



# CHP+ HIGHLIGHTS

ISSUE 6 :: JULY 2006

A Resource for CHP+ Community Partners

## BREAKING NEWS!



New CHP+ marketing materials are now available. The materials include a deskguide, designed to serve as an easy reference for professionals, as well as family and prenatal information pieces. The deskguide outlines both the CHP+ program and the prenatal care programs, provides the federal poverty level guidelines to help determine who is eligible and highlights the different benefits of the five CHP+ Managed Care Organizations. The family and prenatal information pieces provide families with a simple explanation of the programs.

An initial mailing of the materials has gone out. If you do not receive CHP+ materials in the next few weeks, please contact the CHP+ Regional Outreach Coordinator (ROC) in your area to place an order. To find the ROC in your area please see the column on the right side of this newsletter.

## CHP+ News

### Looking for a New Regional Outreach Coordinator

The CHP+ Outreach Team is sad to announce the departure of one of our Regional Outreach Coordinators, Jonathan McDonald. He received a late acceptance to law school and left the team on July 14th. The team is eager to fill his position with a new coordinator to serve Clear Creek, Douglas, Eagle, Gilpin, Jefferson, Park and Summit counties. Please spread news of this position. [Click here to view the JOB DESCRIPTION.](#) Interested candidates should fax a cover letter and resume to 303-832-8352. If you have questions, please call Christine Dauchot at 303-830-3558 for more details.

### Interested in Learning More about CHP+?

The CHP+ Regional Outreach Coordinators are here to help. If you are interested in learning more about CHP+, please contact one of our ROCs to set up a presentation or training session. To find the ROC in your area please see the column on the right side of this newsletter.

### Test Your CHP+ Knowledge

Are you a CHP+ expert? Here are a few questions to put your CHP+ knowledge to the test. The answers can be found on the last page of the newsletter.

1. How much does CHP+ cost for a family with two children and an income above 150 percent of the federal poverty level?
2. What Managed Care Organization (MCO/HMO) is available for eligible pregnant women?
3. CHP+ covers children up to what age?
4. True or False: CHP+ covers families up to 185 percent of Federal Poverty Level.
5. How do families apply for CHP+?

## Health Tip

### What's in Your Medicine Cabinet?

Submitted by:

## IN THIS ISSUE

- CHP+ News
- Test Your CHP+ Knowledge
- Health Tip
- CHP+ Spotlight
- CHP+ Resource Contact Information

## RESOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION

*Your feedback is important to us. If you have any suggestions for upcoming newsletters, please contact [Tammy Stratton](#).*

*If you are interested in learning more about CHP+, please contact one of our Regional Outreach Coordinators to set up a presentation or training session or if you would like to add a community event to our calendar.*

### Denver Metro Region

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CHP+ marketing and outreach operated by

Mary Hilko, Public Education Coordinator  
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The contents of our medicine cabinets seem to grow daily. Why do partially used and expired medications accumulate? Many individuals don't complete their medication regimens as prescribed by their physicians. They start feeling better after a brief time, think that they are cured and discontinue the medicines too early. Medicines cannot be saved for future needs. All medications have strict expiration dates set by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

These unused medications pose a poison exposure risk for children. Last year, Denver Health's Rocky Mountain Poison Center received a total of 70,636 calls from Coloradans. Of this total, 45,273 were human poison exposures. Children age five and under accounted for 53 percent or 24,119 of the exposures. Six of the top ten exposure categories include substances that are stored in medicine cabinets. They are in decreasing order: cosmetic and personal care products, pain relievers, topical preparations such as diaper ointments, cough and cold medicines, vitamins and antihistamines.

What steps can you take to keep you and your family healthy and safe from stored partially used or outdated medications? Take the entire course of medication as prescribed. If the doctor tells you to discontinue the drug before the end of the treatment period, discard the remaining medications properly. Periodically clean out your medicine cabinet and dispose of medications and other items that are expired or no longer being used. Check with your local trash disposal service for proper disposal recommendations. Never discard medications in the trashcan where children or animals can find them. Some medicines should not be flushed down the toilet. Check with your local municipal trash disposal service for proper disposal recommendations. Should you ever have a poisoning emergency, help is only a phone call away at 1-800-222-1222.

