



Special Delivery ONLINE

Colorado Rural Health Center

Summer 2008

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CRHC News

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance healthcare services in Colorado. CRHC does this by providing information, education, linkages, tools, and energy toward addressing rural healthcare issues.

There are numerous ways to be involved in CRHC's efforts, including membership. Simply call or write for more information. The Special Delivery Newsletter is posted quarterly on the Colorado Rural Health Center's website to give our constituents information about programs and resources available.

Staff:

- Sara Allard**
Recruitment Specialist
- Cherith Chapman**
Workforce Programs Manager
- Shelly Collings**
Development Coordinator
- Christy Crosser**
Consultant
- Cari Fouts**
CAH & RHC Program Director
- Sheri Glischinski**
Program Assistant
- Terri Hurst**
Policy Analyst
- Rich Marquez**
RHC Program Coordinator
- Aaron Ortiz**
Recruitment Specialist
- Callie Preheim**
Marketing & Outreach Coordinator
- Ron Seedorf**
Field Coordinator
- Lynne Swanson**
Business Manager
- Elke Webb**
Program Assistant
- Andrea Williams**
Executive Assistant
- Lou Ann Wilroy**
Executive Director

CRHC Receives Recognition for Collaboration from CDPHE

On July 10, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Trauma Program named the Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) as recipient of the **Positively Collaborative Award** for the 2nd quarter of 2008. This award is given to partners to honor outstanding collaboration toward the improvement of Colorado's trauma system. CRHC works closely with the Trauma Program to assist rural health facilities in becoming designated trauma centers and in remaining in compliance with trauma program guidelines. In addition, CRHC assisted CDPHE by supporting a grant application recently approved by the Caring for Colorado Foundation for a trauma system review by the American College of Surgeons.

According to Grace Sandeno, Trauma Program Director, who presented the CRHC staff with the award as well as breakfast on July 14, CRHC's "efforts to improve trauma care and focus on collaboration are greatly appreciated." Grace stated that CRHC "has continually generated interest, resources, and funding to identify and address rural healthcare issues in Colorado."

For more information about the state trauma program, please visit: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/em/trauma/>. For more information about CRHC's involvement, please contact Ron Seedorf or Cari Fouts at (800) 851-6782, info@coruralhealth.org.

Successful Annual Conference!

The 17th Annual Colorado Rural Health Conference, held June 18-20, was a great success! Thank you to everyone who participated. This year CRHC was happy to host our annual meeting in beautiful Copper Mountain. Over 170 people participated in this year's conference, "Tradition and Transition: Rural Health Responding to Change." CRHC also held our First Annual Golf Tournament. We were able to raise \$326—thank you to CRHC Corporate Investing Member EMTS for helping us coordinate the golf tournament. In 2009, CRHC will hold four regional conferences as we did in 2007. Please watch for information on these conferences' dates and locations.



For more information on CRHC's conferences, please visit: www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events. More information on EMTS is available online at www.emtsolutions.biz.

Colorado Rural Health Center

3033 S. Parker Rd., Suite 606 • Aurora, Colorado 80014
(303) 832-7493 • (800) 851-6782 • Fax: (303) 832-7496
info@coruralhealth.org • www.coruralhealth.org

CRHC Board Members

Danny Barela

Mesa State College
690 Veinte Dr.
Delta, CO 81416
Phone 970-255-2662
dbarela@mesastate.edu

Jim Brundige, Treasurer

Lone Wolf Operating Company
1125 17th St., Ste 2290
Denver, CO 80202
Phone 720-904-6949
jim@lonewolfop.com

Randy Evetts, President

Southeastern Colorado AHEC
503 N Main St., Ste 422
Pueblo, CO 81003
Phone 719-544-7833
randy.evetts@secahec.org

Lisa Filipczak, Secretary

The Children's Hospital
13123 East 16th Avenue, Box 425
Aurora, CO 80045
Phone 303-861-6952
filipczak.lisa@tchden.org

Sheryl Hieber

Surface Creek Family Practice
255 SW 8th Avenue
Cedaredge, CO 81413
Phone 970-856-3146
sherylhieber@tds.net

Brenda Higgins, Past-President

27451 CR 3H
Genoa, CO 80818
(719) 763-2414
jbhiggins@starband.net

Russell Johnson

San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center
106 Blanca Avenue
Alamosa, CO 81101
Phone 719-587-1200
johnsonr@slvrhc.org

Robert Omer

Pioneers Medical Center
345 Cleveland
Meeker, CO 81641
Phone: 970-878-9260
Fax: 970-878-9262
romer@pioneershospital.com

ToLoa Pearl

110 5th Street
Westcliffe, CO 81252
Phone 719-783-2691
toloa@centurytel.net

Vonie Weaver

Senior Reasons
33566 CR HH.5
Wray, CO 80758
Phone: 970-332-5147
vonie@plains.net

CRHC Staffing Update

It is with both sadness and excitement that CRHC announces the departure of Callie Preheim, Marketing and Outreach Coordinator. Callie joined CRHC in as Administrative Assistant in September 2005, and was quickly promoted to Programs Associate and, subsequently, to her current position. In September, Callie will be moving to Extremadura, Spain, where she will be employed as a teaching assistant. It has been a longtime goal of Callie's to live abroad and we wish her well, and thank her for her dedication and for the valuable contribution she has made to CRHC and to rural Colorado.



