A new General Accounting Office (GAO) study reports that low payment rates discourage physician participation in Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The study, "Medicaid and SCHIP" (GAO-01-883) was submitted to Democratic members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. It cites a recent national survey conducted by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) that identifies low reimbursements as one of the most important reasons why pediatricians limit their participation in Medicaid. About one-third of the nation's pediatricians do not accept Medicaid patients.

The GAO reviewed the extent of poor payment rates, finding that Medicaid fees for preventative pediatric services ranged from 29 to 61 percent of what Medicare would pay for similar services. Although SCHIP fees were often slightly higher than Medicaid's, they still fell below Medicare rates in many states.

While poor Medicaid reimbursement is a long-standing problem, the GAO found that states are slow to increase payments and assure provider participation. New York State recently increased physician fees for office visits for the first time in over 30 years - only after provider groups initiated lawsuits. Fees for office visits increased from $7 to $30.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) criticized the GAO study for its small study sample. It also questioned the appropriateness of comparing Medicaid and Medicare physician fees. HHS expressed significant concern with the AAP's survey, calling it an important policy issue, which warrants further evaluation.

Upon release of the report, the AAMC, AAP, American Hospital Association, Families USA, and several other organizations sent a letter to HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson to praise the report for raising important access issues and presenting opportunities for system improvements. The potential improvements include simplified application and redetermination processes, adequate payment rates, and limiting cost-sharing requirements.


WHCCAM DEBATES DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

The White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine (WHCCAM) convened a meeting on Oct. 4-6 to discuss the progress of draft recommendations for its final report on federal policy regarding complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). The Commission is charged with submitting a final report to the President and Congress by March 7, 2002 and expects to have a near final draft version of the report ready for its next meeting on Dec. 6-7.

The meeting was divided into eight sessions with the following major issues discussed:

- **Coordination of CAM Research** - There was an overwhelming consensus that all CAM research should be held to the same standards as other conventional medical therapies and treatments.

- **Education and Training of Health Care Practitioners** - Although all Commissioners agreed that all CAM trainees should have some training of conventional medicine and conventional medicine professionals should have some CAM training, there were distinct differences concerning whether limited government funds should be used to train health professionals in CAM therapies or treatments, especially in locales where conventional medicine training already was not readily available.

- **Access and Delivery of CAM** - Commissioners discussed without resolution whether federal, state, or local governments could establish standards of care for CAM professionals within a modality when the leaders of specific CAM modalities (e.g., acupuncture) has not been able to come to any agreement on such standards.

- **Coverage and Reimbursement** - There was a strong consensus that once research illustrates that CAM...
The theme of CCPH's 6th annual conference next May in Miami is "The Partnership as the Leverage Point for Change" What is it about the partnership itself that can lead to change and innovation? The power of partnerships is their unique ability to combine the perspectives, knowledge, skills and resources of people and organizations. Roz Lasker and her colleagues at the Center for the Advancement of Collaborative Strategies in Health call this unique combining power "partnership synergy." The recently published results of their National Study of Partnership Functioning significantly adds to the evidence base about the critical factors contributing to partnership synergy.

The study was designed to test the hypothesis that partnership synergy is directly related to these six dimensions of partnership functioning: leadership, administration and management, partnership efficiency, non-financial resources, challenges with partner involvement and challenges related to the community.

Although the study did not specifically aim to study community-campus partnerships, we believed the study had the potential to inform such partnerships. CCPH was invited to suggest a number of community-campus partnerships to include in the study. 63 partnerships from around the country participated in the study. All have been in existence at least 2 years, have at least 10 partners, and are working toward promoting health and well-being in their communities. Multiple key informants from each partnership - including partnership coordinators, individuals representing organizational partners, and individual partners completed questionnaires. One of the partnerships recommended by CCPH, the West Virginia Rural Health Education Partnerships program, shares a specially prepared report from the study on its website at http://www.futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/guide.html#Publications

Some of the national study's more significant findings, along with relevant CCPH resources, are highlighted below:

* The effectiveness of partnership leadership is the most powerful determinant of synergy. Readers may wish to read the proceedings of CCPH's 1999 annual conference, which addressed the theme of leadership for healthier communities and campuses. The leadership assessment tool developed for the conference, included in the proceedings, can help partnerships assess and improve the leadership skills and capacities of their partners. See futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/.

A full report on the national study's methodology and findings (from which the above comments are drawn), including the assessment instruments, can be printed from the Center's website at www.caehs.org. These resources can help partnerships assess and strengthen their ability to realize the full potential of collaboration.

