

# 2024 CONFERENCE – Program



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## TUESDAY, APRIL 30: Pre-conference Sessions

8:30-  
12:30

### MITEY Change

This workshop is for pre-registered Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)-SBHC Project grantees ONLY who have completed the online training prior to this in-person session. Communicating effectively with teens requires a specialized approach. We train teachers, doctors, health educators, nurses, social workers, case managers, and other professionals in effective, adolescent-specific communication strategies. This interactive training teaches you to use motivational interviewing strategies that will improve your ability to identify risky behaviors, communicate effectively with teens, and motivate them toward positive, healthier choices.

- **Chris Robinson, Chris Jurasek**, Trainers, Possibilities for Change

11:30-  
12:30

### Telehealth Hub-and-Spoke Expansion Grantee Meeting

This session is specifically for grantees of Youth Healthcare Alliance's Kaiser Permanente grant; however, it is open to other conference attendees who have registered. This will serve as the quarter two grant meeting for Youth Healthcare Alliance's Expanding School-Based Health Clinics through Hub-and-Spoke Models pilot project. Attendance is required for project grantees. This will be a collaborative working session focused on operational plans and promotional efforts, with technical assistance to support individual organization's annual project goals for patient utilization of telehealth services. The project grantees will share progress updates and challenges of the work and are encouraged to bring documents for group feedback and revision. We will approach this process using a quality improvement framework focused on patient utilization of telehealth at spoke site locations.

- **Rebecca Gostlin, Michaela Cardinal**, Youth Healthcare Alliance

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**1:00-3:00 Colorado Department for Public Health and the Environment (CDPHE)  
School-Based Health Center (SBHC) Program Grantee Check-In**

Lunch for this session's attendees begins at 12:30, and this session is for pre-registered SBHC Program grantees. CDPHE staff will share updates and solicit input on upcoming decisions related to the program's data system and reporting, stakeholder work groups (e.g., performance measures, patient experience survey, and telehealth standards), training and technical assistance, and strategy projects for oral health, SBIRT, and tobacco.

- **Michelle Shultz, Angela Oh, Liz Atwood, Kristina Green, Laurie Swanson, Mica Moeller, Robyn Maestas, CDPHE**

**3:30-5:00 No Kid Hungry Grantee meeting**

This session is open to anyone interested in attending and is a required quarterly grantee meeting for school-based clinics participating in the No Kid Hungry project. This session will build on the work done in the first half of the project to establish and codify workflows for screening for food security in school-based clinics and focus more in depth on community and state resources to address food security needs in these clinics. We will hear from Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) staff working on children's food and nutrition efforts from a variety of standpoints and how this relates to the work being done in school-based clinics. We will also focus on messaging around screening for food security and ways to present food assistance resources to increase uptake of both.

- **Rebeca Gostlin, Mariana Ledezma-Amorosi, Youth Healthcare Alliance**

**5:30-7:00 Youth Healthcare Alliance working session – Board and staff only**

This portion of the agenda is only for Youth Healthcare Alliance Board of Directors and staff members. We will have a brief meeting at the conference center, then go to the hotel restaurant, Degree, for dinner.

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## WEDNESDAY, MAY 1: Conference Sessions

**7:30-8:30am** | **Registration & Breakfast**

**8:30-9:30am** | **Welcome & Keynote from Warren Binford**

Warren Binford, EdM, JD is an international children's rights scholar and advocate whose research and writing largely focuses on 21st century forms of childhood harms. Professor Binford is the inaugural W.H. Lea Endowed Chair for Justice in Pediatric Law, Policy and Ethics at the University of Colorado where she is a Professor of Pediatrics, Professor of Law (by courtesy), and a Core Faculty Member in the Center for Bioethics and the Humanities. She joined the Kempe Center as its Advocacy Director in 2020. Professor Binford has published a wide variety of 90+ works and given hundreds of presentations worldwide. Media appearances on children's issues include CNN, BBC, NBC, NPR, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Newsweek, Washington Post, the New Yorker, the Atlantic, and many others. She has received approximately 50 awards and distinctions and has been both a Fulbright Scholar and the inaugural Fulbright Canada-Palix Foundation Distinguished Visiting Chair in Brain Science and Child and Family Health and Wellness. She holds a BA, summa cum laude with distinction, in Literature and Psychology and an EdM from Boston University and a JD from Harvard Law School.

**9:45-10:45am** | **Breakout Sessions – Part One**

### **OPTION ONE: Strengthening Community Partnerships to Increase School Safety**

This presentation will focus on the importance of developing, maintaining, and strengthening relationships with key community partners, especially in regard to the different aspects of school safety. Participants will hear how a partnership between a small, urban school district and a school-based community health clinic was created and is maintained to support the students and families with the community, as well as partner with the schools to create a multi-disciplinary, multi-faceted approach to meet the student's needs and creating a network around students who are more at-risk in regard to safety. Challenges, solutions, and lessons-learned will be shared, as well as

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an overview of logistics and key-considerations for the planning phases of future partnerships.

