DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

MONTHLY MEETING

DFM-CEP-MM

February 17, 2026

Anschutz
School of Medicine

Department of Family Medicine **Community Engagement Program**
University of Colorado **Anschutz Medical Campus**

Agenda Format

- Welcome:
  - Introductions and ice breaker: in the chat 3min
- DFM-CEP-MM purpose, group norms and updates
  - Heather, Sheryl and Vanessa: 10 min
- Presentation: ~25-30min
- Q & A: 10-15min
- Group share and check in *(if time allows)*
- Survey link and adjourn

Introductions and Ice Breaker

Introductions

In the chat, please share:

Your name, pronouns, title, organization, and email.

Ice Breaker questions

In the chat, please share:

What is a critical skill you learned in High School?

and/or

What was your favorite subject in High School or a subject you wished you learned?

DFM Community Engagement Program Monthly Meetings (DFM-CEP-MM)

Meeting Purpose:

- To increase awareness of programs and activities being done in community spaces across the state by DFM faculty, physicians, clinicians, staff, researchers, medical residents, and students as well as fellow colleagues across the Campus working in areas of community engagement and activities that promote health access and healthy outcomes.
- To learn and hear from nonprofits, state agencies, community-based organizations *(such as community groups, potential partners, and community residents)* about the resources and support they provide to our Colorado communities.
- To provide opportunities for our family medicine clinics to broaden their awareness of Campus and community-based resources available.
- To create an opportunity to make connections with each other.

DFM-CEP-MM Suggested Group Norms

- Please add your pronouns to your name in zoom meetings.
- Make sure that your microphone is on mute during presentations.
- During the presentation portion of the meeting, put questions into the chat or use the raise hand button.
- Cameras on, whenever possible, especially if we are hosting guests from an outside organization.

Schedule of upcoming CEP Monthly Meetings:

Date	Presenter	Topic
March 17	• **Melissa De Herrera,** Associate Director Aging and Nutrition Services • **Jered Ratschkowsky,** Senior Director Aging and Nutrition Services	**Volunteers of America CO**'s Programs & Services, from Congregate meals and beyond. **VOA** provides a range of services across the state. Learn about the wide variety of programs they offer to adults, families, children, youth, veterans, women, older adults, people with disabilities, and the unhoused.
April 21	• **Lilia Chavez**, MHA, RDN, CLC (she/her), Director of Client Care • **Kate Johnston** (she/her) Chief Program Strategy Officer	**Project Angel Heart**'s medically tailored meals for people with severe illness. Project Angel Heart provides nutritious, medically tailored meals, for people experiencing illness.
May 19	• TBD	
June 16	• **Javari McGill,** Customer Assistance Strategy and Performance Consultant	**Xcel Energy Medical Assistance** Programs

Additional Notes

- **New to this group?** Please add your name, email, and organization to the chat.
- Join our Listserv. Email DFM.CommunityEngagement@CUanschutz.edu
- View our upcoming calendar and our past **CEP Monthly Meeting recordings:** https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/family-medicine/our-communities/colorado-community
- Do you have a suggestion for a future presenter or topic? Add it to our **suggestion box**: https://forms.office.com/r/V4KD58XD4m

Community Events, Opportunities and Resources

- Fri, 2/27/26 **YAASPA's Black Liberation Festival** with food, workshops, and community resources and family friendly entertainment (music, talent show, open mic). At the ABC Community Hub. RSVP at www.bit.ly/YBLF2026 or reach out to Tashan.Montgomery@yaaspa.net

- Sat, 3/7/26, **4th Annual Youth Summit** on University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. This one-day event was founded by and historically organized in partnership with the Black Men in White Coats (BMWC) organization and provides elementary, middle, and high school students with hands-on learning, sessions with CU School of Medicine faculty and staff. All youth must be accompanied by an adult/parent/guardian. Register online.

- Thurs, 3/19/26, **17th Annual Women's Health Research Day** hosted by the Ludeman Family Center for Women's Health Research. Sessions available in-person and virtual and are free to attend and are open to students, staff, faculty and community members. Lunch will be available for in-person registrants. Registration, Agenda and Speakers.

Community Events, Opportunities and Resources

Community Resources Inc (CRI) is coordinating three science fairs in **Denver Public Schools (DPS)** this March. Judges are the key to the success of these events for students. The opportunity to present their project to a "real" science person and receive feedback creates a tremendous learning experience for the participating students.

