

COLORADO NETWORK *of* HEALTH ALLIANCES

a project of  CENTER FOR
HEALTH PROGRESS

PROGRESS & POSSIBILITIES

THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE COLORADO NETWORK OF HEALTH ALLIANCES

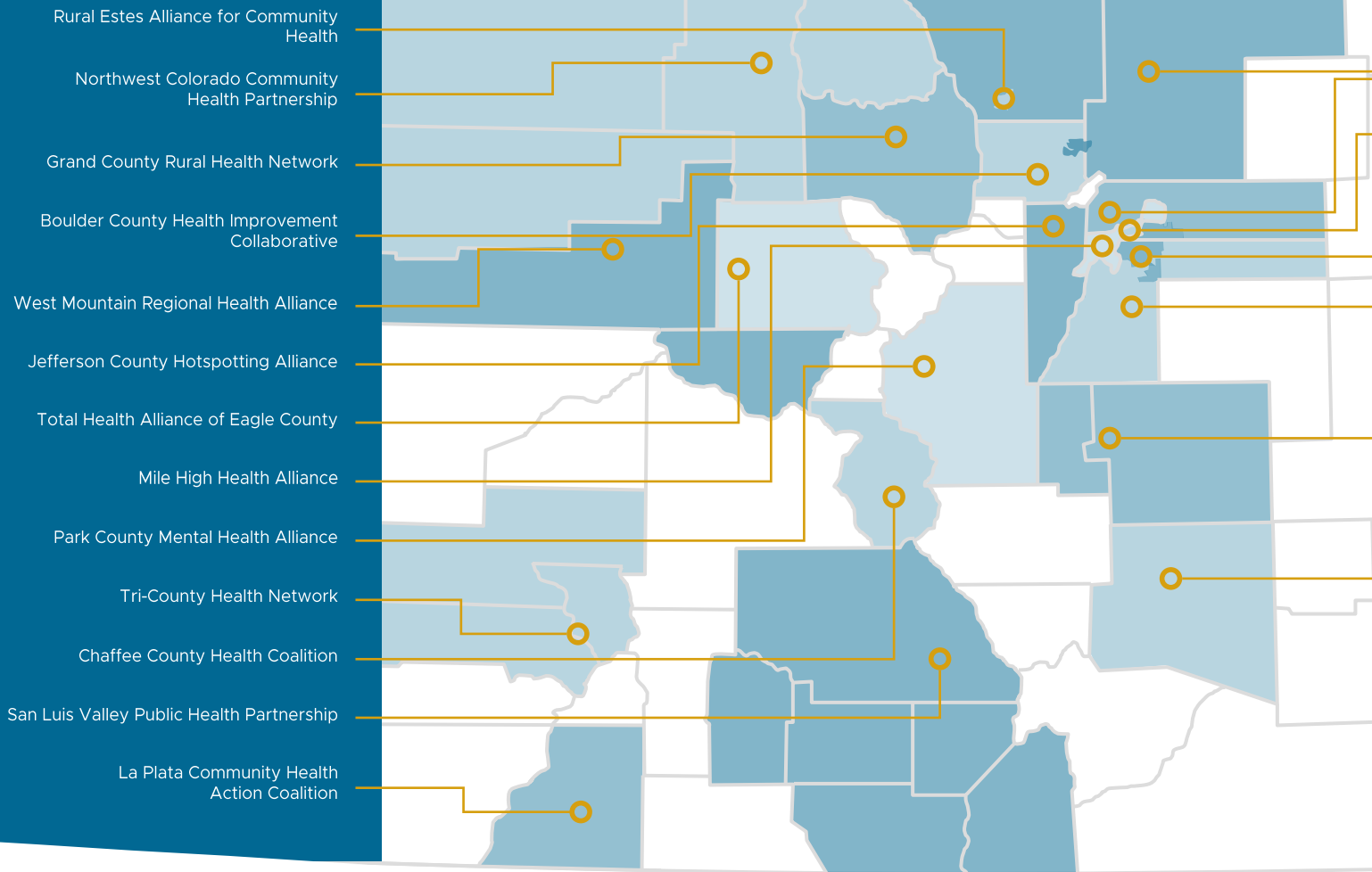
APRIL 2017

NETWORK OVERVIEW

Throughout Colorado, formal alliances made up of health care and community leaders, government agencies, businesses, residents, and providers are changing the way leaders work together. Whether focused on access to mental health services, care coordination of the high-utilizer population, or the opioid epidemic, each alliance collaborates across sectors and agencies to work toward improved health in their communities.

