



Seven Federal Capital Improvement Grants Given to Colorado SBHCs

On July 14, 2011, for the first time in history, federal grants specifically dedicated to school-based health centers (SBHCs) were awarded. In the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), advocates for school-based health care secured Sections 4101(a) and 4101(b). Section 4101(a), an emergency appropriation for capital improvements and equipment, is now funding 278 projects. The 278 awardees came from a pool of 356 applicants. Ninety-five million dollars of the slated \$100 million was awarded and seven Colorado applicants received grants, bringing nearly 2.5 million federal dollars into the state.

The recipients include Denver Health, Eagle County School District, Peak Vista Community Health Centers, Metro Community Provider Network (MCPN), University of Colorado Denver, Summit Community Care Clinic, and Southwest Colorado Mental Health Center. U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Kathleen Sebelius and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan made an announcement about the grants in a joint conference call where Secretary Duncan said, "These grants will make it a lot easier for working moms and dads to help get their children the health care they need and deserve. This unprecedented investment in school-based health care will bring communities closer together and help children succeed in the classroom."

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U.S. Secretary of HHS Kathleen Sebelius (left) and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan (right).

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Grant awardees will utilize the funds as follows:

- The \$500,000 Denver Health grant will open a new SBHC at Place Bridge Academy. The pre-k through 8th grade school serves 850 students from over 40 countries, attracting refugees and English language learners with limited access to care.
- The \$103,000 Summit Community Care Clinic grant will secure a mobile dental chair, a nomad x-ray unit, and a mobile license for Dentrux dental electronic records, which will be able to interface with the existing medical electronic health record system.
- The \$496,500 Southwest Colorado Mental Health Center grant will fund an electronic health record system between Axis Health System, Durango High School and Florida Mesa Elementary SBHCs, and Southwest Open School SBHC in Cortez. It will also fund a pilot project to connect outlying schools in the Durango 9-R School District with the district's two SBHCs through a telehealth system.
- The \$500,000 Peak Vista Community Health Centers grant will open a new SBHC at Falcon Elementary School in Falcon School District 49, provide additional equipment for the Entrada SBHC at Carmel Middle School in Harrison 2 School District, and expand the Cripple Creek-Victor Mountain Health Center at Cresson Elementary School in the Cripple Creek-Victor RE-1 School District.
- The \$221,408 Eagle County School District grant will open a new SBHC at Avon Elementary School.
- The \$462,231 MCPN grant will fund a mobile dental van.
- The \$195,480 University of Colorado Denver grant will fund new hearing, vision, and dental equipment for Sheridan Middle School SBHC.



Nationally, the 278 grant recipients serve 790,000 patients and officials speculate that the funding will expand operations by 50 percent, allowing for an additional 440,000 patients to receive care through SBHCs.

Funds for the Entrada SBHC at Carmel Middle School (left) will help secure equipment for a third exam room.



Great Futures Colorado: A Coalition for Education Funding

CASBHC recently joined forces with Great Futures Colorado, a coalition of organizations working to prevent a fourth year of extensive budget cuts to Colorado’s public schools. To thwart otherwise inevitable cuts, voters will need to approve the “Bright Colorado” Initiative, a proposal for the statewide November ballot. The initiative restores Colorado’s 1999 tax rates and directs all new revenue toward pre-school through higher education. The 1999 rate would bring the current corporate and personal income tax rates from 4.6 percent to five percent and the state sales tax rate from 2.9 percent to three percent.

The initiative would raise an estimated \$532 million dollars per year. The new rate would be effective temporarily for five years, beginning in January 2012. CASBHC, and the other members of Great Futures Colorado, believe such a tax increase is necessary to help rebuild Colorado’s schools. Senator Rollie Heath recently toured the state to promote the initiative and collect signatures. CASBHC will continue to provide updates on the progress of the initiative and the work of Great Futures Colorado.

