



Spring 2026 Quarterly Newsletter

Published May 2026

Now Open: 2026 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Primary Care Conference Call for Abstracts



CHAMPS and [Northwest Regional Primary Care Association](#) (NWRPCA) are currently accepting abstract submissions for the [2026 Fall Primary Care Conference](#). This year's conference will take place from October 24-27 in Salt Lake City, UT. A strong abstract will propose a 75-minute session that examines current programs, practices, and/or policies related to health centers and primary care while also creatively connecting and engaging with attendees.

Submissions are invited for a variety of content areas, including Board Governance, Clinical, Finance, Healthy Communities, Hot Topics, Human Resources and Workforce, Integrated Services and Team-Based Care, Leadership, Operations, Policy, and Quality Improvement. Abstract submissions are due no later than Monday, June 1, 2026.

Interested in submitting an abstract? Review a list of [Potential Abstract Topics](#) and learn more on the [CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.

Key dates and additional information about this year's conference will be posted to the [CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage as they become available. Registration is expected to open in late June 2026.

Highlights from the 2025 NWRPCA/CHAMPS Fall Primary Care Conference

are available on the [CHAMPS Annual Primary Care Conference](#) webpage.

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2025-2026 CHAMPS Membership Year in Review

From April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026, CHAMPS:

Offered over 135 hours of [Learning Opportunities](#) and awarded over 700 hours of Continuing Education credit to over 2,600 participants, including:

- 1 [Annual Primary Care Conference](#) with more than 50 educational sessions and events addressing clinical and care innovations, fiscal optimization, governance essentials, healthy communities, hot topics, HR/workforce, leadership, and operational excellence
- 6 Training Intensives on [maternal health](#) and [Spanish language](#)
- 14 [Webcasts](#) addressing clinical/quality, healthy communities, workforce, and other topics

Maintained and enhanced the [CHAMPS Website](#), a vital resource for staff and board members of Region VIII health centers, including:

- 6 new and enhanced webpages
- 140+ total pages of information addressing [CHAMPS and the Health Center Movement](#); [Events and Trainings](#); [Clinical, Cross-Disciplinary, Health Center Board, Quality Improvement](#), and [Recruitment and Retention Resources](#); and more

Addressed [Workforce](#) needs through promotion of health center career opportunities and additional data, online resources, and communications, including:

- 1 new webpage for [Resources for Employee Career Paths, Ladders, and Lattices](#)
- 4 Recruitment events targeting general health professions, nursing students, and more
- 4 [Webcasts](#) addressing the regional salary/benefits survey and managing and supporting staff in uncertain times
- 4 [Workforce Focus e-bulletins](#)
- 580+ positions advertised via the CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#).
- 700+ job seekers received monthly JOB Highlights Emails
- [2024-2025 Job Opportunities Bank Data Comparison Report and Infographic](#)
- [2025 Abbreviated Region VIII Health Center Salary, Benefits, and Turnover Survey Report](#) and a members only Excel file of annual and hourly base salaries

Supported [Healthy Communities](#) efforts through resources, trainings, and communications, including:

- 4 [Healthy Communities Communiqués](#)
- 4 updated [Health Insurance Outreach and Enrollment](#) webpages addressing health insurance literacy, health insurance marketplaces, and more
- 4 Webcasts as part of the [Health Care for the Homeless Collaborative](#)

Provided professional, administrative, and educational support to clinicians through the [Mountain/Plains Clinical Network \(MPCN\)](#), including:

- 1 [Region VIII Maternal Health Summit](#)
- 5 [MPCN Minute e-bulletins](#)
- 5 [Spanish Language Trainings for Healthcare Providers](#) designed for medical, oral, and behavioral health providers
- 6 [Webcasts](#) addressing improving care for older adults, and intimate partner violence and human trafficking, and more
- Updated online [Patient Education Tools](#)

Released additional cross-disciplinary [Region-Wide Data, Trends, and Communications](#) to assist with future planning and facilitation of best practices, including:

- 4 CHAMPS Board of Directors Digests
- 4 [CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletters](#)
- 2025 Region VIII CHC Maternal Health TA Needs Assessment
- 2025 Region VIII CHC TA Needs Assessment
- [BPHC UDS Summary, Fact Sheet, and Workforce Metrics Infographic](#)
- [CHAMPS LinkedIn Company Page](#)

The 2026-2027 CHAMPS membership year began on April 1, 2026.

