



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

# FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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## NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

CU Denver/CU Anschutz Medical Campus will now be offering an [equity certificate program](#) for faculty and staff to provide knowledge and skills-building opportunities in equity principles to improve equity and inclusive excellence on our those campuses.

[Community Microgrants](#) is the first public initiative being offered by Social Health Labs. It is a monthly microgrant program (\$1,000 each) to support community builders across the country that aim to achieve one or more of the following goals: 1) foster friendship and connection, 2) strengthen neighborhood bonds, 3) build community cohesion locally, 4) bridge interpersonal and intergroup divides, and 5) reduce social isolation and loneliness.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[Dr. Comilla Sasson Is on the Front Lines of the COVID Fight](#) is a story in *Westword* by Marty Coniglio who interviewed Dr. Sasson, a UCHealth ER doc, about her COVID experiences, both in New York and Colorado. She would like to see the national discussion refocus on personal responsibility and public health, and to lead with science.

[Avera Behavioral Health to build wing to treat children with mental health issues](#) is a story in the *Argus Leader* by Jonathan Ellis about a 4-story, \$28 million behavioral health wing being built by Avera Health in Sioux Falls, SD, that will include more capacity for children, residential addiction care for youth, and a 24-hour psychiatric urgent care and partial hospitalization space.

['Emotional Agility' is Key to Keeping Your Cool During Conflict](#) is a story on the *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* site by Kristen O'Neill that highlights steps for successfully addressing conflict, as well as provides resources for the same.

[What to Know about the COVID-19 Vaccine](#) is a post on the CU School of Medicine site in which Dr. Mark Earnest, head of the division of internal medicine, answers questions about immunization.

[How does Moderna's vaccine compare to Pfizer's?](#) is a story by Alex Rose for *KDVR* in which Dr Thomas Campbell, UCHHealth Chief Clinical Researcher Officer, talks about how there are more similarities than differences between the two vaccines.

[For Farmers and Ranchers, Coronavirus Made an Already Complicated Mental Health Picture Even Harder](#) is a CPR story by Elena Rivera about how suicide rates for people in agriculture are higher than that of the general population.

[Pandemic demand for mental health care is overwhelming providers](#) is a CNN story by Jen Rose Smith who writes about the pandemic's toll on mental health, that of providers and patients alike.

[Use Vaccine Distribution Sites to Prevent Additional Deaths of Despair](#) is an opinion piece by Ben Miller and Laura Blanke who propose using vaccine dispensing sites to provide both vaccination services and mental health services to the masses.

[Black Teenagers with Mental Health Issues May Be Reluctant to Seek Help](#) is an *NPR* story by Alisa Roth where folks discuss new CDC data that shows suicide rates up more than 50% among young people, and another recent study found that Black adolescents were especially likely to try.



[Reflections on the Five Laws of Integrating Medical and Social Services – 21 Years Later](#) is an article in *The Milbank Quarterly* by Stephen M. Shortell about the seminal article written in 1999 by Walter Leutz on the need for and ways to better integrate medical and social services; and the relevancy of the laws, lessons and recommendations developed over two decades ago to current challenges of better integrating health and social services.

[Economic violence: the most socially acceptable form of racism](#) is a story on *Ideas.Ted.Com* by Paul Rucker, a TED fellow, who talks about how restricting access to financial resources, education or the labor market, as well as restricting access to natural resources such as safe drinking water like in Flint, MI, is the most socially acceptable forms of racism.

[Pandemic backlash jeopardizes public health powers, leaders](#) is a story on *AP News* by Anna Maria Barry-Jester and colleagues about how public health officials across the country have found themselves at the center of a political storm as they combat the worst pandemic in a century, and how their expertise

is often disregarded.

[\*COVID-19, work & motherhood\*](#) is a story on the Colorado School of Public Health site by D. Liliانا Tenny of the impact this pandemic has had on women, the workforce and motherhood. Estimates show that more than two million women have left the labor force since the start of the pandemic.

