



Issue 2 2022

## HEALTH-RELATED NEWS YOU CAN USE

Connect for Health Colorado, Colorado’s official health insurance marketplace, announces that **Open Enrollment will begin on November 1, 2022 and run through January 15, 2023.**

Here are some answers taken from the FAQs on Connect for Health Colorado’s website that may prove helpful to you as you prepare for Open Enrollment.

### What is a Premium Tax Credit?

*A Premium Tax Credit is a financial help program designed to lower the monthly cost of health insurance for individuals and families. To be eligible for a Premium Tax Credit, you must buy your health insurance plan through Connect for Health Colorado and meet the income requirements. You can take the Premium Tax Credit in advance and apply it to the monthly premium, or you can wait and take it when you file your federal income taxes. If you qualify for a Premium Tax Credit, you may also qualify*

*for additional financial help in the form of Cost-Sharing Reductions. You can determine which financial help programs you and your family qualify for by completing an application.*

### What are Cost-Sharing Reductions?

*Cost-Sharing Reductions are not payments; rather, they are applied to the Silver-level plan you select to lower the out of pocket payments associated with that plan. This means that, when you use health care services, you will pay lower deductibles, co-payments, and prescription drug costs.*

Rocky Mountain Rural Health has three certified health coverage guides on staff ready to help Park County residents with enrollment or questions about Connect for Health Colorado. Call us at 719-836-2169 with your questions or to schedule an appointment.

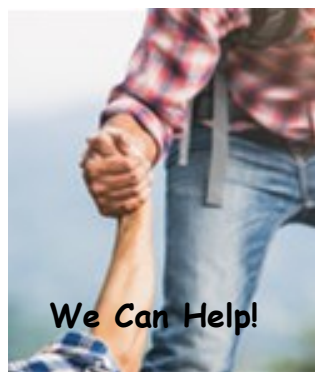
Our service is free and confidential. We do not sell or endorse health plans.

### Rocky Mountain Rural Health Outreach Schedule

Fairplay Library	First Wednesday of the Month	11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Fairplay Rec Center	Last Thursday of the Month	9:00 am to Noon
Bailey Library	First Thursday of the Month	Noon to 2:00 pm
Lake George Library	Second Wednesday of the Month	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Guffey Library	Fourth Wednesday of the Month	11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Alma Town Hall	Last Thursday of the Month	2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

### Stop by and say ‘Hi!’

Visit our Community Health Workers at one of these locations and receive free health screenings: Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar, Pulse and Oxygen counts. Our CHWs also provide assistance with Advance Directives, Health Insurance, finding Providers and Specialists as well as information on a wide variety of health-related topics. They also bring new and gently used clothing including coats and socks for you to browse through and take at no charge. Our helpful Community Health Workers have years of experience helping people get the healthcare they need, so come with your questions and leave with answers!



## COVID WOES...YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO IT ALONE!

If you have had COVID, you know the miseries involved with the illness. Unfortunately, bodily aches and pains may not be the only trial one has to endure. The pocketbook might take a direct hit as well.

Rocky Mountain Rural Health has funds designated for COVID relief. If you (or someone you know) has lost time and income from work due to COVID, please call us at 719-836-2169 and ask about our COVID relief program. You must be a Park County resident and can prove loss of income due to COVID to qualify for assistance with rent (or mortgage), utility bills (including phone and internet), grocery cards and/or gasoline cards.

Rocky Mountain Rural Health offers prompt and confidential service.

# The End of the PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY due to COVID-19 is on the Horizon

As a result of COVID-19, public health officials declared a Public Health Emergency (PHE). One of the hallmarks of a PHE is continuous enrollment for those on Medicaid. In other words, **Medicaid eligibility is locked in while a PHE is in effect.**

The current Public Health Emergency has been extended until October 13, 2022. Once the administration determines the PHE is over, they will give a 60-day notice **prior** to the ending of the PHE.

In the meantime, much is going on behind the scenes in anticipation of an end to the PHE. Foremost in priority is maintaining continuity of insurance coverage for eligible Medicaid members and a smooth transition for all involved. In order to do that, eligibility will need to be re-evaluated for Medicaid members.

