



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

Effective July 30, 2021, Dr. Frank deGruy will step down as chair of family medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Stay tuned for what follows.

[The Holly: Five Bullets, One Gun, and the Struggle to Save an American Neighborhood](#) is a recent publication by Julian Rubinstein, an award-winning journalist, who grew up in Denver and writes a dramatic account of a shooting that shook a community to its core. “The Holly is a multigenerational crime story that explores the porous boundaries between a city’s elites and its most disadvantaged citizens.”

[NBC News: Top Biden coronavirus adviser Andy Slavitt announces last day at White House](#) is a post on *News and Guts* about Andy Slavitt’s departure this week from his temporary position, but warned we “cannot let our progress be a reason for taking our foot off the pedal.”

[Justice Matters Virtual Town Hall](#) hosted by state representatives Meg Foelich, Phil Weiser and Tom Sullivan is scheduled for June 27th, 12noon MDT.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[Guidance on community mental health services: Promoting person-centered and rights-based approaches](#) is a document produced by the World Health Organization and is part of a set of publications that provide detailed descriptions of approaches in mental health and summary examples of good practice services around the world.

[How Does Social Media Affect Our Mental Health?](#) is a story posted on *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* about an Emily Hemendinger podcast about how social media can spur depression, anxiety, and other psychosocial struggles.

[Supporting employee mental health: A new module for employers to make real change](#) is a post on the *Colorado School of Public Health* website about an online toolkit designed for employers wanting to raise awareness and improve the mental health of their employees developed by the Center for Health, Work & Environment at the Colorado School of Public Health and the CU Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Depression Center.

[Understanding suicidal ideation and how to help](#) is a story on the *UCHealth* website by Kati Blocker who writes how in a time when behavioral and mental health problems are worse than ever, it's especially important for communities to develop a better understanding about suicidal ideation and ways to help.

[The best lesson in bedside manner came from one of my patients](#) is a story on *The Globe and Mail* by Dr. Lawrence Jacobs, an internist from Windsor, Ontario, who relates a story that re-emphasizes the power of the doctor-patient relationship.



[Dr. Robert Werthwein on Colorado's Behavioral Health Task Force](#) is a *Mind the Brain* podcast during which Dr. Neill Epperson, chair, CU Department of Psychiatry, and Dr. Robert Werthwein, director of the Office of Behavioral Health at the Colorado Dept. of Human Services, talk about the work of the Colorado Behavioral Health Task Force and behavioral health reform efforts in Colorado.

[Colorado Legislature Passes Health Care Plan Cutting Costs 15%](#) is a Bloomberg story by Vincent del Giudice who writes that CO Gov. Polis is expected to sign a bill that requires private insurers to offer a state-regulated plan reducing costs by 15%.

[Lawmakers introduce bill that would allow bullies to face suspension or expulsion](#) is a story for KKTV by Nicole Heins about a bill passed by the House Education Committee to prevent bullying in schools, supported by legislators in Greeley, Colorado.

[988 crisis response: A promise in peril](#) is an opinion piece on *The Hill* by Patrick Kennedy and Daniel H. Gillison, Jr. who write about the failure in this country to provide a mental health response to mental health crises.

[The US's emergency response to COVID-19 provides a roadmap for the opioid overdose crisis](#) is an opinion piece in *BMJ* by Joshua Barocas who writes how COVID-19 offers practical lessons that we can apply to the United States' approach to the overdose crisis.

[We Need to Support Children's Mental Health Immediately. Here's How.](#) is this week's topic by Ben Miller in his newsletter, *Mental Health 411* in which he makes suggestions for support and services to promote students' academic, social and psychological development.

[Medicaid Forward Children's Health](#) is a report from the National Association of Medicaid Directors that emphasizes the importance of Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program for the resilience of the nation's children as we emerge from the pandemic.

[Opinion: The mental-health emergency facing Colorado's children demands an emergency response](#) is an opinion piece in *The Colorado Sun* by Paul Summergrad and Ben Miller who write how the pandemic crisis fueled the flames of the existing mental health infrastructure on fire.

[How COVID-19 lessons can transform US mental health care](#) is an opinion piece on *The Hill* by Ryan K. McBain who suggests that COVID-19 has emphasized how screening for mental health conditions should be as commonplace as measuring patients' blood pressure, and he suggests some tangible next steps for policy makers.



[Suicide attempts rose among adolescent girls during pandemic, ER data suggest](#) is a CNN story by Jacqueline Howard who reports on a new CDC study that found a significant rise in suspected suicide attempts among teen girls during the pandemic.

[Psychological effects of the pandemic may be felt in young people for a long time to come](#) is a story on *The Hill* by Chia-Yi Hou who cites several studies that indicate that researchers need to continue to study the ongoing effects of the pandemic to understand the potential long-term implications...a bleak mix of mental health, economic and social impacts.

[Why face-to-face gatherings still matter](#) is a CNN story by Matt Villano who reports on findings from a brain study that indicate we form stronger connections from in-person encounters vs. indirect forms of contact.



[Eviction Crisis Virtual Town Hall: Eliminating the Existential Threat to our Recovery](#) is a panel discussion about our mandate to end the crisis. This event will take place June 16th, 11AM MDT hosted by the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership in collaboration with the National Legal Aid and Defender Association and the Network for Public Health Law.

[Editorial: To solve homelessness, California should declare a right to housing](#) is a commentary in the *Los Angeles Times* by Carla Hall who writes how the LA City Council has asked city agencies to research the idea of making housing a human right under the law.

[Logjams Are Keeping Much of \\$47 Billion in Federal Aid from Renters](#) is a post on *The Wall Street Journal* by Will Parker who writes about how strict rules for eligibility and overburdened local officials prevent financial assistance from getting to struggling tenants.



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