Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

NEWS RELEASE

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Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
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Colorado Health Service Corps accepting applications March 1-31

$1.6 million awarded in loan repayment to health care professionals

DENVER— New applications for the Colorado Health Service Corps loan repayment program are being accepted from March 1 to 31. Primary care physicians, psychiatrists and general dentists may be eligible for educational loan debt forgiveness of up to $105,000; physician assistants, advanced practice nurses and licensed mental health professionals may be eligible for up to $60,000 in loan debt forgiveness; and dental hygienists may be eligible for up to $22,500 in loan debt forgiveness.

To participate in the Colorado Health Service Corps, health professionals must be employed or seeking full-time employment in an outpatient primary care practice in an urban or rural area of Colorado with a health professional shortage. Successful applicants will demonstrate a commitment to caring for underserved people and agree to a term of service of three years.

In November 2011, the Colorado Health Service Corps, administered by the Primary Care Office at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, awarded a total of nearly $1.6 million in loan repayment funds to 24 health care professionals serving Colorado's medically underserved. The Colorado Health Service Corps has granted loan repayment to health care professionals in some of the state's most underserved communities.

For more information on the Colorado Health Service Corps, including eligibility requirements and the online application, visit www.coloradohealthservicecorps.org or call 303-692-2466.

The following health professionals have been awarded assistance through the Colorado Health Service Corps and will begin their service to Colorado:

Sophia Meharena	Medical Doctor	Rocky Mountain Youth Clinics-Aurora	Aurora	Adams
Rachel Menke	Nurse Practitioner	Mountain Family Health Centers	Basalt	Pitkin
Emily Barnak	Physician Assistant	Clinica Family Health Services	Boulder	Boulder
Michael Dow	Clinical Psychologist	Clinica Family Health Services	Boulder	Boulder
Jessica Smith	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	Mental Health Partners	Boulder	Boulder
Thomas Caughlan	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	West Central Mental Health Center	Canon City	Fremont
Amy Clauss	Medical Doctor	Peak Vista Community Health Center	Colorado Springs	El Paso
Evan Neufeld	Licensed Prof. Counselor	Peak Vista Community Health Center	Colorado Springs	El Paso
Kathy Lynch	Medical Doctor	Cortez Primary Care	Cortez	Montezuma
Erica Becker	Physician Assistant	Rocky Mountain Youth Clinic	Denver	Denver
Jessica Kenerson	Medical Doctor	Clinica Family Health Services	Denver	Denver
Ashlie Lund	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	Mental Health Center of Denver	Denver	Denver
Jill Rodriguez	Dental Hygienist	Clinica Family Health Services	Denver	Denver
Danielle Sanchez	Dental Hygienist	Wellington Web Center for Primary Care	Denver	Denver
Jay Tippets	Dentist	Montbello Family Health Center	Denver	Denver
Amber Wobbekind	Medical Doctor	Westside Family Health Center	Denver	Denver
Rosario Almiron	Dentist	Salud Family Health Center	Frederick	Weld
Kevin Jones	Medical Doctor	Colorado West Regional Mental Health Center	Frisco	Summit
Jana Bauman	Licensed Prof. Counselor	Colorado West Regional Mental Health Center	Grand Junction	Mesa
Sonya Orozco	Dental Hygienist	Sunrise Community Health Center	Greeley	Weld
Anna-Lisa Greenwade	Nurse Practitioner	Mental Health Partners	Longmont	Boulder
Melanie Hotz	Licensed Prof. Counselor	Sterling Correctional Facility	Sterling	Logan
Julia von Allmen	Physician Assistant	Spanish Peaks Family Clinic	Walsenburg	Huerfano
Hannah Martens	Marriage & Family Therapist	Centennial Mental Health Center	Yuma	Yuma

The Colorado Health Service Corps is administered by the Primary Care Office at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment with funding from The Colorado Health Foundation, the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, the state of Colorado, The Colorado Trust and the Comprecare Foundation.

The Primary Care Office improves the health of underserved Coloradans by assessing for primary care workforce needs and offering incentives to health professionals who are interested in practicing in medically underserved communities.

The Colorado Health Foundation works to make Colorado the healthiest state in the nation by investing in grants and initiatives to health-related nonprofits that focus on increasing the number of Coloradans with health insurance; ensuring they have access to quality, coordinated care; and encouraging healthy living (www.ColoradoHealth.org).

The Colorado Trust is a statewide grant-making foundation dedicated to achieving access to health for all Coloradans (www.coloradotrust.org).

The Comprecare Foundation aims to encourage and assist specific health-related programs and to make grants to support the activities of organizations that are designed to advance and promote health care education, the delivery of health care services, and the improvement of community health and welfare (http://www.comprecarefoundation.org).

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