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From a BROADER PERSPECTIVE

ACOs: What you Need to Know

Per the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) is mandated to create a national network of voluntarily established Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) by January, 2012. Although the ACO concept has been around for a few years, sometimes with slightly different nomenclature, the current reality is that all CMHCs in Region X now need to start developing an understanding of the ACO. This article offers an overview of the ACO model, as well as recommendations for what Community/Migrant Health Centers can do now to best position themselves for future funding opportunities... Read more...
Bi-National Health Week
Seth Doyle, Migrant Health Coordinator

One of the largest mobilization efforts of federal and state government agencies, community-based organizations, and volunteers in the Americas to improve the health and well-being of the underserved Latino population in the U.S. and Canada just celebrated its tenth anniversary. Binational Health Week, sponsored by the consulates of Mexico and several other Latin American countries, featured major events in both Guanajuato, Mexico and Sacramento, California. Forty states in the U.S., including Region X, and three Canadian provinces participated in the celebration.

Read more...

Washington Members Face Funding Challenges
Norm Kraft, Finance Manager

While the economic climate has created hardships nationwide, our members in Washington are probably feeling more pain than most. In the state of Washington, the funding of patient care programs and the delivery of patient care services by FQHCs, "Look-alikes" and Rural Health Centers is currently threatened on two fronts. First, the State is preparing another round of cuts to its Medicaid program. This will actually be the second round of cuts, much more severe than the first as the state struggles with budget problems related to continued revenue reduction. In addition, voters will find several initiatives on the November ballot, which, if passed, might actually increase the loss of anticipated revenues. Community health centers are already feeling the impact.

Read more...

"Centering," an interesting concept in healthcare reform

"Centering," initiated in the mid-90s, shares many characteristics with the patient-centered medical home model. According to the Centering Healthcare Institute, "Centering promotes individual health empowerment and community-building." Centering incorporates three major components: assessment, education, and support. Group participants meet with their care provider and other group participants according to a regular schedule for 90-120 minutes. The Institute says that grouping patients with similar health concerns for shared learning opportunities promotes effectiveness, timeliness, culturally-appropriate patient-centered care, more equitable care and other benefits. Developed through Yale University, it is aimed specifically at pregnant women and newborns.

Visit the Centering Healthcare Institute here.
MEMBER SHOWCASE

Seven Health Centers in Eight Days - a great trip through Oregon!

Lynn Gerlach, Member Services Coordinator

I had the pleasure and privilege of visiting seven of our members in Western Oregon last month, driving all the way down the coast and all the way back up Interstate-5. By the time I returned, I had valuable data and photos to share with our staff, pictures of breathtaking scenery, and memories of some most kind and compassionate healthcare professionals. The member health centers I visited included Coastal Family Health Center, The Rinehart Clinic, Tillamook County Health Department, Waterfall Community Health Center, Siskiyou Community Health Center, Umpqua Community Health Center, and Community Health Centers of Lane County. To discover what I learned about our Western Oregon members and to see a collection of some of my favorite photos, click here.

Region X Highlights

15 Members win FIP awards for renovation, construction!

Congratulations to the 15 NWRPCA members in Region X who have just received the good news from Washington concerning the $727M for renovation and construction to meet the growing healthcare needs of their communities:

- Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center, AK -- $8M
- SEARHC, AK -- $1.3M
- Valley Family Health Care, ID -- $3.1M
- Benewah Medical Center, ID -- $11.8M
- Columbia River Community Health Services, OR -- $2.4M
- Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, OR -- $12M
- Lane County Community Health, OR -- $4.9M
- La Clinica del Carino, OR -- $5.9M
- Community Health Center, Inc., OR -- $1.9M
- La Clinica del Valle Family Health, OR -- $2.9M
- Waterfall Clinic, OR -- $1.4M
- Interfaith Community Health Center, WA -- $1M
- Healthpoint, WA -- $6.8M
- Community Health Care, WA -- $12M
- Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, WA -- $12M

Special congratulations to the three Region X health center who won the maximum grant of $12 million: Community Health Care, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, and Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic.
**Courtesy notice from NACHC**

From Pamela Byrnes, Director of Health Center Growth and Expansion, National Association of Community Health Centers: "It appears that those centers receiving FIP awards are NOT eligible to apply for NAP satellite funding for their FIP sites. I have verified this with BPHC. I am asking BPHC to issue a statement to all awardees so they are clear on this as several are in the process of doing applications. Please notify your members who may be affected and ask them to verify with BPHC that the site is not eligible and as always I recommend getting it in writing."

