



Colorado Rural Health Center

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

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Dear Colleague:

I'm writing to invite you to a meeting on May 25th, which will provide an update of the Governor's Rural Mobile Health Services Project. The meeting will run from 11:00 to 2:00 and be held in The Colorado Trust building in downtown Denver.

As you probably know, UnitedHealth – in collaboration with the Governor's Office and Colorado Insurance Commissioner – has contributed \$7.5 million over the next six years toward the development and maintenance of a mobile clinic to provide healthcare services to rural Colorado. Our office, the Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC,) was asked to administer the first phase of this project – collecting information to guide the development of these services.

Phase I of the project, started in early April, will conclude in July. Through an RFP process we contracted with the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care (CFMC) to carry out the activities in Phase I, which includes three components:

Instate Resource Assessment: The identification of all mobile health service projects currently operating in Colorado, including mobile projects related to all areas of healthcare such as immunization, screening, dental services, blood donations, etc. The assessment of these services will gather such information as the services provided, locations and populations served, funding structure, and lessons learned.

National Research: A national literature search will be conducted to identify mobile service projects similar to what might be developed in Colorado. Information gathered will include staffing requirements, operating costs, access barriers, mechanisms for coordination with local communities, and types of services provided.

Statewide Outreach and Assessment: The types of services to be provided by this mobile health project have not yet been determined. CFMC will conduct comprehensive outreach activities to solicit input from community members, health organizations, and healthcare providers regarding rural healthcare needs and circumstances, and how best to utilize a mobile unit.

During the meeting, we will hear from representatives from the Division of Insurance, UnitedHealth, and the Governor's Office regarding their plans and hopes for this project. A representative from CFMC will provide an update on their findings so far. We'll hear brief presentations from two mobile service projects currently operating in Colorado, and have an opportunity to provide input regarding the statewide outreach component and the criterion by which the final decision is made regarding the services to be provided to rural Colorado.

The invitees include representatives from the Division of Insurance, UnitedHealth, the Governor's Office, CRHC's Board of Directors – who are serving as an Advisory Committee to this project - and a few other key stakeholders, such as yourself.

We will send you a formal agenda when it is developed. In the meantime, I'm writing to find out about your interest and availability. Please let me know if you are able to attend. If so, additional details will be forthcoming.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Genuinely,

Denise Denton
Executive Director
Colorado Rural Health Center