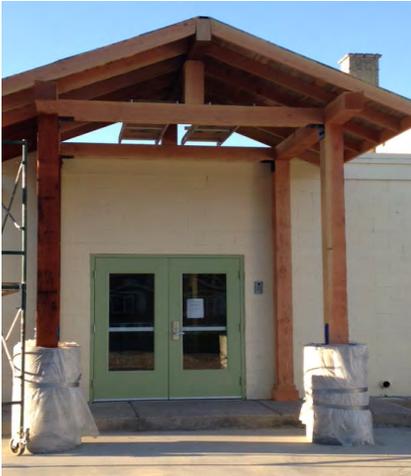


THE CASBHC CHRONICLE

October 2014

Keeping children healthy,
in school, and ready to learn



A kidZ Clinic entrance is nearly finished

NEW SBHC OPENING IN DELTA COUNTY

Colorado's newest school-based health center, Delta's A kidZ Clinic, will open this fall, six years after the initial planning began.

The clinic is a partnership of the Delta County School District, Pediatric Associates, The Center for Mental Health, and the Community Dental Clinic of Montrose, with funding support from the Colorado Health Foundation and the School-Based Health Care Program at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

The clinic will open at the Delta Family Center, which offers pre-kindergarten and Head Start services. Delta Middle School is immediately adjacent to the site. Delta County School District's other schools are within an easy bus ride to the clinic. Clinic staff will serve all children and youth in the county from birth to 18 years.

Six years ago, the school district's early education intervention team began exploring the possibility of a school-based health center. But those plans were put on hold through a district leadership transition.

When a community partner began working with the Colorado Health Foundation on a different project, the foundation encouraged the partnership to pursue funding for a school-based health center.

Around then, the district lost its funding for a full-time behavioral health specialist.

"At that point, we re-approached district administration and said a school-based health clinic can provide a full-time behavioral health provider to the district," said Clinic Manager Mariah Emond. "That's when the heads went SNAP! You can do that?"

"Secretaries and teachers are beyond themselves happy about the clinic," said Emond. "They are thrilled to provide that health care access for our students, for no up-front cost."

The clinic facility is being renovated using a capital grant from the Department of Local Affairs Energy/Mineral Impact Assistance Fund. The school-based health clinic's dental health partner procured low-cost dental equipment a year ahead of schedule.

"We should use collaborations to boost our effectiveness," noted Emond. "It is so important to connect with people."

"A kidZ Clinic is so grateful to the work of Mariah Emond, the Center for Mental Health, the Delta County community, and our other incredible partners for the tremendous support in helping to launch this school-based health center!" added Emond's colleague Renee Joyce. "We promise to make mental health and health care fun!"



A kidZ Clinic staff at the Delta County School District back-to-school fair: Medical Assistant Heather West, therapist Renee Joyce, and receptionist Pam Vigil-Wong

IN THIS ISSUE

COVER STORIES

- New SBHC in Delta County
- CASBHC Legislator Engagement

SBHC NEWS

- Thomas Jefferson High SBHC
- 2013 SBHC Report Now Available
- New Research Supporting LARC

STATE NEWS

- Updates from CDPHE and HCPF

PARTNER NEWS

- Kids First's Winbourn Honored
- Help Renew CHP+ Funding

CASBHC NEWS

- Rural Health Consortium
- Save the Date: 2015 Conference

CASBHC LEGISLATOR ENGAGEMENT TOUR 2014



Last month, CASBHC facilitated several successful tours for legislators with school-based health centers in their districts.

With advocacy central to CASBHC's mission, CASBHC continues building relationships with state lawmakers and educating them about school-based health centers.

This fall's tour included an update on the SBHC system after the expansion of state funding. Providers at each site also shared with their representatives the challenges that they face in offering the best care to their students, especially behavioral health care.

Centennial High School's Family Nurse Practitioner Mary Sinden, Medical Director Linda Geiss, Principal Mike Roberts, Michelle Robineau-Hoove, MA, and Representative Joann Ginal, D-Fort Collins



Representative Jenise May, D-Aurora, with clinic director Anne Taylor and Suzy Rosemeyer, wellness director of Aurora Public Schools at Kids Clinic at Crawford Elementary



Senator Bernie Herpin, R-Colorado Springs, Representative Tony Exum, D-Colorado Springs, and Mike "Russ" Russell, student support coordinator, at the Entrada School-Based Health Center at Carmel Middle School

Thanks to all the legislators that have made these tours so wonderful!