**CHP+ Spotlight**  
**You are Not Just a Number**

*Submitted by Colorado Access*



What happened to Connie Tangye-Harris could happen to any of us.

After a 15-year career as a nurse, Connie began suffering severe back pain that left her disabled. Her condition was so bad that Connie has had five spinal fusions since 1996.

Because she qualified for disability, she and her daughter, Emma Blum, had no choice but to turn to Medicaid for their health care coverage.

Then on January 1 of this year, Connie's disability check went up due to a 2 percent cost-of-living increase. That increase made her ineligible for Medicaid - by \$1.

"I found out when I went to pay for a prescription for Emma and the pharmacist said it would be \$220. I just about passed out," she recalled. "I was in total panic. Emma would get ill without her medication."

She turned to Emma's pediatrician who told her about CHP+.

"I filled out the paperwork and got in right away," she said.

How does she like it so far?

"I love it," Connie said. "I am very happy and impressed, and feel blessed that I can get

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 Health Care Policy and  
 Financing Contact:**  
 Marketing Contract Manager  
 Joanne Lindsay  
 303-866-3144

**CHP+ Customer Service**  
 1-800-359-1991

**CHP+ HMO Contacts:**  
 CHP+ State Managed Care  
 Network (Anthem  
 BlueCross BlueShield)  
 1-877-523-8171

**Colorado Access**  
 1-888-214-1101

**Denver Health Medical  
 Plan**  
 720-956-2100

**Kaiser Permanente**  
 1-800-632-9700

**Rocky Mountain Health  
 Plans**  
 1-800-346-4643

**Delta Dental**  
 303-741-9300  
 or  
 1-800-610-0201



Emma's teeth cared for. I really, really appreciate the eye care and dental care. I really appreciate how human they have made the whole experience. I really like the way they take into consideration the patient's need. You are not just a number. Our care coordinator is very good at calling back to check on me and Emma to see if there's anything else we need."

Connie also likes the fact that Emma can continue seeing her regular pediatrician. "We've been going to him since my big kids (now in their 20s) were little kids."

### **RMSER Western Slope Head Start**

RMSER Western Slope Head Start has established itself as a regional promoter for a variety of health services by taking interest in the communities and individual families it serves.



Western Slope Head Start is a comprehensive child development program that serves 453 children and their families in Moffat, Mesa, Delta and Garfield counties. The program has been actively promoting CHP+ since the services were first made available. As a result of this long history of CHP+ referrals, the program has a wealth of experience and knowledge that allow the staff to assist each family find health care for their children. Western Slope Head Start is there for families throughout the entire

process. They ensure that the families in need receive assistance through the application process, which can include bringing in CHP+ outreach workers to parent meetings for initial introductions to the program and continued assistance to the families after the application is submitted. Because a majority of the families are not familiar with the resources available to them in the area, Western Slope Head Start is able to help them locate a wide variety of health services. They work with families to get required physicals and dental exams for their children, which helps the parents better understand and appreciate the benefit of having health insurance. Other services focus on nutrition and a healthy diet.

For more information about RMSER Western Slope Head Start, please contact Geri Manzanares, family services manager at 970-243-9318.

### **Test Your CHP+ Knowledge - Check Your Answers:**

1. Some families may pay an annual fee of \$25 to enroll one child, and \$35 to enroll two or more children (depending on family income). Families may also have to make co-payments of \$2 to \$5 for health and dental services. Also, it is important to remember that there are no fees or co-payments for Native Americans or Alaskan Natives.
2. Anthem BlueCross BlueShield is the health plan available for eligible pregnant women.
3. Children age 18 and under are eligible for CHP+.
4. False - CHP+ now covers families up to 200 percent of Federal Poverty Level.
5. To apply families can go to the Web site, [www.CHPplus.org](http://www.CHPplus.org) to download an application. Families can also call 1-800-359-1991 to request an application.

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