

2007 Annual Report

C O L O R A D O

Coalition for the Medically Underserved



OUR MISSION

The Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved is committed to access to affordable, timely, quality health care for everyone in Colorado.



CCMU Believes These Principles:

1. Health care coverage should be universal, continuous, and affordable to individuals and families.
2. Only a comprehensive solution will ensure health care for all while controlling costs and promoting quality care.
3. In the absence of a comprehensive solution, we will embrace policies and programs that improve access to quality care, expand existing health care access, and protect and strengthen the medical safety net.
4. We seek solutions that are sound, sustainable, and keep the needs of patients first.

President's Message

2007 was a wonderful year! We began the year wondering if we would survive: we end the year renewed in our dedication that we will accomplish our goal of health care for everyone in Colorado!! For this remarkable year, I want to say a word of thanks to each of you. Thank you!

*"What the heart gives away
is never gone...
It is kept in the heart
of others."*

anonymous

This was the year of the 208 Blue Ribbon Health Care Reform Commission. What a huge commitment for each of the participants! You are wonderful! Thank you! They didn't accept our plan as one of the four finalists but then created a fifth option with many of our ideas. If only they had put more of our cost savings ideas into the plan it would have solved everything! Yet we look forward to their report to the legislature with great anticipation. We are committed to working with the legislature (Go, Representative McGihon!) and the governor to achieve significant strides in health care reform.

Our 2010 All Kids Covered program is making wonderful progress! What a fantastic group of totally committed people. I have always preached that 1+1=3 and this group of organizations has set new standards for collaboration and cooperation. With the leadership of Senator Hagedorn and the support of Governor Ritter we will have all children in Colorado covered by 2010!!

KIDZBLITZ was birthed by a bunch of wonderful medical students in my Health Policy class. Molly and Alicia Haywood were the mid-wives and mentors. Foundations and other supporters agree that this program will work. Our volunteers will see to it that the 115,000 children eligible for existing programs do get enrolled and get care!

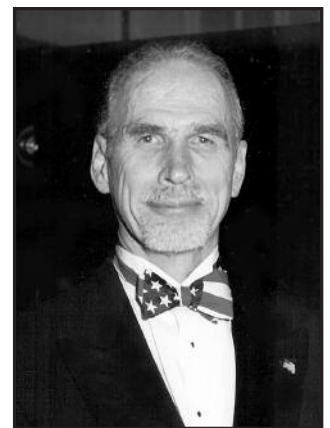
Once again we sponsored great educational programs. Our annual conference has become a Colorado classic! We will continue to educate, facilitate, and advocate for the medically underserved.

People a lot smarter than me say that I must stop saying "wonderful" and using exclamation marks but your efforts demand it!!!

WE CAN! WE MUST! WE WILL!!!

Sincerely,

Gary VanderArk, M.D.
President



SAVE THE DATE

The Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved will host its Annual Conference

CARING FOR THE MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED

Friday, September 26, 2008

Radisson
Radisson Hotel Denver Southeast

Watch the CCMU web site at www.ccmu.org
for more details or call CCMU at 303-832-7727
Workshop proposals are welcome!

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FOR THE MEDICALLY
UNDERSERVED 2007
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2010 ALL KIDS COVERED

In 2006-07, CCMU conceived and convened the “2010 All Colorado Kids Covered Initiative” and published with the support of The Colorado Health Foundation “All Colorado Kids Covered: A Roadmap to Coverage by 2010”, which spells out the legislative and regulatory steps to achieve coverage for all Colorado children. To lead the 2010 Initiative, CCMU teamed up with the Colorado Children’s Campaign, Covering Kids and Families, and recently Metro Organizations for People to form the 2010 Leadership Team. Through our leadership, the initiative has drawn more than 40 members representing different perspectives on children’s health care including advocacy, business, consumer, and provider perspectives. In September 2007, members confirmed the 2010 Initiative’s goal. It is: By the year 2010, all children in Colorado will have coverage through insurance or public programs that ensures access to a medical home providing appropriate and affordable health services.