CCPH and the Center are collaborating to translate study findings into meaningful capacity-building programs such as training institutes and workshops, including possible offerings at our annual conference next May. With our growing understanding of how and why partnerships work, we can fully realize partnerships as a leverage point for change in communities and in higher education.

**NEWS FROM CCPH**

**Stacy L. Holmes**

Program Coordinator

Stacy joins CCPH after recently completing her graduate degree and working as the Managing Editor of the Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly. Her master's degree in public administration focused on coursework in nonprofit management and program planning/evaluation.

Stacy has several years of nonprofit and public sector experience with a focus on community services, HIV/AIDS and public health. She worked for 3 years as the program manager for Volunteer Attorneys for People with HIV/AIDS, a program that matched volunteer attorneys with low-income individuals with HIV/AIDS in need of free legal services.

Most recently, Stacy has been working for the Community Technology Institute in Seattle, evaluating their national community voice mail project (that provides voice mail to homeless individuals).

In the past decade, Stacy has worked with such programs as JustServe Americorps, Washington State Dept. of Health and Child & Family Services, and SafePlace Domestic Violence Shelter.

She can be reached at (206) 543-7954 or email at slholmes@u.washington.edu

**Suzanne Fields**

Office Assistant

Suzanne is from Moses Lake, Washington and is a junior at the University of Washington. She is majoring in economics. Upon graduating in the Spring of 2003, she hopes to pursue a career in financial consulting. Eventually she would like to continue her education and earn a CPA degree. Suzanne enjoys reading, boating, and spending time with friends and family.

She can be reached at (206) 543-8178 or email at ccfhuw@u.washington.edu
MEMBERS IN ACTION!

Dear CCPH members,

Please continue sending your comments, questions and announcements to Rose Coroneos at ccphuw@u.washington.edu. We also welcome articles and editorials.

Submission Guidelines:
* There is no deadline for submissions;
* Please limit announcements and questions to not more than 150 words. As for articles and editorials, not more than 250 words;
* Provide the names of all authors, their current institutional affiliations and/or photos;
* Explain all abbreviations and unusual terms when first used.

Funding Sources for Partnership Projects
Q: I like the concept of higher education and communities doing "partnership" projects. I just don't know where the grant funding sources or if there are any projects in our area that can be tapped into. Where would I look?

Please respond to:
Kathryn D. Hilgenkamp-Rodgers
kathryn@coastal.edu

Community based diabetes research grants???
Q: Starting in June 2002 I would like to spend a year before starting family practice residency training to do a postdoctoral fellowship (I will be a newly minted MD-PHd in June 2002) focusing on diabetes.

I plan to do the research in collaboration with the Santa Barbara California based Sansum Medical Research Institute (world renowned for its diabetes research) and the Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics (non-profit community based clinics in their 30th year).

At this time the specifics of the project are wide open and I am starting by looking into sources of funding for community-centered postdoctoral clinical research fellowships for Diabetes research. Any suggestions on good sources of funding would be greatly appreciated!

Please respond to:
Noemi Steiner PhD
mimi@stanford.edu
Stanford Medical School

Request for Cultural Competency Curricula
Q: The American Institutes for Research is conducting a project for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on cultural competency in health care. They are seeking information about curricula that may currently be in existence in medical schools and other allied schools of health that is being used to instruct medical students in cultural competence.

Can you provide any information on this topic? Specifically, do you know of curricula in place in US medical schools that we could examine? Any direction you could provide in this area would be greatly appreciated.

Please respond to:
Jacquelyn G. Graham
American Institutes For Research
jgraham@air.org

Information session on poisonous snakes and plants with the New River Gorge ranger before the hike!

CCPH board of directors and staff with our West Virginia members at the September board retreat in Charleston, WV.
UPCOMING EVENTS!

CCPH Sponsored Events

January 26-29, 2002 - 2nd annual advanced service-learning institute at the Kennolyn Conference Center in Soquel, CA. (Santa Cruz Mountains) **Applications to attend the advanced level training are due November 6th, 2001.**

May 4-7, 2002 - CCPH’s 6th annual conference, Hotel Intercontinental, Miami, FL. The conference will focus on the PARTNERSHIP as the leverage point for change in communities and higher educational institutions. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for a skill-building workshop, story session, partnership bloopers session, poster or site visit, please access the Call for Proposals by visiting our website at http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/projects.html#natconf or call CCPH’s fax-on-demand service at 1-888-267-9183 and select document #202. **Proposal Submission deadline is November 1, 2001.**

June 15-18, 2002 - 6th annual introductory service-learning institute: at the Sleeping Lady, Leavenworth WA. (Cascade Mountains) **Applications are due by Wednesday, May 15, 2002.** To obtain applications, visit http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/projects.html#fsli or call CCPH’s fax-on-demand service at 1 (888) 267-9183 and select document # 206. To learn more, visit our website at futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph.html or contact Program Director Piper Krauel at (415) 502-7933 or piperk@itsa.ucsf.edu

Applications are due January 4, 2002.

