



EUGENE S. FARLEY, JR.  
HEALTH POLICY CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

# FRIDAY'S FEATURES

ISSUE 080919



## NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

### [Leveraging Data and Navigating Federal Policy for Health System](#)

[Transformation](#) is a conference September 25-26, 2019 in Washington DC sponsored by AcademyHealth Health Data Leadership Institute. The meeting will explore new data sources and provide activities that provide an overview on the current state of data use and needs.

[Climbing the world's tallest peaks despite deadly prostate cancer diagnosis](#) is a story on *UCHealth Today* by Katie Kerwin McCrimmon who tells the story of how Joe Boardman lives his last years with grace.

[MIPS Promoting Interoperability 2019 Rule Change: October 3<sup>rd</sup> Deadline](#) is a 90-minute online training session by Dr. Michael Stearns, MACRA expert, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11AM MDT; who will walk you through the 2019 MIPS changes step-by-step. The charge is \$217-277, depending on the format you choose.

[What Colorado's Huge Voter Engagement Can Teach the Nation](#) was a newsworthy article [*to me*], so thought I'd share. It is posted on *OZY* by Nick Fouriezos about what he considers to be the "blueprint for increasing voter turnout." [*I heard another political pundit remark that putting referendums on the ballot that people care about is absolutely the best way to get folks to the polls.*]



## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[The World Dignity Project 2019 Four Year Report](#) sparked by Prof. Gabriel Ivbijaro, MBE and the World Federation for Mental Health, is dedicated to everybody touched by mental illness with a call to action to make dignity in mental health a global reality for all.

[Caring for children's mental health needs in- and- out of the emergency](#)

[department](#) is a post on the *Well Being Trust* site about a collaboration in Oregon that could be a model for dealing with a troubling national trend, that of a troubling rise in the rates of children and youth arriving at emergency departments in mental health crisis.

[How Minnesota is Tackling Teen Mental Health](#) is a story in *Minneapolis St. Paul Magazine* by Jamie Korf and Sharon S. Kessler about the Change-to-Chill program designed as an online preventive resource to help teens manage stress and build resiliency, which has expanded into 25 schools this academic year.

[Denmark is experimenting with 'culture vitamins' to lift people out of depression](#) is a story on *World Economic Forum* by Douglas Broom about how Denmark is conducting a trial in four cities where people with depression are encouraged to participate in cultural activities...they call it Kultuvitaminer – culture vitamins.

[How city benches are encouraging conversations about mental health](#) is a story on *Good Morning America* about a new NY program that is changing the way people view therapy, and is de-stigmatizing conversations around mental health and depression using city benches and peer-to-peer mental health conversations.

[Rural Americans need help with 'deaths of despair.' Repealing the ACA won't do that](#) is an opinion piece by Nickolas D. Zaller posted on *STAT* who says suicides and overdoses in rural America will only get worse if the ACA is repealed because this would deny insurance to four million people with behavioral health disorders.

[How Barbers Are Getting Black Men Talking about Mental Health](#) is a *Huffington Post* story by Christopher A. Daniel about how Loenzo Lewis, mental health advocate and founder and CEO of Arkansas-based nonprofit, The Confess Project, is making Black barbershops safe spaces to open up about depression, anxiety and trauma.



[This State Task Force Wants to Overhaul How Behavioral Health Services Are Delivered to Young Coloradans](#) is a CPR interview by Megan Verlee with Shannon Van Deman, a co-chair of the Children's subcommittee of the Colorado Behavioral Health Task Force. Shannon hopes the group will agree on a minimum level of services that should be available to children statewide and then determine how to put that safety net in place.

[Coordinating Care of Mind and Body Might Help Medicaid Save Money and Lives](#) is an NPR story by Blake Farmer about Tennessee Health Link, an interdisciplinary program developed by TennCare that rewards teamwork and care coordination for patients. Studies show that this effort has saved TennCare hundreds of dollars per year per patient, with most savings being on the medical side.

[Big3 Announces Mental Health Policy...](#)Big3, is a professional 3-on-3 basketball league founded by hip hop musician and actor Ice Cube and entertainment executive, Jeff Kwatinetz, made up of 12 teams whose rosters include both former NBA and international players. This league acknowledges the importance of mental health in achieving overall health, and to this end established key principles that will guide the league and the players.