Callie Preheim

CRHC is pleased to welcome Cari Fouts as Program Director. Cari joined CRHC in June. She has over 15 years of healthcare experience in direct patient care, outreach and marketing, and quality and patient safety. Cari has worked extensively with both rural and urban hospitals, most recently in her role as Project Manager for Colorado's 5 Million Lives Campaign at the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care. Cari earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Colorado College and received her MBA in Marketing. As Program Director at CRHC, Cari is responsible for overseeing the Critical Access Hospital and the Rural Health Clinic programs.



Cari Fouts

CRHC Welcomes New Board Members

CRHC is pleased to announce the addition of two new members to the Board of Directors: Sheryl Hieber, of Surface Creek Family Practice in Cedaredge, and Russ Johnson, of San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center in Alamosa. Sheryl and Russ joined the CRHC Board in June 2008.

Sheryl Hieber has served as Administrator for Surface Creek Family Practice for the past 10 years. Surface Creek Family Practice has grown from single provider/single location to four providers and three clinic locations within Delta County. Sheryl's previous healthcare experience includes Alzheimer's Unit Director and Hospital Business Office Manager. Blessed to live and play on Grand Mesa, her spare time is spent snowmobiling, hiking, canoeing, and (soon!) kayaking.

Russ has held the position of CEO of San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center since 2001. He received his bachelor's degree in management and economics from the University of Tulsa and his master's degree in healthcare administration from Washington University, St. Louis, MO. He is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and also serves on the board of the Colorado Hospital Association. Russ is chair of the CHA Rural Hospital Council and the San Luis Valley Rural Health Network. A past state delegate to the American Hospital Association (AHA) Regional Policy Board for region 8, he currently serves on the Board of the AHA Section for Small or Rural Hospitals. Russ serves or has served on the board of the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care, the Alamosa Chamber of Commerce, Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center and the Alamosa Community Development Corporation. He is board chair and founding member of the Diabetes Summit Partners and is a Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow. An Eagle Scout, he has been active in the Boy Scouts of America and has served as a team leader.

Welcome, Sheryl and Russ!

Two CRHC Board Members Resign due to Relocation

After nine years of service on CRHC's Board of Directors, Rich Rivera, Physician Assistant, resigned from the board in February 2008. Rich and his wife, Laura, relocated to Corpus Christi, Texas to be near their son and grandchildren. While in Colorado, Rich served in an administrative capacity as well as by providing clinical care at the Olathe Clinic, the Rio Grande Hospital, Creede Medical Clinic, and Surface Creek Family Practice. He brought great expertise to the CRHC Board as a graduate of the US Army PA Program in 1977. He obtained his MS degree in Hospital Administration from the University of Northern Colorado in 1984. He retired from the military in 1990 and was an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston 1990-1993. He is a Past-President of the Colorado Academy of Physician Assistants. Rich served on a committee to advise Representative Scott McInnis on health policy needs. He was a past board member of the Colorado State Migrant Health Program, and he served as a mentor to Physician Assistant and Family Nurse Practitioner students across Colorado.

Maribeth Berry resigned from the Board of Directors in June 2008. Maribeth and her husband, Dr. Jack Berry, are natives of Oklahoma, and plan to relocate to Tulsa to be closer to family. Maribeth served on the CRHC board for 11 years, and served as President for three terms. Maribeth lived in rural communities for over 25 years; seven of those in Oklahoma and nineteen years in Wray, Colorado, where Jack worked as a family physician. Her work experience includes serving as Assistant to Medical Directors for Rocky Mountain HMO and Business Manager of the nursing home in Wray. Maribeth has a wide range of experience on boards including the boards of Centennial Mental Health, Wray Public Library, and the Wray Rehabilitation and Activity Center. She is a past President of the Colorado Medical Society Alliance. Maribeth provided extremely valuable insight to the CRHC board as a resident of rural Colorado and with a degree in accounting. Maribeth and Jack are both extremely passionate and dedicated to rural health issues, and their relocation will be a tremendous loss for Colorado.

Farewell, Maribeth and Rich!

Over \$2 Million Awarded for Physician Loan Repayment

Retaining primary care physicians in rural and underserved Colorado, and recruiting additional providers to Colorado: this is the purpose of The Colorado Health Foundation's new Physician Loan Repayment Program. CRHC has the privilege of partnering with the Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) in administering this valuable loan repayment program for The Colorado Health Foundation.