March 3, 2026 McKinley Thatcher Elementary 1230 S. Grant Street
8:00-11:00 K-5 graders 12 judges needed

March 24, 2026 Denver Language School 451 Newport St.
8:00-12:00 K-4 graders 12 judges needed

March 26, 2026 Denver Language School 2949 California St.
8:30-12:00 5-8 graders 5 judges needed

Select a date and time using the SIGN-UP GENIUS
Questions: sue_edwards@dpsk12.org

We appreciate your feedback!

The 2026 **DFM-CEP-MM survey** is now available.

Open the link in the chat so it's ready to complete after the meeting.

It just takes 2 minutes. Thanks!



https://forms.office.com/r/0nvdtnmPtb

Today's Presenters

Anschutz

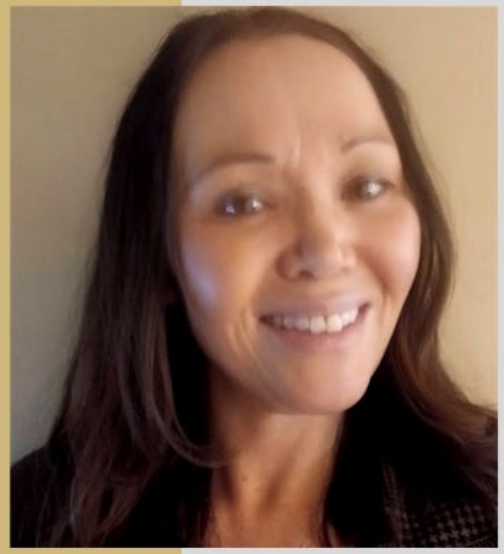
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The Excel Center

goodwill

goodwill

Goodwill of COLORADO

- **G. James Sanchez MBA, BS,** (he/him), **Director II, Education and Training**, Goodwill of Colorado
- **Anne Marie Potter** (she/her), **Outreach Specialist**, Goodwill of Colorado



The Excel Center Aurora

Goodwill of Colorado

Goodwill of Colorado Mission Statement

We help people overcome barriers to economic and personal independence through education, training and job placement.

The Excel Center History



- 1st Excel Center opened in Indiana in 2010
- Currently 50 locations across 10 states & District of Columbia
- Over 11,000 Excel Center Graduates nationwide
- Excel Center Aurora is the first-of-its-kind for in-person adult learning in Colorado for adults ages 22+



What is the need?

- Approximately 31M adults without a diploma in the United States – *2022 US Census Bureau*
- Approximately 324,000 adults in Colorado without a high school diploma
- Approximately 32,000 adults over the age of 25 are without a diploma in Aurora



Eligibility

- Adults 22 years old and over
- Colorado resident
- Pass sex offender registry check

The Excel Center

goodwill

The Excel Center Aurora

- **The Excel Center is a high school, designed specifically for adult learners. Our staff and faculty are committed to helping students achieve their educational goals and unlock new opportunities.**





We offer:

- Free High School Classes
- Accelerated Courses
- College & Career Readiness
- Student Advocates
- Transportation via Free RTD Bus Passes
- Free Childcare On-site for 1 - 12 Years Old

School Schedule

The Excel Center is a unique high school, tailored to the needs of our adult learners.

- **Classes are everyday Monday-Thursday, between 9:00am-3:40pm.**
  - Fridays are **"Student Days"**, when students can meet with Teachers and/or Student Advocates as needed.
  - Our schedule is structured in five, 8-week terms. **Students earn 1 credit per class, every 8 weeks, after receiving a passing grade.**
  - Students will get new classes every term until they reach all required credits for a high school diploma.

Class	Time
Class 1	9am - 10:30am
Class 2	10:35am - 12:05pm
Class 3	12:35pm - 2:05pm
Class 4	2:10pm - 3:40pm

Graduation Requirements

The Excel Center graduation requirements are based on the guidelines provided by the Colorado Department of Education which include:

- English - 4 credits
- Math - 4 credits
- Science - 3 credits
- Social Studies - 3 credits
    - (US History, Civil Gov. and Holocaust & Genocide Studies)
- Senior Seminar - 1 credit
- Electives - 5 credits (Including work-based learning credit)
- **20 credits in total**

Student Advocates

- Each student is assigned a Student Advocate
- Class placement, scheduling and transcript reviews
- Graduation planning and credit tracking
- Academic support and community resource navigation