Since mid-2012, Center for Health Progress has convened these diverse alliances as the Colorado Network of Health Alliances (the Network). The Network fosters strategic learning, networking, and collaboration. In 2016, membership consisted of 22 actively engaged health alliances, representing over 72% of the counties in Colorado.

Membership formalization in 2015 allowed the Network to make strides toward common goals. It renewed a collective commitment to statewide health systems change, grounded in community-based efforts and assets. 2016 proved to be a huge milestone as the Network created its first strategic plan to drive collective action.



HEALTH ALLIANCES

Health alliances are community health improvement organizations that:

- Work to improve access to care and community health outcomes through collaborative strategies
- Include a variety of health system and community leaders working with community residents

NETWORK GOALS

Members collectively strive toward:

- Access to health insurance and health services for all Coloradans
- A system that meets the needs of patients, families, and communities, delivering affordable, culturally-responsive, quality care
- Health equity and the elimination of differences in health driven by social factors

FORWARD PROGRESS

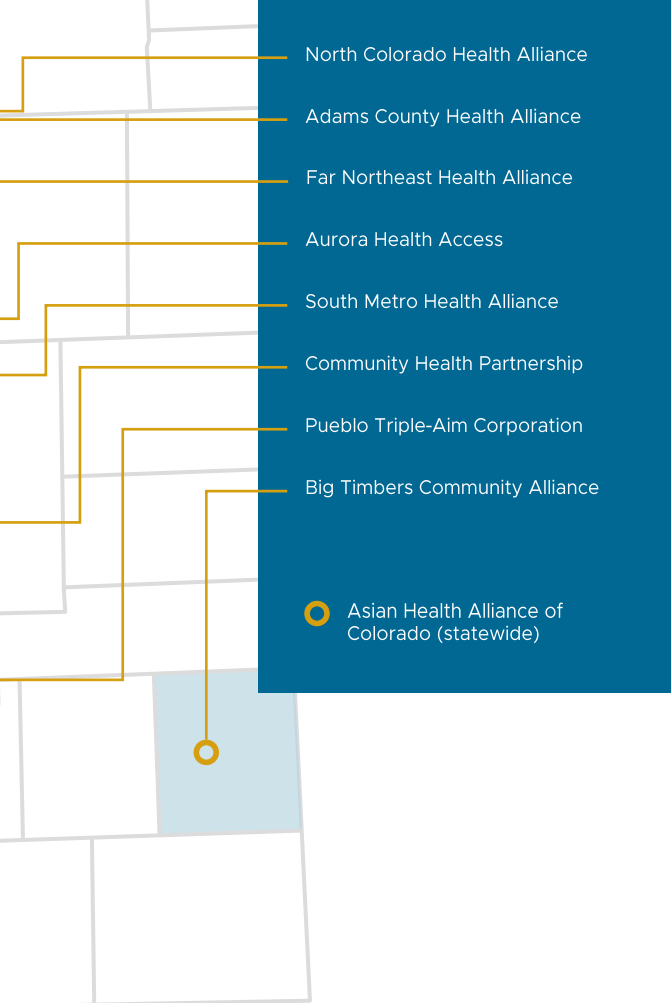
The membership identified two primary areas of work for 2016 and 2017:

- Support long-term financial sustainability of Colorado's health alliances by exploring coordinated, statewide efforts to fund health alliance work
- Collectively influence the implementation of statewide health systems change efforts

To accomplish this work, the membership developed guidelines and procedures for applying and distributing shared resources and for leveraging their collective voice to influence health systems change.