The loan repayment program recently concluded the first round of funding and more than \$2 million dollars was awarded to clinics and providers across the state. Recipients are required to practice in clinics that are helping to fill the gaps in care in rural and underserved communities. The maximum award amount is \$150,000, spread over three years, in exchange for a full three year commitment. There were 50 applicants this year and 18 awards were made. For more information on this grant program and the first round of funding, please visit http://www.coloradohealth.org/news/releases/20080710_release_PLRP.cfm.

For more information on this program and the next round of funding, please contact Cherith Chapman at (303) 996-9698, (800) 851-6782, or cc@coruralhealth.org. More information on The Colorado Health Foundation is available online at: <http://www.coloradohealth.org>.

Seed Grant Funding for Rural Health Projects

CRHC has seed money available! A digital projector, a CNA mentoring program, Medic Alert Kits, and a county-wide health-needs survey – all of these projects were all partially funded by CRHC Seed Grants. Seed money of up to \$500 is available to our Organizational and Corporate Investing Members in rural or underserved areas. Eligible projects must fit CRHC's mission, "enhancing healthcare services in Colorado by providing information, education, linkages, tools and energy toward addressing rural healthcare issues," and the organization must match the grant funds received. Please visit our website, www.coruralhealth.org and go to "Seed Grants" under our programs page for project ideas and programs that we have funded. Not sure if a project would be eligible? Call us and we can discuss potential eligible projects. Additional information on criteria, eligibility, and the application process are available on our website or by calling us at (303) 832-7493 or (800) 851-6782.



Rural Hospital Trauma Assistance & Consultation (TAC) Program

CRHC has identified an increasing need to assist hospitals with their trauma programs: trauma designation, maintenance of a designation, or improvement of trauma services and quality of care. Small, rural hospitals do not often have the resources to obtain consultation. This program, supported by funds received from the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant, will support technical assistance and consultation provided to eligible hospitals in the area of trauma designation and services.

The Colorado Rural Health Center works closely with the State Division of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services to learn about the needs of hospitals, including those without current trauma designations. By helping rural hospitals become trauma-designated, CRHC hopes to ensure that patients are taken to the right hospital in the right amount of time—giving them the best medical care and increasing their chance of survival. Injured patients are more likely to get the care they need if all hospitals are integrated into an efficient statewide trauma system. For more information on TAC, please contact Cari Fouts, CAH Director, at (303) 832-7493, (800) 851-6782, or cf@coruralhealth.org.

CRHC ED Lou Ann Wilroy on KSIR Radio!

Lou Ann Wilroy, Executive Director of the Colorado Rural Health Center, was on Lorrie Boyer's KSIR radio show Thursday, July 17. Lorrie interviewed Lou Ann about CRHC's role as the State Office of Rural Health and about the services, programs, and assistance provided by CRHC. KSIR 1010AM broadcasts to the front range, northeastern Colorado, southwestern Nebraska, and northwestern Kansas.

CRHC to Pay For an Online Grant Writing Class!

The Colorado Rural Health Center realizes there is an ever-increasing need for grant funding. Grant proposal writing skills are a necessity. In January 2008, CRHC offered to give scholarships to five Investing Members to take an on-line grant proposal writing course offered by Fort Hays State University in Hays, KS. The two-month, on-line grant proposal writing course will again be offered beginning September 4, and **CRHC is again offering to pay half of the cost of the course** for the first five Investing Organizational Members who contact us, and who have not already received funding for this course. The course is designed for students to work independently, but also to have the opportunity to converse with other students via chat room. During the eight week course, students will learn, step-by-step, how to build a strong, effective proposal. No travel is involved, as all course activities are accomplished over the internet. The cost is \$175 per person and 10 CEUs are provided to those professionals who request them. For more information, please contact CRHC at (303) 832-7493, (800) 851-6782, or info@coruralhealth.org.

For more information, please contact CRHC or visit the Fort Hays State University website at <http://www.fhsu.edu/sociology/8weekgrants.shtml>.

Get to know Colorado Provider Recruitment (CPR)

The Colorado Provider Recruitment (CPR) Program was created by CRHC in 2001 to address workforce shortages in Colorado's rural and underserved communities. CPR helps communities recruit and retain dedicated and caring primary care providers and specialists who are committed to practicing in rural or underserved areas. In 2005, CPR placed 12 providers in rural and underserved areas, in 2006 there were 16 placements, and in 2007 the CPR program placed 18 providers! If you are in need of recruitment and retention assistance, please contact CRHC.

The first two communities to contact CPR and mention this article will receive a **free** 3RNet manual on Recruitment and Retention! This manual is published by the National Rural Recruitment and Retention Network (3RNet), a federally-funded Web site that focuses on the recruitment and retention of rural providers nationwide.

