

RURAL HEALTH BRIEFING

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ACROSS ARIZONA

AHCCCS cuts services, simplifies behavioral health enrollment, blocked on copay increase

Starting October 1, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System will cut coverage for several basic health services such as physicals, most dental care, podiatry, and other programs. AHCCCS is also reducing medical equipment benefits. The benefits cuts will save an estimated \$20 million through the end of June 2011. More than 1.3 million Arizonans were enrolled in the state's Medicaid program as of Sept. 1. A federal judge has temporarily blocked Arizona from charging higher co-pays to some people enrolled in AHCCCS.

- *The Arizona Republic*

Also starting October 1, AHCCCS will automatically enroll all Acute Care members into their local Regional Behavioral Health Authority or Tribal RBHA. The plan eliminates the need for a separate administrative enrollment with the T/RBHA (and the associated paperwork) and streamlines the delivery of services.

Cenpatco taking over behavioral health service in SE Arizona

The Rural Behavioral Health Authority is changing management in Cochise, Santa Cruz, Greenlee, and Graham counties.

Cenpatco Behavioral Health of Arizona will replace Community Partnerships of Southern Arizona as of December 1.

Dr. Hart leaves Rural Health Office

RHO Director Dr. Gary Hart has accepted a new position as the Director of the Center for Rural Health at The University of North Dakota. Former RHO Director Alison M. Hughes is serving as the Interim Director. The Rural Health Office and the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health anticipate conducting a joint search for a new director in the near future.



Gary Hart



Alison Hughes

AzDHS annual report of health status and vital statistics released

The Arizona Department of Health Services has published its annual report containing health statistics on the state's pregnancies, births, reportable diseases, deaths, inpatient hospitalizations, emergency room visits, marriages, divorces, and population. The report provides data for health policy formulation, local, state, and federal programs and interventions, and resource allocation. <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan>

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Webinar: Health Literacy 101

- **Presented by:** DHHS/The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
- **Date:** Oct. 6
- **Time:** 11 am - noon
- **Contact:** Reserve Webinar seat at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/513059699>

Seizing Opportunities to Overcome the Challenges of 21st Century Health-Care Reform

- **Presented by:** ASU Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy
- **Dates:** Oct. 12-15
- **Location:** Arizona State University Downtown Phoenix campus, AE England Building, Phoenix, AZ
- **Contact:** Candy Kistner, candace.kistner@asu.edu, (602) 496-1354, to register, go to <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=891698>

16th Annual Four Corners TB & HIV Conference

- **Presented by:** Arizona Department of Health Services, New Mexico Department of Health, Navajo Nation, American Lung Association of Arizona, Indian Health Service (USPHS), New Mexico AIDS Education and Training Center, Heartland National TB Center, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
- **Dates:** Oct. 19-20

- **Location:** Little American Hotel, Flagstaff. For information contact Kelly Szymanski, American Lung Association in Arizona at 602-258-7505 or by email at kszymanski@lungarizona.org.

3rd Annual Suicide Prevention Conference

- **Presented by:** AzDHS, Magellan Health Services and NAVAHCS
- **Dates:** Oct. 21-22
- **Location:** Black Canyon Conference Center, Phoenix, AZ
- **Contact:** To register, go to <http://www.azspc.org/Conference/2010/Conference%202010.html>

Rural Health Open Door Forum

- **Presented by:** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- **Date:** Oct. 26
- **Time:** 11 am
- **Contact:** To participate by phone: Dial: (800) 837-1935, Reference Conference ID: 98969530

NOVEMBER

Webinar: Why Culture Makes a Difference

- **Presented by:** DHHS/The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
- **Date:** Nov. 3
- **Time:** 11 am - noon
- **Contact:** Reserve Webinar seat at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/774870554>



[gotomeeting.com/register/774870554](https://www.gotomeeting.com/register/774870554)

SOPHE 61st Annual Meeting

- **Presented by:** Society for Public Health Education
- **Dates:** Nov. 4 - 6
- **Location:** Denver Marriott City Center, Denver, CO
- **Contact:** (202) 408-9804, info@sophe.org