COLLABORATIVE WORK

Last fall, the Network developed and submitted comments to the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing in response to the draft Request for Proposals for the Accountable Care Collaborative Phase II. Network members voted on joint comments to submit to HCPF, highlighting:



North Colorado Health Alliance

Adams County Health Alliance

Far Northeast Health Alliance

Aurora Health Access

South Metro Health Alliance

Community Health Partnership

Pueblo Triple-Aim Corporation

Big Timbers Community Alliance

Asian Health Alliance of Colorado (statewide)

SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

Across Colorado, health alliances are leading the way to improve the health of their communities. The approaches, innovations, and programs are as unique as the communities in which they work. Here are some of the highlights of what health alliances have accomplished in the past year:

ADAMS COUNTY HEALTH ALLIANCE

Last summer, Adams County Health Alliance completed a resources mapping inventory. They documented all of the great work occurring across the county toward identifying, collecting, and sharing resources with fellow community members. This resulted in a cataloging of that information and additional collaborative convenings with community partners to identify next steps.

AURORA HEALTH ACCESS

Responding to community concerns, Aurora Health Access implemented the Know Where to Go campaign to provide education about the differences between free-standing emergency rooms and urgent care facilities, and to encourage the use of a “medial home,” when that is an option. They were recently awarded a grant to expand outreach and translational materials for this project.

BIG TIMBERS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Big Timbers Community Alliance experienced a year of regrowth, renewal, and renaming! Formerly Prowers County Health Alliance, the Alliance received funding to develop their ability to collect data and make it available to their community. It felt this name was a nod to the past (the region was known for its cottonwood trees in the 1800’s) and also its future!

BOULDER COUNTY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

BCHIC spent much of 2016 laying the groundwork for a new initiative to

1. Health alliances’ unique roles in communities
2. The unique realities of rural communities
3. Flexibility for care coordination payment
4. Strengthening treatment of behavioral health conditions

This first opportunity to engage as Network to influence health systems change efforts is just the beginning. Network members are enthusiastic to build on this momentum in many future opportunities.

MEMBER ALLIANCE FACTS

Oldest Alliance:

Community Health Partnership
(founded in 1992)

Youngest & Newest Member Alliance:

Park County Mental Health Alliance
(founded and joined in 2016)

Funding: 8 receive program-specific grants

Top 3 Areas of Focus:

- Behavioral/Mental Health
- Health Equity
- Data Collection/Dissemination

enhance medical neighborhoods through improving access to specialty care. With a three-year grant, they are recruiting more specialists willing to treat Medicaid and uninsured patients, building a hub that tracks specialists availability, and streamlining the referral system for primary care and patients.

CHAFFEE COUNTY HEALTH COALITION

Chaffee County Health Coalition worked to bring two organizations that support senior services to the county! They have been able to fill in many gaps related to the health and well-being of the community's seniors, and they continue to see the impact throughout Chaffee County.

NORTHWEST COLORADO COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Northwest Colorado Community Health Partnership was incorporated as a 501c3 nonprofit organization in 2016! This increased their capacity to strengthen cross-sectoral partnerships with schools, law enforcement, community colleges, and community-based organizations to improve the health of the region.

PUEBLO TRIPLE AIM CORPORATION

Through a partnership with Pueblo Fire Department and the Transitions of Care Consortium, PTAC was able to show a decrease of readmissions among the Medicare population from 68 to 35 per 1000 enrollees from 2010 to 2016. One key to success is a program that connects people who are excessively calling 911 to services that address their core issues!

TOTAL HEALTH ALLIANCE OF EAGLE COUNTY

Total Health Alliance of Eagle County

hired a part-time dedicated coordinator and community health worker. With increased staffing capacity, they built the Resource and Stabilization Team (ReST) referral program to connect adults to available resources and wrap-around support—a positive step in creating access to behavioral health care.

TRI-COUNTY HEALTH NETWORK

Tri-County Health Network's greatest accomplishment in 2016 was improving access to, and integrating education, preventive, and direct mental health services, a comprehensive behavioral health delivery system. This work has removed silos, ensured services are complementary, and more effectively utilized funding.

WEST CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

West Central Public Health Partnership attained a regional grant to work on behavioral health issues. With the support of the State Innovation Model funding, local public health agencies are implementing a stigma reduction campaign, focusing on Mental Health First Aid training. Soon, work will begin to support efforts to integrate behavioral health into primary care.

WEST MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

In 2016, with a Health Resources and Services Regional Health Network Development Planning Project grant, WMRHA completed its Strategic and Action Plans, and developed a formal Membership and Dues Agreement and Tiered Dues Structure. They also set the stage for hiring their first ever Executive Director early in 2017!