



BREAKING NEWS!

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**New Federal Poverty Level guidelines**

New Federal Poverty Level guidelines went into effect in Colorado on Tuesday, April 1st. The new income guidelines increase the amount families with children and pregnant women can earn to be eligible for CHP+.

Here are the new earning levels for people to consider when referring a family to apply.

Family Size	Monthly	Weekly	Hourly
1	\$1,777	\$411	\$11
2	\$2,392	\$553	\$14
3	\$3,007	\$695	\$18
4	\$3,622	\$837	\$21
5	\$4,237	\$979	\$25
6	\$4,852	\$1,121	\$29
7	\$5,467	\$1,263	\$32
8	\$6,082	\$1,405	\$36
9	\$6,697	\$1,547	\$39
10	\$7,312	\$1,689	\$43

Don't forget there are significant expenses a family can deduct from the gross income also. These include the costs of child and elder care; medical costs including prescriptions and durable medical equipment; health insurance premiums for other family members; alimony and child support.

To obtain an order form to request the updated CHP+ deskguide for professionals or inserts for brochures, please visit [www.CHPplus.org](http://www.CHPplus.org) or call 1-800-359-1991.

**CHP+ News**

**Thank you!**

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the survey questions we included in our last issue. Our goal is to provide you with the information you need and want in the best possible format. Your responses and feedback will help us to ensure that each issue of **CHP+ Highlights** is meeting your expectations.

Everyone who responded was entered into a drawing to win one of two Visa gift cards for \$25. We are pleased to report the winners have been drawn and are from Starpoint in Cañon City and Plains Medical Center in Fort Morgan. Congratulations to both winners.

**April is National Minority Health month**

In honor of National Minority Health month, we would like to thank our wonderful community partners throughout the State that reach out and work with some of Colorado's hardest-to-reach populations including minority groups such as Latinos, Native Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders and African American communities. These organizations do great work in their communities on a daily

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**RESOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION**

*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 to invite CHP+ to participate in a special event in your community. Any media calls should be directed to Joanne Lindsay.*

*\*\*Indicates the person is fluent in Spanish or the organization has Spanish-speaking customer service representatives.*

**Denver Metro**

basis and have been incredible partners working with the CHP+ outreach team to help spread the word about the program.

### **Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases course**

Mark your calendars for the Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases course coming up on July 8th and 9th. This two-day course, presented by CDC Health Educators live and in person, provides a comprehensive review of immunizations, vaccine-preventable diseases and their respective vaccines.

Interested physicians, nurses, nursing students, medical assistants, pharmacists, immunization program managers, health educators and other health professionals who provide immunizations are invited to attend. CEUs will be provided. Additional information is available at [www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization).

### **New executive director to join the Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved**

Deborah Colburn has been named executive director of the Colorado Coalition for the Medically Underserved (CCMU) – a coalition of public, private and non-profit organizations committed to access, affordable, timely and quality health care for everyone in Colorado. Deborah will start on May 5th. As a former New Hampshire state representative, she has held leadership positions with state government and with both for-profit and non-profit organizations.

### **Ann Lysek, community-based-organization (CBO) liaison**

Effective April 18th Ann Lysek is now the CHP+ community-based-organization (CBO) liaison. As the CBO liaison, Ann serves as an aid to our community partners directly assisting families, including Presumptive Eligibility sites.

Feel free to contact Ann at [CBO@acs-inc.com](mailto:CBO@acs-inc.com) or 303-572-6710 with inquiries regarding customer service items such as:

- application status in CBMS;
- case inquiries (e.g. child was on Medicaid, but is now on CHP+);
- high-level benefit information on coverage and available options;
- high-level PE CBMS data entry questions (where and how to enter information); etc.

Ann will be available by email and phone when she is not attending site/organization meetings. Phone and email messages will be returned within 24-48 hours. Urgent requests will be answered within 24 hours.

Please note that all Policy related questions still need to be directed to the Department.

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## **Health Tip**

### **Earth Day 2008 – 10 Simple Actions that Reduce Your Environmental Impact**

*by Sam Greyhawk, an energy efficiency evangelist*

There is a big difference between knowing how to live green and actually living green. Being green isn't always easy and it isn't always cheap but the world you live in becomes a better place for your efforts.



### **Region – Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas counties:**

Ileana Perez\*\*

720-940-6969

[Email](#)

### **Denver Metro Region – Denver, Jefferson and Park counties:**

Suzette Elledge

303-909-2010

[Email](#)

### **Southwest Region:**

Kari Smith

970-759-0577

[Email](#)

### **Northwest Region:**

Candice Talkington

970-260-3880

[Email](#)

### **Southeast Region:**

Mary Rivera\*\*

719-251-1791

[Email](#)

### **Northeast Region:**

Kathy Anderson

970-526-2991

[Email](#)

### **North Central Region:**

Rosie Duran\*\*

970-420-9058

[Email](#)

### **CHP+ Customer Service**

1-800-359-1991\*\*

### **CHP+ HMO**

#### **Contacts:**

*CHP+ State Managed*

*Care Network –*

*Anthem\*\**

1-877-523-8171

"Greening" your own life starts with a single step. If you are ready to take that first step then consider the following 10 simple actions that you can apply in your own life to reduce your impact on the environment.



