



The State Office of Rural Health

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Delta Family Physicians Recognized as a Leading Rural Private Practice Providing Comprehensive, High Quality Healthcare on the Western Slope

Denver, CO— Located on Colorado’s western slope where the Uncompahgre and Gunnison Rivers meet; the City of Delta is home to more than 8,000 residents. The City of Delta began as a trading post in 1828 and was used by traders, trappers and Native Americans – in fact, visitors to Delta can tour the original, reconstructed fort located just 1.5 miles from the city.

Providing care to residents of Delta and surrounding areas, Delta Family Physicians, has provided care since the late 1960s. The privately owned family practice was incorporated in 1992 by Doctors Richard Dysart and Samuel Kevan. Delta Family Physicians is staffed by six family physicians and a nurse practitioner with a mission focused on creating a medical home that provides high quality primary care to residents.

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC), headquartered in Aurora, functions as both the State Office of Rural Health and the association for Colorado’s extensive rural health organizations. Each month, the CRHC recognizes one of its members whose work supports the CRHC’s vision that all rural Coloradans have access to comprehensive, affordable, high quality healthcare.

The CRHC’s Program Manager, Bridgette Olson, oversees the organization’s membership program and works with staff at the CRHC to select which members will be featured. “Our staff was discussing the unique challenges of small, rural private practices - this led to a discussion of practices that have overcome some of those challenges and Delta Family Physicians was called out for their creativity, capacity and commitment for providing care in their community.”

Delta Family Physicians is a highly engaged member of the CRHC. They regularly attend conferences, webinars, and workshops. They also contract with the CRHC’s recruitment program which is currently recruiting a primary care physician for the clinic. In addition, Delta Family Physicians worked with the CRHC to complete two Healthy

Clinic Assessments and a HIPAA Security Risk Analysis. Delta Family Physicians was also the recipient of a \$50,000 grant thru the CRHC's Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Program. Funds were used to expand their capacity to serve patients by improving their use of health information technology, remodeling the clinic to increase the number of exam rooms, and improving the quality of their exam equipment.

Diane Dockter, the Clinic Manager at Delta Family Physicians, was excited to learn they had been selected this month, "We are so grateful to be a part of such a great organization as CRHC and are thankful for all the support they have given to our clinic".

Delta Family Physicians is fully functional with Electronic Health Records and has attested to Meaningful Use. They are also Certified National Rural Health Medical Coders through the Association of Rural Health Professional Coders, and with great turn around in their billing office have seen an increase in the clinic's revenue. Currently, they have started the ICD-10 conversion and are prepared to test and transition in early 2014. They provide extensive outpatient primary care services for the entire family at all stages of life, in addition to numerous surgical procedures. Delta Family Physicians has a long history of providing care to the underserved populations in Delta and does not limit the number of Medicare, Medicaid or uninsured patients they see.

Delta Family Physicians continues to provide the highest level of care to their patients and community by continually improving and innovating services. Although not immune to the struggles facing rural practices, Delta Family Physicians, should be recognized for their commitment to providing care for residents of Delta and surrounding areas. The CRHC applauds the staff and physicians for their dedication and leadership in rural health.

About The Colorado Rural Health Center

The Colorado Rural Health Center was established in 1991 as Colorado's State Office of Rural Health. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, CRHC's serves dual roles as the State Office of Rural Health with the mission of assisting rural communities in addressing healthcare issues; and as the State Rural Health Association, advocating for policy change to ensure that rural Coloradoans have access to comprehensive, affordable healthcare services of the highest quality. For more information visit www.coruralhealth.org, call 303-832-7493, or call toll free 800-851-6782 from rural Colorado.

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