



## Colorado Women's Forum in Health Administration February 2009 Newsletter

### February Meeting Information

**SPEAKER:** Tracy Ryan  
**TOPIC:** "The Birth Center Model for Care: Redefining and Reshaping Maternity Care Within a Healthcare Crisis"  
**DATE:** Thursday, February 19th at 5:30 p.m.  
**TIME:** Social time & cocktails begin at 5:15 p.m.  
Speaker begins at 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting ends approx. 7:00 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Berenbaum, Weinshienk & Eason  
48<sup>th</sup> Floor, Republic Plaza  
370 17th Street  
Denver, CO 80202

*PARKING:* Validated parking at the Sheraton Hotel (formerly Adam's Mark Hotel). Directions to the parking garage and meeting location are as follows:

**Directions from I-25 Southbound:** Take the Speer Blvd (southbound) exit. Merge with Speer. Continue on Speer to Colfax. Veer left on Colfax and turn left at Court Place. Take Court to 16th St and turn right (yes, onto the 16th St Mall - they allow car traffic for this!) Entrance to the garage is on the right.

**Directions from I-25 Northbound:** Take the Auraria Parkway Exit. Stay on Auraria Parkway. Turn right on 14th street and left on Court. Take Court to 16th St and turn right (yes, onto the 16th St Mall - they allow car traffic for this!) Entrance to the garage is on the right.

From the hotel, exit at the lobby level and cross the street to Republic Plaza (there is an entrance to Republic Plaza off of the 16th Street Mall. As the 48th floor is an even floor, when you are in the lobby of the building you will need to take the escalator down to get the right elevator. Ask at the desk for the location of the meeting room.

### SPEAKER BIO

Tracy Ryan, MS, Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM) is a 2001 graduate of both the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing and Philadelphia University. Licensed as an Advanced Practice Nurse in Colorado, she is the President and Clinical Director of Mountain Midwifery Center, Inc., Colorado's only licensed and Nationally Accredited Birth Center. Mountain Midwifery Center provides maternity care and birth services to over 300 families annually and draws clients from as far away as Grand Junction, Wyoming and South Dakota. She is joined in the healthcare business by her husband/office manager, Joel. Their five sons can also be found cleaning bathrooms and making charts at the birth center.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In what little spare downtime I have, I've had the opportunity to be inspired by movies that explore the plight of healthcare access and deficiencies of medical supplies in third-world countries. Film, fictional and non-fictional, brings home the message of everyone's need for healthcare by powerful use of imagery. Film reminds me of the saying "A picture is worth a thousand words", and I've realized that while film impacts our emotions, it is difficult to turn that impact into action.

While our voices may be drowned out in the current world financial crisis, we have the ability to use our voice, power, and passion to change the local landscape of healthcare. Gay Cook, Vice President of the Colorado Trust, showed us just how much passion and dedication can influence society. The Colorado Trust has the simple, and yet far-reaching, goal of achieving access to healthcare for all Coloradans by 2018. The Trust is harnessing their strategic grantmaking to support the development of a coordinated system of policies, programs and services to expand health coverage, and improve and

## CWFHA SCHOLARSHIP

CWFHA will be awarding a scholarship this year in the amount of \$1,500. The scholarship is awarded to a female graduate student who demonstrates a commitment to enhancing the role of women in health care administration.

### To be considered, candidates must be:

1. A graduate student in a health administration master degree program in Colorado with minimum grade point average of 3.0.
2. A member of CWFHA during the 2008-2009 program year.
3. On track to graduate in the scholarship year (by December 2009).
4. Available to serve the CWFHA Leadership Board as Student Liaison for the 2009-2010 program year.

Please submit the following information to be considered for the CWFHA scholarship:

1. Application letter (no longer than 3 pages) with the information below:
  - Reason for applying for the scholarship.
  - Short-term and long-term career goals.
  - The role of the female health administrator (present and future).
2. Faculty letter of nomination. A copy is acceptable if the faculty member has already sent this letter separately.
3. Letter of nomination by CWFHA member **(optional)**.

All completed application packets must be received by February 27, 2009 and need to be mailed or emailed in PDF format to:

Kellie Sheets  
13847 Ivy Street  
Thornton, CO 80602  
Email: [kellie\\_sheets@comcast.net](mailto:kellie_sheets@comcast.net)  
Phone: 303-915-3195

Interviews for the scholarship will be conducted in mid March.

expand health care. The Trust is using their voice, power, and passion to provide children with the opportunity to grow up healthy in Colorado, increase affordability and access to quality care for all Coloradans, and to continue to support the prosperity of health and well-being in Colorado's residents.