CHAMPS has accomplished a lot in the first two months of the new membership year; keep reading to learn about CHAMPS updates!

2026-2027 CHAMPS Membership Year

CHAMPS is deeply grateful to the health centers and Primary Care Associations that have become 2026-2027 [CHAMPS Organizational Members](#). The CHAMPS 2026-2027 membership year began on April 1, 2026, and will end on March 31, 2027.

The benefits of CHAMPS Organizational Membership include:

- ★ Two seats on the CHAMPS Board of Directors.
- ★ Eligibility for staff and board members to be nominated for 2026 [CHAMPS Awards](#).
- ★ Free access to all [CHAMPS Live and Archived Distance Learning Events](#) developed during the membership year, including webcasts and on-demand learning modules and courses.
- ★ Up to two free copies of the [2026 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Salary & Benefits Survey Report](#), as well as priority access to an electronic version of this salary/benefits report, and free electronic copies of the [2026 CHAMPS Region VIII Health Center Clinical Staffing, Provider Productivity Expectations, and Workforce Metrics Reports](#).
- ★ Option to participate in the [CHAMPS Employment Screening Preferred Pricing Program](#) (PPP).
- ★ Discounted registration fees for CHAMPS-sponsored intensive trainings, including [Spanish Language for Healthcare Providers](#), [CORE Competencies for Health Center Supervisors and Managers](#), and [Next Level Skills for Health Center Supervisors and Managers](#).
- ★ Discounted registration fees plus opportunities for registration and clinical travel reimbursement for the [2026 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Annual Conference](#).
- ★ Access to the [Members Only](#) section of the CHAMPS website, including a searchable Region VIII health center directory and printable CHAMPS salary survey reports.
- ★ Direct advertising of newly active [Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#) postings to job seekers.
- ★ Quarterly CHAMPS Board of Directors Digests containing CHAMPS, HRSA, NACHC, and other updates related to upcoming trainings, new resources, and more.

2025-2026 Organizational Members enjoy a 60-day grace period in the new membership year. Member benefits will expire on May 31, 2026 for organizations that have not renewed their membership.

CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletter Evaluation

CHAMPS is pleased to produce a [Quarterly Newsletter](#) that includes timely and valuable information about state, regional, and national news; CHAMPS and Mountain/Plains Clinical Network (MPCN) programs and updates; workforce development and healthy communities news and activities; and much more. We hope you have been able to benefit from this carefully curated communication.

CHAMPS is currently conducting a thorough review of our Quarterly Newsletter and is gathering feedback through a short evaluation. All questions are optional, and all responses are anonymous. Individuals who complete the evaluation by Friday, June 5, 2026 will have the opportunity to enter a drawing to win one of several \$35 gift cards. Thank you for your time and consideration; your opinions and ideas are extremely valuable and greatly appreciated.

Please take a few minutes to [evaluate the CHAMPS Quarterly Newsletter](#).

Stay Up to Date on All Things Region VIII – Sign Up for CHAMPS Communications

[Healthy Communities Communiqué](#) [Monthly JOB Email](#) [MPCN Minute](#) [Quarterly Newsletter](#) [Workforce Focus](#)

CHAMPS Attends Region VIII & National Events



CHAMPS staff have supported Region VIII and national partners by attending several in-person events since the beginning of the year.

Staff traveled to Washington, D.C., in February to attend the [National Association of Community Health Centers' \(NACHC\) Policy & Issues Forum](#) and to Las Vegas, NV, in April for the NACHC Workforce Conference.