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**NWRPCA congratulates Dr. Grace Wang** of **International Community Health Services** on her recent election to the board of the National Association of Community Health Centers. Dr. Wang will serve two years as a clinician representative. She is pictured here facilitating a discussion at one of NWRPCA's conferences.

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**OCHIN one of five named nationwide in $17M grant**

HHS recently announced the establishment of a Community Health Applied Research Network (CHARN), naming OCHIN (Oregon Community Health Information Network) as one of five "research nodes" to demonstrate how safety-net health care providers and academic institutions can collaborate to build an infrastructure for patient-centered outcomes research. [Read more...](#)

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**Global to Local: Seattle area partnership announces groundbreaking initiative**

Seattle/King County Health, Healthpoint, and Swedish recently announced their formal partnership to work together to address disparities in local healthcare through a groundbreaking approach: applying global solutions to local healthcare challenges in underserved populations. [Read the press release.](#)

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**Northwest Human Services receives $100,000 grant to help youth**

A $100K street outreach grant will be used over a three-year period to provide teens with blankets, hygiene items, emergency overnight shelter and expanded drop-in services. [Read more...](#)

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**NWRPCA salutes CareOregon**

In recognition of CareOregon's commitment to helping future family practice physicians experience vital teaching opportunities, Dr. Lisa Watts, Regional Director of the A.T. Still School of Osteopathic Medicine (SOMA)/NWRPCA Regional Campus, presented a certificate of appreciation to James Schroeder, CareOregon's Director of Health Systems. [CareOregon](#), through its member health centers, supported 1600 hours of teaching rotations for six regional campus medical students.

Trisha Bustos, NWRPCA Workforce Development Manager, said, "The participation of CareOregon and preceptors at their migrant and community health centers is the integral partnership needed to..."
build the dedicated clinical workforce for the future of Region X health centers."

**Columbia Basin Health Association (CBHA) receives grant for rural health workforce development**
HRSA's Office of Rural Policy has awarded CBHA a grant to allow the health center and its university and AHEC partners the opportunity to develop a best practices program for Academic Practice Partnerships. [Read more...]

**Mosaic Medical welcomes new Chief Executive Officer**
An extensive nationwide search for top leadership ended up right back in Central Oregon when long-time Mosaic Medical employee Megan Haase, FNP, was given the reins of leadership last month.

**CHAS unveils new dental clinic**
The Lewis and Clark Dental Clinic opened recently as an added feature for the patients of Community Health Association of Spokane. [Read more...]

**Dental hygiene program funded at Umpqua CHC**
The Oregon Community Foundation has awarded $200K to Umpqua Community Health Center to support a dental health mobile van destined for several schools, making dental health services more accessible for children aged 6 to 12. [Read more...]

**Clackamas County School-Based Health Center now open full time**
Opened in April, 2009, the Canby School District on-site school clinic started out as a two-day-a-week clinic. In just 18 months, the clinic has been so well accessed that it is now open five days each week. [Read more...]

**A touching tribute to Tacoma's Dr. George Tanbara**
This revered pediatrician and co-founder of Community Health Care had to interrupt his undergraduate pharmaceutical training during World War II to be "relocated" in an "assembly center"; served as a combat medic with the U.S. Army; accepted an internship in Seattle after completing medical school—but then was not offered a job. The 88-year-old was recently honored as a Pioneer in Healthcare. [Read more...]

**Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic receives federal grant to fight gang activity**
As a key part of a six-way collaborative, Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic will use a $54K grant to provide mental health services and drug...
Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center is 35 years old! Congratulations!
NWRPCA salutes VGMHC on its recent celebration of 35 years of service in Oregon. Visit the [VGMHC web site](#) for all the center's news...

Call for Abstracts—but hurry!
The Northwest Rural Health Clinic is calling for abstracts for its annual conference, but the deadline is October 25, 2010. [Submission details](#)...

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**Professional Development Opportunities**

**Northwest Regional PCA Education & Training Program**

**COMPREHENSIVE CODING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

January 7 - June 17, 2011  
Fridays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Pacific Time

Develop your career and/or prepare for the national certification test. This six-month live, web and phone-based course prepares individuals to successfully take a national certification examination and sharpens general coding information and knowledge. The CCEP addresses the unique needs of coders in the FQHC/RHC.

All instructors are affiliates of Brown Consulting Associates, Inc., and credentialed through AHIMA and the AAPC.

**Registration**

Deadline December 10, 2011. Class size is limited. Register [here](#).

