



Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

# FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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Editor: Linda Niebauer <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/farleyhealthpolicycenter>



[Free days at national parks, national monuments and national historic sites in Colorado](#) is a post on *UCHealth Today* by Katie Kerwin McCrimmon about free days offered during the year for Colorado's 13 national parks, monuments and historic areas. Reservations may be required in the summer and fall.

[Meaning, purpose, and belonging \(oh my\)](#) is this week's newsletter from Ben Miller about why we shouldn't shy away from talking about topics like faith and spiritual health.

The Farley Center is seeking a full-time rural health policy research services professional. Master's degree in public health preferred. [Apply online here by April 26.](#)

[Collaborative Community Response Initiative \(CCRI\) coalition meeting](#) May 3, 10-11:15AM MT will feature JoAnn Toney, WellPower's director of clinical services, who will present on Denver Sanderson Apartment's trauma-informed permanent supportive housing model...an innovative initiative tackling chronic homelessness.

The Larry A. Green Center surveys to date have directly informed primary care in federal and state policy and via top-tier journals. [A new survey](#), designed to better understand response and capacity of U.S. primary care practice to COVID-19 has been launched, and responses are due by April 21<sup>st</sup> if you choose to contribute to this initiative.

NAPCRG 52 Annual Meeting is November 20-24 in Quebec City. [Paper and poster submissions are due April 21.](#)



[Integrating Public Health and Health Care – Protecting Health as a Team Sport](#) is a perspective piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Dr. Charlene A. Wong and colleagues about how the systems meant to advance the goal of putting data into action to protect health and improve lives have been siloed for much too long. The authors suggest that investing in foundational components for public health and health care integration could lead to more shared successes.

[Doctors take on dental duties to reach low-income and uninsured patients](#) is a CBS News story by Kate Ruder about how family physician, Dr. Patricia Braun and Denver Health colleagues, are seeing more oral disease than the general population as they integrate oral health into medical checkups for children, pregnant women and others who can't afford or don't have access to dentists.

[Can AI Be Good for Our Health?](#) is a story on *Katie Couric Media* by Emily Pinto that reports that medical experts give a “resounding yes” about the value of AI in healthcare.



[Bill moving through Colorado legislature is needed to help close down illicit drug market on social media](#) is an opinion piece in *The Colorado Sun* by Chelsea Brundige about how social media companies can't be trusted to self-regulate and how it's time lawmakers step in to protect kids.

[The Role of State Health Agencies in Disaggregating Latino Patients' Data](#) is a blog post on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* website by John Heintzman and Miguel Marino about the need to consistently collect granular health data at the point of care for Latino populations.

[Colorado Medicaid program settles lawsuit over lack of mental health care for children](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Jennifer Brown about how HCPF agreed to pay for an outside examination of its policies and then write a robust plan within a year to improve its mental health services.

[Hospitals suing patients over unpaid bills would have to put their names on lawsuits under new Colorado measure](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by John Ingold about a bill that follows a *Colorado Sun* and 9News investigation into UHealth's practice of suing thousands of patients per year under the names of debt-collection companies.

[State funding the rest of UNC's College of Osteopathic Medicine would bring big benefits to rural Colorado](#) is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Andy Feinstein

about how a bill before legislators would help the state stem the health care gap with new facilities at Northern Colorado and other state colleges.

[Centering Law in Public Health Education](#) is an article in *Health Affairs* by Daniel Goldberg and colleagues, which argues that law is as core to public health as epidemiology and biostatistics, and should be centered in schools and programs of public health.

[‘We’re the Telescope Looking Forward’: Medical Ethicists Ask Tough Questions as Part of \\$66 Million Research Project](#) is a story on the *CU Department of Medicine* website by Mark Harden about how the CU medicine faculty members will address ethical and public-perception issues early in an initiative to develop high-tech treatment systems.



[Recommendations for a Standardized State Methodology to Measure Clinical Behavioral Health Spending](#) is a new report by Vinayak Sinha and colleagues of Freedman HealthCare that offers recommendations for a methodology that includes claims and non-claims payments and draws on approaches used by ME, MA, and RI, to measure how much payers spend on behavioral health clinical services in a way that allows for comparability across states.

[As the Opioid Epidemic Worsens in Colorado, Pregnant and Postpartum People Are Dying](#) is a post on the *Colorado Trust* website by Claire Cleveland that indicates that maternal mortality is often considered a metric of the overall health of a community. Those most at risk in Colorado include people of color, people living in poverty or rural areas, those with less than a high school education or people who are older than 40 years old are disproportionately impacted.

The Colorado Trust's [2023 Year in Review: Writing Our Next Chapter](#) is available to download here.

[Puncturing Misconceptions about Vaccine Hesitancy](#) is an interview with Dr. David M. Higgins, pediatrician at the University of Colorado and Children's Hospital, about how studies indicate that vaccine hesitance, especially among parents, is not as widespread as many believe.

[Gun Safety Policies Save Lives](#) is a post on *Everytown Research* that indicates which states have the ideal laws to prevent gun violence and how they stack up on 50 key policies.

[Identifying Personal Strengths to Help Patients Manage Chronic Illness](#) is an

article on *PCORI.org* about a study that focused on people's strengths rather than what's wrong. The team created a computer app to help patients recognize personal strengths upon which they can draw.



[Helping Family Caregivers through the Lens of a Medical-Legal Partnership](#) is an article posted on the *National Center for Medical Legal Partnership* by Randy Retkin and Naji'a Tameez about how LegalHealth, a division of New York Legal Assistance Group, provides legal support to people experiencing poverty, people with terminal illness, immigrants, and other vulnerable populations; as well as to caregivers to help with even the most basic and necessary tasks for aging or intellectually disabled loved ones.

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