



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

ISSUE 090321

Editor: Linda Niebauer

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



NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

[Moral Distress in the Public Health Workforce](#) is a webinar September 13th sponsored by the Colorado School of Public Health. The foci: define, recognize, and discuss impacts of moral distress in the workplace, examine ethical dilemmas facing the workforce today; and consider solutions.

[New Day](#) is a new podcast hosted by Claire Bidwell Smith, author, therapist, and grief expert, coming September 15th with the simple goal of helping us get through the day and look forward to tomorrow.

[Exploring the impact of arts and cultural engagement on population health outcomes](#) is a lecture presented by Dr. Jess Bone, research fellow in epidemiology and statistics, University College London, sponsored by the CU Center for Bioethics and Humanities September 17th, noon-1pm MT. Dr. Bone will use evidence from U.S. cohort studies to provide an overview of whether arts engagement has long-term benefits for health in the United States.

[We're launching a mental health reporting team. You can help direct our coverage](#) is an announcement in *The Seattle Times* about the formation of a new four-person team to cover mental and behavioral health issues.

[CMS Announces Director of Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, First-Ever Chief Dental Officer, and Director of the Center for Program Integrity](#) is a press release on *CMS.gov* about these new hires who will lead across the agency's portfolio of programs.

[Community Grants](#) is an application opportunity for grassroots leaders who wish to improve social health at individual and community levels from Social Health Labs.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[COVID-19 and kids: Answering the most important questions](#) is a *UCHealth Today* story by Kati Blocker who presents questions about kids and answers from UCHealth pediatricians.

[Processing our Losses](#) is the latest topic that Ben Miller addresses in his weekly newsletter. He suggests ways to navigate and be active in our grief.

[Open letter to Alabama school boards from 102 mental health providers on masks in schools](#) is an opinion piece on AL by Alabama mental health professionals who have united to urge school board members to do the right thing and mask the teachers, the staff and the kids.

[As Schools Reopen, Child Psychiatrists Expect to See a Surge of Kids Who Need Help](#) is an NPR story by Rhitu Chatterjee who writes that the number of kids coming to hospitals for mental health needs in 2021 is 15% higher than two years ago.

[High school coaches getting mental health training has been a game changer for students](#) is a post on the *Today* website by Meghan Holohan who writes about a program, “Be Nice” offered by the Mental Health Foundation of Western Michigan that began before the pandemic but is needed more than ever now.

[Denver hospital sees increase in trauma cases related to violent crime](#) is a *9 News* story by Kelly Reinke who writes about how gunshot wounds and stabbings have increased among incoming Denver Health trauma patients.

[RSV, child respiratory illness unseasonably high](#) is a story in the *Highlands Ranch Herald* by Thelma Grimes who talked with Dr. Eric Lung, chief medical officer at Sky Ridge Medical Center, who said that poor air quality and an increase in contagious respiratory cases are adding to parent stress as the delta variant continues to spread.

[How 20 Minutes of Playtime Can Help Your Child’s Mental Health](#) is a story on 5280 by David MacNeal who writes about a campaign (Just 20 Minutes Outside) from Generation Wild, a program created by Great Outdoors Colorado to encourage families to spend more time outside to escape the screens and help kids rekindle hope in their lives.



POLICY EFFORTS

[The 988 Mental Health Emergency Hotline is Coming. Philanthropy Can Help Ensure its Success](#) is a post on *Inside Philanthropy* by Paul Karon who

suggests that the new hotline may hold the key to synchronize the political will to improve mental healthcare and crisis response in communities everywhere. And discusses the critical role philanthropy can play to ensure success.

[Addressing the Mental Health Needs of the AAPI Community](#) is a post on the *Health Affairs Blog* by Oliver Kim who talks of the disparities in our health care system brought to light by the widespread mental health issues caused by the stressors of the pandemic.

[Lafayette will ask voters to raise its sales tax to support mental health services](#) is a story on *The Denver Channel* by Meghan Lopez who writes how voters in Lafayette, CO will vote on this bill this fall. The city does not have its own health and human services department, so it relies on nonprofit partnerships to help fill gaps.

[Children’s Mental Health Gets Millions in Funding from the Biden Administration](#) is an *NPR* story by Selena Simmons-Duffin and Rhitu Chatterjee who write about how Biden’s administration is making \$85 million in funding available for mental health awareness, training, and treatment.

[Should doctors prescribing ‘snake oil’ COVID treatments face consequences?](#) is a piece by MSNBC’s Chris Hayes that includes an interview with ABEM President, Dr. Marianne Gausche-Hill who discusses the value of certification, the importance of ensuring public/patient safety, and how patients need to be able to trust their health care providers.

[Health Care Coverage for the Relentless](#) is a guide of insurance essentials from a mother’s quest for mental health parity intended to help families and individuals navigate the difficult terrain of health insurance in America, produced by the Well Being Trust.



[Muslim American mental health experts are developing their own resources](#) is a story in *Daily Kos* by Aysha Khan who writes about study results that found close to 8% of Muslim respondents reported making at least one suicide attempt in their lives, as compared to 6% Catholics, 5% of Protestants and 3.6% of Jewish people. The author reports there are now many resources that have been developed and made available to the Muslim community.

[Sometimes Mindlessness Is Better than Mindfulness](#) is a story in *Scientific American* by Alexander P. Burgoyne and David Z. Hambrick who report that the best advice may be, “In some situations, don’t pay so much attention.”

[Schools Brace for Pandemic-Fueled Mental Health Needs](#) is a story on *Tradeoffs* in which Dr. Sharon Hoover discusses how schools are using an infusion of federal dollars to hire badly needed social worker, psychologists, and counselors.

[Psychological Risk Factors of Functional Impairment after COVID-19 Deaths](#) is

an article in the *Journal of Pain and Symptom and Management* by Dr. Lauren J. Breen and colleagues whose study aimed to determine how psychological symptoms explain functional impairment.

[Coronavirus boosters for fully vaccinated are coming soon for everyone. Why?](#) is a post on *UCHealth Today* by Todd Neff who writes how the COVID-19 vaccine booster shots for everyone are coming soon. Why? The answer is in data from here and abroad.



MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIPS

[Sometimes Lawyers Can Improve a Patient's Health When Doctors Can't](#) is an NPR story by Jakob Rodgers who describes the benefits of medical legal partnerships and calls out the program at Salud Family Health Center in Commerce City, Colorado, where four lawyers join the health care professionals in caring for patients.



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

[SUBSCRIBE TO FRIDAY'S FEATURES](#)