The Excel Center

goodwill

Learn More: excelcentercolorado.org

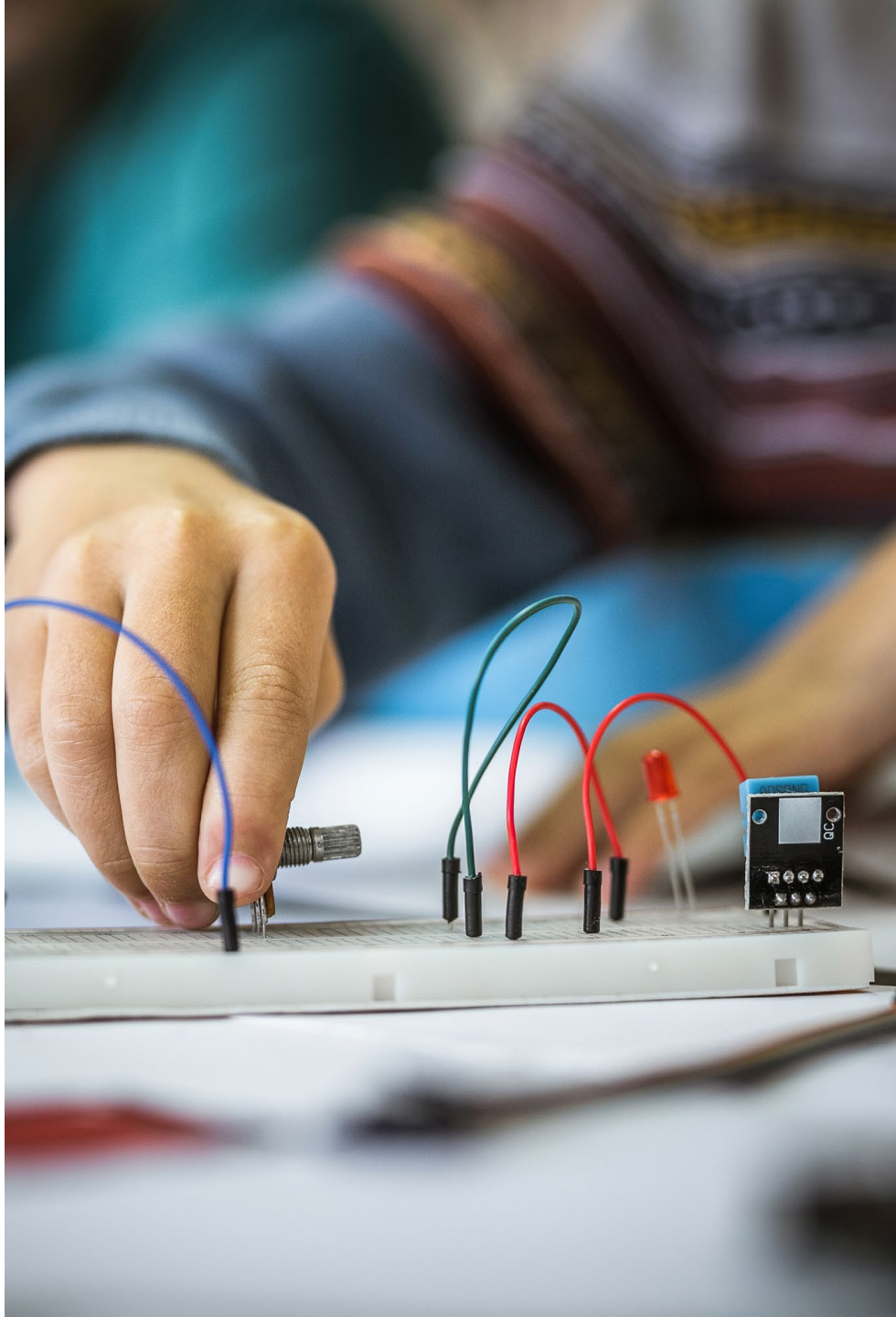


BankWork$

- 8-week training for entry level bank jobs.
- Instruction by banking professionals
- Hiring event following graduation/ partner banks
- Colorado Bankers Associate Certificate
- 3 days per week in person 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Eligibility: High school diploma or equivalent certification, ability to pass background check, previous cash handling and/or customer service

IT Training

- Offers FREE CompTIA A+, Network+, Security+, CySA+ certification training
- Self-paced program averaging 4-6 months
- 20-hours a week of studying
- Employment placement support in partnership with local businesses
- Average starting wages after certification $23-30/hr
- Eligibility open to all; waitlist may occur
- Colorado Springs area/Denver Metro Area