1. Support local green businesses. Do you have a local co-op or farmer's market where you can shop?
2. Install Energy Star products such as compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) or a Cool-N-Save(tm) Air Conditioning Pre-Cooling System. Doing this can provide a 30-75 percent energy savings.
3. Always remember to check and maintain your tire pressure at least once a month. Doing this can save you about \$840 a year on gas and reduce approximately 250 pounds of carbon dioxide.
4. Add low-flow aerators to any sink you have that may have been manufactured before 1994. In 1994 the government mandated that sinks could have no more than 2.2 gallons per minute of flow. Before 1994 sinks could use between 3-4 gallons of water per minute.
5. Purchase green power from your electric company. This reduces demand for fossil fuel-based power.
6. Plant a tree. Trees offer shade and reduce CO2 from the environment.
7. Bring your own utensils into work - it's an easy way to avoid throwaway plastic ones.
8. Bring your own coffee mug to coffee shops - it's an easy way to avoid disposable coffee cups.
9. Reduce the amount of red meat you eat. Why? The production of animal-products has an expensive environmental cost, so the less you eat, the less damage the environment incurs.
10. Unplug power adapters, like your cell phone charger and MP3 player charger, when not in use. These chargers use energy 24/7 even when your item is not charging.

While this is far from a comprehensive list, I hope these tips help you become a bit more "green" in your own day-to-day lives.

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### 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 near the bottom of the newsletter.

1. According to the new Federal Poverty Level guidelines, what is the maximum income a family of four can make annually and still qualify for CHP+?
2. Who is the community-based-organization liaison?
3. Name two CHP+ services (benefits) for children.
4. Name two CHP+ Prenatal Care Program services (benefits) for pregnant women.

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### Community and Training Events

For more information about community and CHP+ training events or to share

#### 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

#### Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing Contact:

Public Information  
Officer

\*Contact for all CHP+  
and Department media  
calls

Joanne Lindsay  
303-866-3144

[Email](#)

#### MAXIMUS Contacts:

CHP+ marketing and  
outreach operated by  
MAXIMUS

*MAXIMUS Manager of  
Marketing and*

*Outreach for CHP+*

Christine Dauchot

303-830-3558

[Email](#)

#### MAXIMUS Project Director

Sally Harmon

303-830-3550

[Email](#)

#### The Bawmann Group

news of a community event, contact the Regional Outreach Coordinator in your area.

**Denver Metro Region – Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties:**

*May 17, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

Thornton Fest  
Thornton Multipurpose Fields  
Adams County

**Denver Metro Region – Denver, Jefferson, Park Counties:**

*May 2, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.*

Health Fair  
Palmer Elementary School  
Denver County

**Northwest Region:**

*May 1, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

Cover the Uninsured Week  
Marillac Clinic Enrollment Event  
Mesa County

*May 2, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.*

Cover the Uninsured Week  
City Market Enrollment Event  
Coronado Plaza  
Mesa County

*May 3, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

Cover the Uninsured Week  
Goodwill Industries Enrollment Event  
Mesa County

**Northeast Region:**

*May 2, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.*

Child Find Health Clinic  
Akron  
Washington County

*May 2, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

Child Find Health Clinic  
Otis Preschool  
Washington County

**Southwest Region:**

*May 1, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

Cover the Uninsured Week  
Mercy Regional Medical Center Event  
La Plata County

**Southeast Region:**

*May 2, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

Custer County Preschool Screenings  
Custer County

*May 3, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*

Westside CARES Free Immunization Clinic & Health Fair

**Contact:**

Media relations and  
advertising services for  
CHP+

*Vice President of Client  
Services*

Tammy Stratton

303-320-7790

[Email](#)

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



### **CHP+ Spotlight**

We would like your help! If you know of community organizations or individuals doing great things for CHP+, please nominate them to be featured in the CHP+ Spotlight section. To submit a nomination today, simply email [chpplushighlights@morethanpr.com](mailto:chpplushighlights@morethanpr.com). Please include your contact information, the name of the organization(s) or person(s) you are nominating and the contact information for each, if available. Thank you!