For a copy of the application form and additional information, please contact John Saltmarsh at Campus Compact directly at jsaltmarsh@compact.org or (401) 863-1156

Reach Out and Read
Reach Out and Read (ROR) strengthens the link between literacy and a healthy childhood. It is an intervention by doctors, helping parents understand the importance of reading aloud to their children from infancy, while giving them the tools to help their children learn to love books, and begin school ready to learn. For more information, contact the Reach Out and Read National Center by phone at (617) 638-3380, email at ror@bmc.org, or by writing to

Other events


November 29-December 1, 2001 - The 7th Annual Community-Campus Network Conference, sponsored by the Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association, will be held in New Orleans. This conference, designed for representatives of hospitals, community health center networks, public health and other social services, will include the latest on elements essential for the success of networks, how to work with partner organizations, sustainability, and enhancing the effectiveness of their networks. **For more information, visit the HRET web site at http://www.aha.org/hret or call (312) 422-2600.**

Covering America: Real Remedies for The Uninsured - Leading health care analysts weigh in with ten far-reaching solutions. Included are new approaches to using federal income tax credits, expanding Medicaid and the State Children’s Health Insurance Program, implementing Medicare buy-ins, and organizing insurance purchasing. **Details at http://www.rwjf.org/app/rw_publications_and_links/rw_pub_esri.html**

Moving Beyond Enrollment: Accessing Health Services - Children's Defense Fund examines the value to families of enrolling their eligible children in a health insurance program and the importance of accessing health services once enrolled. It includes tools for reaching out to families and enrolling children into CHIP and Medicaid, as well as resources for assisting families once they are enrolled. **Details at http://www.childrensdefense.org/pdf/chip_accessinghealth.pdf**

Alzheimer’s Disease Demonstration Program - HHS announced the award of more than $8 million in grants to 25 states to develop effective models of intervention to serve persons with Alzheimer’s disease and their family caregivers. The Administration on Aging’s new Alzheimer’s Web site has detailed information about the program, including family education and outreach materials in several languages, as well as community- and facility-based Alzheimer’s care training manuals. **Details at http://www.aao.gov/alz**
GRANT ALERTS!

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation has funds available for the Emergency Assistance Program in 2001. The goal of this program is to offer needed support to hospitals and clinical facilities which provide medical care to significant populations of HIV-infected infants, children, adolescents, and pregnant women. It addresses needs not met by existing programs, such as meal vouchers, transportation, memorial assistance, drugs, and child care.

Application Procedure Contact Person: Grants Department, Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, 2950 31st St, #125, Santa Monica, CA 90405 or call (310) 314-1459 or (310) 314-1469 - FAX or email at research@pedaids.org or visit www.pedaids.org
Application, Type of Information Required: Submit Letter of Intent (LOI) to funder. Contact funder for instructions.

Nursing Faculty Development in Geriatrics
The purpose of this program is to provide support for eligible entities to provide nursing faculty development in geriatrics to strengthen the geriatric nursing didactic content and clinical components of baccalaureate and higher degree nursing education programs. Funds will be used to assist the applicant to plan, implement, and evaluate continuing education programs that will: (1) Provide knowledge and skills in core geriatric content; (2) develop specific teaching and learning resources to use in improving geriatric care education and practice; (3) promote learning communities; and (4) increase the capacity of nurses to provide effective geriatric care.

Funding Priorities or Preferences: As provided in Section 805 of the Public Health Service Act, preference will be given to applicants with projects that will substantially benefit rural or underserved populations, or help meet public health nursing needs in State or local health departments.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible entities are schools of nursing, nursing centers, academic health centers, State or local governments, and other appropriate public or private nonprofit entities.

Agency/Department: Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Availability of Funds Announced in the HRSA Preview

For detailed information go to: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2001_register&docid=01-19748-filed

The International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) is pleased to announce an open competition for the Regional Scholar Exchange Program (RSEP) for NIS citizens. Deadline for application submission: November 15, 2001.