Call (206) 783-3004, ext 14, or email sgreen@nwrpca.org if you have any questions.

**Northwest Regional PCA invites you to develop your workplace competencies:**

**Community Health Leadership - UW** - Informational Webinar with instructors (Sample before you commit!) - Nov. 10 at Noon, PST. [Register for the webinar](#). Use this code to register: 572-221-865.

**HR Webinar - Recruitment for Diversity** - Nov. 30 See [NWRPCA web site](#).

**UDS Training** - Dec. 2 & 3 in Portland Oregon, offered in partnership with Oregon Primary Care Association. [Details and Registration](#)

**Core Competencies for First Time Supervisors and Managers** -


**Featured Non-clinical Jobs**

From our [Senior Administrative Jobs Database](#)

**Director of Operations**

International Community Health Services, Seattle, WA

As a member of the Management Team, this position is responsible for leadership and management in operations, including the planning, development and implementation of policies, procedures, programs and services in medical clinic operations; oversight for facilities, laboratory, staffing and workflow; directing emergency preparedness, patient safety and health efforts; leading continuous improvement initiatives; and ensuring compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

The qualified candidate will have earned a Master's degree in Nursing, Health Administration or related field and have 10 years of progressively responsible experience in primary care, public health, clinic or related field, which includes 5 years of executive leadership. Work experience in a multicultural/multilingual setting highly desired.

See our [Senior Administrative Jobs Database](#) for details and to apply.

**FQHC Director**

Clackamas County, Oregon City, OR

Clackamas County seeks an innovative leader with Healthcare System experience who enjoys active participation with community partners. Clackamas County Health Services offers comprehensive public health care services to residents of the county, including integrated primary/behavioral/preventive health care and school based health centers. The Division serves as the Local Public Health Authority for Clackamas County providing emergency response to public health threats within the community. The Director develops and implements policies, establishes program goals and objectives, oversees the annual program plan, and ensures compliance; monitors FQHC requirements, revenues and expenditures and research for alternative funding sources; provides leadership and accountability; represents the County and responds to citizen concerns regarding program operations; interfaces with external agencies; hires and directs supervisory staff.

The qualified candidate will demonstrate thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of Federally Qualified Health Center and State of Oregon Administrative rules and the unique knowledge, skills and experience required for this broad leadership position.

See our [Senior Administrative Jobs Database](#) for details and to apply.
Featured Funders

Funding Opportunities posted on our NWRPCA web site

Farmworker Health Network (FHN) Ready to Assist in NAP Grants

Submission deadlines: November 17, 2010 and December 15, 2010 (2 parts)
FHN will help health centers weigh the opportunity to include the farmworker population in the New Access Points application; help design the service delivery approach; and help complete the Need for Assistance Worksheet in order to secure the maximum number of points for the farmworker population.
For More Information, visit this page on the NACHC web site.

HRSA-11-039 Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention

Submission deadline: December 3, 2010
Estimated Amount of Competition: $10.8M
Estimated Number of Awards: 36
Estimated Award Size: $250K - $300K

The purpose of these grants is to assure all infants born in the U.S. have their hearing screened at birth and receive timely and appropriate follow-up care in the context of a medical home with links to family support for families in which an infant is found to have a hearing loss.

Eligibility
Currently funded entities with budget periods ending 3/31/2011 and States/Territories with universal newborn hearing screening programs not receiving Federal support.

Details at the HRSA web site

Special Opportunity

Your pain patients could participate in this research study

Inflexxion, Inc. has asked us to share this message with you:
Inflexxion, Inc. is currently seeking participants for an NIH-funded clinical trial testing a web-based behavioral intervention for improving chronic pain self-management.

We need help getting information about the study to people who may wish to volunteer. We will handle all participant contact, including screening, consenting, and study completion. We will provide you with informational materials about the study for distribution to prospective volunteers (available in a variety of formats).

Participants can earn up to $175 for completing all components of the study. We are seeking participants who are diagnosed with one of these neuropathic pain conditions:

* chemotherapy induced neuropathy
* diabetic peripheral neuropathy
About QuickNotes!

QuickNotes is the newsletter of the Northwest Regional Primary Care Association. Each issue features a variety of information about community health, member news and spotlights, and important funding and workforce listings.

We welcome your comments and feedback. Please email us your thoughts

For more information, please contact Synne Venuti at svenuti@inflexxion.com or 1-800-848-3895, extension 223.
(Note: Synne Venuti will be a presenter at our Fall Primary Care Conference in Denver.)