Throughout the spring, staff attended additional events across the region, including [Colorado Community Health Network's \(CCHN\) May Triannual, Community HealthCare Association of the Dakotas' \(CHAD\) Great Plains Clinically Integrated Network Summit & Strategic Planning conference](#), and [Montana Primary Care Association's \(MPCA\) Under the Big Sky event](#). CHAMPS continuously seeks to strengthen connections and values new partnerships, welcoming any opportunities to do so.

Above: Jen Anderson (left), CHAMPS Clinical Quality Improvement Director, helped CHAMPS honor the retirement of Cindy Stergar (right), MPCA's Chief Executive Officer, at the Under the Big Sky event.

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](#).

Now Available:

CHAMPS 2025-2026 JOB Data Comparison Report & Infographic

The free CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#) allows Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations to advertise open administrative and clinical positions within their organizations. Each year, CHAMPS analyzes information from JOB to report on recruitment trends throughout the region. The [2025-2026 JOB Data Comparison Report](#) provides an analysis of data collected from February 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026. During this time, 588 Region VIII health center opportunities were posted on JOB, a decrease of 1.8% from the previous year. Over 53% of these postings were reported as having been filled during the year. The average recruitment length for health center posting that closed during this period was 19.2 months, up from 12.1 months the year before. The corresponding [2025-2026 JOB Data Comparison Infographic](#) highlights key trends from the larger report, including top recruiting resources and average recruitment length of closed positions by position type.

To view the full report and the corresponding infographic, please visit the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage.

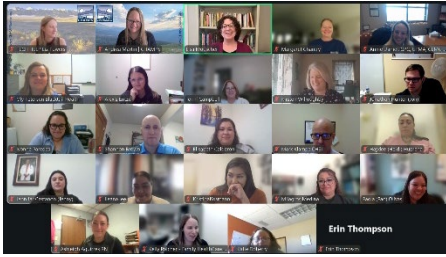
2026 Region VIII Salary Survey Data Collection Update

Every two years, CHAMPS works with the Region VIII State Primary Care Associations to conduct a **Salary, Benefits, Turnover, and Vacancy Survey** of health centers within Region VIII. Data collection for this year's iteration of the survey took place this spring. CHAMPS and [Colorado Community Health Network](#) staff are now in the process of reviewing, aggregating, and analyzing the data received, and the accompanying reports will be released beginning in late summer or early fall. Additional details about the survey and resulting reports can be found on the [CHAMPS Publications](#) webpage. CHAMPS sincerely thanks the Region VIII health centers that submitted data and the health center staff who generously gave their time to complete the survey!

Questions? Contact the CHAMPS [Workforce Development & Member Services Director](#).

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS, *Continued*

CHAMPS 2026 Next Level Skills Training Highlights



The CHAMPS [2026 Beyond CORE Competencies: Next Level Skills for Health Center Supervisors and Managers](#) (Next Level Skills) training concluded at the beginning of May. This course offered a dynamic, hands-on, and highly interactive opportunity for health center leaders to explore the best practices, knowledge, and skills needed to be a great manager or supervisor. Twenty-one individuals from 14 of the region's health centers participated in this year's course. CHAMPS would like to thank [Colorado Community Health Network](#) and [Wyoming Primary Care Association](#) for their support of this training. The related CORE Competencies for Health Center Supervisors and Managers training will be offered in the spring of 2027.

For more information about CHAMPS' health center supervisor and manager trainings, please visit the CHAMPS [Leadership Learning Opportunities](#) webpage.

Is your Region VIII health center or Primary Care Association (PCA) hiring?

Post your open positions on the free CHAMPS [Job Opportunities Bank \(JOB\)](#).
To post an opening or update a current position, please contact the
CHAMPS [Programs Coordinator, Health Center Workforce](#).

HP-ET Resource: [C-Suite Toolkit:](#)

[Building Your Health Professions Education and Training \(HP-ET\) Program](#)

This toolkit, created by the [Association of Clinicians for the Underserved's \(ACU\) STAR² Center](#), is designed to help C-Suite leaders acquire knowledge about workforce strategies that can be used to develop, support, and strengthen HP-ET initiatives.