Meet Your Recruiters



Sara Allard
Recruitment Specialist

P: (303) 565-5848
(800) 851-6782
Email: sa@coruralhealth.org



Aaron Ortiz
Recruitment Specialist

P: (303) 468-3498
(800) 851-6782
Email: ao@coruralhealth.org

Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Council Awards Over \$1.9 Million

The Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Council awarded over \$1.9 million in grants in the first round of grant funding of the Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Program. The Council awarded 52 grants ranging from \$1,600 to \$50,000 to medical, mental and oral healthcare providers in 34 Colorado counties for infrastructure projects. Grantees include Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Clinics, rural hospitals, public health departments, public and private health clinics, and school-based health centers. The grants will support construction and remodeling projects, equipment and supplies, staff training, transportation, and health information technology. The Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Council was established in August 2007 and is funded with a \$7.5 million gift to the State of Colorado from UnitedHealthcare, which will be distributed over six years. The Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Council is co-chaired by Colorado's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Ned Calonge and UnitedHealthcare's Market Medical Director Dr. Jacqueline Stiff, and includes healthcare consumers, rural healthcare providers, and representatives from the Governor's Office, Division of Insurance at the Department of Regulatory Affairs, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing and Department of Local Affairs. The Colorado Rural Health Center administers the grant program.

For more information, please visit <http://www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/programs/ruralgrant.htm>.

CRHC Receives Grant from The Colorado Trust to Support Advocacy Activities

In June, CRHC received a three year grant from The Colorado Trust to support advocacy activities to improve access to health for Coloradans. The Trust's "Advocacy for Access to Health" grants were awarded to nine organizations:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The Bell Policy Center | 6. Colorado Multi-Ethnic Consumer Coalition |
| 2. The Colorado Children's Campaign | 7. CSU Collaborative – Pueblo |
| 3. Colorado Rural Health Center | 8. CSU Bighorn Leadership Program |
| 4. Colorado AHEC System | 9. Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute |
| 5. Colorado Consumer Health Initiative | |

CRHC will utilize these funds to support its Rural Outreach and Advocacy Program (ROAP) which includes membership, outreach, and policy & advocacy work. Working through these select grantees, the Trust hopes to accomplish the following outcomes:

1. The health advocacy community and consumer voice in Colorado is stronger
2. Alliances for health reform and increased coverage will be stronger, more active, inclusive, and aligned around a shared policy agenda
3. Policy options for health reform will be researched, developed and implemented

For more information about CRHC's grant, please contact Terri Hurst, Policy Analyst, at th@coruralhealth.org.

CMS Proposes New RHC and FQHC Certification and Regulation Rule

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a proposed rule to update certification and participation regulations and payment provisions for Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). The rule would establish location requirements and exception criteria for RHCs, revise the RHC and FQHC payment methodology, require RHCs to establish a quality assessment and performance improvement (QAPI) program, allow RHCs to contract with RHC non-physician providers under certain circumstances, propose other changes to update the regulations to clarify existing requirements, provide the opportunity to make program improvements, and comply with statutory requirements. The National Association of Rural Health Clinics (NARHC) is an excellent resource for learning more about this proposed rule. The following link to the NARHC website will take you a five page summary of the proposed rule as well as the 103 page actual proposed rule: http://www.narhc.org/legislative_information/legislative_information.php. All Colorado RHCs are encouraged to participate in the RHC Technical Assistance Teleconference series which will specifically address the proposed rules. For more information, please visit www.narhc.org, or contact Rich Marquez, RHC Program Coordinator, at (303) 832-7493, (800) 851-6782, or rm@coruralhealth.org.



In order to take the pulse of the healthcare issues affecting rural Coloradoans, a policy questionnaire was distributed to all attendees at our 17th Annual Conference in June. CRHC plans to use the collected information to establish the policy issues on which CRHC will focus in the upcoming 2009 legislative session. If you were not able to attend the conference and would like to contribute to the CRHC policy agenda, please [click here to download the policy questionnaire](#). We would like to thank everyone for taking the time to complete the questionnaire and encourage you to contact Terri Hurst, Policy Analyst, if there is an issue that we can help advocate on your behalf.

Basic findings from the questionnaire:

- A total of 24 conference participants completed questionnaires
- 18 respondents were Investing Members of CRHC
- The average length of membership was 5 years
- 50% of respondents stated they were rural residents
- Majority of participants reported being either a non-clinical healthcare professional or an administrator

Respondents were asked to choose the top three healthcare issues in rural Colorado, though they were not asked to place their responses in any particular order. Open-ended questions were also asked of both healthcare professionals and consumers around issues affecting healthcare delivery and services.

The top three issues reported were:

1. Lack of Healthcare Providers (N=16)
2. Lack of Affordable Healthcare Services (N=11)
3. Transportation Issues (N=10)

Lack of Health Education, Economics, and Medicare/Medicaid Reimbursement were also rated fairly high among respondents. Healthcare professionals reported that there is a lack of education among patients regarding the navigation of the healthcare system and self-management of disease. It was also mentioned by more than one healthcare professional that there is a lack of providers willing and/or able to participate in government insurance programs which, in turn, negatively impacts rural consumers.