[\*'The eagle has arrived': State health leaders excited over COVID vaccines, encourage others to get it\*](#) is a *9News* story by Bobbi Sheldon in which state health leaders provide an update this week about COVID-19 and the latest plans for vaccine distribution.

[\*Colorado hospitals race to narrow down first round of COVID-19 vaccine recipients\*](#) about distribution plans for the first doses of the vaccine for the three phases.

[\*Political division is dangerously defining our COVID-19 conversation\*](#) is an opinion piece on *The Hill* by Frank Luntz and Brian C. Castrucci who discuss the partisan political chasm we have 10 months into the pandemic, and remind us of the words of Abraham Lincoln, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."



[\*COVID-19 Vaccine: Frequently Asked Questions\*](#) is a COVID update from the American Academy of Pediatrics in response to questions patients and families have related to the new vaccine.

[\*Parental Hesitancy about Routine Childhood and Influenza Vaccinations: A National Survey\*](#) is an article published this summer in *Pediatrics* by Dr. Ally Kempe and colleagues, which reports that nearly 1 in 15 parents in the United States are hesitant about routine childhood vaccines, whereas more than 1 in 4 are hesitant about influenza vaccine.

[\*Decrease in pediatric vaccinations in Colorado reflects wider problem during pandemic\*](#) is a story on *Healio* by Ken Downey, Jr. who discusses data from the Colorado Immunization Information System that showed a decrease in vaccination adherence among three separate age groups because of the pandemic.

[\*Primary Care Payment Reform Collaborative Releases Second Annual Recommendations Report\*](#), a report released this week from the Colorado Division of Insurance, contains the agency's guidance around APM structures that will best support and sustain primary care providers and practices during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic; the types of measure that should be monitored and evaluated to ensure actions to strengthen primary care are having the desired outcomes, and actions to ensure equity is embedded in all aspects of this work.

[\*Special Report – As more women fill America's jails, medical tragedies mount\*](#)

is a Reuters story by Peter Eisler and colleagues about how the intersection of addiction and criminal justice is absolutely a women's issue.

[\*A Unified Vision for the Future of Mental Health, Addiction, and Well-Being in the United States\*](#) is a report produced collaboratively by 14 leading mental health, addiction and well-being groups and professional organizations that addresses the new wave of need in this country for which there is strong agreement among stakeholders about what must be done.

[\*Anxiety and depression are following a remarkably similar curve to COVID-19 cases\*](#) is a story on *Vox* by Isaac Sebenius in which survey data shows the mental health strain of the pandemic. A close look at CDC data shows that one measure of mental health is far more intimately tied to the state of the pandemic than previously imagined.

[\*Playbook for Nonprofit Digital Transformation\*](#) is a story on *Hopelab's* site by Margaret Lewis and Fred Dillon about how nonprofits often seem stuck in the 1980s when it comes to digital transformation, a fact that was especially highlighted at the onset of the pandemic. Hopelab assessed digital readiness of organizations and their stakeholders and developed a playbook to help promote progress in this regard.

[\*Overdoses Are Increasing In the U.S. Over COVID-19: Here's What Addiction Experts Want You to Know\*](#) is a *Forbes* story by Jessica Gold about how the overdose epidemic that rose to highs in 2019 has only continued to get worse, the risks and populations at risk, and what we should be doing about overdoses now.



[\*Medical-Legal Partnership Improves Health through Patient Advocacy\*](#) is a post on the OCHIN site that captures Dr. Caroline Kennedy's story from Monterey County, California, about their innovative partnership with CRLAinc that helps connect patients, including migrant and seasonal farmworkers, with legal and social services.

[\*Patients-to-Policy Learning Collaborative: Addressing America's Housing Crisis Using the MLP Approach\*](#) is the first of a 4-part series scheduled for January 13, 2021. This learning collaborative is specifically for health centers and their legal partners, but individuals from other health systems that collaborate with health centers are welcome to attend.



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