

# *Public Health News Briefs*



## **July-August 2010**

### ***Expansion of Medicaid and CHP+***

Colorado is currently expanding the number of individuals and families who can be covered by Medicaid or CHP+. A family of 4 can now make \$55,000 a year and qualify for CHP+ or up to \$22,056 to qualify for Medicaid. This means that almost 70,000 currently uninsured individuals, including children, can now receive medical coverage (including: an estimated 44,000 parents who have a child qualifying for Medicaid and 24,000 children and pregnant women eligible for CHP+ health coverage.) This increase in coverage for our state's uninsured is at no added cost to the taxpayer due to a new hospital provider fee under the Colorado Healthcare Affordability Act. Funds from this fee will be matched with federal dollars, totaling an estimated \$1.2 billion annually. Please see [www.cchp.org](http://www.cchp.org) for more information and an application or call Eileen at 247-5702, ext. 208.

### ***Peer Counselor Program Helps Women with Breast-feeding***

The new local Women, Infant and Children (W.I.C.) *Peer Breastfeeding Counselor Program* is up and running. We have hired five wonderful women to support clients on the WIC program who are pregnant and planning on breastfeeding their babies, or who are currently breastfeeding and need extra support and guidance. They will be available by phone after regular work hours and on weekends. The goal of this peer counselor program is to increase breastfeeding initiation and continuation for 6 months or longer by educating, encouraging and reaching out to our W.I.C. participants. For more information on this program contact Betzi at 247-5702, ext. 210.

### ***Promoviendo La Salud Awarded Two Grants***

San Juan Basin Health's Latino health program, Promoviendo La Salud, is pleased to announce that it has received two new grants. Caring for Colorado has awarded the program \$74,273 to Promoviendo which will help replace some of the state funding lost due to cuts in the Amendment 35 funded health programs. This grant will enable Promoviendo to continue core program services.

Colorado Rural Health Center has awarded the program \$25,785 for infrastructure and capital costs associated with developing a client database management system. Currently all client records are paper. An electronic system will make it easier and more efficient to gather client and outcome data, document positive behavioral changes, and schedule and track follow-up contacts and referrals. Some funds will be used for equipment to continue the digital story telling project started last fall. Please go to: [www.sjbhd.org/promoviendo-la-salud](http://www.sjbhd.org/promoviendo-la-salud) to watch this compelling video and learn more about Promovienda La Salud. For questions or more information, call Karen Forest at 247-5702, ext. 207 or [karen@sjbhd.org](mailto:karen@sjbhd.org).

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### ***Lasso Tobacco Coalition meeting July 22nd***

The Lasso Tobacco Coalition will meet Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. in the Columbine Room at San Juan Basin Health. To RSVP, please call 247-5702, ext. 227.

### ***San Juan Basin Health Welcomes New Home Health Manager***

Holly Anderson, RN is the new Home Health Manager for San Juan Basin Health Department. She brings a great combination of local nursing and administrative experience to this position. Her previous position was as Director of Operations and Human Resources for Durango Orthopedic Associates. She also served for four years as Valleywide's Director of Nursing. Holly is excited about the opportunity to have a positive impact on an agency that serves a vital need in the community. "We are here to fill needs in the community that cannot always be met by other agencies," says Holly. "Our nurses and CNAs are caring and dedicated." You can reach Holly at 247-5702, ext. 232 or [handersen@sjbhd.org](mailto:handersen@sjbhd.org).

### ***Beat the Back-to-School Rush***

Make sure your child's immunization record is up to date for all school-required vaccines. Call 247-5702 to schedule an appointment at San Juan Basin Health Department or call your pediatrician's office. A complete list of Colorado School Required Vaccinations is at: [www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/Immunization/Forms/ped\\_sched.pdf](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/Immunization/Forms/ped_sched.pdf).