Healthcare consumers mirrored some of the same concerns as healthcare professionals stating there were limited providers and services, poor insurance coverage, and a lack of understanding of insurance benefits. The majority of consumer responses also mentioned cost of healthcare services (including insurance) as one of the main issues affecting their ability to access healthcare. To contact Terri Hurst, CRHC's Policy Analyst, please call (303) 832-7493, (800) 851-6782, or email Terri at th@coruralhealth.org.

CRHC Seeks Volunteers for Policy Advisory Council

Would you like to help shape a healthcare agenda for rural Colorado? CRHC is seeking volunteers interested in participating on the CRHC Legislative and Policy Council (LPC). With the recent hiring of Terri Hurst, CRHC's Policy Analyst, CRHC needs rural input and guidance in determining a policy agenda. We are looking for interested parties throughout the state who would be willing to convene with the CRHC Policy Analyst once a month throughout the rest of 2008 to help decide which issues CRHC will be involved with during the 2009 legislative session. Meetings will occur via conference call or, when possible, in person. Once the legislative session begins in January 2009, brief meetings may occur on a bi-weekly basis.

CRHC plans to convene the LPC meetings in August 2008. If you are interested in participating on the CRHC Legislative and Policy Council, please contact Terri Hurst, Policy Analyst, at th@coruralhealth.org, (303) 407-2031, or (800) 851-6782.

If you cannot commit to participating on LPC, but would still like to contribute in helping shape CRHC policy agenda; input and feedback about that issues that are affecting your clinic, hospital, or community are always welcomed and encouraged. Feel free to send your thoughts, stories, wishes, dreams, and/or rants to Terri Hurst at th@coruralhealth.org.

Reach Out and Read: Bringing Books to Colorado's Low-Income Families

Across Colorado, over 700 healthcare providers are giving something extra with immunizations and well-child checkups—beautiful new children's books. Through the Reach Out and Read (ROR) program, healthcare providers are trained to provide early literacy guidance to parents and developmentally appropriate books to children 6 months through 5 years old. Currently in Colorado, over 100 clinics in 37 counties participate. The program is carried out in community health centers, public health department's immunization visits, and private practices. Reach Out and Read Colorado, the state coalition of ROR programs, reaches 51% of the state's children living in poverty. In 2008, Reach Out and Read Colorado clinics will distribute 332,000 books to 113,000 children.



To learn more about this program, or participating in this program, please visit www.reachoutandreadco.org or contact Melissa Elgersma, Reach Out and Read Colorado's Program Coordinator, at (303) 623-3800 or melissa@reachoutandreadco.org.

High Plains Food Coop



The High Plains Food Cooperative is a network of producers and consumers from the High Plains and Front Range. The High Plains Food Coop is modeled after the Oklahoma Food Coop and the Nebraska Food Coop, and exists to "foster a local food community and promote a culture of stewardship by cultivating farmer-consumer relationships, promoting the enjoyment of healthful food, increasing food security through diversity, and enhancing overall rural sustainability."

Producers and consumers alike may join the Coop. For more information, please visit <http://www.highplainsfood.org>, or contact the Coop at (785) 626-3640, or info@highplainsfood.org.

Granby Health Care Campus Moving Forward

Article provided by: Patrick Brower and Melissa Katsimpalis

Kremmling Memorial Hospital and Grand County Rural Health Network administrators are working together to secure a \$19.5-million loan from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development to build the Granby Medical Campus. The Campus represents one of the major goals of the rural health network: bringing more healthcare services to the community, and making those services accessible and convenient throughout the county. The Neenan Company, design-builder of Colorado Critical Access Hospitals and a national leader in rural medical facility planning, development, and design-build, will be working with the Network to develop this campus. Granby Medical Campus, when completed, would offer expanded healthcare services in modern facilities that would include possible 24-hour emergency services with expanded treatment space, heli-pad and ambulance bay and overnight observation beds. The new facility also would house expanded primary care and specialty clinics; outpatient surgery; GI lab and imaging center with CT, ultrasound, mammography, bone density screening; and potential MRI services. Also included would be mental health services, optometry services, public health and home-health services. Kremmling Memorial Hospital District, which owns and will continue to operate a hospital and clinic in Kremmling and Timberline Family Practice in Granby, has signed on as the major tenant for the new facility, which would be owned by Grand County Rural Health Network. The Grand County Rural Health Network, a group of healthcare providers and citizens, was formed eight years ago to work cooperatively to improve and expand healthcare in Grand County.

Information on The Neenan Company, Corporate Investing Member of CRHC, is available online at <http://www.neenan.com/>. For more information on Kremmling Memorial Hospital District, please visit <http://www.kremmlinghospital.org>. More information on the Grand County Rural Health Network is available online at <http://www.gcruralhealth.com/>. The Grand County Rural Health Network is an Organizational Investing Member of CRHC.