RSEP, a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Department of State and administered by IREX, provides opportunities for junior and mid-level university faculty, researchers, scholars, and advanced graduate students from the New Independent States (NIS) to conduct research in the United States for four months with the goal of contributing to the further development of higher education and scholarship in their home countries.

This is a fully funded fellowship, covering travel, housing, stipend, medical insurance, and a professional development allowance. Fellowships are available to citizens of all 12 NIS countries, including: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

All applications must contain developed and focused research proposals, and all proposals must demonstrate relevance to the political, economic, social, legal, educational, historical, cultural, and philosophical challenges facing the NIS.

Eligible Research Topics for RSEP:
* Civic Education
* Social Work

Applications for RSEP can be obtained and submitted by contacting IREX field offices and representatives in the NIS. Applications are also available at Educational Information Centers (EIC) and at IREX-administered Internet Access and Training Program (IATP) Public Access Sites throughout the NIS and can be downloaded at www.irex.org or www.irex.ru.

The Open Society Institute's program on Medicine as a Profession (MAP) has established the Soros Advocacy Fellowship for Physicians. Through this fellowship, participating physicians will design and implement projects directly related to improving health and service delivery, or to confront other social issues, including racism, violence, environmental hazards, and social justice. Projects must be domestically focused. The MAP program will select up to ten fellows a year. Awards will range from $40,000 to $80,000 in salary support, plus fringe benefits, depending on the fellow's time commitment, prior experience, and base salary. The program will also provide up to $2,000 in funds for the fellow's travel to MAP-sponsored meetings. Sponsoring advocacy organizations will be requested to cover overhead costs necessary to house the fellow and may request up to $5,000 from MAP to cover added costs associated with implementing the fellow's project.

Submission deadline: January 15, 2002. For application guidelines and budget forms, visit the MAP Web site at http://www.soros.org/medicine

The Collaborative HIV Prevention Research in Minority Communities Application Deadline: January 25, 2002

The Collaborative HIV Prevention Research in Minority Communities program is designed to assist investigators already conducting HIV-prevention research with ethnic minority communities to improve their programs of research and obtain additional funding for their work. The goals of the program are to: (1) increase the quantity and quality of HIV-prevention research targeting vulnerable ethnic minority populations; (2) develop theory-based, culture-specific research methods for effective HIV-prevention interventions; and (3) increase the number of minority group members among principal investigators funded by the NIH, CDC and other agencies. Each year a small number of scientists will be selected to develop an ethnic minority-focused HIV-prevention research project. Each scientist will work with CAPS investigators to develop a specific program of research tailored to his or her research interest.

Funder Name: University of California San Francisco Center for AIDS Prevention Studies.

Application Technical info Person: Barbara Marin, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, 74 New Montgomery, Ste 600, San Francisco, CA 94105 or call (415) 597-9162 or (415) 597-9213 - FAX or email at bmarin@psg.ucsf.edu or visit www.caps.ucsf.edu/capsweb/projects/minorityindex.html
The most recent issue of the Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning is dedicated to the status and future of service-learning. To order a copy of this issue, visit the Journal's web page at: www.umich.edu/~ocsl/MJCSL/

Andy Furco, Director of Service-Learning at UC-Berkeley, highly recommends two books by Janet Eyler and Dwight Giles, both of which he found to be very useful and informative.

The first is “Where's the Learning in Service-Learning,” which was published by Jossey-Bass in 1999. The book explores learning outcomes of college students engaged in various service-learning activities. The book is based on the findings from two large-scale studies. The research on which the book is based received the 1998 Outstanding Research Award from the National Society for Experiential Education. It’s one of the best books he had read on the subject of the learning outcomes of service-learning. The book can be purchased at http://www.josseybass.com/Corporate/Website/Objects/Products/0,9049,105245,00.html


Continue from cover page...

therapies are safe, efficacious, and cost effective, sponsors of health care coverage and reimbursement should consider coverage of these CAM interventions.

- Coordinating and Centralizing Federal CAM - The Commission believes a recommendation should be made to establish a CAM office within the White House, having purview across all HHS agencies to coordinate and centralize CAM activities.

Information: Andrew Quon, AAMC Division of Biomedical and Health Sciences Research, 202-828-0485.
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

ATPM ANNUAL MEETING: Call for Presentations Open
The Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine is calling for submissions for Poster and Oral Presentations for its 60th Annual Meeting, “Teaching Prevention: Linking the Prevention Education Community.” Oral and Poster submissions relating to the conference focus areas are encouraged; however, submissions in any area of health promotion and disease prevention, public health and preventive medicine education, research and training are welcomed. The results of educational techniques, scientific research, technological advances, or innovations in program design will be strongly considered for presentation.