The 2010 Initiative achieved great success in the 2007 legislative session with the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 07-130 and SB 07-211, moving Colorado closer to its goal of covering all kids. SB 07-130 defined a medical home for children, declared that a medical home is positive, and required the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) to implement standards and systems to increase the number of Medicaid and CHP+ kids with a medical home. SB 07-211 included presumptive eligibility for Medicaid and CHP+ kids, clarified that pregnant women and kids applying for CHP+ do not have to submit documents to verify lawful presence, created an advisory committee on Medicaid and CHP+ eligibility and enrollment at HCPF, and established quality measures and reporting for HCPF. Both bills were signed into law by the Governor on May 31, 2007. Throughout the legislative process these bills went through many changes and amendments. Without the strategic and collective work of the advocates and lobbyists representing various 2010 Initiative member organizations, the support of the 2010 members themselves, the facilitator to assist with meeting structure, and CCMU to convene and communicate with the 2010 Initiative, the bills would likely not have been passed.

Over the summer 2010 Initiative members met to prepare for the 2008 legislative session by analyzing past legislative successes to develop the best proposal package to put forward in 2008. Members participated on one or more of the Legislative Action Committees (LACs) that are organized around five distinct areas. They are: Systems Improvements; Quality Improvements; Department and Community Collaborative; Finance and Budget; and the newest around Public/Private buy in options. The Colorado Health Foundation continues to support the work of the 2010 Leadership Team and its policy work at the Capital.

To further our efforts, the 2010 Leadership Team recently received a Narrative Communications grant in October 2007 from the national David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The grant provides financial and technical support on public messaging to make the goal of covering all Colorado kids a reality. Consulting services around messaging and following a narrative communications plan using an exciting new tool called Smart Charting, is provided by Spitfire Strategies Communications out of Washington DC. In early November 2007, the 2010 Leadership Team traveled to DC for training on these messaging and communications tools.

**Thank you for all you do!!
Molly Markert, Executive Director, CCMU**



COLORADO
Coalition for the Medically Underserved

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The Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved is thrilled to accept support from Jared Polis Fdn., Faegre & Benson, Colorado Rural Health, Colorado Health Foundation, COPIC Medical Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Caring for Colorado Foundation, Rose Community Foundation, AstraZeneca and Colorado Trust for our ongoing work to achieve access to quality, timely, affordable health care for all Coloradans.

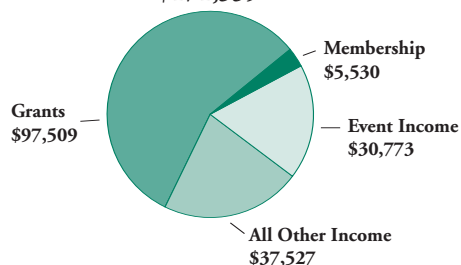
Our conference was a huge success due to the support of our sponsors Faegre & Benson, New West Physicians, Platte Valley Medical Center, MCPN, University Hospital, Colorado Association of Health Care Plans, Aponte Public Affairs, Larry Kieft, Poudre Valley Med. Center, Exempla Good Samaritan, Mental Health Center of Denver, COPIC Ins., Kaiser Permanente, Colorado Community Health Network, Yuma District Hospital, VanderArk Foundation, Health One Alliance, Coors Brewing Company and Centura Health

CCMU expresses its appreciation to Denver’s Central Presbyterian Church where its offices are located. The donation of this strategically located office space at 1660 Sherman St. is helping CCMU reach its vision.

Financial Highlights

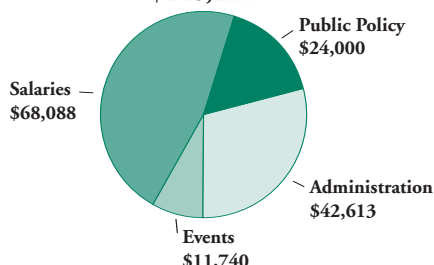
Total Resources

\$171,339



Total Expenses

\$146,441



Annual Conference Award Winners

Gordon E. Duvall, RN, PNP received the **Community Service for Non-Physician Provider Award**. The Metro Organizations for People (MOP) nominated Gordon for the award and stated, "I can't think of anyone who is more committed to children's health." Gordon focused his lifework and career on serving the community by identifying and confronting high-risk behaviors.



Gordon works at Challenges, Choices, and Images, a DPS Charter School for children in kindergarten through twelfth grade. He is in the process of creating a school based health clinic for the students. Gordon sits on the Executive Board for the Metro Organizations for People (MOP). He has worked tirelessly to advocate for SCHIP Reauthorization including taking trips to Washington D.C. to speak with Colorado representatives.

