



Colorado Rural Health Center

Marva Jean Jackson (MJJ) Rural Community Health Scholarships

History and Rationale

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) created the Marva Jean Jackson (MJJ) Rural Community Health Scholarships Program in 2003 to encourage rural facilities and communities to develop or support local scholarship programs. Many rural communities in Colorado experience a chronic shortage of healthcare providers. Evidence shows that one of the factors that can influence a provider's decision to practice in a rural area is his "roots": being from a rural area. Programs that support healthcare training and education for students from rural areas have proven to be effective tools in addressing rural workforce shortages.

Purpose of Grants

Small grants that help pay for the training and/or education of a local healthcare provider are available for rural facilities or community groups. CRHC will match, *two-to-one*, the support provided, up to \$1,000 a year. For example: a long term care facility might pay for an LPN to acquire an RN license; a hospital would help pay for a Medical Assistant training to become a Lab Technician; or, a small community would support a local student in becoming a Physician Assistant. Awards are made for one year, but applicants may reapply in subsequent years. The scholarship recipient must be either currently enrolled in classes or start training within three months of the application date.

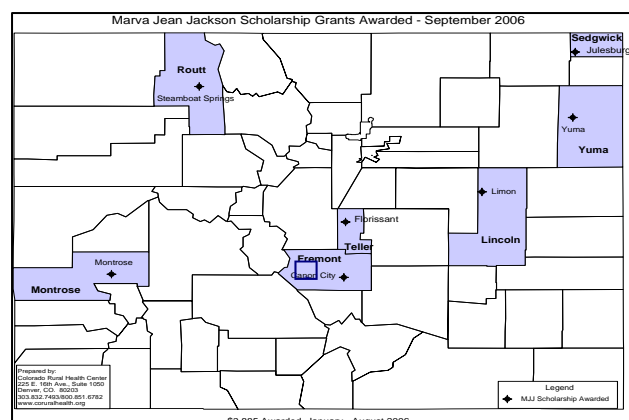
Eligibility and Application

Only rural facilities and communities are eligible to apply. By "rural," for this program, we mean outside one of Colorado's 17 metropolitan counties. The Board of Directors will occasionally consider compelling applications from smaller, isolated communities within the larger metropolitan counties. The application is easy to complete and accepted year-round. On the back of this fact sheet is a map showing the past recipients of a MJJ education grants. To find out more about this program, or about Marva Jean Jackson, for whom the program is named, please visit our website at <http://www.coruralhealth.org>.

**This program receives financial support from the Health Professions Initiative.
Health Professions is an initiative of The Colorado Trust.**

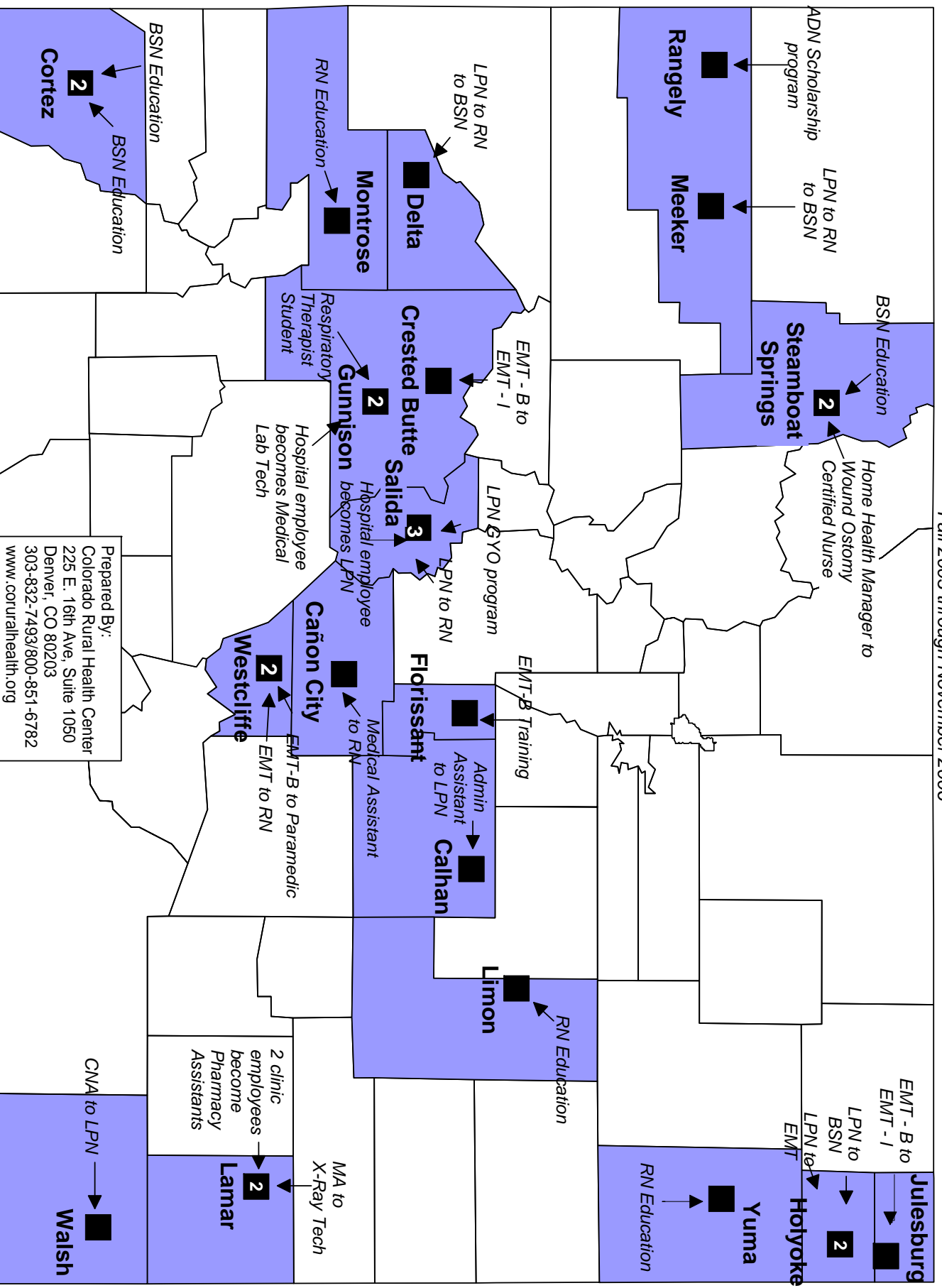
"Enhancing healthcare services in Colorado by providing information, education, linkages, tools & energy toward addressing rural healthcare issues."

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