

COLORADO: MOBILE HEALTH CARE PCA& HCCN CONFERENCE GALLERY WALK (2023)



PROJECT AIM

At the start of this grant, Colorado Community Health Network (CCHN) sought to explore possibilities and options for increasing mobile health unit emergency preparedness. In our initial grant application, CCHN proposed several activities for increasing emergency preparedness capacity of the nine Colorado Community Health Centers (CHCs) with mobile health units.

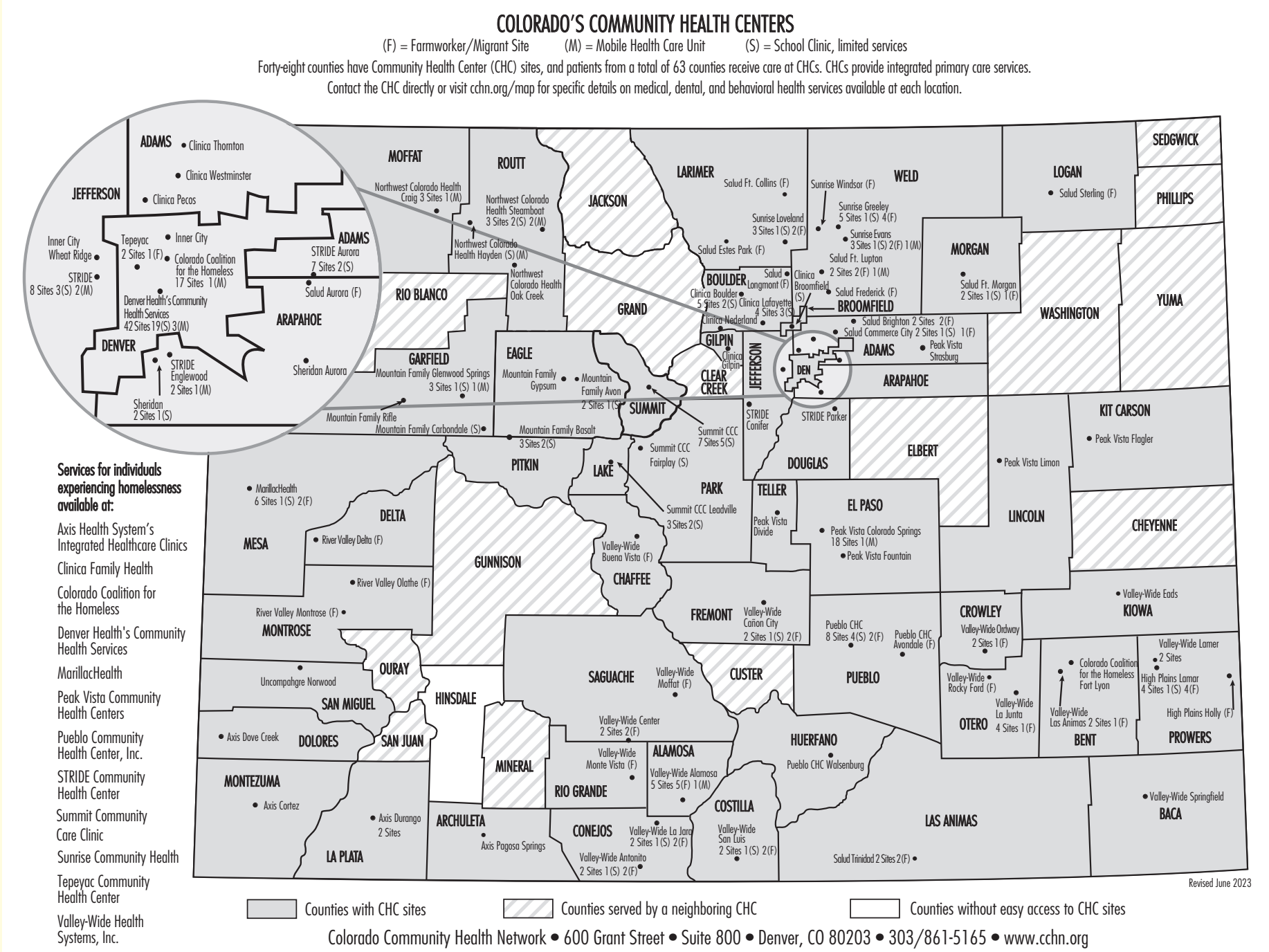
The accomplish this, CCHN intended to develop a learning collaborative consisting of 1-2 sessions covering specific mobile unit emergency preparedness and addressing specific peer learning needs identified by the nine CHCs. CCHN also sought to develop a CHC mobile unit-specific emergency management plan template to increase the capacity of their overall emergency management planning efforts. CCHN's Emergency Preparedness Specialist would provide directed training and technical assistance to CHC Emergency Preparedness Leads around mobile unit safety and completing the new mobile unit emergency management plan. The mobile unit plan template and learning series would be shared with all Colorado CHCs, to inform current and future work related to mobile units. All aspects of these activities are to be informed by the results of the NACHC Mobile Unit Assessment.

CURRENT STATE OF MOBILE

In Colorado, there are 13 mobile units homed at nine Community Health Centers (CHCs). This provides CHCs flexibility to bring care resources where they are needed most, which often includes spaces with limited access or resources. During the COVID-19 pandemic, CHCs quickly deployed their mobile units to provide COVID-19 testing followed by distribution of vaccinations. Aside from COVID-19 response, CHCs have developed unique ways to increase access to care through use of mobile units.

These are just a few examples of services mobile units provide:

- **Mountain Family Health Centers** hosts a mobile unit dedicated to providing dental services including basic dentistry, cleanings, preventive care, and x-rays for all ages in the Glenwood Springs area.
- **Salud Family Health** operates a mobile unit designed to provide primary care services to migrant populations within northeast and southeast Colorado.
- **Denver Health's Women's Mobile Clinic** travels to different community health sites (and other locations) to provide patient education as well as cervical and breast cancer screening, including digital mammography across the Denver area.



IMPACT SO FAR

At the start of this grant, CCHN sought to measure the impact of this project in a variety of methods. CCHN conducted an initial assessment of CHC preparedness related to their mobile units. Data collected from this assessment was used to develop training resources as well as provide specific topics for the learning collaborative sessions. CCHN will conduct an evaluation of CHC learning at the end of the project to measure overall impact and determine the next steps. CCHN will also track CHC involvement and attendance in the learning collaborative session. CCHN committed to reporting on all data collected and overall project impact through a mid-term and final report for this project.

Since the start of the grant, CCHN has begun discussions with the CHC Emergency Preparedness Peer Group to understand what preparedness efforts are in place related to mobile unit operations. CCHN also provided insights and feedback to NACHC on the mobile unit assessment and distributed the assessment to all Colorado CHCs. CCHN's Emergency Preparedness Specialist additionally met with the Mobile Health Association and several other PCAs participating in this grant to identify areas for collaboration and shared resources.

CCHN plans to use data from the NACHC mobile unit assessment to inform the mobile unit learning collaborative session and resource needs for developing the mobile unit emergency management plan.

CCHN has also shared the NACHC mobile unit assessment with all 20 CHC Operations Directors. At least 10 CHCs completed this assessment and all CHCs were encouraged to complete it even if they do not currently operate a mobile unit.

SURVEY RESULTS

