (CO), Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (UT), River Valley Family Health Center (CO), Sheridan Health Services (CO), Utah Partners for Health (UT), and Valley Community Health Centers (ND). Congrats to Region VIII awardees

Click [HERE](#) to view the HHS news release announcing the substance abuse awards.

Click [HERE](#) to view the HHS news release announcing the infrastructure investment awards.

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## 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.*

### 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, gain clinical knowledge, and learn workforce strategies. Current archived events include:

**Customer Service: The Art of Caring** (Online through 05/19/16)

- ★ Learning skills to handle challenging situations with caring and confidence

**Civility in the Workplace** (Online through 06/17/16)

- ★ Understanding strategies to resolve workplace conflicts and strengthen workplace civility

**Asking for What You Want** (Online through 07/15/16)

- ★ Identifying how to use active listening and empathy to address challenging conversations

**Facilitation of Problem Solving** (Online through 08/19/16)

- ★ Defining problems and learning techniques to move a conversation forward

**Cultural Competency** (Online through 09/16/16)

- ★ Understanding elements of cultural competence and awareness of cultural assumptions and bias

**Achieving Equity in Health Care for LGBT People** (Online through 09/30/16)

- ★ Identifying how to effectively communicate with and care for LGBT patients

**Serving America's Veterans** (Online through 04/07/17)

- ★ Understanding how health centers can work with federal partners to best care for veterans

**Exploring Behavioral Health Integration Models** (Online through 02/10/17)

- ★ Understanding the process, workflow, and strategies for behavioral health integration

**Utilizing Mindfulness to Reduce Stress and Prevent Burnout** (Online through 04/20/17)

- ★ Gaining tools to manage stress and regain a sense of balance, focus, and connection

For more details about each event, visit the CHAMPS [Online Archived Distance Learning](#) webpage.

Archived CHAMPS Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Events are also available on page 7.

Visit the CHAMPS [Lending Library](#) and [Electronic Media](#) webpages for information on events on CD.

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## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### Now Collecting Region VIII Health Center Compensation and Workforce Data

Data is now being collected for the **2016 Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey**. CHAMPS has been coordinating this project for Region VIII every other year since 2004, and the resulting reports (scheduled to be released by October 2016) will be:

- ★ Valuable for evaluating salary and benefits structures for all health center employees
- ★ Useful when addressing executive compensation questions
- ★ A component for determining the economic impact of health centers
- ★ A source for monitoring regional workforce trends (e.g., years of service, vacancy rates, and turnover rates, staff demographics, etc.)
- ★ A source for monitoring medical and dental productivity expectations, provider/support staffing ratios, and standard panel sizes at Region VIII health centers
- ★ Completely CONFIDENTIAL; all reported data will be in aggregate, and no one other than CHAMPS will have access to individual health center information

Like the **CHAMPS Region VIII Annual Measure of Finance, Operations and Productivity (AMFOP) Report**, this project will prove to be a valuable financial tool for all Region VIII health centers. And, like the Region VIII AMFOP survey, the more organizations that participate, the more valuable the resulting data will be. Since 2010, an average of 80% of the region's health centers have participated in the Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy survey every other year. **Let's meet or increase that participation percentage this year!**

*Health center data is due on or before **Wednesday, June 15, 2016**.*

Click [HERE](#) for an online recording of the "How to Complete the Survey Tool" event. Additional questions? Contact Andrea Martin at [Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org).

### Take a Break with the 2016 "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 staff at Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) health center grantees, look-alikes, and primary care associations.

- ★ **Utilizing Mindfulness to Reduce Stress and Prevent Burnout**
  - Presented on April 20, 2016; archived online until April 20, 2017
  - Explore tools to help manage day-to-day stress and regain a sense of balance and focus
- ★ **Enhancing Teambuilding**, Wednesday, May 18, 2016
  - Understand what each individual's responsibilities are in a team, how to keep a team motivated, and how to handle team conflict
- ★ **Decreasing Negative Attitudes**, Wednesday, June 15, 2016
  - Describe the causes and destructive impact of negative attitudes and analyze methods to handle these attitudes
- ★ **Establishing Boundaries**, Wednesday, July 20, 2016
  - Identify how to create boundaries without creating negative perceptions
- ★ **Managing and Caring for Difficult Patients**, Wednesday, August 17, 2016
  - More information coming soon
- ★ **Interpersonal Considerations for Care of Elderly Persons**, Wednesday, September 21, 2016
  - More information coming soon