138th Annual Meeting and Exposition

- **Presented by:** American Public Health Association
- **Dates:** Nov. 6-10
- **Location:** Colorado Convention Center, Denver, CO
- **Contact:** <http://www.apha.org/meetings>

Diversity Leadership Conference: Navigating Difference in a Changing World: Dialogues on Diversity, Culture, and Identity

- **Presented by:** National Multicultural Institute:
- **Dates:** Nov. 10-13
- **Location:** Marriott Washington, 1221 22nd Street NW, Washington, DC 20037
- **Contact:** Diana Hossack at dhossack@nmci.org or (202) 483-0700 ext. 232, http://nmci.org/leadership_institutes/index.html

2010 NOSORH Annual Meeting

- **Presented by:** National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health
- **Dates:** Nov. 15 - 17,
- **Location:** To be determined, Oklahoma City, OK
- **Contact:** Teryl Eisinger, (586) 739-9940, teryl@nosorh.org

13th Annual EMTALA Workshop

- **Presented by:** Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association
- **Date:** Nov. 16
- **Location:** Fiesta Resort Conference Center, Tempe, AZ
- **Contact:** <https://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=THEN219E>

Conference on Oral Health of Vulnerable Elders and Disabled

- **Presented by:** American Dental Association
- **Date:** Nov 18
- **Location:** JW Marriott, Washington, DC
- **Contact:** (312) 440-2500

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@nrharural.org

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Technical assistance is available for the development of grant proposals and other funding applications from the professional staff of the Rural Health Office and the State Office of Rural Health Program. Please contact Jennifer Peters, petersjs@u.arizona.edu

HRSA: Rural Health Network Development Program

- **Deadline:** Nov. 12
- **Purpose:** These grants support rural providers who work in formal networks, alliances, coalitions or partnerships to integrate administrative, clinical, technological, and financial functions.
- **Eligibility:** To be eligible for an RHND Grant, the applicant organization must meet the following requirements: (1) The applicant organization must be a public or private non-profit entity located in a rural area; (2) The network is composed of at least three separate organizations; (3) The Network organizational relationship is formal; and (4) All network members demonstrate a strong and measurable commitment to the network.
- **Amount:** 25 awards, total program funding of \$4,500,000
- **More information:** <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=56932>

got breakfast? Foundation: School Breakfast Grant Program

- **Deadline:** Nov. 15
- **Purpose:** to recognize, encourage, and reward those silent heroes who help children start their day off right by serving breakfast. Grant funds can be used for such needs as serving equipment, program staffing and nutrition education materials.
- **Eligibility:** Public schools, nonprofit private schools, and nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations participating in the National School Breakfast Program. Priority selection will be given to programs creating a breakfast program where one did not exist before.

- **Amount:** Up to \$5,000
- **More information:** <http://www.got-breakfast.org>

Susan G. Komen for the Cure: 2011/2012 Community Grant

- **Deadline:** Dec. 17
- **Purpose:** To support community projects that provide outreach and education, screening services, and treatment services to the medically underserved, uninsured or underinsured.
- **Amount:** Varies
- **More information:** www.komen-phoenix.org/site/c.nskZL3PHLtF/b.3753183/k.3272/How_to_Apply_for_a_Grant_Cycle.htm

Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages

- **Deadline:** Oct. 27
- **Purpose:** Development of viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low- and moderate-income as defined in 24 CFR 1003.
- **Eligibility:** Eligible applicants are Indian tribes or tribal organizations on behalf of Indian tribes.
- **Amount:** Estimated Total Program Funding: \$65,000,000
- **More information:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa10/gpicdbg.cfm>

Samuel Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health Dentistry Grant

- **Deadline:** Oct. 29
- **Purpose:** Increase access to, and education on, oral health care. Organizations



Photos courtesy Ken Miller

that sponsor programs for mothers and caregivers to help reduce the incidence of early childhood caries are invited to submit an application.