Free Exam Tables!



A private practice has two free exam tables that it would like to donate. If you are interested, please contact Mai by email at mai30@hotmail.com. The tables must be picked up at a private home in Highlands Ranch.

Economic Gardening

The 6th Annual National Economic Gardening Conference was held recently in Steamboat Springs, and Christy Crosser, consultant for CRHC, attended the event. Economic Gardening is an economic development method that focuses on growing existing small businesses within communities. This is especially successful for small, rural communities. The conference emphasized the development and support of entrepreneurs in local communities. 97.5% of all firms in the U.S. have fewer than 20 employees, generate 50% of the non-farm real gross domestic product (GDP), and have generated 60%-80% of net new jobs over the past decade. The conference also focused on young entrepreneurs. Most economic development systems around the world that employ the economic gardening methodology have training and educational “grow your own” programs aimed at 9th to 12th graders.

Economic Gardening (EG) programs have an extensive network of resources available to help local entrepreneurs. These resources include access to capital; livable communities; talented employees; peer networks; training, in all aspects of business; and market, industry, competitor information. Dr. Yamamoto of Akita University highlighted the differences between Economic Gardening (endogenous or “inside out”) and traditional economic development (exogenous or “outside in”). He said that in the West the goal is economic growth, whereas in the East the goal is generally the sustainability of the local economy. One important element, he pointed out, is to utilize local leaders—they are the change agents. This includes “U-turn people” i.e., those who have left a community and then return. Many area EG programs call this “come back, give back,” also known as Home Town Competitiveness.

For more information on Economic Gardening, please visit <http://www.littletongov.org/bia/economicgardening/default.asp>. More information on the Rural Health Works Workshop is available online at <http://www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events>.

More Information about Economic Development

STRIDE Program: The Colorado Rural Health Center, in partnership with the Colorado Area Health Education Center (AHEC) System, is developing a program in Colorado to provide rural community development support. With assistance from HRSA (the Health Resources and Services Administration), STRIDE (Sustainable Towns: Rural Improvement, Development and Expansion) will mobilize a team of experts and resources to assist rural communities with raising local awareness and implementing community action toward economic development, business retention and expansion, and community improvement. STRIDE utilizes a team approach and will include partners such as the Colorado Rural Development Council, educational institutions, and national experts.

Rural Health Works: In partnership with the *National Center for Rural Health Works*, <http://www.ruralhealthworks.org>, CRHC is hosting a Rural Health Works Workshop on September 10 in Denver. Dr. Gerald Doeksen and his team will train participants in (1) Economic impact analysis, (2) Community health engagement (planning) process, and (3) Budget studies for new or expanded healthcare services. The Rural Health Works training is designed for professionals from agencies that plan to be involved in providing assistance to communities in any of these three areas. Enrollment is limited. For more information or to register, please visit http://www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events/Documents/rhw_9.10.08.pdf.

CRDC's Entrepreneurship Event: The Colorado Rural Development Council (CRDC) is collaborating with the Center for Rural Affairs to host the first ever "Colorado Entrepreneurship MarketPlace." This event will be held on October 10, 2008 on the campus of Otero Junior College in La Junta. MarketPlace will stimulate small business development and rural community growth throughout rural Colorado. According to Clarke Becker, CEO of CRDC, small business development drives job growth and economic development in rural areas. The MarketPlace event will offer training, networking, and professional development opportunities for startup and existing small businesses, service providers, rural communities, and family farmers and ranchers. Colorado Entrepreneurship Marketplace event will include a session on Economic Gardening, the economic development method described above. For further information on available booth space and rental fees or submitting your product to be sold in the Marketplace store, contact Julie Worley, Event Coordinator, jworley@ci.rocky-ford.co.us, (719) 254-7414. Or visit, www.ruralcolorado.org.

2009 Healthy Vision Community Awards Program

The National Eye Institute (NEI) has announced that applications are now available for the Healthy Vision Community Awards (HVCA). Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to organizations for projects to help support eye health education activities. Non-profit organizations, community-based organizations, agencies, schools, clinics, health departments, and more are eligible to apply. The program aims to reduce health disparities; proposals for direct medical care or research projects are not eligible. Applications are due **August 29, 2008**. For more information, please visit <http://www.healthyvision2010.org/news/hvca>, or email HVCAMail@shs.net.

Caring for Colorado Foundation's Health Grants

The Caring for Colorado Foundation will accept proposals for healthcare projects thru **October 3, 2008**. The foundation will give the highest priority to proposals meeting one of these three criteria: targets an underserved population, increases access to direct health services through increasing availability of services, uses prevention strategies to assure positive health outcomes

More information on the grant guidelines and the Caring for Colorado Foundation is available online at www.caringforcolorado.org or by calling (800) 463-7713.

HRSA Announces Rural Health Grant Deadlines

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has announced the 2008 application deadlines for rural health grant funding opportunities.

The Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program provides funds to organizations wishing to develop rural health networks. Funding will support the planning, organization, and development of healthcare networks for organizations that have not collaborated significantly in the past. Applications are due **September 15, 2008**. For more information, please visit www.hrsa.gov/grants/default.htm#rural.

The Rural Health Care Services Outreach Grant Program aims to support healthcare delivery systems in rural communities that lack healthcare services. The program will support service delivery by encouraging collaboration—requiring grantees to belong to a consortium. The deadline to apply for this opportunity is **October 16, 2008**. For more information, please visit: <http://www.grants.gov>.



HRSA's Rural Health Grants Eligibility Advisor

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is offering a new online tool to determine eligibility for federal, rural health grants. The Rural Health Grants Eligibility Advisor, available at: <http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/RuralAdvisor/ruralhealthadvisor.aspx>, determines eligibility based on county or physical address. If the entered county is considered Metropolitan (urban), users may enter a physical address to determine eligibility. For more information, please visit <http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/RuralAdvisor/ruralhealthadvisor.aspx>. For information on the various definitions of rural, please visit http://www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/resources/publications/issuepapers/am_i_rural.pdf or http://www.raonline.org/info_guides/ruraldef.

Laura Jane Musser Rural Initiative Program

The Laura Jane Musser Fund is accepting grant applications for its Rural Initiative Program. The program will consider projects that encourage collaboration and will place priority on proposals that show a broad range of collaboration; encourage diversity; contain short-term, measurable outcomes; and aim to make a positive impact on the community.

Up to \$30,000 is available per project: \$5,000 for planning and \$25,000 for implementation. Proposals are due **November 5, 2008**. For more information, please visit <http://www.musserfund.org/rural.php>, or contact (612) 825-2024 or ljmusserfund@earthlink.net.

CHAMPS Offers Spanish Crash-Course for Healthcare Professionals

CHAMPS, the Community Health Association of Mountain/Plains States, is offering a 3-day, intensive workshop on Medical Spanish for healthcare professionals. Participants will receive individually-tailored training. The course is open for all levels of Spanish language knowledge and is ideal for anyone in the medical field. This course will be offered September 25-27, 8am-5pm. For more information, or to register, please contact CHAMPS at (303) 861-5165 or visit them online at <http://www.champsonline.org/Events>.

Free SBIRT Toolkit

The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) Injury Prevention Institute/EN CARE is offering a free toolkit on SBIRT (Alcohol Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) implementation. The toolkit provides resources and information needed for SBIRT implementation in emergency care settings. To download a free copy of the toolkit, please visit www.ena.org/ipinstitute/SBIRT/default.asp. More information on SBIRT is available online at: <http://www.ena.org/ipinstitute/SBIRT>, or by contacting the Emergency Nurses Association at (800) 900-9659.

New CHP+ Income Guidelines

Article provided by: CHP+ Marketing and Outreach

New Federal Poverty Guideline levels went into effect in Colorado on Tuesday, April 1, 2008. The new income guidelines increase the amount families with children and pregnant women can earn and be eligible for CHP+. Listed in the table below are the new earning levels for people to consider when referring a family to apply.

There are significant expenses a family can deduct from the gross income. These include the costs of child care, medical costs, health insurance premiums for family members and child support. For more information about qualifying income levels for CHP+ or to get an order form for the updated CHP+ deskguide for professionals or inserts for brochures, please visit www.CHPplus.org or call 1-800-359-1991.

Family Size	Monthly	Weekly	Hourly
1	\$1,777	\$411	\$11
2	\$2,392	\$553	\$14
3	\$3,007	\$695	\$18
4	\$3,622	\$837	\$21
5	\$4,237	\$979	\$25
6	\$4,852	\$1,121	\$29
7	\$5,467	\$1,263	\$32
8	\$6,082	\$1,405	\$36
9	\$6,697	\$1,547	\$39
10	\$7,312	\$1,689	\$43

CHP+ is looking for an Regional Outreach Coordinator for the Northwest Region—for more information on this opportunity, please visit www.maximus.com.

Cell Phone Finds Use As Diagnostic Tool

This is an excerpt of the article, "Cell Phone Finds Use As Diagnostic Tool In Areas Without Ultrasound, X-Ray Machines." 5/1/08
For full article, please visit <http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7010814416>.

Berkeley, CA (AHN) - A professor of bioengineering at the University of California, Berkeley and his colleagues have developed a cheaper way to perform medical imaging using a cellular phone. Boris Rubinsky's team has developed a portable medical scanner that can be plugged into a cellular phone, which transmits raw ultrasound or X-ray scanning data to a remote computer processor. The computer then converts the data to images and relays these

back for viewing on the cell phone screen.

The innovative concept, which was described in Wednesday's issue of the journal PLoS ONE, is a cheaper and easier alternative to conventional medical scanning service because one computer server does the imaging for many scanners. Traditional ultrasound and X-ray machines are bulky because their components consist of a computer, video monitor and scanner. These are also very

expensive; an ultrasound machine costs about \$70,000 while a portable scanner will only cost \$1,000.