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

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## **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued***

### **STAR<sup>2</sup> Center Releases Health Center Data Profiles**

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

The STAR<sup>2</sup> Center (Solutions, Training, and Assistance for Recruitment and Retention), the workforce project of the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU), recently released updated individual health center recruitment and retention Data Profiles to health center Chief Executive Officers and state level Data Profile resources to Primary Care Association (PCA) and Primary Care Office (PCO) partners. These Data Profiles form the base of the STAR<sup>2</sup> Center's resource building, training, and technical assistance (TA) efforts by highlighting individual health center strengths and challenges, as well as state and national health center trends in recruitment and retention.

*Visit the [STAR<sup>2</sup> Center](#) website for useful resources and training information and [contact STAR<sup>2</sup> Center staff](#) to discuss their workforce challenges and schedule TA.*

*Contact Mariah Blake at [mblake@clinicians.org](mailto:mblake@clinicians.org) for more information if you are a health center CEO, PCA, or PCO that has not received these free resources.*

### **CHCI Provides Clinical Workforce Development**

*Submitted by Anna Rogers, Project Director for the NCA on Clinical Workforce Development*

With the recently awarded National Cooperative Agreement (NCA) on Clinical Workforce Development, the Community Health Center, Inc. (CHCI) and its Weitzman Institute are providing training and technical assistance to health centers who are interested in transforming teams and training the next generation of healthcare providers. CHCI is providing a series of national webinars in January – June 2016 focusing on three tracks: post-graduate residency programs for nurse practitioners and post-doc clinical psychologists, hosting health profession students at health centers, and team-based care. To date, the NCA webinar series has had over 2,000 unduplicated attendees with representation from all 50 states.

On April 22, 2016, applications opened for health centers to participate in ten month learning collaboratives, either in advancing or implementing a team based care model or post-graduate residency programs for nurse practitioners or post-doc clinical psychologists. Applications must be received by May 20, 2016, and the learning collaboratives will begin in September 2016. Health centers who are interested in moving from a planning stage to an implementation stage are encouraged to apply.

*Visit the [CHCI](#) website for videos and resources from the webinars and to access the learning collaborative application.*

### **US Army, Horizon Health Care, Inc., Partner in Recruiting Program**

*Submitted by Lexi Sattler, Public Relations and Marketing Manager, Horizon Health Care, Inc.*

Representatives of the US Army, 3<sup>rd</sup> Medical Recruiting Battalion, and for Horizon Health Care, Inc., signed an agreement on April 14, 2016 to provide priority hiring status to qualified Soldiers participating in the Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) Program. PaYS is a strategic partnership program between the Army and a cross section of US corporations and public sector agencies. This is the first PaYS signing for the Army Medical Department in South Dakota. PaYS was developed to help the Army attract, train and deploy talented young people who want to serve their country, but also want to help secure their future success once their Army service is complete.

Under terms of the agreement between US Army Medical Recruiting Brigade and Horizon Health Care, Inc., healthcare professionals commissioning in the Army who are interested in gaining specific job training and qualifications will receive that training while in the US Army. As part of the commissioning process, recruits sign a statement of intent to work for Horizon Health Care, Inc. upon completion of their term of service or completion of their military training. As they near the end of their contract, the Soldiers will have the opportunity to interview with Horizon Health Care, Inc. for a specific job at a specific location.

# 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.*

## Registration Open: CHAMPS Immunization Update Webcast

On Tuesday, June 14, 2016, 11:30AM-12:45PM MT (12:30-1:45PM CT), CHAMPS will host the annual Immunization Update Webcast. 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 2016 immunization schedules, immunization coverage rates, VIS (vaccine information statements) updates, recent ACIP updates including Meningococcal B and Hepatitis B, and preventing vaccine administration errors.

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

## CHAMPS ECHO Learning Communities Start Soon

CHAMPS is excited to announce two ECHO Learning Communities, coming this summer, available to health centers in Region VIII. CHAMPS has partnered with Rocky Mountain Public Health Training Center (RMPHTC) and ECHO Colorado to bring you two quality improvement (QI) focused ECHO Learning Communities. This unique learning opportunity uses bi-directional video to connect participants together to hear a brief presentation from an expert and to share examples of health center processes. This creates an environment for conversation on the day's specific aspect of the QI topic. The first ECHO Learning Community is focused on improving rates of colorectal cancer screening. This series will begin June 7, 2016 and meet approximately once a month from 12:00–1:00PM MT (1:00–2:00PM CT) through September. The second ECHO Learning Community will address behavioral health integration in primary care. This learning community will begin on July 11, 2016 and meet twice each month from 12:00–1:00PM MT (1:00–2:00PM CT) through September.

