

## FRIDAY'S FEATURES

ISSUE 031822 Editor: Linda Niebauer https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/farleyhealthpolicycenter

## NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

<u>Under Pressure</u> is the title of Ben Miller's newsletter this week that calls to action policymakers to reconcile the fact that our nation is hurting with the fact that the existing systems for taking care of us primarily through the resourcing and delivery of mental care are deeply flawed.

March 30<sup>th</sup> the NAM, the CHR, and the American Public Health Association will host a webinar on <u>Violent Conflict: The Challenges of Protecting Public</u> <u>Health & Health Care</u> to address this important issue. Speakers will include Barry Levy, author of <u>From Horror to Hope: Recognizing and Preventing the</u> <u>Health Impacts of War.</u>

What Should I Know about the Anschutz Health Sciences Building? Is a story on the *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* site by Matthew Hastings that provides photos and features about the new building that houses the Farley Health Policy Center [note: the Farley Center was inadvertently omitted from the list of entities that will be housed in this building], but we're located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Come visit.

<u>UCHealth & Project C.U.R.E. Team Up to Help Ukrainian Refugees</u> is a *4CBS Denver* story by Danielle Chavira that reports how UCHealth Colorado donated medical supplies to Project C.U.R.E. to help those fleeing war.

<u>Using Innovative Data Science Approaches to Identify Individuals, Populations,</u> and Communities at High Risk for Suicide: A Workshop – Webinar 1 is part of a NASEM-sponsored series April 28<sup>th</sup>, 9AM-2PM MT that will focus on current approaches used by social media platforms, technology companies, and researchers to determine suicide risk in individuals and communities. Ben Miller will co-chair.

Long COVID and Fatiguing Illness Recovery Program is a free, asynchronous online short course sponsored by a consortium of folks across the country

including ECHO Colorado and Dr. Kyle Leggott of the Farley Center. This course is available March 21-April 18.

<u>Understanding the Colorado Behavioral Health System</u> is a series that will provide an overview of the Colorado behavioral health system, a model for addressing tobacco dependence within this system, and how tobacco cessation treatment may be integrated appropriately within various levels of care. This series led by Dr. Charles Smith, director of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, takes place April 5<sup>th</sup> 10AM MT.



<u>2 teens have died from suspected fentanyl overdoses in El Paso County this</u> <u>year</u> is a story by Kelly Reinke for *9News* about the alarming number of kids who die after taking this potent drug.

<u>The Patient Resident</u> is an opinion piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Dr. Natasha Z. Raninowitz Steele that emphasizes the importance of what we choose to do with the precious moments between beginnings and endings.

In the age of social media, a new app aims to help Colorado teens make friends off their phones is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Erica Breunlin that describes the Nod app, which has been piloted across eight school districts to help students learn ways to form new face-to-face friendships after the pandemic left many isolated and anxious.

From Emerging Variants to Grandma's Health, Experts Say COVID-19 Youth Vaccines Still Matter is a post on the *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* site by Debra Melani that emphasizes how shots are suggested for the millions of youths still unvaccinated, despite the changing COVID-19 environment.

<u>A Guide to Dealing with Grief and Loss</u> is a post on the *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* site by Kiley Kudrna, a CU Anschutz psychiatry expert, which provides tips on coping with losing a loved one.

<u>'Is this what a good mother looks like?'</u> is a post in *The Washington Post* by William Wan that tells the devastating story of how a mother gave up custody of her 17-year-old son with mental illness after struggling to get him treatment.

<u>Physicians' biggest threats</u> is a story on *Beckers ASC Review* by Patsy Newitt that includes input from seven physician leaders about what they see as the biggest threats to physician well-being and burnout.

Lacking Mental Health Support, First Responders Turn to Peers is a post on *Undark* by Peter Andrey Smith about how COVID-19 revealed a mental health crisis among health care workers. A peer support group in Colorado is trying to help.

MTV Solidifies Mental Health Youth Action Forum Plans Including May Event

<u>at the White House</u> is a story in *Forbes* by Cathy Applefeld Olson about how organizations are stepping up to support and partner with the Biden-Harris administration for an inaugural mental health youth action forum.

## POLICY EFFORTS

Democrats formalize plan for expanded preschool, early childhood department. But will Colorado have enough teachers? Is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Erica Breunlin that reports on the launch of the expansion of preschool and the challenges that come with that.

<u>Measuring the Trustworthiness of Health Care Organizations and Systems</u> is an article on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* site by Andrew Anderson and Derek M. Griffith that presents a conceptual model to understand and explain the constructs of trust and trustworthiness in the context of health care through the application of existing theories of human behavior.

Hot Topic: New Bill about Abortion Rights in Colorado is a story on the *CU College of Nursing* site by Deborah Sherman who interviewed Dr. Kate Coleman-Minahan who testified to legislators about how abortion can protect and support maternal health. Colorado could become a haven for women around the country if new legislation in the House makes it to the governor for signature.

Opinion: When your low income is too low for low-income housing is an opinion piece in *The Colorado Sun* by Kayla Frawley about how Denver's program needs to relax some of the rules that hit the poor harder.

North Carolina's COVID-19 Support Services Program: Lessons for Health Policy Programs to Address Social Needs is an issue brief on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* site by William K. Bleser and colleagues that discusses an analysis of NC's COVID-19 Support Services that offers consideration such as building the capacity of community-based human service organizations, creating feedback channels for all providers, and more.

<u>Playing politics with Tennessee's addiction crisis hurts our communities</u> Is an opinion piece on *Commercial Appeal* by Ben Miller that suggests we need to expand our definition of health care, not reduce it, and recognize that addiction care is health care.

When children suffer: California to funnel billions into mental health overhaulis a post on the AARP site by Jocelyn Wiener about how the Newsom administration plans to spend \$4.4 billion addressing mental health needs among young people.

<u>Biden's Call for Mental Health Coverage Sparks Legislative Push</u> is a post on *Bloomberg Law* by Alex Ruoff about the ongoing struggle to improve parity but how Biden's administration is eager to pass legislation to bolster this mandate.

## RESEARCH, DATA, EVALUATION

A Snapshot of Mental Health and Access to Care among Nonelderly Adults in California is an article on the *Kaiser Family Foundation* site by Nirmita Panchal and colleagues that includes data analysis of the California Health Interview Survey that asks noninstitutionalized adults detailed questions on mental health and substance use to further examine the impact of the pandemic on mental health in the state.

<u>Older Adults Struggle to Find Affordable Mental Health Care</u> is a story on *AARP* by Barbara Stepko that discusses a new report, which indicates Medicare is insufficient coverage while anxiety and depression are on the rise.

Telehealth Has Played an Outsized Role Meeting Mental Health Needs During the COVID-19 Pandemic is an article on the *Kaiser Family Foundation site* about an analysis that looks at outpatient visits during five 6-month periods between March 2019 and August 2021, and the role played by telehealth.

Five-Year Trends in US Children's Health and Well-being, 2016-2020 is an article on *JAMA Pediatrics* by Dr. Lydie A. Lebrun-Harris and colleagues that discusses the recent rends in children's health, including significant changes that might be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.



<u>Reductions in Hospitalizations among Children Referred to a Primary Care-</u> <u>based Medical-Legal Partnership</u> is an article in *Health Affairs* by Andrew Beck and colleagues about a retrospective cohort study that examined the effect of referral to a medical-legal partnership on hospitalization rates among urban, low-income children in Greater Cincinnati, Ohio, between 2012 and 2017.



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