MOUNTAIN/PLAINS CLINICAL NETWORK (MPCN) NEWS

Providing professional, administrative, and educational support to all clinicians who practice in Community Health Centers in Region VIII to ensure the delivery of the highest possible quality of care. Learn more [here](#).

MPCN Steering Committee Welcomes New Members



The CHAMPS [Mountain/Plains Clinical Network \(MPCN\) Steering Committee](#) is pleased to welcome two new members. Dr. Robin Landwehr, DBH, LPCC, Integrated Care Director at [Spectra Health](#), will represent North Dakota on the committee, and Dr. Sarah Sowerwine-Fitzgerald, MD, Chief Medical Officer at [One Health](#), will represent Wyoming. MPCN is excited to benefit from their expertise and passion for the Community Health Center Movement.

The MPCN Steering Committee was established to encourage collaboration within Region VIII and is comprised of representatives from each Region VIII state (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming). MPCN is seeking additional clinicians from each state to serve on the MPCN Steering Committee.

To learn more, please visit the CHAMPS [MPCN Steering Committee Members](#) webpage. Interested in joining? Please contact the CHAMPS [Clinical Quality Improvement Director](#).

CHAMPS MPCN Provider Survey

The [Mountain/Plains Clinical Network](#) (MPCN) is a program of CHAMPS that encompasses all healthcare providers working at Region VIII community health centers. Any provider who practices at a Region VIII health center is part of this network. CHAMPS and the [MPCN Steering Committee](#) have created a very brief survey to better understand how Region VIII providers engage in the health center mission. The goal is to create connectedness within the network, encourage participation within the health center movement, and enhance connections with CHAMPS. These insights may help to inform future trainings, website resources, and communications.

Providers are encouraged to take just a couple of minutes to complete any of the questions that apply to them. Those who complete the survey by Tuesday, June 30, 2026, will have the opportunity to enter a drawing to receive a \$35 gift card to [Bookshop.org](#).

Please take a few minutes to complete the [MPCN Provider Survey](#).

Register Now: CHAMPS Perinatal Mental Health Series

CHAMPS invites you to register for its free [Perinatal Mental Health Series: Evidence-Based Practices Across the Continuum of Care](#). This three-part virtual series offers clinicians and healthcare professionals a comprehensive look at perinatal mental health across the full continuum of care, from screening and assessment to clinical intervention and community-based support. Each session will be led by clinicians and researchers with specialized expertise in perinatal behavioral health. Participants will leave with practical, evidence-based tools that can be immediately applied in clinical and community settings.

This series has been created in partnership with [The Birth Squad/Colorado Perinatal Mental Health Project](#), a community-based organization dedicated to eliminating barriers to perinatal mental health care.

Sessions will be held online from 12:00-1:00 PM MT | 1:00-2:00 PM CT on the following Thursdays, each focusing on specific topics:

- ★ **May 28** – Perinatal Mood Disorders and Screening
- ★ **June 4** – Treatment, Continuum of Care, and Integrated Practice
- ★ **June 11** – Trauma, Loss, Family Systems, and Resources

Health center medical and behavioral health providers, as well as nurses, care coordinators, and others who support the mental health and well-being of pregnant and postpartum individuals and their families, are encouraged to attend.

Advanced registration is required to attend this free series. Registrants are welcome to attend as many sessions as they are able.

To learn more and register, please visit the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

Don't Miss: CHAMPS [Women's Health Resources](#)

CHAMPS has developed an extensive collection of online resources related to women's health, including materials on breast cancer and cervical cancer screening, as well as prenatal, postpartum, and interconception care.

