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Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' 48th Avenue Health Center and Street Outreach to Receive Nearly \$1M Investment from the Biden-Harris Administration

Today, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announced a \$982,224 investment in the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' (CCH or the Coalition) 48th Avenue Health Center, a HRSA-funded community health center, to expand their hours of operation to improve access to health care services onsite and through street outreach. The 48th Avenue Health Center, co-located within the Denver Rescue Mission and near the Samaritan House and the Crossing, serves as a satellite location of the Stout Street Health Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center specially designated to serve those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Through this funding, \$486,626 in year one and \$495,598 in year two, the facility will add additional hours of operation to support the critical clinical and administrative staff necessary to add early morning, night, and weekend hours.

Since health centers see patients regardless of their ability to pay, this expansion of operating hours will be particularly critical for people who are uninsured, underinsured, or have Medicaid coverage and struggle to find affordable care outside of traditional business hours and cannot afford expensive visits to urgent care, retail clinics or emergency departments. This funding will help connect patients to preventive services and resources for health-related social needs to improve health outcomes.

"These investments will help to extend operating hours, especially for patients in rural or underserved communities nationwide. I'm proud to be part of an Administration that leaves nobody behind." said HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra.

48th Avenue is designed specifically to serve clients living in the shelter environment as well as those in the surrounding neighborhood. As with the other CCH Health Centers, the primary conditions clients receive services for include hypertension, diabetes, mental health disorders, and substance use disorders.

Cathy Alderman, Chief Communications and Public Policy Officer for the Coalition added "By meeting people experiencing homelessness where they are at in shelters and on the streets, the Coalition is able to serve those most desperately in need of healthcare and address conditions in a clinical setting before issues elevate to the level of emergency care — all too often the only option for those in crisis."

Nationally, HRSA-supported health centers provide access to primary care services—regardless of an individual's ability to pay—for over 31 million patients at more than 15,000 service sites in high need communities. More than 90 percent of health center patients have incomes below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. For a list of all of today's awardees, visit: https://bphc.hrsa.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/expanded-hours/fy-25-awards.

"HRSA's investment is expanding access to care in a way that recognizes the day-to-day realities of working families across the country." said HRSA Administrator Carole Johnson.

Community Health Centers provide a health care home for more than 832,000 Coloradans, one in seven people in the state, including 20% of Medicaid enrollees and 19% of CHP+ enrollees. Twenty CHCs operate 243 community, migrant, homeless, and school-based clinic sites across Colorado. To find a health center, visit: https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov.

To learn more about the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' Health Centers, visit ColoradoCoalition.org/healthlocations.

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About Colorado Coalition for the Homeless:

The mission of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless is to work collaboratively toward the prevention of homelessness and the creation of lasting solutions for people experiencing and at-risk of homelessness throughout Colorado. The Coalition advocates for and provides a continuum of housing and a variety of services to improve the health, well-being and stability of those it serves. Since its founding, the organization has earned state and national recognition for its integrated healthcare, housing and service programs. The Coalition's comprehensive approach addresses the causes of homelessness, as well as the consequences, offering critical assistance to over 22,000 individuals and families each year. Learn more at www.coloradocoalition.org.