According to Foxnews.com, Rubinsky said the portable scanners "could open up whole new avenues of health care for the developing world. Health professionals in rural clinics could affordably get the tools they need to properly diagnose and treat their patients."

Equipment Needed

The Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurses Association and the Northwest Colorado Community Health Center are looking for an exam table with a hydraulic lift that can accommodate weights between 400 and 600 lbs. They are also in need of scales and wheelchairs. If anyone has any of these items available, please contact Sue Birch at (970) 879-1632 or sbirch@nwcovna.org.



Happy Trails

Rural Restaurant Review

by Callie Preheim CRHC Marketing & Outreach Coordinator

Hot Java Cafe, Sterling ★★★★★

A hop, skip, and a 5 minute walk from the Logan County Courthouse is Hot Java Cafe, a friendly coffee shop located in the heart of Sterling. The Hot Java Cafe not only serves a variety of delicious coffee drinks, teas, baked treats, soups, and sandwiches, but also has free wireless internet. Hot Java Cafe barista, Lindsay, was happy to speak with me as I asked her about the cafe. The cafe, located in a restored old building, has been open for eleven years, Lindsay told me. They often cater parties or red hat society luncheons, and certain items—like their cream cheese—are available for purchase.



While the regular coffee I bought was delicious, customer favorites include the “white rabbit” drink—a warm coffee drink made of white chocolate and caramel, and the cafe’s own honey walnut cream cheese. Sipping my delicious beverage, and perched at one of the high “cocktail” tables near the front of the café, I peered through the windows at the town and sat in the sunshine. What a wonderful way to spend an afternoon in Sterling... Hot Java Cafe, 118 N. 2nd St., 970.522.1120

New Members

CRHC Welcomes New Investing Members

The Colorado Rural Health Center wishes to thank our Investing Members. As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, CRHC is not funded by the state government. Our general activities are supported by membership dues, sponsorships, fee-for-service programs, and contributions. The commitment and interest in rural healthcare by our investing members enables us to provide an array of programs and services that reach numerous communities throughout Colorado. If you wish to become an Investing Member of CRHC, please visit our website, <http://www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/membership/index.html>, or call us for more information: (303) 832-7493, (800) 851-6782.

Thank You to Our New (and renewing) Members!

Name	Organization
Ray Drzymala	MOA Architecture, Denver
Jim Hamilton	Dixon Hughes, PLLC, Dillon
Allen C.T. Hughes	Western Regional EMS Council, Montrose
Gregory LeRoy	MDG Medical, Inc., Beachwood, OH
Greg Markling	MOA Architecture, Denver

Please note that all member-types: Corporate, Organizational, Individual, and Student, are listed together.



In which rural community can you find this elk?

The first person to answer correctly will win a prize! Please call or email Callie Preheim with your answer: (303) 832-7493, (800) 851-6782, cp@coruralhealth.org

Congratulations to Pamela Bachorski, The Pediatric Associates, Montrose for correctly guessing the location of the Mystery Photo from the Spring *Special Delivery* Newsletter! The correct answer is Delta, Colorado.

Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	ORGANIZATION / CONTACT
August 10-13	Workforce Disability and Absence Management Denver	Disability Management Employer Coalition www.dmec.org
August 18-20	National Medicare Training Program Denver	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Lyla Nichols, lyla.nichols@cms.hhs.gov
August 28	Online Searches Workshop: Find What You Need Adams State College Nielsen Library, Alamosa	San Luis Valley AHEC http://www.slvahec.org
September 3-5	CHA 83rd Annual Meeting Vail	Colorado Hospital Association www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events
September 10	Rural Health Works Workshop Aurora	Colorado Rural Health Center www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events
September 15-17	Public Health in the Rockies 2008 Breckenridge	Colorado Public Health Association www.coloradopublichealth.org
September 17	CU Mini Medical School 8 sites around Colorado	CU, Denver Museum of Nature & Science http://www.uchsc.edu/minimed
September 25-27	Spanish Language for Health Care Professionals Lakewood	CHAMPS http://www.championline.org/Events
September 26	12th Annual CCMU Conference Denver	CO Coalition for the Medically Underserved www.ccmu.org
September 26-27	Action 22 Annual Conference Pueblo	Action 22 http://action22.org/conf.html
October 14-15	NRHA Rural Health Clinic Conference Savannah, GA	National Rural Health Association www.ruralhealthweb.org
October 15-17	NRHA Critical Access Hospital Conference Savannah, GA	National Rural Health Association www.ruralhealthweb.org
October 30	Workforce Summit Sheraton Denver West, Lakewood	Colorado Rural Health Center www.coruralhealth.org

More information on these events, and additional events, are listed online at www.coruralhealth.org/crhc/events!