- Rep. Tony Exum (D-Colorado Springs)
- Rep. Joann Ginal (D-Fort Collins)
- Rep. Millie Hamner (D-Summit County)
- Sen. Bernie Herpin (R-Colorado Springs)
- Sen. Andy Kerr (D-Lakewood)
- Rep. Jenise May (D-Aurora)
- Rep. Brittany Pettersen (D-Lakewood)
- Rep. Bob Rankin (R-Carbondale)

And thanks to our hosts at Colorado's fantastic school-based health centers!

COLORADO HEALTH INSTITUTE RELEASES 2013 SBHC REPORT

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI), in partnership with CASBHC, has released a new analysis of Colorado's school-based health center system. The report, based on responses to the CHI/CASBHC annual survey, finds that SBHCs served nearly 32,000 students in the 2012-13 year. The report includes data on demographics, financing, and services.

This year's report also includes a special focus highlighting the ways that SBHCs support LGBT students. Nearly all clinics surveyed provide health history and risk assessment forms that do not presume the heterosexuality of patients. The other most commonly practiced LGBT-inclusive protocols are provided at between 82 and 92% of SBHCs. These include routine screening of sexual minority youth for depression and other mood disorders, providing contraceptives to all teens regardless of sexual orientation, and screening sexual minority youth for substance abuse.

The report also compares recent data with survey results from 2006-07 to show that health efforts throughout our state are helping our most vulnerable children and their families.



For example, in 2006-07, 45.4% of SBHC users were uninsured. Last year, that number plummeted to 24.0% as SBHCs and other agencies have helped thousands more families enroll in public insurance programs. Since 2006-07, the number of SBHC users who are insured by commercial plans has risen slightly, from 10.6% to 11.7%.

Please find the full report [here](#). You may find CHI Research Analyst Natalie Triedman's blog post on the report and on the SBHC system [here](#).

The Colorado Health Institute believes that better information leads to better-informed decisions—and a healthier Colorado. Nonprofit and nonpartisan, CHI is a source of independent and objective health information, data, and analysis for health care leaders.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KIDS FIRST'S SARAH WINBOURN



Kids First Health Care pediatrician Dr. Sarah Winbourne was named Physician of the Year at the Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved's (CCMU) annual luncheon.

CCMU's awards honor Coloradans with exceptional commitment to strengthening the state's health care system and serving the more vulnerable.

Winbourne, also a past CASBHC award winner, won for "providing compassionate, culturally sensitive care to her patients," according to CCMU Director of Communications Sarah McAfee. "She also teaches other community providers, in order to elevate care at all levels, and took the initiative to better connect all the health care resources in her community."

Devra Fregin, Kids First Health Care director of practice management, echoed McAfee's praise of Winbourne.

"Sarah Winbourne is an amazing medical director, provider, colleague, and friend," said Fregin.

"She cares so much about all of the families and staff members that she works with," Fregin added. "Her compassion, insight, dedication, and leadership skills are astounding! It is an immense pleasure to work with someone

who is both exceptional and modest. She is truly in a league of her own."

CCMU recently published a back-to-school themed blog post about SBHCs [here](#).

STATE AGENCY UPDATES



CDPHE held a training for planning grantees on October 3. The meeting included panels of seasoned SBHC managers and supporters that provided insights into three key components of the requirements of CDPHE SBHC contracts: facilities planning, community outreach, and mental health agency partnerships.



The CDPHE SBHC Program continues to develop its “data warehouse,” a system for evaluating SBHCs, in partnership with Apex Education. The plan is based on the data collection system developed for the School-Based Health Center Improvement Project.

[Information about the plan can be found here.](#)

In preparation for 2015 open enrollment, HCPF has collaborated with Connect for Health Colorado to make it easier for people to apply for health insurance. The new system will allow users to complete a single application for both public insurance programs, Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus*, as well as subsidized private insurance.



The new, combined application system will launch November 9, 2014.

This new system will allow families to complete a single application for both PEAK and Connect for Health Colorado. Previously, people applying for subsidized private insurance plans on the Connect for Health website were rerouted to PEAK, where they had to complete a second application, if they appeared to be eligible for Medicaid or CHP+. Now, consumers will be able to complete a single application to determine their eligibility in either program.

Users will need only one login for both systems. In addition, Colorado is improving its technology so that soon applicants will be able to learn instantly about their eligibility for health insurance support.



