The Arizona Department of Health Services has begun preparing to regulate medical marijuana in the state after the passage of Proposition 203. In his blog, Director Will Humble said “We expect to be able to accept our first applications for medical marijuana cards and dispensaries in early April, 2011. In the mean time, we’ll be developing the Administrative Code (Rules) for actually operating and regulating the program.” One of the more difficult parts of developing the program is determining who receives the anticipated 124 medical marijuana dispensary permits that will be made available. The state is currently working on a system to ensure a fair per capita distribution across the state.

State begins development of rules surrounding medical marijuana

ADHS schedule for rule development
Dec. 17: ADHS posts an initial informal draft of the Rules
Dec. 17 - Jan. 7 ADHS receives informal (electronic) public comment on the initial informal draft rules
Jan. 31 ADHS posts official draft Rules for public comment
Jan. 31 - Feb. 18 ADHS receive public comment on a revised draft of the rules
Feb. 15 - 17 ADHS holds public meetings about the draft rules
March 28 ADHS publishes the final Rules that will be used to implement the Act
April ADHS begins to accept applications for registry identification cards and for dispensary certificates

Sage Memorial CEO receives award for managerial excellence

Indian Health Service has awarded Ahmad R. Razaghi, CEO Sage Memorial Hospital, the 2009 Managerial Excellence Award. The award goes to chief executive officers who do an outstanding job of managing limited IHS and Tribal resources, such as time, personnel, and funds. Razaghi helped put into place a strategic turnaround plan saving Sage Memorial from closure due to licensing and financial pressures. The Presbyterian Mission settled the Sage Memorial Hospital campus located in Ganado in 1901. Sage Memorial became the nation’s first private Native American managed healthcare system in 1974. Since then, a predominantly Navajo Board of Directors and Staff have worked with great dedication to provide healthcare to eight Navajo Chapters representing nearly 25,000 Navajo members.
CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Advocacy for Nonprofits - Post Election Strategies
• Presented by: Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits, Timothy Schmaltz, Coordinator of the Protecting Arizona’s Family Coalition, will cover policy & local budget issues with an emphasis on social services
• Date: Nov. 30
• Location: Goodwill Corporate Center - 2626 W. Beryl Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85021
• Contact: Register at https://www.cvent.com/EVENTS/Register/IdentityConfirmation.aspx?e=44139242-4c1d-48fd-9e21-4ae45134c11a, more information at http://www.arizonanonprofits.org/

December

6th Annual Rural Multiracial and Multicultural Health Conference
• Presented by: National Rural Health Association
• Date: Dec. 1-3
• Location: Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa, Tucson, AZ
• Contact: Rosemary McKenzie (816) 756-3140 x 15, mckenzie@nrhrural.org

Healthy People 2020 Launch
• Presented by: US Department of Health and Human Services
• Date: Dec. 2
• Location: Jack Morton Auditorium, the George Washington University, 805 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20052, Web streaming is also available. Registration is required.
• Contact: Geri Tebo at 240-453-8265 or geri.tebo@hhs.gov

Phoenix Winter Grants Forum
• Presented by: Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits in partnership First Nonprofit Insurance and the Catholic Diocese of Phoenix. This forum connects grant seekers from nonprofits with funders to learn about opportunities for partnership, network with other nonprofits, and knowledge share.
• Date: Dec. 7
• Location: Catholic Diocese of Phoenix, 400 E. Monroe, Phoenix, AZ 85004
• Contact: Register at https://www.cvent.com/EVENTS/Register/IdentityConfirmation.aspx?e=04b37947-665c-4d9b-ab36-ac7ef3b7a6e6, more information at http://www.arizonanonprofits.org/

25th National Training Institute: Connecting Science, Policy and Practice
• Presented by: Zero to Three
• Dates: Dec. 9-11
• Location: JW Marriott, Desert Ridge Resort & Spa, Phoenix, AZ
• Contact: 877-215-1023 www.zttnticonference.org/

January

2011 Annual Coordinated School Health Conference
• Presented by: the Arizona Department of Education and the Arizona Department of Health Services
• Date: Jan. 21
• Location: Westin La Paloma Resort, Tucson, AZ
• Contact: Register online at www.ade.az.gov, look for the Calendar of Events Link

Rural Health Policy Institute
• Presented by: National Rural Health Association
• Dates: Jan. 24-26
• Location: Capital Hilton, 1001 16th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036
• Contact: www.ruralhealth-web.org/pi

Health Disparities & Social Justice Conference 2011: A Focus on Women’s Health
• Presented by: DePaul University’s Master of Public Health (MPH) Program
• Date: Jan. 28,
• Location: DePaul University’s DePaul Center, 1E. Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL
• Contact: Leah Neubauer at Lneubaue@depaul.edu or (773) 325-4768

February

Eighth Active Living Research Annual Conference
• Presented by: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
• Dates: Feb. 22-24
• Location: Hard Rock Hotel San Diego, San Diego, CA
• Contact: (619) 260-5534 or ALR@projects.sdsu.edu

2011 Annual Conference of the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs and Family Voices
• Presented by: AMCHP and Family Voices
• Dates: Feb. 13-15
• Location: Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street NW, Washington, DC
• Contact: http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=892520

Photos courtesy Ken Miller


**Health Center Expanded Services Supplemental Funding**

- **Deadline:** Jan. 6, 2011
- **Purpose:** Funds support increased access to preventive and primary health care services, including oral health, behavioral health, pharmacy, vision, and/or enabling services at existing health center sites.
- **Eligibility:** Existing health centers currently receiving funding as of September 30, 2010, under the Health Center Program are eligible for expanded services funds. To receive funding, applicants must propose to expand existing primary care medical capacity by adding new medical providers, increasing the availability of medical services, and/or expanding hours of operations.
- **Amount:** HRSA expects to award between $270 and $335 million through formula-based supplements.