To be considered for an oral or poster presentation, abstracts must be submitted on-line. The online submission is available until December 17, 2001. Abstracts submitted by mail or fax will not be accepted. Abstracts may be submitted for consideration in one of two categories: Educational Methods or Research. Submissions in either category must contribute to achieving the overall Teaching Prevention conference goals and the topic must be relevant to the conference focus.

For more information on the 60th Annual Meeting and the Call for Presentations visit the ATPM website at http://www.atpm.org/annual/call.html. You may also register online, or download a registration form, at http://www.atpm.org/annual/registration.html.

Promoting, Reinforcing, and Improving Medical Education (PRIME).
The American Medical Student Association (AMSA) is currently accepting proposals for medical schools to pilot its culture and diversity curriculum beginning next academic year.

WEBLINKS!

Methods to Strengthen Communities - Raising Capacity in Low-Income Neighbourhoods at http://www.scn.org/ip/cds/cmp/index.htm. This web site, with more than a hundred web pages on it is the product of the six-year Community Management Programme (CMP), initially funded by Danida (Denmark), designed by Habitat (UN Centre for Human Settlements) and implemented by the Government of Uganda. The training material you will find here is mainly aimed at community workers in the field. You will also find useful policy, strategies, methodology, curriculum, management and planning material that will be useful to teams initiating or upgrading any community development programme.

New Website for US Department of Education. U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige announced today that the Department of Education Web site has been redesigned to improve its organization & function for all customers & to offer users interested in customizing the Web site the option to personalize it. The new www.ed.gov site includes several improvements & adds new features for its users. The redesign keeps the best features of the previous site. Visitors using the search function may still search www.ed.gov as well as the hundreds of Web sites supported by department grants & programs.

The SPIN Project. The Strategic Press Information Network, aka the SPIN Project, offers free and fee-based tools to support positive social change through their publications, web site (http://www.spinproject.org) and training program. The site offers a range of free media-related tutorials on topics like cultivating relationships with reporters, developing a media plan, Internet PR and ensuring effective photo ops and media events.

Website on School-Based Dental Health
A new school-based dental health resource has been posted on the Center for Health and Health Care in Schools web site. Developed by Hahnemann University School of Public Health student, Erica Allen, this PowerPoint presentation brings together high points from recent research that can contribute to effective school-based dental health programs. The presentation can be viewed online or downloaded as a Microsoft Powerpoint 97 file. To view document, go to http://www.healthinschools.org/slides/sbdental.htm

Johns Hopkins POPLINE Database Now Available Online. POPLINE, the world's largest bibliographic database on population, family planning, and related issues, is now available free of charge on the Internet. All 280,000 citations, representing published and unpublished literature, can be accessed for no charge at http://www.popline.org

Resources for Grant Seekers. "THE INTERNET INSIDER - For Grantseekers & Fundraisers.” A free electronic newsletter - delivered to your e-mail box twice monthly - that contains links to web-based grant seeking and fundraising resources. Published by Marilyn L. Gross - President, Educational Funding Strategies, Ltd. For more information, email mlgross@aol.com or visit the EFS website at http://efsinternet.com

Please go to http://www.amsa.org/programs/prime.cfm for more information and a copy of the RFP and curriculum. Proposals for second round of pilot schools for the Culture and Diversity Curriculum must be postmarked by November 21, 2001. For details, please contact Shadia Garrison, PRIME Project Manager, at (703) 620-6600, ext. 214, or e-mail at shadia_g@www.amsa.org.

National Senior Service Corps National Conference 2002-June 7-8, 2002 u Salt Lake City, Utah
The National Senior Service Corps will convene its third national training conference on June 7–8, 2002, in Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah. This event will precede the 2002 National Conference on Community Volunteering and National Service at the same location co-sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Sessions will provide participants with the skills to attract, retain, inspire and manage volunteers in the decades to come; and will provide opportunities to share effective practices on outcome based programming and other

Call for Proposals Available at http://www.seniorcorps.org/resources/conference2002.html
To obtain more information on the submission guidelines, and conference goals, contact Mark Slone at 202-606-5000 ext. 430.

Please send a total of (10) copies by Dec 3, 2001 to: Corporation for National Service, National Senior Service Corps, Attn: 2002 Conference Proposal, 1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20525