- **Alexis Barrere, PNP**, Sheridan Health Services, Youth Health Clinic

## **OPTION TWO: Trauma Experiences, Health, and Mental Health of Newly Arrived Immigrant Families**

This presentation will be an opportunity to learn results from National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research focused on the trauma exposure and mental health of newly arrived immigrant adults. The speakers will review immigration terms and definitions and how they can affect access to healthcare. This presentation will include aggregate healthcare utilization data from recently arrived Central and South American populations seeking care at Denver Health and discuss clinical considerations for school-based health centers specific to newly arrived immigrants.

- **Kristi Knuti Rodrigues, MD, MPH**, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Pediatric Emergency Department and Urgent Care, Refugee, Immigrant, and Newcomer (RIN) Health Services, Denver Health
- **Laura Vargas, PhD, LMSW, MPA**, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Colorado School of Medicine & Anschutz Medical Center

11:00am –  
12:00pm

### **Breakout Sessions – Part Two**

## **OPTION ONE: Adolescents and STIs: Addressing an Epidemic Fueled by Shame**

Rates of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis have been climbing in the U.S. since 2013, and most cases occur in adolescents and young people. The rise in infections is not a result of changes in sexual patterns, but instead due to lack of awareness, and systemic restrictions in access to effective prevention, testing, and treatment. This session will provide updated clinical information and offer strategies for health providers and educators to reduce fear, stigma, and shame fueling the STI epidemic. One of the most effective strategies for STI prevention is vaccination but rates among adolescents remain low. We will review the 2021 Colorado law that allows minors to consent on their own to HPV, Hep A, and Hep B vaccination. The session will also review current STI screening recommendations, updated information on syphilis, and essential resources for the appropriate treatment of STIs. Finally, the session will explore how fear, stigma, and shame fuel the STI epidemic, and ways that health

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providers, educators, and all advocates for young people can work to change the narrative regarding adolescent reproductive and sexual health.

- **Eliza Buyers, MD**, ECHO Colorado

## **OPTION TWO: Employing Student Ambassadors to Increase Awareness of SBHC Services**

Through several youth led focus groups, we've learned that many students who attend schools with Denver Health School-based Health Center (SBHC) clinics have limited knowledge of the services provided. Although most students may have heard of the SBHC at their school, this does not mean they know what it is or that they may benefit from clinic services. To address this gap, Denver Health piloted a new strategy of hiring Student Ambassadors in 3 schools. The Student Ambassadors were tasked with collecting data from their school peers that was used to evaluate the big question: "How can we increase students' awareness of SBHC services?" This project was led by one of our Youth Advisors, who will share their process of planning, hiring, and supporting the Student Ambassadors, as well as lessons learned and plans.

- **Tara Melinkovich**, Youth Program Manager, Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools
- **Jemima Safi**, Youth Advisor, Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools

12:15pm-  
1:15pm

### **Lunch & Networking! Internal Operations of SBHCs**

Let's discuss with each other internal operations of your clinics, including but not limited to: operations, workflows, school relationships, enrollment into public coverage programs. This is your opportunity to talk to your peers outside of your organization and learn how folks are doing this similarly or differently from you. We will provide question prompts for you to consider helpful questions; however, please take the discussion where you are most needing support from other organizations!

- **Moderated by: Aubrey Hill**, Executive Director, Youth Healthcare Alliance

1:30pm-  
3:00pm

### **Breakout Sessions – Part Three**

## **OPTION ONE: PATCH for Providers Workshop**

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If you are interested in what teens have to say about their health care experiences, why not ask them directly? What are their concerns, fears, and preferences in health care settings? Are there things that providers in your organization can do to better connect with youth? With the support of their PATCH Site Coordinator, trained PATCH Teen Educators share their authentic insights into the concerns, preferences and realities that impact the health care experiences of today's youth.

- **Tara Melinkovich**, Youth Program Manager, Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools

### **OPTION TWO: Fostering Resilience in Clinical Encounters with Youth**

The internal resources dedicated to trauma survival responses can mean that typical development of resilience can get derailed, which can then compound trauma's negative effects. Fostering the 3 Cs of Resilience - Connection, Coping and Competence - can enhance the development of resilience for children and adolescents impacted by trauma. This session will explore how to foster the 3 C's during clinical encounters and interventions.

- **Laura McArthur, PhD**, Clinical Psychologist & Co-Founder, Resilient Futures

3:15pm-  
4:15pm

### **Breakout Sessions – Part Four**

### **OPTION ONE: Recovery Coaches for Youth Substance Use**

In this session, attendees will learn the role of a peer support specialist/recovery coach, and how the team has implemented it at the Youth Health Clinic. Attendees will uncover strategies for provider collaboration, relationship, and referrals, as well as integration into two alternative schools through the Youth Health Clinic. This will also include information about what engagement with the youth looks like, and contingency management/incentives.