Register Now: CHAMPS How to Resource Map Your Community for Maternal Health Resources Workshop

Registration is open for the free CHAMPS [How to Resource Map Your Community for Maternal Health Resources: A Workshop for CHWs, Patient Navigators, & More](#). In this interactive virtual workshop, Community Health Workers (CHWs) will learn practical, real-world skills to identify, verify, and organize maternal health resources in their communities. Participants will actively practice the skills needed to confidently guide clients through complex systems of care. While this workshop will focus on mapping for maternal health resources, these skills can be applied to any health-related need.

This workshop is being offered in partnership with the [Patient Navigation and Community Health Worker Training Program](#) and is designed for CHWs, patient navigators, outreach coordinators, doulas, case managers, and anyone supporting pregnant and postpartum individuals in clinical and community settings.

This virtual event will take place on Tuesday, June 2, 2026 from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM MT | 12:00-2:00 PM CT. The [Community Health Worker Collaborative of South Dakota](#) has approved this workshop for 2.0 CEU credits for CHWs in South Dakota.

Registration is required to attend this free workshop and will close on Friday, May 22, 2026, or when the cohort has reached capacity.

Visit the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage for more information and to register.

Register Now: CHAMPS Maternal Health 101 Workshop

CHAMPS invites you to attend the free [Maternal Health 101 Workshop: Practical Prenatal & Postpartum Care for Health Center Providers](#). This practical, case-based workshop is designed for community and rural healthcare providers who may not routinely provide maternity care, as well as those seeking greater confidence in their skills. Participants will learn to recognize normal versus high-risk conditions, manage common prenatal and postpartum concerns, and identify when to escalate care.

This workshop is intended for health center medical, behavioral health, and oral health providers, as well as nurses, case managers, and anyone supporting pregnant and postpartum individuals who would like an overview of perinatal health care.

This virtual event will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM MT | 12:00-2:00 PM CT.

Following the workshop, three 30-minute "office hour" sessions will be offered online on Wednesdays, July 1, 15, and 29, 2026, beginning at 12:00 PM MT | 1:00 PM CT. Topics for these follow-up sessions will be based on the needs of workshop attendees and will be shared closer to the events.

Health center clinical staff may choose to utilize this workshop for their Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Obstetrics Training Requirement. Continuing Medical Education (CME) and/or Certificates of Completion will be awarded to attendees upon completion of the evaluation survey following the event.

Registration is required to attend this free workshop and will close on Monday, June 15, 2026.

For additional details and to register, please visit the CHAMPS [Upcoming Live Distance Learning Events](#) webpage.

Highlights from CHAMPS 2026 Spanish Language Trainings

CHAMPS recently concluded its [2026 Spanish Language Trainings for Healthcare Providers](#). Throughout April 2026, CHAMPS hosted five virtual Spanish language courses designed for clinicians and clinical support staff at Region VIII health centers. This year, three individuals participated in the Medical Spanish Language for Medical Assistants course, eight attended the Spanish Language for Oral Health Providers course, 10 joined the Spanish Language for Behavioral Health Providers course, and 12 individuals participated in the Medical Spanish Language for Advanced Speakers course. Twenty-three learners enrolled in the traditional four-day Medical Spanish Language for Providers course, which CHAMPS has offered for over 30 years, and which welcomed participants ranging from beginner to intermediate skill levels. CHAMPS would like to thank [Wyoming Primary Care Association](#) for their support of these trainings and looks forward to offering them again in the spring of 2027.



For more information about CHAMPS' Spanish language trainings, please visit the CHAMPS [Spanish Language Trainings for Healthcare Providers](#) webpage.

New Resources from Migrant Clinicians Network

Submitted by Yamile Arango Coquand, Migrant Clinicians Network



[Migrant Clinicians Network](#) (MCN) is a national nonprofit dedicated to supporting clinicians and Community Health Workers with practical, bilingual resources and training that advance health outcomes for underserved communities.