Goodwill Clean Technology Accelerator

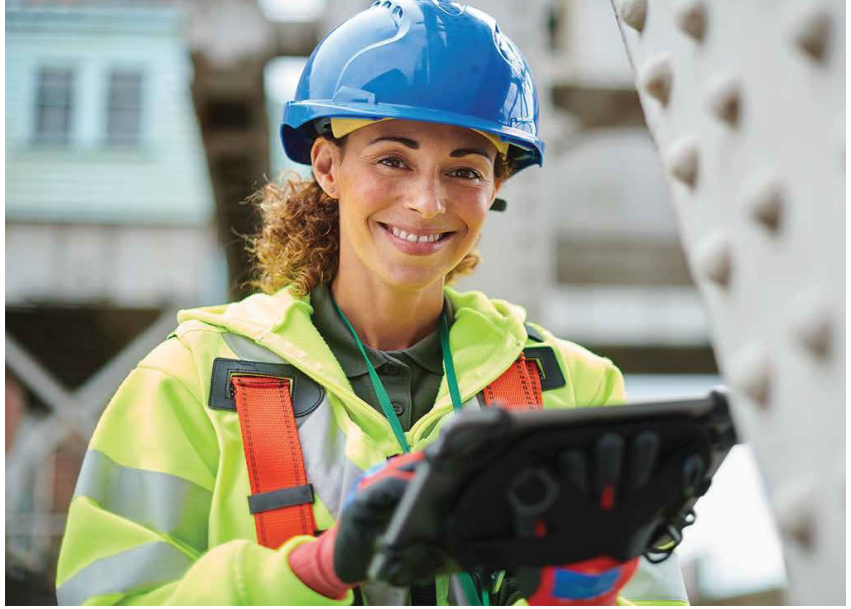
Goodwill® now offers hands-on training for electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) operations and maintenance (i.e., EV Charging Stations). With paid, hands-on training, participants are ready to begin a career in renewable energy.

EVSE Technician – Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment – Operations & Maintenance

- Electrical energy fundamentals
- Basics of electric vehicles and batteries
- EVSE charging standards
- EVSE electrical codes and safety standards
- Steps to commission an EV charging station
- Common EVSE maintenance tasks
- Customer service excellence

Graduate with industry certifications in:

- Workplace safety (OSHA-10, CPR/First Aid/AED)
- Construction basics
- NFPA 70e
- SmarterHelp!'s EVSE O&M certificate



Our upcoming cohorts:

April 6th – May 1st o *Application Deadline March 6th*

July 6th – July 31st

September 21st – October 16th

Our class hours are Monday-Friday from 8 am-4:30 pm, and classes are held completely in person in our Clean Tech Lab.

Students will receive an hourly stipend. The first week (foundations week) is unpaid, but full attendance is required because students will be receiving 3 certifications during this time. Weeks 2-4 will be paid an hourly stipend- the amount will be disclosed on the first day of class. Due to paycheck timelines, stipends may not be received until the last week of the program and after graduation. Students will receive 6 certifications that total to roughly $2,000.

Micro-credentials

- Flexible training, professional credentials, job placement & support.
- Online and in-class

Week-long classes Certifications offered:

- Hospitality
- Warehouse, Logistics, & Retail
- Caregiver
- Forklift
- Flagger
- Microsoft Outlook
- Customer Service and Sales

Eligibility requirements:

- 150% Federal Poverty Guidelines or current SNAP recipient
- 16 years & older
- Colorado Springs or Denver Metro Area Resident





Questions

Referrals and Follow-up:

goodwillcolorado.org/services/

Services Overview links to each program

Anne Marie Potter
Specialist, Outreach
6850 N. Federal Blvd, Denver, CO 80221
Main: 719-666-0238 |
apotter@goodwillcolorado.org |
GoodwillColorado.org



Q & A

Feel free to:

- come off mute to ask your questions,
- put your questions into the chat,
- or use the raise hand button.

Saying Thanks and Congratulations

Vanessa Owen—our teammate since 2023, has accepted a new role in the Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation.

We appreciate all she has done for our team and we wish her the very best!



Thank you for coming. Our contact info:

DFM's Community Engagement Program: DFM.CommunityEngagement@CUanschutz.edu

Heather Bleacher, MD MPH (she/her)
Faculty, University of Colorado Family Medicine Residency
Director of Community Health Initiatives and Outcomes,| Department of Family Medicine
Associate Professor, University of Colorado School of Medicine
E: Heather.Bleacher@CUanschutz.edu |

Sheryl Harrington (she/her)
Community Engagement Program Manager | Department of Family Medicine
E: Sheryl.Harrington@CUanschutz.edu |

Vanessa Owen, MA (she/her) [This is her last meeting with us!!]
Senior Research Services Professional
Community Health Curriculum Coordinator | Department of Family Medicine
E: Vanessa.Owen@CUanschutz.edu |

Group Share and Check In

- **Do you have an event or community activity that you want us to share with the group?** Raise your hand or come off mute.

- Don’t forget to email event details to DFM.CommunityEngagement@CUanschutz.edu by the end of the day so we can share it in our follow-up email.

We appreciate your feedback!

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