- **Britt Westmoreland**, Peer Support Specialist & Recovery Coach, Sheridan Health Services Youth Health Clinic

### **OPTION TWO: Effective Communication with School Partners**

*More information coming soon*

- **Whitney Gustin Connor**, Executive Director, Kids First Health Care

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- **Breanna Deidel**, Director of Communications, Kids First Health Care

## THURSDAY, MAY 2: Conference Sessions

7:30am-  
8:30am

### Registration & Breakfast

- Opening remarks from Bronze Sponsor Connect for Health Colorado – **Kevin Patterson**, CEO

8:30am-  
9:15am

### Morning Session and Networking on Community & Youth Engagement

This is your opportunity to have some networking with folks outside your organization to learn how they regularly engage communities and youth in their work, including starting new relationships as well as maintaining relationships and incorporating feedback.

- Moderated by **Michaela Cardinal**, Project Coordinator, Youth Healthcare Alliance

9:30am-  
10:30am

### Breakout Sessions – Part One

#### **OPTION ONE: Increasing Mental Health Treatment Support in Primary Care and Schools by Consultation**

Many primary care providers in the school and community report feeling inadequately prepared and overwhelmed by the mental health needs of children and teens, which have dramatically increased in the past decade. These same primary care providers often lack support from allied mental health professionals, particularly child psychiatrists. This session will focus on how PCPs can utilize a free program in Colorado that provides support in the assessment and management of mild to moderate mental health concerns of children and teens. The Colorado Pediatric Psychiatry Consultation & Access Program (CoPPCAP) provides phone-based consultation with child psychiatrists, psychologists, and specialized community resources navigators for individual questions. CoPPCAP also provides ongoing educational experiences for primary care providers. The session includes accessing



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the service, common questions, strategies to get the most out of a consult, and how the service increases equitable access to mental health care across all communities of Colorado.

- **Austin Butterfield, MD**, Psychiatrist, Colorado Pediatric Psychiatry Consultant & Access Program (CoPPCAP)
- **Sandy Fritsch, MD**, Project Director & Medical Director, Colorado Pediatric Psychiatry Consultant & Access Program (CoPPCAP)

## **OPTION TWO: Community Schools: Building Healthier Futures and Thriving Communities Through Engagement, Coordination, and Collaboration**

- **Shannon Allen**, Out-of-School Time Programs & Partnerships Specialist, Colorado Department of Education
- **Elizabeth "B" Lewis**, Community Schools Impact Manager, Aurora Public Schools

10:45am-  
11:45am

### **Breakout Sessions – Part Two**

#### **OPTION ONE: Building TRUST: Addressing the mental health crisis and school violence in an urban school-based setting**

Since the pandemic the prevalence of elevated anxiety and depression symptoms nearly doubled amongst youth. Suicide and gun-related deaths are among the most common causes of youth mortality. As gun violence in communities and schools continues rising, we see its behavioral health impact on youth with increased utilization of Emergency Rooms (ER) due to acute Mental Health (MH) issues. In order to address the current MH crisis, Denver Health School-Based Clinics created a crisis intervention team that will support urgent needs within schools, intensive outpatient programs, detox, and inpatient settings. This program will provide critical evidence-based MH and psychiatric services within 24 hours for youth at risk for suicide and violence, those who have experienced traumatic events and those requiring emergency room visits or hospitalizations for severe MH symptoms. This presentation will discuss an innovative school-based program designed to meet the needs of patients with acute MH needs. We hope that this program can serve as a model for other school based health centers to serve our most acute patients.



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- **Danielle Vice, LCSW**, Director of School-Based Behavioral Health Services, Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools
- **Kristie Ladegard, MD**, Director of School-Based Clinical Psychiatry, Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools
- **Amanda Wentz, LCSW**, Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Supervisor of SBHC TRUST, Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools
- **Lindsay Brown, LCSW**, Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Supervisor of SBHC Mental Health Team, Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools

### **OPTION TWO: Social Media and Marketing Panel: Learn from SBHCs on Mastering the Art of Marketing**

*More information coming soon!*

- Denver Health & A Kidz Clinic speakers (more information coming soon)

**12:00pm-  
1:30pm**

#### **Lunch Plenary: Celebrate!**

- Inspiration Awards, presented by **Aubrey Hill**, Youth Healthcare Alliance
- Silent Auction winners announced by **Michaela Cardinal**, Youth Healthcare Alliance
- Closing remarks from **Aubrey Hill**, Youth Healthcare Alliance

**1:30pm**

Conference Concludes – See you next year!

## **THURSDAY, MAY 2: Post-Conference Sessions**

**1:45-4:00**

#### **Positive Youth Development Training**

Join Goddess Tyescha, Positive Youth Development Specialist, and Liz Atwood, School-Based Health Center Program Coordinator in this interactive youth engagement skill-building session. The first part of the session will include an overview of PYD concepts and will contextualize these concepts in terms of

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community advisory councils and other ways your SBHC may be engaging youth. We will also hear from youth and answer your questions about youth engagement. We will use a mix of large and small group discussions to determine best practices and action steps for your clinic in becoming an ally and trusted adult for youth.

- **Goddess Tyescha Clark**, Department of Human Services
- **Liz Atwood**, CDPHE