In the first months of 2026, MCN has released several new tools:

- ★ A bilingual diabetes education comic book to support the mental health of people with diabetes. [My Health Is My Treasure: Embracing Life with Diabetes \(Mi salud es mi tesoro: abrazando la vida con diabetes\)](#), available in English and Spanish to download and print, is designed to support patient-centered conversations.
- ★ A newly updated Hepatitis B trifold, [Newborns and the Hepatitis B Vaccine](#), which provides clear, accessible guidance for new parents in English and Spanish.
- ★ Field-Ready Tools, a monthly email series that curates timely, practical resources aligned with key health topics — June will focus on heat safety and early summer health risks. To receive these free resources each month, [subscribe to the mailing list](#).
- ★ A Spanish-language webinar series, [¡Campo seguro!](#), that will continue on Thursdays, June 4 and June 18, 2026, beginning at 1:00 PM MT | 2:00 PM CT. The series focuses on protecting agricultural workers from pesticide exposure and strengthening community-based prevention strategies.

Explore upcoming and recently archived webinars on MCN's [webinars webpage](#). Search for the resources you need on MCN's [online resource hub](#), offering practical tools to support care in diverse and mobile populations.

For more information, please visit Migrant Clinicians Network's [website](#).

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES NEWS

Assisting Region VIII health centers and Primary Care Associations in pursuing healthy communities by addressing health-related risk factors and building community partnerships.

HRSA Expanding Nutrition Services Funding Opportunity

In April 2026, the [Health Resources and Services Administration](#) (HRSA) announced the availability of \$125 million in funding to support more than 350 HRSA-funded health centers in expanding access to nutrition services and food-based interventions within primary care settings. Through this [Expanding Nutrition Services](#) funding opportunity, health centers may apply for up to \$350,000 per year for the two-year period of performance. The funding can be used to support a variety of costs, including hiring nutritionists, dietitians, and other providers, providing meal planning education to patients, purchasing supplies to support a teaching kitchen or to start a food garden, and more. Applications are due in [Grants.gov](#) by Tuesday, June 9, 2026. There is no HRSA Electronic Handbooks application phase.

For more information, please visit HRSA's [Expanding Nutrition Services Funding](#) webpage.

Don't Miss: CHAMPS [Health Literacy Resources](#)

Health literacy is the ability to understand and use health information to make informed healthcare decisions and navigate the healthcare system.

CHAMPS has developed this online collection of articles, reports, and resources to help staff at health centers and Primary Care Associations advance health literacy.

Upcoming Learning Opportunity from NCECE

Submitted by Arielle Mather, National Center for Equitable Care for Elders



Join the [National Center for Equitable Care for Elders](#) (NCECE) for an upcoming free webinar, [Understanding the Connection Between Oral Health and Cognitive Function](#). Participants will consider the impact of poor oral health on cognitive frailty in community-dwelling older adults, as well as the role of adequate dental coverage in reducing the level of risk experienced by this population. One American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) Continuing Education (CE) credit will be offered for free to dental professionals that attended the entirety of the live event. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, from 12:00-1:00 PM MT | 1:00-2:00 PM CT.

Visit NCECE's [event](#) webpage for more information and to register.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

Update: Accessibility Requirements for Federally Funded Organizations

On May 11, 2026, the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#) (HHS) published an [Interim Final Rule](#) delaying the deadlines for health centers, Look-Alikes, and Primary Care Associations to ensure that website content and mobile applications comply with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.1 Level AA](#). The new effective dates for these requirements are May 11, 2027 for organizations with 15 or more employees, and May 10, 2028 for organizations with fewer than 15 employees.

The accessibility requirements for exam tables and weight scales were not delayed. Health centers have until July 8, 2026, to ensure that at least 10% of their exam tables and weight scales, but no fewer than one of each, meet accessibility standards.

View the [National Association of Community Health Centers' Section 504 Disability Nondiscrimination Factsheet](#) for more information.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

Honoring Jim Macrae

After a distinguished career in public service, Jim Macrae, Associate Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration's [Bureau of Primary Health Care](#), is retiring in June 2026.

CHAMPS extends our sincere appreciation for his steady leadership and unwavering dedication to community health centers in the Mountain/Plains states and nationwide.

We wish Jim all the best in his retirement!

