



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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<https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/farleyhealthpolicycenter>



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

[Implementing High-Quality Primary Care: Rebuilding the Foundation of Health Care](#) is a webinar from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine scheduled for May 4th, 11AM-12:15PM MT during which the authors of a new report will provide an overview of the key issues, conclusions and recommendations related to the state of primary care today and how to strengthen its services going forward, especially for the underserved.

[Meeting the Mental Health Crisis](#) will be a panel discussion, to include Ben Miller, April 28th, 9:30-10:30AM MT about the rising mental health crisis in the United States, and what steps should be taken to combat this 'new wave' of the pandemic.

[A Path Forward: Thriving in Rural Health Care after COVID-19](#) is the title of the April 28th noon to 1PM Levitt Distinguished Speaker presentation by Benjamin Anderson, the Vice President of Rural Health Hospitals, Colorado Hospital Association. He will discuss challenges faced by rural Colorado clinicians during the pandemic as well as share stories of resiliency. Benjamin and Dr. Lauren Hughes led production of a toolkit and playbook, ["Re-imagining Leadership: A Pathway for Rural Health to Thrive in a COVID-19 World."](#)

[Removing Barriers to Mental Health Care for Children and Teenagers](#) is a webinar (an episode of Managed Care Cast) discussion with Ben Miller, chief strategy officer for Well Being Trust and one of the authors of a recent report about how health insurers and state Medicaid programs are covering mental health care for children in compliance with federal law.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[The COVID-19 Pandemic: The pandemic reignites, the J&J pause, and county confusion](#) is a commentary from Dean Jon Samet, University of Colorado School of Public Health and Farley Center Steering Committee member, that provides a Colorado update about the coronavirus.

[With vaccines open to 16- and 17-year-olds, high schools set up shop to give the shots](#) is a story by Erika Edwards for NBC News who reports that as cases are on the rise among young people, some high schools are stepping up to become vaccination sites for kids.

[Local ObGyn noticing high rates of postpartum depression during pandemic](#) is a story out of Council Bluffs, IA, by Ruta Ulcinaite about how a local physician is seeing the same nationwide trend in her own clinic.

[You are not alone in your loneliness](#) is a TedTalk by Jonny Sun, artist and writer who shares how storytelling helped him tap into an unexpected community.

[San Francisco Contends with a Different Sort of Epidemic: Drug Deaths](#) is a story in *The New York Times* by Thomas Fuller who writes about these deaths tied to homelessness and that they require the city to re-examine its approach to illicit drugs.

[Part I of a National Mental Health Rescue Plan](#) is this week's Mental Health 411 newsletter by Ben Miller about how the time is now to respond to this country's mental health epidemic, and then lays out a plan for consideration.

[FCC to explore text access to suicide prevention hotline](#) is an AXIOS story by Margaret Harding McGill who writes how in this 'high-need' time for mental health care for teens skyrocketing, the FCC wants to ensure they can reach a suicide prevention line by their preferred method of communication – texting.

[Baseball's Mental Health Reckoning](#) is a *Sports Illustrated* story by Tom Verducci about how four players have already stepped away from the game for personal reasons this season, as a growing number are speaking out about mental health issues.



POLICY EFFORTS

[How Covid-19 could make Americans healthier](#) is a story on *Politico* by Joanne Kenen about how a once-in-a-century pandemic provides a once-in-a-lifetime chance to improve public health.

[With FORE Support, Bipartisan Policy Center Launches Task Force to Develop](#)

[Recommendations for Congress, Biden Administration on Ending the Opioid Crisis](#) is a press release about a task force formed to develop evidence-based recommendations for Congress and the Biden administration on how to reduce overdose death rates and strengthen the federal response to the crisis.

[Financial integration of behavioral health in Medicaid managed care organizations: A new taxonomy](#) is an issue brief from the Center for Health Systems Effectiveness, OHSU, about a taxonomy that maps out the variety of new arrangements states are testing.

[Critics Say Chauvin Defense ‘Weaponized’ Stigma for Black Americans with Addiction](#) is an NPR story by Brian Mann who writes about the racial bias toward people of color with addiction and how they are often viewed more negatively than whites; and how the framing by the Chauvin defense team exacerbated that stigma.

[Having a mental illness is not a crime and shouldn’t be treated as one](#) is a commentary in *The Baltimore Sun* by its editorial board about a new initiative by the Baltimore County’s police department to cost \$1.6 million in federal funding as part of a pilot program to expand its mental intervention services.



[Quick COVID-19 Survey, Series 28](#) provides survey results from the Larry A. Green Center and the PCC for April 9-13 that shows the level of burnout and mental exhaustion to be higher than data from a year ago.

[There is a real danger that covid-19 will become entrenched as a disease of poverty](#) is an opinion piece in *the BMJ* by Christina Pagel, who makes a plea for acting now to prevent a further widening in wellbeing between the poor and the rich.

[How the COVID-19 Vaccines Were Made So Quickly – from the Lab to Clinical Trials to FDA Authorization](#) is a story on *Health* by Ayana Byrd who writes about the safety of the vaccines despite the speed with which they were produced.

[Attitudes of Health Care Professionals Toward Older Adults’ Abilities to Use Digital Technology: Questionnaire Study](#) is an article in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research* by Ittay Mannheim and colleagues who suggest such attitudes can affect how older adults are viewed in relation to digital therapies and consequently might influence use and adoption of technology-based treatment.

[A cross-national study of factors associated with women’s perinatal mental health and wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) is an article in *Plos One* by Archana Basu and colleagues who undertook an international study to identify and measure the association between pandemic-related information-seeking, worries, and prevention behaviors on perinatal mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Health of women and children is central to covid-19 recovery](#) is an analytic piece in *The BMJ* by Neena Modi and Mark Hanson who argue that new economic policies focusing on the wellbeing of women and children will produce a fairer, stronger, and more resilient society.



MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIPS

[TJ Donovan: The expungement bill is a jobs bill – and the right thing to do](#) is a story in the *Bennington Banner* in Vermont by AG T.J. Donovan who writes about a bill that can provide a fresh start for thousands of Vermonters, promote public safety, and reduce incarceration.

[Tom Dalton: Vermont Senate must act now to prevent overdose deaths](#) is a commentary in the *Vermont Digger* by Tom Dalton, executive director of Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform and an attorney and a licensed alcohol and drug counselor. He writes that the VT House legislators overwhelmingly passed an overdose prevention bill in early April in response to new health department data showing an alarming 38% increase in overdose deaths across the state. He writes that the Senate must do the same, but will it?



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