HCPF has adjusted its payment rates for primary care medical providers (PCMPs) enrolled in the Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC). As of July 1, 2014, PCMPs receive

- \$3 per member per month
- An additional \$.50 per member per month (PMPM) for PCMPs meeting criteria for Enhanced Primary Care Medical Provider status. This fee will be paid annually and based on the number of months that a PCMP achieved enhanced status
- Up to an additional \$1 PMPM based on regionalized performance of the Regional Care Collaborative Organization (RCCO), based on key performance indicators
- Well child visits for children aged 3-9 years is a key performance indicator. If a Regional Care Collaborative Organization (RCCO) provides well child visits for 60% of all pediatric members, ACC members in that RCCO will receive \$0.26 PMPM for children and \$0.13 PMPM for adults. For reaching 80% of pediatric members, those incentive payments jump to \$0.40 for children and \$0.20 for adults

[Detailed information about ACC payment rates can be found here.](#)

NEW DENVER SBHC OPENS AT THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

The newest Denver-area school-based health center opened at Thomas Jefferson High School last month. The clinic will be Denver Health's 16th school-based health center.

The grand opening, held September 3, featured speeches by Larry Wolk, executive director and chief medical officer of CDPHE, and Steve Federico, who manages Denver Health's SBHC program and serves on the CASBHC board of directors. School-based health center champion Senator Pat Steadman also attended the ceremony.

The new SBHC consists of two patient rooms with gender-segregated cot spaces. There are two health education rooms, as well as space for storage, a lab and pharmacy, and a bull pen for clinic staff. The clinic has two entrances, one external and one internal.



CBS ran a story about the Thomas Jefferson SBHC [here](#).

Check out the Denver Public Schools video [here](#).

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS RECOMMENDS LARCS

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has released a policy statement recommending long-acting, reversible contraceptives (LARCs) as the most effective birth control for adolescents.

The report advises that LARCS should be the first-line contraceptive choices for adolescents because they are the most effective, as well as safe and easy to use. Pediatricians may refer for IUD placement without first conducting a pelvic examination.

This announcement comes soon after a Colorado project proved the efficacy of LARCs in reducing the teen birth rate in Colorado.

The Colorado Family Planning Initiative distributed over 30,000 intrauterine devices or implants at low or no cost to low-income women and adolescents at 68 family planning clinics between 2009 and 2013.

From 2009-2013, this project contributed to a 40 percent drop in teen pregnancy statewide. In counties served by this project, the teen abortion rate dropped 35 percent between 2008 and 2012. Initial calculations show that in 2010 Colorado has saved \$42.5 million in health care costs associated with unwanted pregnancy, according to a [statement released by CDPHE](#).

The full AAP report, which includes recommendations for clinical practice as well as policy, can be found [here](#).

CASBHC resources on adolescent reproductive health can be found [here](#).

HELP RENEW CHP+ FUNDING BY NOMINATING A STORYTELLER

Federal funds supporting the nation's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) are set to expire in September 2015. Colorado health care agencies, including CASBC, are supporting CHIP Works, a coalition dedicated to keeping full funding for the federal CHIP program, which supports Colorado's Children's Health Program *Plus* (CHP+) program.

CHIP Works is collecting stories of the ways CHP+ has benefited families all over Colorado. These stories will be used to convince lawmakers how important the CHIP program is to children and their caregivers in our state.

Please contact Aubrey Hill, director of health systems change at Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved, at aubrey.hill@ccmu.org, for more information about how to nominate a storyteller and support the campaign.

CASBHC RURAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM A SUCCESS

CASBHC held its annual fall meeting of the Rural Health Consortium in beautiful Salida earlier this month. Participants enjoyed a day of discussion, networking and learning. The agenda focused on school substance abuse policies. Attendees shared their school and district policies about marijuana use and traded tips and tools about how to improve substance use intervention and treatment at their SBHCs.

"The Rural Health Consortium is a wonderful way for rural providers to get together and learn from each other, especially about issues relevant to rural health care," said Deidre Callanan, director of clinical programs at CASBHC. "This meeting was special because the providers just sat and talked. They were really able to learn from each other."



(l-r) Kristen Hale, Shannon Wells, Cassie Comeau, and Lauren Gearhart on a lunch break in Salida

SAVE THE DATE
CASBHC CONFERENCE

MAY 6-8, 2015
IN AURORA, CO



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

Deborah Costin
Executive Director
costin@casbhc.org
303.399.6380 x102

Elizabeth Freudenthal
Director of Engagement
freudenthal@casbhc.org
303.399.6380 x105