

THE CASBHC CHRONICLE

April 2016

Keeping children healthy,
in school, and ready to learn

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The Colorado Association for School-Based Health Care (CASBHC) held its annual membership meeting on March 10, celebrating 20 years as CASBHC was founded in 1996.

More than 30 members shared reflections and successes in working with CASBHC and school-based health centers over the years.

Norma Portnoy, executive director of Kids First Health Care, expressed how her organization takes great pride in being the first SBHC in Colorado and the second one in the country. As Kids First expands in Adams 12 and into Boulder Valley School District, she has greatly appreciated the help and support of the CASBHC staff.



Participants provided feedback on draft 2016 objectives for CASBHC

Presentations and updates were provided by Esperanza Ybarra and Kristina Greene of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, as well as Tammy Alexander of the School-Based Health Alliance (who presented via live video stream). Participants were encouraged to support the Hallways to Health Act. More information can be found [here](#).

Tammy reminded the audience that Colorado has always been a leader in children's health and school-based health care.

To take the celebration to the sugar-high level, CASBHC staff handed out cupcakes and pledged to continue the important work for the next 20 years and beyond.

Welcome New CASBHC Staff Member!



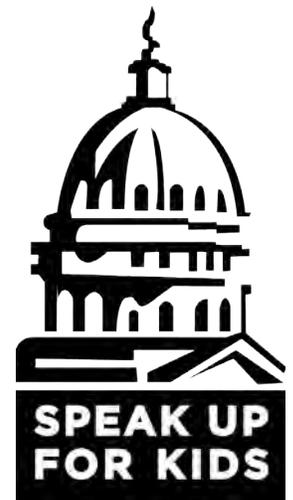
CASBHC welcomes its new Director of Behavioral Health Initiatives, Stephanie Cole. Stephanie most recently worked in the Office of Social Emotional Learning at Denver Public Schools where she partnered with school leaders to build multi-tiered systems of support to shift school culture toward an inclusive and safe learning environment for the whole school community.

Prior to that, she managed the statewide Healthy Kids Colorado Survey and worked with over 200 school communities to collect and use student health and risk data. Stephanie holds a Master of Public Health in Community and Behavioral Health Sciences with an emphasis on youth mental health and substance use. She is thrilled to join the CASBHC team and hopes to increase the well-being of Colorado's youth by building collaborative school communities that strengthen the continuum of care.

Speak Up for Kids Day at the Capitol

On March 10, CASBHC staff joined 160 advocates and advocacy coaches at the fourth annual Speak Up for Kids Day at the Capitol. The event was hosted by Clayton Early Learning, Children's Hospital Colorado and Colorado Children's Campaign as a way to empower people who care about children to make their voices heard.

The day included an inside view of the policy-making process at the Colorado State Capitol, and the opportunity to meet directly with legislators to explain the importance of children's health.



Updates from CDPHE and HCPF

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is in the midst of developing this year's update to the department's strategic plan as part of the statewide Performance Management System. The plan is updated every year to give a rolling five-year view and help set the direction by determining priorities and goals. The strategic plan will fulfill requirements of the SMART (State Measurement for Accountable Responsive and Transparent government) Act and meet Public Health Accreditation Board standards.



COLORADO

Prevention Services Division

Department of Public Health & Environment



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) is soliciting feedback from SBHCs, whether or not they are enrolled in the Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC). This **letter** from HCPF asking specific questions that will help inform the revision of the primary care medical provider (PCMP) attribution

policy. Please take a look at this document and share your input about this policy. Feedback from SBHCs is critical to this issue.

Since receiving funding for the Maximizing Success Project to reduce teenage pregnancies, Colorado Youth Matter (CYM) has begun working with five partners – Denver Public Schools, Aurora Public Schools, New Legacy Charter School for Pregnant and Parenting Teens, BC4U at Children’s Hospital, and Kids First Health Care. The partners have begun the first step of by selecting an evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention intervention that works to support their specific populations. In addition to implementing these programs, partners will be working with CYM staff and one another to build school-clinic linkage and referral systems that increase access to both clinical services and high-quality classroom sex education. For young people, this will maximize their ability to make informed, healthy decisions. As the first year draws to a close, CYM is excited to move from planning to action.

**CASBHC Launches a New Project:
Trauma-Informed Approach for Primary Substance Abuse Prevention**

CASBHC, in collaboration with four partnering school-based health centers and districts around the state, was recently awarded a five-year grant from Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) to develop a trauma-informed approach to primary substance use prevention in schools and school-based clinics. The project is currently in the development stage, includes a community needs assessments across the four sites, and building a collaborative team of diverse stakeholders at each site to plan for implementation. Over the next year, implementation will include teacher trainings, clinic staff trainings, and community engagement to gauge perceptions and needs of the wider school community, including parents and students. By focusing on primary prevention, the aim is to strengthen the continuum of care between the school and clinic, and integrate resiliency-focused approaches as a school community.



**CASBHC 2016 Annual Conference
Celebrating 20 Years of Support for School-Based Health!**



**1996-2016
May 5th and 6th, 2016
DoubleTree by Hilton
13696 E Iliff Place
Aurora, CO 80014**

Registration is open for the CASBHC conference May 5-6!

Register by April 15 for the early bird discount. An even larger discount is available to CASBHC members.

The keynote speaker is **Karen McNeil-Miller**, president and CEO of the Colorado Health Foundation. She will speak about the role of education and health care.

CASBHC is still accepting nominees for **2016 Inspiration Awards**. The nomination guidelines and form can be found [here](#).

We want to help honor the people who inspire you!

Sponsorship and Exhibitor opportunities are available. CASBHC's annual conference regularly attracts more than 100 attendees from across the state, including primary and behavioral health care providers, SBHC administrators, state government representatives, health policy experts and school and community leaders. You are invited to support the 2016 conference as a sponsor or exhibitor. Only 4 exhibit spots are available -- reserve yours today. Contact [Deidre Callanan](#) with any questions.



Bridget Beatty
Executive Director
beatty@casbhc.org
303.399.6380 x102

Deidre Callanan
Director of Clinical Programs
callanan@casbhc.org
303.399.6380 x103

Stephanie Cole
Director of Behavioral Health Initiatives
cole@casbhc.org
303.399.6380 x106