Other members of Great Futures Colorado include:



Betty Pepin Retires from CASBHC

Betty Pepin retired from CASBHC on July 15, 2011. She is looking forward to spending time with her children and volunteering at Nature’s Nest—a book and gift store located in the new visitor center at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Wildlife Refuge.

Pepin spent over 25-years with the oldest SBHC in Colorado—Community Health Services (CHS) in Commerce City. She served as a volunteer, fundraiser, board member, parent of children who utilized the SBHC, and eventually the executive director. Pepin retired from CHS in 2008 and joined CASBHC where she served as the director of technical assistance.

A long-time supporter of SBHCs, Pepin was active in the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care (NASBHC) and served as an original organizing member for CASBHC. Her experience and knowledge of school-based health care proved invaluable and her expertise will be missed.

“Thanks to all who are working in or planning an SBHC,” said Pepin. “I support your work and wish you much success with your programs.”

Betty Pepin on her final day at CASBHC.



LEADS Interns and the SBHC Obesity Toolkit

This summer CASBHC welcomed Rachel Skalina and Kasey Topp, interns from the LEADS (Leadership Education Advocacy Development Scholarship) program at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. The LEADS program connects students with advocacy, leadership, and research opportunities focused on helping the medically underserved.

Skalina is a second-year medical student who graduated Cum Laude from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in biology. Topp graduated with honors from the University of California, Los Angeles with a degree in microbiology, immunology, and molecular genetics. She is a second-year physician’s assistant (PA) student. Skalina and Topp collaborated to create a toolkit addressing obesity in an SBHC. They won the prestigious Adler Scholarship, an award given to students conducting scholarly work focused on improving the health of patients and overcoming health disparities. This award paid the interns’ stipend and allowed funds for the production costs associated with the toolkit. The toolkit will be released in early October.



Rachel Skalina



Kasey Topp

Topp was drawn to LEADS because of her interest in social change. She enjoyed working on the toolkit because it allowed her to produce something she hopes will be helpful. “I enjoyed doing an extensive literature review and pulling out the most important and realistic components,” said Topp. “I wanted to make sure the toolkit we created would be useful to providers.” Rachel was drawn to LEADS because she wanted to learn how to become a better advocate for patients. She is interested in both pediatrics and obesity, and enjoyed working on a project that combined two of her interests into a final product that can be used by providers across the state.

NASBHC’s Oral Health Care Grant for Durango and Cortez

On June 8, 2011, the National Assembly on School-Based Health Care (NASBHC) awarded 20 grants aimed at increasing the capacity of SBHCs to provide oral health services. Southwest Open School SBHC in Cortez partnered with the SBHCs in Durango, Florida Mesa Elementary and Durango High School, to participate in the \$15,000 grant program. The funds paid for travel to a dental training seminar and for supplies and equipment needed to deliver preventive oral

health services in the SBHCs. Participating SBHCs committed to a 10-month initiative, which includes technical assistance, coaching, and feedback.

As part of the initiative, the SBHCs implement oral health promotion and prevention, including paper-and-pen risk assessment, visual oral screening, anticipatory guidance, application of fluoride varnish, and referral and follow-up for diagnostic and treatment services. The SBHCs in Cortez and Durango are the sole awardees in Colorado.

NASBHC secured the grant from Kaiser Permanente (KP) in March. KP raised the money through an employee wellness program. For each employee who took an online health risk assessment, KP contributed \$50. A total of 23,000 employees participated, which resulted in \$1.2 million. Half of that amount went to NASBHC.



Durango High School



CASBHC Teen Pregnancy Prevention Mini-Grants

CASBHC recently distributed three mini-grants to SBHCs partnering with youth advisory groups. The SBHCs teamed up with youth groups to develop teen pregnancy prevention awareness events at each SBHC's respective school.