HRSA Health Center Funding Opportunity

On May 1, 2026, the [Health Resources and Services Administration](#) (HRSA) announced the availability of approximately \$50 million in funding for the [Quality Improvement Fund – Improving Access to Dental Services for Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders](#) (QIF-DNDD) funding opportunity. HRSA expects to award up to \$2 million to 25 health centers. Awarded health centers will use this funding to increase access to preventive and other dental services and improve oral health outcomes for children with neurodevelopmental disorders, including autism spectrum and developmental disorders. Applications are due in [Grants.gov](#) by Tuesday, June 2, 2026. There is no HRSA Electronic Handbooks application phase.

For more information, please visit HRSA's [QIF-DNDD](#) webpage.

National Funding Opportunities & Grants.gov Closing Dates

- ★ [Quality Improvement Fund – Improving Access to Dental Services for Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders](#) (June 2, 2026)
- ★ [Expanding Nutrition Services](#) (June 9, 2026)
- ★ Forecasted: [Rural Residency Planning and Development Program](#)
(Estimated Close Date: June 21, 2026)
- ★ Forecasted: [Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Impact](#)
(Estimated Close Date: June 22, 2026)
- ★ Forecasted: [Rural Communities Opioid Response Program – Planning](#)
(Estimated Close Date: June 22, 2026)
- ★ Forecasted: [Technology-enabled Collaborative Learning Program](#)
(Estimated Close Date: July 2, 2026)
- ★ Forecasted: [Telehealth Nutrition Services Network Grant Program](#)
(Estimated Close Date: July 2, 2026)

HRSA Healthy Grants Workshop

The [Health Resources and Services Administration](#) (HRSA) is hosting the [Healthy Grants Workshop](#), a free webinar series designed to support effective management of HRSA grant awards. This monthly series began in May and will continue through August 2026. The workshop features two tracks: one for new recipients or those seeking a refresher on HRSA grant management fundamentals, and an advanced track tailored for individuals and organizations with significant experience managing HRSA awards. Although the sessions are organized by track, participants are welcome to register for any session, regardless of experience level, and may attend as many sessions as they choose. The June sessions are scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2026, beginning at 11:00 AM MT | 12:00 PM CT.

To register and view the schedule of sessions, please visit HRSA's [Healthy Grants Workshop](#) webpage.

Emergency Preparedness Resource: [Community Health & Power Hub Playbook](#)

This resource, created by the [National Association of Community Health Centers](#) (NACHC), focuses on helping health centers strengthen emergency preparedness by serving as Community Health & Power Hubs during crises and power outages.

It includes strategies for backup power planning, community partnerships, and maintaining access to critical services during emergencies.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

FTCA Health Center Applications

Applications for medical malpractice coverage under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) are currently open. The application process and guidance for submitting deeming and redeeming applications are detailed within the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) [Program Assistance Letter \(PAL\) 2026-01](#). HRSA has also released an updated [FTCA Deeming Application Step-by-Step Guide](#) to assist health center staff in completing the application. Health centers may submit an initial deeming application through the HRSA Electronic Handbooks (EHBs) at any time. All currently deemed grantees must submit an FTCA redeeming application on or before Friday, June 26, 2026.

To learn more, please visit HRSA's [FTCA Application Process](#) webpage.

National Health Center Week 2026



Every August, the [National Association of Community Health Centers](#) (NACHC) sponsors [National Health Center Week](#) (NHCW) to celebrate and increase awareness of the more than 1,500 community health centers nationwide. This year, NHCW will take place from August 2-8. The theme of the 2026 event, "Building Innovative Care Where It Matters Most," celebrates how health centers use creativity and commitment to advance innovative solutions that meet patients where they are and improve primary care delivery, access, and outcomes nationwide. Each day of the week is dedicated to a specific focus area, with this year's event featuring days such as Staff Appreciation Day and Patient Appreciation Day.