### ***StayTeen Pregnancy Prevention PSA Contest***

Tell the teens in your life about the Stay Teen PSA Art Contest! Teens 13-19 are eligible to submit their artwork and ideas about teen pregnancy prevention. The National Campaign will be accepting entries by mail and online until September 30, 2010. Winning entries will be used by The National Campaign on postcards, posters, and other materials distributed nationwide. Winners will receive a \$250 gift card to spend however they choose. For more information and to read the official contest rules, visit [www.stayteen.org/contest](http://www.stayteen.org/contest).

### ***Free Screenings for Senior Citizens***

The Senior Outreach program continues to provide free screenings to our senior citizens. Our nurse tests blood pressure, temperature, heart rate, oxygen level, and blood glucose level. All take place from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Anyone 60 years or older can receive a free nursing visit at home by calling the Senior Outreach Nurse Brenda Isgar, R.N. at 749-4007.

Second Thursday of each month in Durango at the La Plata County Senior Center  
(July 8, August 12, September 9)

Third Thursday of each month in Ignacio at the Ignacio Senior Center  
(July 15, August 19, September 16)

First Friday of each month in Bayfield at Pine River Valley Senior Center  
(July 9 due to Fourth of July holiday weekend, August 6, September 3)

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### ***Program Nominated for Colorado Trust Anniversary Grant***

One of San Juan Basin Health's new programs was recently nominated for The Colorado Trust's Special 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Opportunity under the heading: Celebrating Collaboration to Achieve Access to Health for Colorado's Children. The Integrated Child Health Program helps families with young children to access the primary, preventive, and specialty care they need. This year old program collaborates with community partners to assist families with accessing primary and preventive care, immunizations, dental care, developmental screening, and behavioral health care and to provide education and support to families. Winners of the Colorado Trust's Anniversary grant will be announced in September 2010 and will receive a general operating grant of \$25,000 to support their work.

### ***Nurse Family Partnership Celebrates 10 Years in Colorado***

San Juan Basin Health's Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) team attended their annual state meeting June 22-24th. The theme was *Strength Through Connections*. Along with presentations and workshops, there was an anniversary celebration of NFP in Colorado now for 10 years!

The founder of NFP, Dr. David Olds, presented recent research findings for impressive Nurse Family Partnership's evidence-based outcomes. One finding shows that first time moms who have a NFP nurse visiting them have fewer pregnancies, go back to school and find jobs at higher rates than those moms that aren't in NFP. These means less Medicaid and TANIF money spent over time. "It was great to see his research in real life and reflect on while it may seem like small things in our day to day visits - we make a huge difference as a group in the 32 states we serve," says local program coordinator Jane Henson-Inda. Educational sessions included: motivational interviewing, nutrition during pregnancy and infancy, teen parenting, post-partum depression – all valuable for staff in continuing their difference-making efforts back here.

### ***RESOURCES:***

#### ***Sun Safety Page~[sjbhd.org/sun-safety](http://www.sjbhd.org/sun-safety)***

San Juan Basin Health Department recently created a Sun Safety page on its website [www.sjbhd.org/sun-safety](http://www.sjbhd.org/sun-safety). This resource page was created to go with the Creating Community column in the Durango Herald (July 7, 2010) on skin cancer and sun safety. It has links to organizations, videos, teen and kid sites, sun safety tips, and skin cancer self-exam resources.

#### ***Links for Kids***

San Juan Basin Health recently received a compliment for its Links for Kids page. "It has really useful information on oral health. I'm a health student teacher so I'm definitely going to incorporate some of this into an upcoming lesson plan." Whether you're a teacher, health educator, or parent – check out our Links for Kids at: [www.sjbhd.org/en/links-for-kids](http://www.sjbhd.org/en/links-for-kids) or click on it from on our website's front page [www.sjbhd.org](http://www.sjbhd.org).

#### ***Employment Opportunities***

Please check our website [www.sjbhd.org](http://www.sjbhd.org) for up-to-date job opportunities.

#### ***Contact Information for Public Health News Briefs:***

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