Lamar High School's Whell Group received a mini-grant to produce a video about the consequences of teen pregnancy. Whell Group participants interviewed fellow high school students and members of the community who became teen parents. They also interviewed several community health providers. The 17-minute video was shown in a closing plenary session at the CASBHC annual conference in May and will be shown at Lamar High School this coming school year. Prowers County, where Lamar is located, has the second highest teen pregnancy rate in the state and the video provided information about reproductive health resources available in the community.



Cyndee Valez of Lamar High School.

Adams City High School Voicce Group used its mini-grant to host the "No Baby Baby Shower." The students developed a survey related to the financial burden of having a baby. The questions put the cost of baby supplies in context with items such as an iPhone. Students able to answer survey questions correctly won a small prize. Approximately 272 students completed the survey. A nurse practitioner was

in attendance to answer questions and to provide information about the contraceptive services available at the SBHC.

The High Cost of Teen Parenthood

Average Cost of Giving Birth in the US:

- With Insurance: \$500-\$3500
- Without Insurance, Natural: \$9,000- \$17,000
- Without Insurance, C-Section: \$14,000-\$25,000

Cost Per Year of Raising a Child in Colorado: \$9,559 - \$11,788

But We Love Each Other!!

- 80% of teen moms are single parents.
- Only 20% of teen fathers marry their child's teen mother.

What about your education???

- Only 50% of teenage mothers finish high school.
- Only 70% of teenage fathers finish high school.
- 90% of mothers under the age of 16 never finish high school.
- Less than 2% of women who become mothers before the age of 20 will complete college.

Average Yearly Earnings Based On Education Level:

- Professional Degree = \$103,000
- Bachelor's Degree = \$65,400
- Master's Degree = \$62,300
- Bachelor's Degree = \$22,200
- Associate's Degree = \$28,200
- Some College = \$26,800
- High School Diploma = \$20,400
- *No High School Diploma = \$23,400*

What Would It Cost You????

Show Me the Money!!!

Sheridan Middle School Health Interns and Student Volunteers set up an information room with several different posters and interactive games helping teens learn about pregnancy prevention. Participants received informative materials and snacks, and learned about the contraceptive services available in the SBHC. Sixty students attended in the event.



Posters from the Sheridan Middle School event.



Institute of Medicine Contraception Recommendations

On July 18, 2011, the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Women's Preventive Services Study Committee recommended that health insurers cover all approved contraceptive methods, in addition to patient education and counseling, for all women in their reproductive years. The IOM said these services should be covered without patient deductibles or co-pays, and that all women should receive at least one well-woman preventive care visit annually.

The IOM report, *Clinical Preventive Services for Women: Closing the Gaps*, was commissioned by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in order to inform the guidelines required by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). ACA requires that women's preventive services be covered without cost-sharing. Sarah Brown, CEO of The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, said, "The National Campaign enthusiastically supports IOM's recommendations that contraceptive methods, as well as education and counseling, be included as a preventive service free from cost-sharing and urges HHS to incorporate IOM's recommendation in its final guidance."

The full report can be found here:

<http://www.healthinschools.org/en/News-Room/News-Alerts/July-2011/IOM-Issues-Recommendations-for-Womens-Preventive-Services.aspx>

Qualifying to Become an NHSC-Approved Site

The National Health Services Corps (NHSC), a network of over 10,000 primary health care professionals practicing at over 8,000 urban and rural sites, is now accepting applications. SBHCs interested in qualifying to become an NHSC-approved site can expect benefits in recruitment and retention of providers. Such benefits include:

- Sites are able to recruit and retain providers by offering an opportunity to participate in loan repayment
- Free and unlimited posting of open job opportunities
- Immediate linkages to academic institutions and other organizations to support recruitment efforts
- Immediate access to networking opportunities with other NHSC sites and clinicians

Qualifying SBHCs interested in applying should visit <http://NHSC.hrsa.gov/communities> and review the CASBHC publication regarding recruitment and retention at <http://www.casbhc.org/publications/RecruitmentandRetention.pdf>.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the NHSC Service Site Reference Guide before submitting an application.

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