## What to EXPECT if you are a Medicaid member:

- Medicaid members will likely receive a new Medicaid Renewal packet in the mail or on the PEAK website.
  - \*This process started in March 2022 so you may have already received a renewal packet.
- It is important to complete the required information and return as soon as possible in the envelope provided.
- You will receive a Notice of Action (NOA) whether your coverage is likely (or not likely<sup>†</sup>) to continue after the PHE ends.
  - †No member will lose Medicaid benefits during the PHE, even if they receive a NOA denial.

## What to DO if you are a Medicaid member:

Simply make sure your **MAILING** address is up to date!

### WHY is a current mailing address important?

- You will receive time sensitive mailings such as your Medicaid Renewal packet without delay.
- Your immediate attention will streamline the renewal process and maintain continuity of coverage for eligible Medicaid members.

**OR** Contact your local Department of Human Services Office (DHS) and verify your mailing address is correct.



If you have a **PEAK** account, log into your account and verify the information is up to date. You can create an account at [Co.gov/PEAK](http://Co.gov/PEAK).

Need help creating a PEAK account? Have questions? Call us, Rocky Mountain Rural Health, for assistance. We can help!

**719-836-2169**

**1.** **Here are ways to make sure your MAILING address is correct**

**2.**

**OR** Download the Health First Colorado mobile app. After creating a PEAK account, you can then download the free Health First Colorado app. Among other things, you can learn about benefits, find providers, and update your account.



Here are the phone numbers for Park County DHS offices:



**FAIRPLAY OFFICE:**

719-836-4139

**BAILEY OFFICE**

303-816-5939

## UPCOMING SEASONAL FLU CLINICS HELD BY PARK COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Park County Public Health will be conducting **seasonal flu** clinics throughout Park County in the coming months. Please contact **Public Health** at **719-836-4162** to register for one of the following locations:

**OCTOBER 5th** at the **FAIRPLAY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE** from **12:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

**OCTOBER 19th** at the **LAKE GEORGE COMMUNITY CENTER** from **11:00 am to 1:00 pm** ♦

**OCTOBER 19th** at the **GUFFEY PUBLIC LIBRARY** from **3:00 pm to 5:00 pm** ♦

**NOVEMBER 2nd** at the **BAILEY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE** from **12:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

♦ Rocky Mountain Rural Health will be offering free basic health screenings such as blood pressure, pulse, oxygen and glucose levels at these locations. We look forward to seeing you in Lake George or Guffey. Mention you saw this here and get a free gift!



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN RURAL HEALTH** is a 501(c)3 organization that helps people of Park County get the healthcare they need. We are not a government agency. We depend upon grants and donations to continue our mission of improving access to healthcare in our county. There is an ongoing need for our services many of which are not available through any other agency or group.

Please send your generous donation to:

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN RURAL HEALTH (RMRH)**

**PO BOX 1600**

**FAIRPLAY CO 80440**

Please use my contribution for:

\_\_\_ Breast Health assisting with diagnosis and treatment

\_\_\_ COVID relief assistance

\_\_\_ Emergency Assistance for those going through a medical crisis

\_\_\_ Transportation for mileage reimbursement for medical appointments

\_\_\_ General Operations to help us continue to serve Park County

**THANK YOU!** Your donation is tax deductible to the full amount allowed by law.

Contact us by phone at **719-836-2169** Find us on the web at **www.rmrh.org** Like us on Facebook

## SOUTH PARK HEALTH SERVICE DISTRICT NEWS

**X Marks the SPOT!**



In February of this year, the South Park Health Service District purchased the lot at 715 Main Street, Fairplay.

A pharmacy will be built at that location to meet the needs of South Park residents.

The South Park Health Service District helps fund health services in the area through a 1% sales tax from transactions in Alma, Como, Fairplay, Hartsel and Jefferson. The goal is to bring sustainable solutions to health care in South Park.

For more information on the Health Service District, please visit their website, [www.sphsdistrict.org](http://www.sphsdistrict.org).

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RURAL HEALTH

PO Box 1600

FAIRPLAY CO 80440