### **Mountain Resource Center**

Located in Conifer, Mountain Resource Center (MRC) is a nonprofit community health and human services agency. MRC has been a CHP+ partner since the inception of the program. The MRC team provides residents in the mountain areas of Park, Jefferson and Clear Creek Counties with application assistance for Medicaid and CHP+. MRC offers handouts on CHP+ to all clients that meet eligibility requirements and provides health services and education onsite through partnerships with area health care providers. MRC is also currently in the process of applying to become a Presumptive Eligibility site.

MRC has the ability to reach a large percentage of the population in its area that may not otherwise have access to health services and application assistance. Many low-income, isolated families come to the MRC through its crisis services programs. When families come to MRC in need of services, family advocates assess the individual needs of each family and their children. This includes basic and essential needs, employment needs, and health care access and coverage. The team often discovers that lack of health insurance and health services is a part of the crisis. For many families in the mountain and rural communities of Park and Jefferson Counties, transportation to services in the Denver metro area is not available.

During the intake process those who are determined to be eligible for CHP+ are immediately provided with information and application assistance. Through grant funding from the Colorado Health Foundation and Family Resource Center Association, MRC is currently preparing to do outreach to the more remote communities in its service area through schools and local service organizations.

For more information please contact Sharon Schrage, executive director of MRC at 303.838.7552.

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### **Get to know the CHP+ Regional Outreach Coordinator Team**

CHP+ would like to take the opportunity to help you get to know our outreach team. The ROCs are based throughout the state and work with community partners to promote CHP+ education, outreach and application assistance services. Serving as liaisons to our community partners, the ROCs are a great resource, helping to educate and communicate with eligible families and professional groups throughout Colorado.

### **Mary Rivera, Southeast Region**

*“Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well.” – Phillip Earl Stanhope*

For Mary Rivera words of wisdom from her mother really ring true and are words

she lives by. “My mother always said ‘anything worth doing is worth doing well,’” explained Mary. “She even coined her very own phrase ‘stick-to-ity’ which meant find something you are passionate about, do it well and stick to it, regardless of the challenges.”

When it comes to being involved in the community, networking and connecting people to resources Mary is passionate about it, does it well and has stuck to it throughout her career.

Mary has worn many hats throughout her career but they all have one common thread – serving the community and making connections. From her work as an intern community organizer with Metro Organizations for People and in pastoral ministry to her work as a case manager, nutrition educator and a Head Start family service worker, Mary is dedicated to the communities she serves. She is known as the “info gal” and knows who’s who throughout her region.



*Mary and her Chihuahua, Reina*

Currently, Mary is the CHP+ Southeast Regional Outreach Coordinator. Based in Pueblo, she serves Baca, Bent, Crowley, Custer, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero, Prowers, Pueblo and Teller counties. As a part of the CHP+ outreach team, Mary serves as a liaison to community partners and stakeholders such as community based organizations, employers, schools and Latino community agencies to promote CHP+ education, outreach and application assistance services.

Another passion for Mary is her culture and language. One of the highlights of her life was attending educational pastoral courses through the Mexican American Cultural Center in San Antonio. This experience sparked her love of the Spanish language which she puts to use on a daily basis in her work with the community and as the head of the CHP+ translation team.

“My job as a ROC allows me to do the things that are important to me,” said Mary. “Every day I connect families with important resources and work to spread the word about CHP+ and interact with both the English and Spanish-speaking communities throughout my region. At the end of the day if I’ve helped even one person or one family, then it’s been a good day.”

And Mary never misses an opportunity to spread the word about CHP+. Even if she is going to her own doctor and dentist appointments she is sure to bring along CHP+ information. Her biggest successes as a ROC have come in her ability to build good, strong working relationships with community partners. Two highlights for Mary are being a part of the Health Fair Collaborative – a group of El Paso County community-based organizations that have come together to ensure access to health care for kids and families - and working with Pueblo StepUp – an agency with a mission to positively impact the health, well-being and access to health care for Pueblo’s underserved. Building strong relationships with these organizations has allowed Mary to establish herself as the area ROC and better

serve the counties in her region.

Mary grew up in the Pueblo area, where she lives today. At home, the center of Mary's household is her Chihuahua "Queen", Reina.

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

1. According to the new Federal Poverty Level guidelines a family of four can earn up to \$43,464 annually and still qualify for CHP+.
2. Effective April 18th Ann Lysek is now the CHP+ community-based-organization (CBO) liaison.
3. CHP+ services (benefits) for children include:
  - Physicals and doctor visits
  - Immunizations
  - Dental Care (children only)
  - Hospital services
  - Eye care and eye glasses
  - Prescriptions
  - Mental/Behavioral health care
  - Hearing aids
4. CHP+ Prenatal Care Program services (benefits) for pregnant women include:
  - All prenatal care
  - Hospital services
  - Post-delivery care
  - Physicals
  - Other doctor visits
  - Prescriptions
  - Mental/Behavioral health care
  - Eye care and eye glasses
  - Hearing aids

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