- **Eligibility:** Proposals by community-based, not-for-profit, oral health promotion programs will be considered.
- **Amount:** \$5,000
- **More information:** <http://www.ada.org/applyforassistance.aspx>

RWJ Foundation Local Funding Partnerships: Peaceful Pathways: Reducing Exposure to Violence

- **Deadline:** Applications accepted on an ongoing basis, reviewed Jan. 5, 2011
- **Purpose:** This special solicitation seeks nominations from diversity-focused funders for new projects to reduce violence in traditionally underserved communities that are defined by race, ethnicity, tribe, gender, sexual identity or rural/frontier location.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be nominated by a diversity-focused funder that is principally concerned with the community to be served.
- **Amount:** Up to eight matching grants of between \$50,000 and \$200,000 each will be awarded
- **More information:** http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20981&cid=xrs_rss-fa

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Missouri researchers study shortage of rural doctors

University of Missouri researchers interviewed MU alumni physicians who chose to practice in rural areas. Kathleen Quinn, director of MU's AHEC said the interviews showed that "Where you're from, where you train and who you marry are three major factors that determine where you practice." The doctors in the study who grew up in large cities yet practice rural medicine typically had a positive personal or professional experience with rural areas at some point in their lives.

– *The Columbia Daily Tribune*

Provider tools to care for diverse populations

A new report gives guidance on how to provide services to diverse clients in a respectful, culturally universal manner that inspires trust. http://www.iceforhealth.org/library/documents/ICE_Booklet.pdf

Kaiser Foundation provides reform implementation info

The Kaiser Family Foundation has launched an online gateway providing access to new and comprehensive resources on the health reform law. Recognizing the transition from the debate about passage to the realities of implementing a law, the Health Reform Source, <http://healthreform.kff.org>, has many new features that provide explanations of the basics of the law, in-depth

analysis of policy issues in implementation, and quick and easy access to relevant data, studies and developments.

DHHS soliciting comment on CLAS Standards online

To ensure that the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health Care remain current and appropriate, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health is launching an enhancement initiative. They are seeking public input from individuals and professional communities across the country. The public comment period consists of an online survey as well as three regional public comment meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to hear comments and feedback regarding the existing CLAS Standards. To provide feedback on the CLAS Standards online, please visit <http://clashenhancements.thinkculturalhealth.org>.

Projections for Arizona budget shortfall on the rise

Staff from the Joint Legislative Budget Committee predict Arizona's \$8.5 billion budget will face a midyear shortfall of up to \$825 million. Most of the increase from the previous forecast for a shortfall of up to \$700 million is due to the still-ailing economy producing less tax revenue than expected.

– *The Associated Press*

IMPORTANT LINKS

- Administration on Aging
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- America's Health Rankings: Our Nation at a Glance
- American Indian and Alaska Native Information (CMS)
- Arizona Critical Access Hospital Program
- AHCCCS
- Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association
- Arizona Rural Health Association, Inc.
- Critical Access Hospital Information (CMS)
- Critical Access Hospitals Financial Performance Indicators by State
- Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI)
- Federal Funding Opportunities
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (CMS)
- Health Resources and Services Administration
- Health Services Advisory Group
- HRSA Geospatial Data Warehouse
- Indian Health Service, Navajo Area Office
- Indian Health Service, Phoenix Area Office
- Indian Health Service, Tucson Area Office
- Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
- Kaiser Family Foundation: Fast Facts
- Local Community Resource Finder
- Medicare Learning Network (CMS)
- National Association of Community Health Centers
- National Association of Rural Health Clinics
- National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health
- National Rural Health Association
- Office of Rural Health Policy, HHS
- Rural Assistance Center
- Rural Health Information (CMS)
- Rural Health Research Gateway
- Rural Health Resource Center - TASC
- RUPRI State Profiles
- State Health Facts Online
- State Offices of Rural Health Grant Program
- U.S. Department of Agriculture

This newsletter is a joint project of the Rural Health Office housed at the UA Zuckerman College of Public Health, and the Arizona Rural Health Association, Inc. The mission of the Rural Health Office is to promote the health of rural and medically underserved individuals, families, and communities through service, education and research. The Arizona Rural Health Association, Inc. advocates on behalf of the health needs of rural Arizonans at national, state and local levels. Your input is always welcome. Contact Renee Fullerton, RHO publications coordinator, at rfullert@email.arizona.edu