



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

[A sacred obligation](#) is the title of this week's newsletter from Ben Miller about how policymakers can address the military's health crisis.

Dr. Mark Deutchman, professor of family medicine and associate dean for rural health, testified last week at the Colorado legislature's Statewide Health Care Review Committee hearing. He provided an overview of the CU School of Medicine's [rural program](#), which has produced 191 graduates between 2009 and 2021.

[Ethics, Climate Change, and Future of Work](#) is a webinar sponsored by the Colorado School of Public Health Center for Health, Work & Environment November 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon MT in which a panel of experts will provide insight on how climate change and weather-related injuries are showing up in the workplace and the ethical challenges associated with responding.

[2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summit to Decriminalize Mental Illness](#) is a summit sponsored by the Sozosei Foundation to be held December 13-15<sup>th</sup> in Philadelphia with portions being live-streamed. This is a global event that brings together experts, thought leaders, people with lived experience, medical professionals, lawyers, judges, advocates, artists, and funders to collaborate, create, and explore pathways to decriminalize mental illness with a particular focus on 988...the new national mental health crisis telephone line, due to go live July 2022.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[Aurora advocates working to increase access to healthcare, generational](#)

[wealth through community hub](#) is a story by Victoria de Leon for *9News* about the Aurora Community Health Commons initiative that aims to promote health, wealth, and overall wellbeing for those who live in Aurora with community voices at the center of development.

[The COVID-19 Pandemic: When will the epidemic curve bend?](#) is the title of Dean Jon Samet's commentary this week. This question and others were addressed in the most recent report from the [Colorado COVID-19 Modeling Group](#).

[Find out if you need a COVID-19 vaccine booster](#) is a post on the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment website that provides the current thinking on boosters.

[Why are Colorado COVID-19 cases spiking?](#) is a story on *UCHealth Today* by Todd Neff who discusses how: 1) the delta variant is highly infectious, 2) unvaccinated people are spreading it, and 3) seasonal impacts may play a role.

[Peloton Instructor Kendall Toole Prioritizes Her Mental Health on Hard Days: 'I'm Human'](#) is a story on *People* by Kaitlyn Frey who writes about how the Peloton coach is partnering with plant-based protein brand Aloha to promote health and well-being from the inside out.

[COVID harmed kids' mental health – and schools are feeling it](#) is a story in the *Ohio Capital Journal* by Christine Vestal who addresses the serious impact the pandemic has had on children and adolescents and the importance for reducing the mental health barriers to learning.

[The Mental Health Benefits of Doing Real Things](#) is a story on *Outside* by Brad Stulberg about how activities such as lifting weights, hiking or woodworking teach us humility and keep us grounded.



[The Social Determinants of Declining Birth Rates in the United States: Implications for Population Health and Public Policy](#) is an opinion piece on *The Milbank Quarterly* site by Paula M. Lantz who discusses how birth rates are an important indicator of overall population health and well-being.

[Rhode Island Joins Peterson-Milbank Program for Sustainable Health Care Costs](#) is a Q&A session on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* site about how RI became the sixth state to join this program that assists states with their health care cost growth target strategies.

[Colorado activates crisis standards of care for health care staffing](#) is a story by Angela Case and Kelly Reinke for *9News* about how Colorado has activated the portion of its crisis' standards of care plan that deals with staffing health care systems, a move that allows hospitals to prioritize staff for emergencies and reduce the level of care provided for non-emergencies.

[Policy Options to Advance Mental Health: Resources and Tools for State Policymakers](#) is a blog post on *The Commonwealth Fund* site by Sean Stone, Akeiisa Coleman and Rachel Nuzum that describes a partnership formed to create a mental health resource guide based on state priorities, best practices, and insights from leaders in the field of mental health...advised by a group of state legislators, health officials, and experts focused on four pressing policy areas.



[2021 Employer Health Benefits Survey](#) is a report posted on the *Kaiser Family Foundation* site about new options, such as telemedicine and the changes in the health or policy environments illuminated by the 2021 survey.

[Poverty driving more than 1.3 million cases of depression, study finds](#) is a story in the *Independent* by Rebecca Thomas who reports on findings from a study by the Institute for Public Policy Research and analytics company, Lane Clark & Peacock in the United Kingdom that looked at different parts of the country and compared health outcomes with wealth.

[First-of-Its-Kind Toolkit Offers Strategies and Tools for Strengthening Patient-Centered Addiction Care in the U.S.](#) is a post on the *Well Being Trust* website about a new toolkit authored by Manatt Health Strategies in collaboration with the American Society of Addiction Medicine and Well Being Trust.

[Interpersonal discrimination associated with poorer mental health, wellbeing, and substance use in young adults](#) is a post on *2-minute medicine* by Rebecca Seliga and Dr. Alex Gipsman who write about a large study of a nationally representative sample of young adults that found more than 90% had experienced some form of interpersonal discrimination including ageism, sexism, racism, discrimination based on physical appearance, or other.

[As New Vaccine Rollout for Youth Launches, CU Anschutz Parent Experts Share Views](#) is a story on the *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* website by Debra Melani in which scientists compare COVID-19 risks for 5- to 11-year-olds with vaccine safety to help address concerns.

[Students Examine the Role of Public Health in Racism in Harvard Review Article](#) is a post on the *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* site by Julia Milzer who writes about a “first of its kind paper” in which students outline required changes to address the country’s public health inequalities.



[How an Interdisciplinary Care Team Reduces Prolonged Admissions among](#)

[Older Patients with Complex Needs](#) is a case study posted on *NEJM Catalyst* by Dr. Kenneth Lam and colleagues who write about the Transitions Referral and Coordination team created to improve coordination and care for older patients with complex medical, psychological, and social needs.

[How Legal Services Help the Health Care System Address Social Needs](#) is a handout that shows some of the most common problems faced by vulnerable communities, and how legal expertise and services can help mitigate their negative impact on health and health care.

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