*For more information and to register, visit the CHAMPS [Project ECHO Learning Communities](#) webpage.*

CHAMPS recently updated the [Region VIII Demographics and Women's Health Data Summaries](#). These 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.

## Health Network: Helping Mobile Patients Continue Treatment

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

In spring of 2015, a national tuberculosis program officer based in a mountain state called Health Network to enroll a middle-aged patient with active TB. The patient was planning to visit his home country in Southeast Asia, but the TB program wanted to make sure he continued on his treatment. Health Network, the bridge case management system of Migrant Clinicians Network, picked up the case to help him find a clinic, transfer his health records to the new clinic, and ensure he could continue treatment despite his travels. Since 1996, Health Network has assisted thousands of patients moving domestically and internationally in completing treatment who, because of their mobility are at a higher risk of being lost to follow-up. Health Network assists patients on the move with any health concern, helping HIV patients secure their antiretroviral medications, assuring pregnant women receive regular prenatal care, or simply forwarding on test results when the patient has moved on. Health Network services are free of charge and available for health centers, clinics, local health departments, and other government-funded agencies.

*Interested in using this program at your health center?  
Contact Ricardo Garay at [rgaray@migrantclinician.org](mailto:rgaray@migrantclinician.org) or 512-579-4508.*

# 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

Over the last year, CHAMPS has 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 for ongoing learning opportunities, including:

### **Integrating Outreach and Enrollment into the CHC Workflow** (Online through 05/14/16)

- ★ Presenting strategies and techniques for incorporating outreach and enrollment into existing health center systems and workflow

### **Building Effective Community Partnerships** (Online through 06/18/16)

- ★ Describing the Take Care Utah partnership and how to build a collaborative state-wide enrollment network

### **School-Based Outreach: A Recipe for Success** (Online through 07/09/16)

- ★ Explaining techniques for partnering with school districts to increase enrollments among students and their families

### **Taxes and Consumer Education** (Online through 08/13/16)

- ★ Reviewing current guidance for assisters on tax issues and sharing strategies to help consumers understand their tax options

### **Motivating Consumers to Enroll in Coverage** (Online through 09/10/16)

- ★ Understanding the framework and uses of motivational interviewing

### **Communication Strategies for OE3** (Online through 10/08/16)

- ★ Hearing an updated messaging strategy from Enroll America for OE3

### **Making Heads or Tails Out of Immigration and Eligibility** (Online through 12/07/16)

- ★ Providing an overview of how immigration laws and policies relate to health program eligibility

### **H-2A Workers - Who, What, and Outreach Resources** (Online through 12/09/16)

- ★ Presenting an overview of the H-2A program and the rights and responsibilities for H-2A workers under the Affordable Care Act

*For more details, visit the CHAMPS [Online Archived Distance Learning](#) webpage.*

*See page 4 for information about other available archived CHAMPS trainings.*

## Save the Dates: 2016 CHAMPS/CCHN Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Series

CHAMPS is partnering with Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) for the third year to present the Outreach and Enrollment Distance Learning Series. Hosted by CHAMPS and CCHN, these four one-hour distance learning events are intended to highlight effective outreach and enrollment strategies, discuss specific issues affecting health center enrollment staff, and look ahead to the fourth open enrollment period. The trainings in the series are intended for outreach and enrollment staff, however, other health center and PCA staff members may find the content of some webinars applicable to their positions. Participation in the four events of this series is **FREE** for staff at Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) health center grantees, look-alikes, and primary care associations. Other participants in the LIVE events will be charged \$50/link. All events will take place on Thursdays from 11:00AM–12:00PM MT (12:00–1:00PM CT).

