

Positive Press

The Official Newsletter of the Southern Colorado Health Network

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SCHN CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM & FOOD BASKET/FOOD CARD GIVEAWAY SLATED FOR DECEMBER 2024; DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS NOVEMBER 11TH

The SCHN holiday gift program for children of clients, along with food baskets or food cards for clients, is scheduled to take place again this year in December.

Clients who are eligible for the 2024 SCHN holiday gift program will be receiving the program registration form in the mail soon. Eligible clients are those with children 14-years old and younger who are in the client's physical custody at least 50 per cent of the time.



If you are eligible, please fill out the form and send it back in the enclosed envelope addressed to SCHN. The deadline for returning the form is November 11th.

Included on the children's holiday gift program registration form is a box to check if you also wish to sign up for a holiday food basket. Holiday food baskets will be available to all Colorado Springs area SCHN clients and holiday food gift cards will be given to SCHN clients in the other SCHN service area counties.

The pick-up dates for the children's gifts and food baskets along with the mailing or distribution dates of holiday food gift cards will be in December and exact dates will be reported in the November/December Positive Press newsletters.

If you are interested in donating to the children's holiday gift program, call SCHN at 719-578-9092.

SCHN CS: 1301 S. 8th St. Colorado Springs, CO 80905 SCHN Pueblo: 807 North Greenwood St., Suite 200, Pueblo, CO 81003

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2024 NATIONAL LATINX AIDS AWARENESS DAY **IS OCTOBER 15**

On what is the last day of Hispanic Heritage Month, October 15, the government of the USA established National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD) to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS within the Latino community on this day each year.

HIV infection has had a devastating and disproportionate impact on the Latino community. It is estimated that more than 80,000 Latinos are currently living with HIV/AIDS in the USA and, unfortunately, stigma and a general lack of awareness about testing, prevention and education continues to help spread the epidemic.

Created by the Hispanic Federation and the Latino Commission on AIDS in 2003, NLAAD promotes and sponsors diverse prevention activities that target Latino families. Timely diagnosis of HIV and linkage to care is essential for improving health outcomes of individuals living with HIV.

To learn more about NLAAD and the impact of HIV Hispanic/Latino communities, visit NLAAD.org or go to the websites for the Hispanic Federation and the Latino Commission on AIDS.





COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK'S 11TH ANNUAL SCOTCH TASTING



Join us for an evening of elegance and indulgence at the 11th Annual Scotch Tasting, hosted by Colorado Health Network. This exclusive event will take place on Saturday, October 12, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the historic Cableland Mansion, the official residence of the Mayor of Denver.

Immerse yourself in a curated selection of Single Malt Scotches from around the world, expertly chosen by Davidson Beer, Wine, and Spirits. Enhance your tasting experience with hand-passed hors d'oeuvres from Larimer Catering and delight in the rich aromas of our coffee bistro. Guests will also receive a beautifully engraved Glencairn tasting glass as a keepsake.

The evening will feature a silent auction, offering an array of unique items and experiences, with all proceeds benefiting Colorado Health Network's vital programs. As you savor your scotch, enjoy live poolside entertainment provided by the smooth sounds of live jazz. Attendees will also have a chance to learn about and enjoy cigars at the cigar bar.

This unforgettable night of sophistication and charity is not to be missed. Secure your tickets today and raise a glass to a great cause!

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HEALTH ACCESS UPDATE

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Open Enrollment (OE) is swiftly approaching. Our statewide team is training to complete almost 875 enrollments from November 1st-January 15th. If you're a client who has already been enrolled into an insurance plan by Health Access, it is imperative that you schedule an appointment before December 15th to meet with a Health Access Program Coordinator to secure insurance coverage for 2025.

OE is also the only time in the year that folks can purchase dental or vision insurance without a special enrollment period. The final cut off for insurance coverage that begins January 1st is December 15th, so please do not delay responding to emails, calls, or letters from your Health Access Program Coordinator-Kelly, Madison, Tabitha, or Carly.

Undocumented Coloradans can enroll into creditable coverage on Colorado Connect. Like last year, the OmniSalud program will offer \$0 premium plans to qualifying applicants with income below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). These \$0 premium plans are limited to the first 10,000 qualifying applicants and will be filled very quickly. Health Access is NOT prioritizing taking these slots for our clients, in preference to reserve them to prevention clients or other folks who don't have programmatic support with ADAP. If you have questions about the OmniSalud program, please don't hesitate to reach out to a Health Access staff member for more information.



Come join SCHN, UC-Health, and the Pueblo Department of Public Health for a night of fun on October 16th!

Come learn about our resources as well as our event partner's sexual health and reproductive resources while you play games, get tested, and have some overall Halloween fun!

It will be a spooktacular night for everyone down in Pueblo!



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LOW-INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LEAP) BEGINS AGAIN ON NOVEMBER 1

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The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) will get underway again on **November 1st.** LEAP is designed to help eligible low-income households with winter home heating costs and is available to all individuals meeting certain financial guidelines.

If you applied last year, you should have received the 2024-25 application in the mail. If you did not apply last year and would like to apply this year, your SCHN case manager can mail you an application or you can call **1-866-432-8435** to receive an application. LEAP does not pay the entire cost of home heating. If qualified, you will receive a one-time payment sometime between **November 1, 2024, and April 30, 2025**. For additional information, call the toll-free LEAP telephone number listed above in paragraph two.

SCHN WELCOMES AMELIA TO THE PUEBLO OFFICE

Hello Everyone! I am Amelia, a 31 year old mother of 2. I am not a Pueblo local, but I have put down such deep roots that I feel like this is home. I joined CHN Pueblo because I feel honored to work with an organization that has transformed so many lives for the better. I believe in the power of breaking down stigmas and supporting one another. I've been a stay-at-home mother for several years, and previously served as a soldier for eight years. I'm also one of the founding members of Project Apollo Street Medicine, where I continue to serve on the board.

My goal is to bring my unique organizational skills, customer service experience, and love of snacks to the Pueblo office. I'm excited to be part of a team that already feels like home. Thank you for welcoming me, and I look forward to getting to know all of you at CHN!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSURES FOR SCHN OFFICES

- Thanksgiving Day & Day After Thanksgiving: November 28-29, 2024
- Christmas Eve and Christmas Day: December 24-25, 2024
- New Year's Eve and New Year's Day: December 31st, 2024-January 1, 2025



NEW OFFICE HOURS FOR COLORADO SPRINGS SCHN: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 AM - 5 PM

Access Point Pueblo

Free, sterile supplies available for those who need them.

Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00am-12:00pm 1:30pm-4:00pm

Sign Up for Our E-Newsletter!

Are you interested in receiving the Positive Press through e-mail? If so, please contact your Case Manager to be added to our e-mail list! You'll get the newest Positive Press at the moment its published!



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