This year, NACHC is offering a limited number of \$500 sponsorships to health centers hosting NHCW events. To be considered for sponsorship, the events must be open to the public and submitted to the NHCW website by Wednesday, July 1, 2026. Health centers that are selected to receive sponsorship will be notified in mid-July.

On May 11, 2026, NACHC hosted an NHCW kickoff webinar to provide information about this year's theme, activities, and more. For interested individuals who were unable to attend the live event, a recording of the presentation and the slideshow are available to view on the [National Health Center Week](#) website. NACHC is also set to host an [office hour session](#) to walk through communications toolkits and templates on Tuesday, July 16, 2026, beginning at 1:00 PM MT | 2:00 PM CT.

To learn more, please visit the [National Health Center Week](#) website.

Executive Director Partner Training Series from WYPCA

Submitted by Jen Davis, Wyoming Primary Care Association

[Wyoming Primary Care Association](#) (WYPCA) invites you to join its [Executive Director Partner Training Series](#). This virtual series is held monthly on the third Wednesday, beginning at 10:00 AM MT | 11:00 AM CT. Each session features a different partner organization presenting on a focused topic. Previous sessions have featured presentations from [Cheyenne Regional Medical Center](#) on infant feeding and lactation support and from [Parents as Teachers](#) on home visiting programs. This series is free to attend and open to anyone interested in Region VIII.

Visit WYPCA's [registration](#) webpage to sign up.

Value-Based Care Resource: [Federally Qualified Health Center Business Case for Value-Based Care: Fundamentals, Risks, & Benefits](#)

This document, created by the [National Association of Community Health Centers](#) (NACHC), provides key concepts and approaches related to value-based care and resources to support health centers at various stages of value-based care implementation.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS, *Continued*

Region VIII in the News

- ★ Educational Health Center of Wyoming: [UW's Educational Health Center clinics receive national patient-centered home recognition](#) (*University of Wyoming, April 2026*)
- ★ Falls Community Health: [City, partners expand dental care for students](#) (*City of Sioux Falls, April 2026*)
- ★ Salud Family Health: [Giant walk-through colon raising colorectal cancer awareness at Longmont clinic](#) (*9News, March 2026*)
- ★ Sapphire Community Health, Inc.: [Sapphire Community Health to expand addiction treatment](#) (*Bitterroot Star, March 2026*)

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2026

[CHAMPS How to Resource Map Your Community for Maternal Health Resources Workshop](#)

June 2

[CHAMPS Perinatal Mental Health Series, Session Two: Treatment, Continuum of Care, & Integrated Practice](#)

June 4

[2026 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium](#)

June 8-11; Orlando, FL

[CHAMPS Perinatal Mental Health Series, Session Three: Trauma, Loss, Family Systems, & Resources](#)

June 11

[BPHC Program Updates](#)

June 17

[CHAMPS Maternal Health 101 Workshop: Practical Prenatal & Postpartum Care for Health Center Providers](#)

June 17

[CHAMPS/RMPHTC Leadership Program Capstone Session](#)

June 18

[2026 National School-Based Health Care Conference](#)

June 23-25; Washington, D.C.

July 2026

[CHAMPS Maternal Health 101 Workshop: Practical Prenatal & Postpartum Care for Health Center Providers – Office Hours](#)

July 1, 15, & 29

[BPHC Program Updates](#)

July 23

[ACU 2026 Conference](#)

July 26-29; Washington, D.C.

August 2026

[National Health Center Week](#)

August 2-8

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

August 16-18; Las Vegas, NV

Looking Ahead

[MHA/MPCA 2026 Montana Healthcare Conference](#)

October 5-8; Billings, MT

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

October 24-27; Salt Lake City, UT

[NACHC Partner Conference](#)

November 16-18; Kansas City, MO

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Please contact Haleigh@CHAMPSonline.org with questions or comments, to sign up to receive the newsletter, change your subscription email, or submit articles.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provided financial support for this resource. The award totaled \$863,984 and provided 80% of total overall CHAMPS costs. The contents are those of the author. They may not reflect the policies of HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.