- ★ **Providing Effective Assistance to Survivors of Domestic Violence**, June 23, 2016
- ★ **Assisting Clients with Complex Medical Needs**, July 14, 2016
- ★ **Engagement and Issue Advocacy for O&E Staff**, August 18, 2016
- ★ **Habits of Highly Effective Assisters**, September 22, 2016

*More information about the series and registration will be available soon on the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.*

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## OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT NEWS, *Continued*

### Two Region VIII Leaders Honored by White House as Champions of Change for the Affordable Care Act

**Rudolph "Rudy" Gonzalez**, Executive Director of Servicios de la Raza and Co-Chair of the Colorado Latino Forum Denver Chapter, and **Olivia Riutta**, Outreach and Engagement Manager at Montana Primary Care Association, were both honored on April 4, 2016 at the White House as ACA Champions of Change. Ceremony photo is at right, courtesy of the White House. Servicios de la Raza is a Health Coverage Guide (HCG) grantee based in Denver, Colorado. Montana Primary Care Association facilitates the Cover Montana Project, a coalition of CHCs, reproductive health clinics, critical access hospitals, large health systems, IHS, Tribal Health Departments, Urban Indian Centers, and direct service providers that worked to successfully expand Medicaid in Montana in 2015. The Champions were selected for their leadership and tireless work to ensure that individuals in their communities are benefiting from all aspects of the ACA. The event featured remarks by White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough and Senior Advisor to the President Valerie Jarrett.

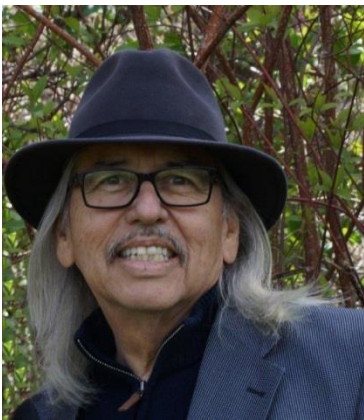


Click [HERE](#) to read about the event and reflections from the honorees.

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## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

### Be Honest, Work Hard, Take Care of the Less Fortunate: Remembering Dr. Licona



In the Community Health Center Movement, we are very fortunate to be surrounded by amazing colleagues and peers who are incredibly passionate about the CHC mission and committed to social justice. Dr. Virgilio Licona, Associate Medical Director of Salud Family Health Centers in Fort Lupton, CO was certainly one of those wonderful colleagues and it was with great sadness and a tremendous sense of loss that we learned of his untimely passing on March 29, 2016. A month prior to Dr. Licona's death, the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved* published an article written by CHAMPS entitled "Dr. Virgilio Licona – A Crusader for Health and Social Justice" which highlighted several of Dr. Licona's manifold contributions to the health of Colorado and the Nation. Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper was well aware of Dr. Licona's dedication to serving the underserved and tremendous accomplishments and released an official proclamation declaring "...forever after, March 29, 2016, as Virgilio Licona Day in the State of Colorado." Dr. Licona lived by the motto "Be honest, Work hard, Take care of the less fortunate" and that was truly evident in all he did – and he inspired countless others to do the same.

View a [tribute](#) webpage for Dr. Licona.

Read the [Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved](#) article on Dr. Licona.



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## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

### **NACHC Recognizes Advocacy Work**

The NACHC Grassroots Advocacy Elizabeth K. Cooke MVP Award was presented to **John Santistevan**, President/CEO of Salud Family Health Centers in Colorado, at the NACHC Policy & Issues Forum in Washington, DC on March 17, 2016. The NACHC Grassroots Advocacy MVP Award is named in honor of the late Elizabeth K. (Betsey) Cooke whose constant effort and unflagging persistence as an advocate for America's health centers and health center patients set an example for all health center advocates to follow. This year's 11 honorees all went over and above in their efforts to ensure that their members of Congress actively supported health centers or established or expanded grassroots advocacy efforts at their health center or in their state last year.

### **Community Health Partners for Sustainability Offers Payment Reform Resources**

*Submitted by Alex Lehr O'Connell, Technical Assistance and Consultation Director, Community Health Partners for Sustainability*

Payment reform is coming in the form of federal and private value-based contracting structures, resulting in the need for health centers to demonstrate they are providing high quality, cost-effective care. The federal government's new [Transforming Clinical Practices Initiative](#) has funded peer-based, **quality improvement networks operating in Region VIII to help clinicians prepare for value-based reimbursement at no cost**. To address this initiative, Community Health Partners for Sustainability offers online training tools, access to a 24-hour nursing hotline, maintenance of certification programming, population health management software, assistance with PCMH recognition, and more.

