

MEDIA RELEASE



1290 Broadway • Suite 100 • Denver, Colorado 80203-5606
main: 303-455-1000 • fax: 303-480-6790 • email: drcog@drcog.org • web: www.drcog.org

MEDIA ALERT & PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

For Immediate Release: April 26, 2017

Contact:

Winna MacLaren
DRCOG Public Relations Coordinator
Desk: 303-480-6743
E-mail: wmaclaren@drcog.org

DENVER REGION TO PIONEER NEW APPROACH TO PATIENT CARE

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services award \$4.5 million to Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Area Agency on Aging to implement innovative comprehensive care program

WHAT: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recognize that health and well-being aren't just about getting medical care. If people are struggling to find adequate housing, reliable transportation or basic nutrition, it makes it difficult to stay healthy, much less thrive. To bridge the gap between health care and social wellness providers, CMS awarded DRCOG \$4.5 million in funding to implement the Accountable Health Communities (AHC) model. The model helps people stay healthy after they receive medical care by referring them to community organizations that meet social wellness needs. By addressing the overall well-being of patients, the AHC model aims to reduce health care use and drive down costs. DRCOG's Area Agency on Aging and its 16 partner organizations will gather to kick off the program, which begins May 1.

WHO: DRCOG, 16 partner organizations

WHEN: Monday, May 1, 10 to 11 a.m.

WHERE: Denver Regional Council of Governments, Independence Pass Conference Room, 1290 Broadway, Denver, 80203

PHOTO & INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

- 9:30-10 DRCOG and 16 Accountable Health Communities partners will gather.
- 10 – 10:10 Jayla Sanchez-Warren, DRCOG director of the Area Agency on Aging, welcomes attendees and gives overview of CMS funding opportunity
- 10:11 – 10:20 James Corbett, senior vice president of Community Health and Values Integration, Centura Health, speaks on AHC model from a healthcare provider perspective
- 10:21 – 10:30 Chris Lee, President and CEO of the Colorado Visiting Nurse Association, speaks on AHC model from a community service provider perspective
- 10:30 Jayla Sanchez-Warren returns to open floor for questions

###