



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

ISSUE 102921

Editor: Linda Niebauer

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



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

[COVID Panel Update 102121](#) is a recording of a one-hour panel discussion featuring Dr. Michelle Barron, CU SOM professor of medicine and Dr. Thomas Campbell, CU SOM associate dean for clinical research and professor of medicine hosted by Chancellor Don Elliman and moderated by Dean John Reilly in which they discuss the impact of the Delta variant, the success and reliability of vaccinations, the science around booster shots and an update on CU Anschutz clinical trials of vaccines for children.

[The COVID-19 Pandemic: Breaking up is hard to do](#) is the title of this week's commentary by Dr. Jon Samet, dean of the Colorado School of Public Health, in which he discusses the demise of the Tri-County Health Department.

[University of Colorado Denver/Anschutz Medical Campus Recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution](#) (HSI) is the first research university in the state to attain status as an HSI, which means it has undergraduate full-time enrollment that is comprised of at least 25% Hispanic students, can demonstrate a high concentration of students who are eligible for Pell Grants, and have low core expenses.

[A vote for mental health](#) is the title of this week's newsletter topic from Ben Miller who writes how this fall voters in several states can do something about the urgent need of the most vulnerable for mental health care; and he charges us to get informed and VOTE.

This week's State of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Address by Chancellor Elliman can be [viewed here](#) in which he highlights new strategic initiatives.

[Benson Hotel and Faculty Club Under Construction on Anschutz Medical Campus](#) is a story in *Mile High CRE* about the boutique hotel under construction in honor of former CU President Bruce Benson, slated completion

A blue banner with a white background at the bottom. The top half features a group of stylized human figures in various colors (green, purple, blue) of different sizes, representing a diverse community. The bottom half is a solid white bar with the text "COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION" in blue, uppercase letters.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[HHS Secretary Becerra Announces New Overdose Prevention Strategy](#) is a press release on HHS.gov about the strategy designed to increase access to the full range of care and services for individuals who use substances that cause overdose, and for their families.

[A shortage of workers is hindering efforts to improve mental health care in Virginia](#) is a story on *Virginia Mercury* by Kate Masters about how more providers are expected to retire over the next several years than there are graduates to replace them.

[A strong connection to community helped Carissa Samuel find a path to healing](#) is a post on the *Well Being Trust* site by Carissa Samuel, a young woman who is a member of the National Mental Health Advisory Board, and who believes strongly that mental health is a community project.

[Connection Gen: How Gaming is Bridging the Gap within Mental Health and Families](#) is a story in *The Atlanta Voice* by Alexis Grace about a game, Connection Gen, that is designed to connect generations through conversations.

[How to regain your sense of taste and smell after COVID-19](#) is a story in *UCHealth Today* by Bill St. John, author, educator and food and wine expert, in which he suggests that powerfully aromatic and flavorful foods like ginger, peppermint and peanut butter can help a person regain his/her sense of smell and taste following COVID.

[How Public Health Took Part in Its Own Downfall](#) is a story in *The Atlantic* by Ed Yong who retells the history of public health.

A blue banner with a white background at the bottom. The top half features a stylized illustration of a government building dome (resembling the US Capitol) in white and light blue, set against a blue sky with white clouds. The bottom half is a solid white bar with the text "POLICY EFFORTS" in blue, uppercase letters.

POLICY EFFORTS

[Defund the health care system](#) is an opinion piece in *StarTribune* by Dr. Edward P. Ehlinger who writes that “It appears to be beyond reform, and its issues mirror the other “defund” movement” suggesting that an activated public can change the narrative to facilitate reimagining and restructuring the system.

[What Are the Health Consequences of Systemic Racism?](#) is an opinion piece by Rashawn Ray and Lawrence O. Gostin posted on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* site that emphasizes how it’s time for racial health equity to be front and center of every health decision from legislative chambers to boardrooms in corporations and to bedsides in hospitals.

[The Tenets of Critical Race Theory \(CRT\) Have a Long-Standing and Important Role in Population Health Science](#) is an opinion piece by Paula M. Lantz posted on the *Milbank Memorial Fund* site that encourages those committed to health equity through population health science to publicly defend the tenets of CRT and their long-standing contributions to population health, given the misinformation and misguided political actions underway.

[Polis administration launches free youth counseling program](#) is a story on Fox 21 by Dani Birzer about how the Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health and partners launched the “I Matter” program, which provides up to three free counseling sessions for Coloradans aged 18 years and younger, and 21 years and younger for those receiving special education services.

[‘This Is a Wakeup Call’: Colorado Governor Says State Is Running Low on ICU Beds Due to COVID Cases](#) is a CBS Denver story by Michael Abeyta who reports that Colorado has jumped to more than 1,000 hospitalizations.



[Assessment of Perceptions of Mental Health vs Medical Health Plan Networks among US Adults with Private Insurance](#) is an article in *JAMA Network* by Drs. Susan H. Busch and Kelly Kyanko about a study that aimed to assess privately insured patients’ perceptions of the adequacy of their health plan’s provider network, whether practitioners frequently leave plans, and whether practitioner plan participation affected patients’ plan choice.

[Understaffed State Psychiatric Facilities Leave Mental Health Patients in Limbo](#) is a post on the *Kaiser Health News* site by Andy Miller that describes how mental health public facilities are feeling the pinch of the pandemic.

[Rationing Health Care in the Time of COVID](#) is an opinion piece on *The Milbank Quarterly* site by Alan B. Cohen and Amanda Katchmar that reports on how a Kaiser Family Foundation analysis that estimates more than 90,000 COVID-19 deaths among unvaccinated adults between June and September 2021 could have been prevented with vaccinations, as well as frameworks employed by health care providers for the allocation of resources.

[Blind faith? CU Anschutz professor studies vaccine hesitancy among faith communities](#) is a story in *Sentinel Colorado* by Carina Julig about Dr. Joshua Williams’ quest to determine why people decline routine vaccinations.



[Medical Legal Partnership Finds Solutions to Family Crises through](#)

[Collaboration](#) is a post on the *Furman University* site about a South Carolina MLP, celebrating its fifth year, that received a \$1.025 million three-year grant from The Duke Endowment to determine best practices and achieve maximum impact.

[Skadden Fellows share the impact of the program after 30 years](#) is a story on the *Skadden Foundation* site about the largest public interest law firm in the United States. The program provides two-year fellowships to talented young lawyers to pursue the practice of public interest on a full-time basis.

[California partnership helps Veterans find justice through health care](#) is a blog post on *Vantage Point* about how VA social workers connect veterans to legal aid lawyers for assistance.

[Nonprofit organizations awarded over \\$1.5 million from Pallottine Foundation](#) is a story on *Herald-Dispatch* about how the foundation is helping nonprofit organizations that address food insecurity, mental and behavioral health, substance use disorder, and tobacco use prevention and cessation in the foundation's 20-county focus area.



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

[SUBSCRIBE TO FRIDAY'S FEATURES](#)