**Shade Structure Program**

- **Deadline:** April 22, 2011
- **Purpose:** The American Academy of Dermatology’s Shade Structure Program awards funds for the purchase for permanent shade structures to nonprofit organizations in need of shade for outdoor locations.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must: be a nonprofit organization or public school that primarily serves children and teens who are 18 and younger, demonstrate an ongoing commitment to sun safety and skin cancer awareness by having a sun safety/skin cancer awareness program in place for at least one year prior to application, be sponsored by an AAD member dermatologist.
- **Amount:** Each shade structure grant is valued at a maximum of $8,000 in U.S. dollars, which includes the cost for a shade structure and installation.

**USAC Rural Health Care Service Discounts Program**

- **Deadline:** Applications accepted on an ongoing basis
- **Purpose:** Health care providers are permitted to apply to receive reduced rates for a variety of telecommunications services under the Rural Health Care Program. Health care providers may seek support for multiple telecommunications services of any bandwidth and for monthly Internet service charges. For details about eligible services, please see the program web site.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants to the program must be rural and public or non-profit health care providers.
- **Amount:** The level of support depends on the HCP’s location and the type of service chosen.
- **More information:** [http://www.universalservice.org/HC/](http://www.universalservice.org/HC/)

**The Migration Policy Institute’s National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy: E Pluribus Unum Prizes**

- **Deadline:** December 15, 2010
- **Purpose:** to highlight and reward outstanding efforts that help immigrants and their children join the mainstream of U.S. society or that bring immigrants and the native born together to build stronger, more cohesive communities.
- **Eligibility:** The awards recognize outstanding immigrant integration initiatives of all types, whether led by nonprofit or community organizations, businesses, public agencies, religious groups, or individuals.
- **Amount:** $50,000 per award
- **More information:** [http://www.integrationawards.org/](http://www.integrationawards.org/)

**General Mills Champions for Healthy Kids Grant Program**

- **Deadline:** Dec. 15
- **Purpose:** Grants will be awarded to 501(c)(3) and 509(a) status not-for-profit organizations and agencies working with communities that demonstrate the greatest need and likelihood of sustainable impact on young people’s nutrition and activity levels through innovative programs. The target audience must be youth between the ages of 2 and 18. Proposals must have at least one nutrition objective and at least one physical activity objective. A registered dietitian or dietician technician must either be directly involved or serve as an advisor.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) or 509(a) status. Local organizations that work with youth are encouraged to apply. These may include park districts, health departments, government agencies, Native American tribes, municipal organizations, churches, schools, Boys & Girls clubs, etc.
- **Amount:** Fifty grants of $10,000 each.
**Give your input into Rural Healthy People 2020**

Public health researchers are looking for ideas on the most important health issues facing rural residents. This is a chance to help shape health goals that will guide rural leaders and researchers for the next decade. Rural Healthy People 2020, is designed to identify the most significant preventable threats to the health of rural people and to establish goals for reducing these threats. The starting point for this conversation is an online survey available at [http://www.chotnsf.org/survey/rhp2020/ruralhealthypeople2020.htm](http://www.chotnsf.org/survey/rhp2020/ruralhealthypeople2020.htm).

**Examining disparities along the U.S.-Mexico border**

A new report from the United States–México Border Health Commission details the strengths and challenges associated with reducing the health disparities observed among populations living along the U.S.-Mexico border. The border region is a dynamic area where various cultures come together across geopolitical boundaries. Though border residents may possess different economies and politics, they share a common culture, language, environment, and health status. The region poses particular challenges to the U.S. health care system: It is one of the fastest growing in the nation, with a majority Hispanic population, in addition to having lower educational attainment, lower income status, higher rates of unemployment and poverty, and a significant shortage of health care providers. Despite these challenges, the border region can serve as a source for identifying innovative models that ensure collaboration among various levels of government and the private sector. Read the full report, available online at [http://www.borderhealth.org/files/res_1719.pdf](http://www.borderhealth.org/files/res_1719.pdf).

**New Spanish language materials available online**

We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children’s Activity & Nutrition), a National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute program, has new educational materials in Spanish for caregivers, parents and kids. [http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/wecan/tools-resources/resources_espanol.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/wecan/tools-resources/resources_espanol.htm)

New patient education videos from the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality are also available for Spanish speakers online at [http://healthcare411.org/searchResults.aspx?start=01/01/2005&end=12/31/2050&c=3&f=video&t=](http://healthcare411.org/searchResults.aspx?start=01/01/2005&end=12/31/2050&c=3&f=video&t=)

**Rural Health Association accepting nominations**