I hope that you can find insight and passion in your profession, hobbies, or interests, to make a difference in your community. Traditionally, CWFHA sponsors a table at the First Ladies' Luncheon hosted by Project C.U.R.E. As of this month, the luncheon has not been scheduled, but CWFHA is committed to sponsoring another avenue for improving healthcare in our community. Please stay posted for information in following newsletters and program meetings for opportunities to participate in volunteer events and donation drives.

I also invite you to join us for a fascinating program meeting led by Tracy Ryan, CNM, Owner, from the Mountain Midwifery Center, Inc. Mountain Midwifery Center, Inc is Colorado's only birth center that specializes in well-woman care for all ages, birth care, counseling, and educational services. Healthcare starts at birth!! She will present at our upcoming meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 5:30pm.

February also marks the deadline for our CWFHA Female Leader Scholarship Award to honor female leaders who are using their passion to pursue a career in healthcare. Graduate students who will be graduating in 2009 are invited to apply for our \$1,500.00 scholarship. Scholarship information can be found on our website: [www.cwfha.org](http://www.cwfha.org). The deadline is February 27, 2009. All materials should be received by this date and addressed to  
Kellie Sheets, CWFHA Vice President  
13847 Ivy St  
Thornton, CO 80602.

Happy Valentine's Day from CWFHA! We wish you and yours love and health in 2009!

In health,

Lisa M. Betthausen  
CWFHA President

## January 2009 Speaker

Notes from January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Gay Cook, VP of Programs

The Colorado Trust

Ms. Cook presented to CWFHA on January 15<sup>th</sup> regarding the mission of The Colorado Trust to provide healthcare to all Coloradans.

Ms. Cook has years of diverse experience ranging from journalism, higher education, and most recently as the Director of the Center for Women's Health Research at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. In her current role as the VP of Programs for the Colorado Trust she is charged with an integral role in improving the healthcare of Coloradans. The Colorado Trust was formed as a result of the proceeds remaining after the sale of the PSL Health Care Corporation in 1985. In recent years the Trust has provided grants funding for such proactive programs as bullying prevention, suicide prevention, and notably the support of immigrant and refugee families. At the end of 2007, The Trust made the decision to transition the mission of the trust to focus purely on the healthcare initiatives for every Coloradan. The Trust has committed to work to provide access to all Coloradans by 2018. The underlying main goals are to ensure that every child in Colorado has the opportunity to grow up healthy and the state's population is positioned to contribute to the prosperity of the future residents.

Currently, Colorado remains one of the most desirable states to live in where it boasts the beautiful scenery, activities, and quality of life for its residents. Despite the validity of these claims, Colorado lags behind many other states in the accessibility of healthcare for its residents. It is estimated that 800,000 residents have no insurance or are under insured, Colorado ranks 44<sup>th</sup> for the number of children without insurance, and 51<sup>st</sup> for the percent of children living in Colorado at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. A compounding factor is the lack of healthcare professionals to meet the needs of the state's population with the nursing shortage expected to triple by 2020 and is already twice the national average. The rural counties of are particular concern with many lacking a local healthcare facility and adequate physicians.

To date the Trust has granted nearly \$286 million in grant funding and recently approved nearly \$30 million of new healthcare specific funding starting in 2008. The Trust remains committed to earlier grant programs and these programs will continue to be supported until their anticipated completion in 2013. The Trust issues Requests for Proposals from local organizations to support with grant dollars. In light of the current economic downturn the Trust is planning appropriately to manage the volatility of the markets. In addition, the Trust is looking for opportunities to collaborate with other charitable healthcare focused foundations to ensure the most qualified programs are supported.

Ms. Cook's presentation was informative and inspiring. It was a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness of the admirable contributions The Colorado Trust has made towards many of the instrumental programs affecting the well-being and prosperity of all Coloradans and CWFHA is appreciative of her time and expertise!

### 2008-2009 Board

- ❖ President – Lisa Betthausen
- ❖ Vice President – Kellie Sheets
- ❖ Secretary – Open
- ❖ Treasurer – Tracy King
- ❖ Program Chair – Kathy Ryan-Morgan
- ❖ Membership Chair – Janine Costantini
- ❖ Student Liaison – Jamie Craig
- ❖ Newsletter Chair – Jeannie Miller
- ❖ Webmaster – Ashley Feaster
- ❖ Past President – Ashley Feaster