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Colorado Rural Health Center Featured in Colorado Municipalities Magazine

The article, entitled, "The Future of Rural Health," discusses the need for a healthcare delivery system that is sustainable, meaningful and effectively links the current payment model with the patient care delivery structure of the future.

Denver, CO –The Colorado Municipalities periodical, dedicated to informing and educating community officials, recently published an article in its April 2014 issue written by Michelle Mills, chief executive officer of Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) and Melissa Bosworth, director of workforce and outreach at CRHC.

"As I often hear from administrators and providers at rural healthcare facilities, healthcare is changing at a rapid pace and many struggle with how to meet current requirements and demands while preparing for the future," says Mills. "Rural hospitals and clinics have the ability and the power to capitalize on these challenges. I know it won't be easy, but it's necessary for access, care, and economic success in rural Colorado."

The article outlines the need for transitional support and a more comprehensive strategy to transition rural facilities from the current volume-based payment mechanism toward new models of care.

"Rural hospitals and clinics are moving toward new models, such as patient-centered medical home, care coordination, and quality reporting," Bosworth said about the co-authored article. "The 'Future of Rural' is taking shape right now. The question remains, how can we best support rural providers and ensure rural communities will have access to better care, better health and lower costs."

CRHC administers a variety of statewide programs and services and has a strong reputation statewide and nationally as an innovative leader in addressing rural healthcare issues. CRHC partners with many well-respected organizations at a federal,

state and local level to collaborate and to support programs that address both general and specific healthcare issues in rural Colorado that address access, quality, and cost.

To read the full article published in the Colorado Municipalities magazine, visit <http://www.cml.org/magazines/> and click on the April 2014: Healthcare issue.

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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