Maria Zubia received the **Community Service for Lay Person Award**. Colorado Covering Kids and Families proudly nominated Maria, "We believe she has made an exceptional contribution to the medically underserved families in Adams County as well as across Colorado.

Maria is employed at Community Health Services in Adams County. She is a passionate advocate for uninsured children in her community. As Outreach Coordinator, she uses her intricate knowledge of Medicaid and CHP+ rules and processes to guide families along the sometimes bumpy road to enrollment. As a trusted source in their community, families turn to Maria to help resolve some of the most complicated issues in health coverage enrollment. Maria is a relentless advocate for the families that she serves. Her level of dedication to the underserved is truly amazing and touches the lives of those around her.

State Senator Bob Hagedorn received the **Lifetime Achievement in Health Policy Award**. Senator Hagedorn has been a

champion on health care issues in the Colorado Legislature. This will be his last session as he is term limited after a legislative career that has included eight years in the House and eight in the Senate. He has served on the Health and Human Services committees throughout his tenure,

most recently serving as the Chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. He has also served on interim committees to examine the need for accessible and affordable healthcare throughout the state. He has immersed himself in the health policy world in Colorado, nationally, and even internationally.

Senator Hagedorn has provided effective leadership to protect the quality of medical care and to expand access to basic and essential medicine. He has ardently supported the work of CCMU and shares our vision of improved care for Colorado's medically underserved.

Patricia A. Gabow, MD, received the **Lifetime Achievement Award**. Dr. Gabow, the Chief Executive Officer and Medical Director, Denver Health was recognized for her lifetime of professional dedication to obtaining health care for the medically underserved. She has, more than any other single person, contributed to the compassionate delivery of medical services to countless poor, uninsured, and needy patients in Colorado.

Dr. Gabow joined the Denver Health medical staff in 1973 as chief of the Renal Division. In 1992, Denver Mayor Wellington Webb appointed her to the position of manager of Denver Health and Hospitals. Today, Dr. Gabow serves two roles at Denver Health -- Chief Executive Officer and Medical Director - positions she has held for more than 15 years. Her management has led to Denver Health being recognized as one of the nation's most successfully integrated and sophisticated public health care systems, with a 160-year-old mission of providing care for all people regardless of their ability to pay.

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KIDZBLITZ INITIATIVE



The KidzBlitz Initiative enjoyed a flurry of activities during 2007. The KidzBlitz planners began meeting in February of 2007 to explore ways to reach out to uninsured children and families and help them enroll in public health coverage programs. The planners agreed to train volunteers to reach out to eligible families in their communities.

St. Therese and Queen of Peace Parishes in Northern Aurora graciously hosted the pilot training program over the summer. Three medical student externs from the University of Colorado worked tirelessly over three months to develop a training manual for the volunteer navigators based on the lessons learned during the pilot trainings. Volunteers were trained to educate families about coverage programs, gather the necessary documents, and assist families in making a financial screening appointment at an application assistance site. Between the two churches, four outreach events were held through the summer and fall. Over 100 families received information about public health coverage programs.

In the fall the CCMU Program Manager worked with Volunteers in Action to deliver the first training using the new manual. Over 25 volunteers were trained to work with families of uninsured children. Since that time, there have been trainings held in Denver, Arapahoe and Larimer Counties.

The KidzBlitz planners continue to meet. They recently created two new sub-groups; Social Marketing (finding better ways to tie families to the volunteer), and Evaluation (finding ways to quantify the numbers of families and volunteers reached), and they established regular meeting times for the year (1st Tuesday from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at Colorado Access).

The KidzBlitz Initiative received secured funding from Kaiser Permanente, Caring for Colorado, COPIC and The Rose Community Foundation. Thanks to their generous support, CCMU and the KidzBlitz planners are able to look forward to an exciting year training navigators to guide and educate families to obtain health coverage for their children through public health programs.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Would you like to be a part of this group of individuals, foundations, agencies, and businesses that are supporting the work of CCMU through their membership? For additional information contact Molly.Markert@ccmu.org

Your membership investment will keep you on our electronic mailing list for events, legislative updates, voting on the Board of Directors and supporting the Coalition's important work.

Please support CCMU as an investing member at one of the following levels:

_____ \$10 _____ \$45 _____ \$100 _____ \$1,000 _____ \$2,500 _____ Other

Contact Name: _____

Organization: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Checks should be payable to CCMU and mailed to

P.O. Box 18877, Denver, CO 80218

All donations are tax deductible within the limits of the law.