*To learn more about the program, visit the [Nurse Practitioner Support and Alignment Network](#) webpage, or contact Cannae Dirl at [cdirl@ncc.us](mailto:cdirl@ncc.us) to find a network that's right for you.*

### **Add Your Health Center's Story to CHronicles**

*Submitted by Nicole Rodriguez-Robbins, Project Coordinator, RCHN Community Health Foundation*

CHronicles is an interactive, multimedia website dedicated to the living history of the community health center movement. A special joint project of the RCHN Community Health Foundation and the Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy at Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University, CHronicles aims to honor this rich history by having health center organizations contribute to a dynamic, on-line, web-based tapestry. The website allows viewers everywhere to pay a virtual visit to every community health center in the US and see the positive impact health centers have had, and continue to have, on individuals and communities in diverse urban and rural areas across the country. The goal is to continue expanding the site and that over time CHronicles will feature the story of each and every community health center and Primary Care Association.

*Questions about the site? Interested in adding information about your health center? Contact Nicole Rodriguez-Robbins at 212-246-1122 ext.700 or [nrodrob@rchnfoundation.org](mailto:nrodrob@rchnfoundation.org).*

### **AUCH Primary Care Conference**

*Submitted by Josh Marans, Communications and Member Services Manager, AUCH*

Each May, the **Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) Primary Care Conference** brings together nearly 200 Health Center staff, board members, and other primary care professionals for two days of presentations and interactive sessions by leaders in the healthcare field. This year's event will be held May 12-13, 2016 in West Valley City, UT and feature a diverse range of session topics including patient engagement, communication skills, board fiduciary responsibilities, roundtables for financial directors and medical directors, provider recruitment and retention, and more.

*For more information, visit the [AUCH Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## MAY

May 18, 2016

[CHAMPS/CCHN Enhancing Teambuilding Webcast](#)  
Online

May 23-25, 2016

[NACHC Conference for Agricultural Worker Health](#)  
Portland, OR

## JUNE

May 31-June 3, 2016

[National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium](#)  
Portland, OR

June 7-September 20, 2016

[CHAMPS/RMPHTC 2016 Colorectal Cancer Screening ECHO Learning Community](#)  
Online

June 14, 2016

[CHAMPS 2016 Immunization Update Webcast](#)  
Online

June 15, 2016

[CHAMPS/CCHN Decreasing Negative Attitudes Webcast](#)  
Online

June 16-17, 2016

[FTCA University](#)  
Denver, CO

June 23, 2016

[CHAMPS/CCHN Providing Effective Assistance to Survivors of Domestic Violence O&E Webcast](#)  
Online

June 26-29, 2016

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



## JULY

July 11-September 26, 2016

[CHAMPS/RMPHTC 2016 Behavioral Health Integration ECHO Learning Community](#)  
Online

July 14, 2016

[CHAMPS/CCHN Assisting Clients with Complex Medical Needs O&E Webcast](#)  
Online

July 20, 2016

[CHAMPS/CCHN Establishing Boundaries Webcast](#)  
Online

July 31-August 2, 2016

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

## LOOKING AHEAD

August 28-30, 2016

[NACHC Community Health Institute](#)  
Chicago, IL

October 15-18, 2016

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

Visit the interactive [online CHAMPS calendar](#) for continuing updates!

**Newsletter Contributors:** Jennifer Anderson, Mariah Blake, Sophie Hagberg, Julie Hulstein, Claire Hutkins Seda, Alex Lehr O'Connell, Josh Marans, Andrea Martin, Nicole Rodriguez-Robbins, Anna Rogers, Lexi Sattler, Chelsea Skovgaard

Please contact [Chelsea Skovgaard](#) (Newsletter Editor) if you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, if you would like to sign up for the newsletter, or if your email address has changed.

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## CONTACT CHAMPS

**Jennifer Anderson**, Clinical Programs Director; [Jen@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Jen@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9583

**Sophie Hagberg**, Outreach & Enrollment Coordinator; [Sophie@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Sophie@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9544

**Julie Hulstein**, Executive Director; [Julie@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Julie@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9582

**Andrea Martin**, Workforce Development & Member Services Director; [Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Andrea@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9581

**Chelsea Skovgaard**, Programs & Communications Coordinator; [Chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org](mailto:Chelsea@CHAMPSonline.org), 303-867-9584