

UMC in Norwood to Received \$43 Thousand for IT Funding

HHS awards \$1,593,556 for health centers' IT enhancements in Colorado

Last week, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell announced \$1,593,556 in funding for 20 health centers in Colorado for health information technology enhancements.

In total, \$87 million in funding was announced for 1,310 health centers in every U.S. state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the Pacific Basin.

Uncompahgre Medical Center in Norwood was listed to receive \$42,939.00. Olathe Community Clinic will receive

\$43,912.00 and Dolores county Health Assoc. in Dove Creek \$41,768.00.

"Health centers across the country are instrumental in providing high-quality, comprehensive primary health care to millions of people," said Secretary Burwell. "This investment will help unlock health care data

and put it to work, improving health outcomes and building a better health care system for the American people."

The funding will support health information technology enhancements to accelerate health centers' transition to value-based models of care, improve efforts to share and use information to support better decisions, and increase engagement in delivery system transformation. To support these goals, all purchases or upgrades of electronic health record systems made with the funding must use technology that is certified by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. This is the first significant investment since 2009 directly awarded to health centers to support the purchase of health information technology.

"These awards will allow health centers to deliver higher quality of care to patients and

spend health care dollars in a smarter way," said Jim Macrae, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Acting Administrator.

Nearly 1,400 health centers operating over 9,800 sites provide care to more than 24 million people across this nation, in every U.S. state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the Pacific Basin. Today, health centers employ nearly 190,000 people.

This funding comes from the Affordable Care Act's Community Health Center (CHC) Fund, which was extended with bipartisan support in the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) of 2015. The increased use of health information technology is part of the administration's efforts to build a health care system that delivers better care, smarter spending and healthier people.

Senior Resource Fair Returns To Nucla

Tri-County Health Network (TCHNetwork) and Aging Disability Resources Colorado (ADRC) are teaming up again this year for the Senior Resource Fair on Sept. 29 from 10 AM to 1:30 PM at the Senior Community Meal Site, 386 Main Street, Nucla.

The goal of the event is to make sure residents of the Westend know what resources are available to help support their independence.

Attendees will learn about the services and resources for seniors available in the area along with entertainment from Bruce Ervin's family band, door prizes, and a barbecue prepared by Senior Community Meals.

There will be free transportation from Norwood and Redvale provided by All Points

Transit, which can be scheduled by calling 970-249-0128.

For more information, please contact Tri-County Health Network at 970-708-7096.

Tri-County Health Network (TCHNetwork) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Telluride, serving a vital role filling the void of access to critical health-care by assuring care is accessible, affordable, and available to all populations regardless of socioeconomic status in a 3-county region in southwest Colorado, including San Miguel, Montrose, and Ouray counties. For more information, visit: www.tchnetwork.org.

Aging Disability Resources Colorado (ADRC) offers a range of services and is designed to streamline access to long-term

care by integrating a full range of supports and services into a single, coordinated system.

ADRC provides assistance to individuals and caregivers needing either public or private resources, to professionals seeking assistance on behalf of their clients, and to individuals planning for their future long term care needs.

For more information, visit: <http://www.region10.net/community-living/adrc/>.

Caregiving Service Seeking To Expand Will Be At Senior Health Fair

Comfort Keepers, an in-home-care service for seniors and disabled, is planning to expand into the West End and Norwood areas through the hard work of Norwood businesswoman Wendy Campbell who hopes to see the service established here. There will be a Comfort Keepers presence at the Senior Health Fair next Thursday, Sept. 9th (see information above) where both workers and in-home-care seekers will have an opportunity to get questions answered and help with applications and paperwork.

According to the Comfort Keepers website, in-home care providers can deliver a wide range of services, working with seniors and their families to create care plans that meet their specific needs. These individual care plans allow seniors the opportunity to age in place, safely and securely. In-home care services provide support to help preserve seniors' dignity and independence as well. - See more at: <http://www.comfortkeepers.com/home/info-center/in-home-care/what-to-expect-with-in-home-care#sthash.zNDGXmGv.dpuf>

Assistance for those needing or wanting in-home-care is available through Medicaid, Uranium Miner Care, Veteran's Affairs, Region 10 programs and private pay. There will be help and guidance at the senior health fair in seeking assistance with paperwork and further information.

Caregivers would provide home-care including cooking, light housekeeping, personal care and errands for the elderly and disabled clients. They offer competitive pay and benefits. Those interested in being caregivers must be at least 18, have reliable transportation and pass a drug and background check.

Campbell said that there appears to be plenty of folks in need of in-home-care but in order for the service to be successful there needs to be enough caregivers to offer the service over here.

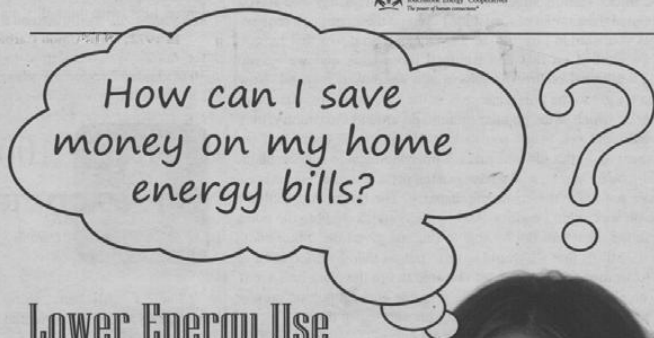
Anyone with questions may call Wendy at 970-327-4019, e-mail at Campbellwendy74@gmail.com or visit the senior health fair in Nucla next Thursday.

Submissions to **San Miguel Basin Forum**

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