[Why California is struggling to provide adequate mental health care](#) is a PBS story about how Byrhonda Lyons of CALMatters, a nonprofit, nonpartisan media organization, examines how the mental health system is failing some of the most vulnerable with no well-funded political action committee for mentally ill people.

[For every 69 high-dose opioid prescriptions, U.S. pharmacies dispensed only one overdose-reversal drug](#) is a story on *STAT* by Andrew Joseph who discusses a new federal report that indicates uptake of the antidote is still lagging in much of the country, with drastic geographic disparities...often the lowest in rural areas.

[Much Work Remains to Undo Grotesque Legacy of the Rockefeller Drug Laws](#) is a piece by Arianne Keegan for *Filter Magazine* about how we came to pass and reinforce laws that marginalized and disenfranchised people in Black and Brown communities; and how 10 years after the reform of Rockefeller, the immense damage wrought lives on.

[Position Statement 72: Violence: Community Mental Health Response](#) is a position statement approved by the board of directors for *Mental Health America* a year ago that reiterates that mental health and substance use conditions have little or no association with violence.



[Investing in Primary Care: A State-Level Analysis](#) is a joint publication of the Graham Center and PCPCC released last month and funded by the Milbank Memorial Fund. This report highlights how the underinvestment in primary care has significant consequences, and provides data and analysis of primary care spend and key patient outcomes.

[Adult with Housing Insecurity Have Worse Access to Primary and Preventive Care](#) is an article in *JABFM* by Patricia Martin and colleagues who set out to determine whether housing insecurity is associated with access to preventive and primary care.

[The Primary Care Spend Model: A systems approach to measuring investment in primary care](#) is an article in *BMJ Global Health* by Robert Baillieu and colleagues who propose a new model that allows for a dynamic assessment of primary care spending (PC Spend) within the context of a system's total healthcare budget.

[Ensuring Primary Car Access in States with an Aging Family Physician](#)

[\*Workforce\*](#) is a policy brief by Graham Center staff who identified primary care physicians in direct patient care, and used their geocoded addresses to map their distribution using data from the 2018 American Medical Association Physician Masterfile.

[\*Understanding the Intersection of Medicaid and Work: What Does the Data Say?\*](#) is an issue brief on the *Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation* site by Rachel Garfield and colleagues who build on previous analyses to analyze data on Medicaid enrollees and examine some of the policy implications of work requirements.

[\*Bringing Together Young and Old To Ease the Isolation of Rural Life\*](#) is an NPR story by Rihitu Chatterjee who reports on findings from recent studies that indicate that large numbers of rural residents say they have no friends or family nearby to rely on and feel isolated, an issue that is increasingly recognized as a public health issue.

[\*The importance of Primary Care – and of Measuring It\*](#) is an article in *Health Affairs* by Hoangmai Pham and Ann Greiner who propose a standard, publicly reported measure of primary care for the United States to allow comparisons among states, health plans, and accountable care organizations as well as catalyze research quantifying the value of primary care.

[\*Veterans Health Administration Investments in Primary Care and Mental Health Integration Improved Care Access\*](#) is an article in *Health Affairs* by Lucinda B. Leung and colleagues who conducted a national study to examine whether increased penetration of primary care-mental health integration services in primary care clinics was associated with changes to health care use and total costs, while accounting for patient-aligned care-team implementation.



[\*Medical-Legal Partnership\*](#) is a website page of the Legal and Justice Center at the University of Virginia about the collaboration among University of Virginia Children's Hospital, the University of Virginia School of Law, and the Legal Aid Justice Center. Designed to improve the health and welfare of families with children, the MLP provides training for medical staff on legal issues that affect family and child health. The [\*Teen Health Guide\*](#) is an MLP publication intended to provide teens with answers to questions of confidentiality, legal rights, health insurance, support and decision-making around areas of concern.

[\*Medical Legal Partnership: Better Health through Legal Advocacy\*](#) is a slide presentation about a one-year pilot about the importance of MLPs relating to a partnership between Health Share of Oregon and the Oregon Health & Sciences University.

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