

The State Office of Rural Health

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Colorado Rural Health Center Releases 2024 Snapshot of Rural Health

Colorado Rural Health Center Snapshot of Rural Health Explores Demographics, Population Health, Chronic Disease, Oral Health, and More

**Denver, CO** – The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) has released the 2024 edition of its *Snapshot of Rural Health*. The annual publication highlights rural health data such as demographic trends, population health, education levels, substance abuse, and the rural, economy through the use of infographic data visualization, case studies, text, and maps.

The 2024 edition of the Snapshot features expanded analysis of healthcare in rural Colorado, illustrated with useful statistics, data, and maps that can all be used for advocacy, education, and grant writing. This year, CRHC expanded the report to include further information on Women's Health and OB Access, the Health of Young Coloradans, Mental Health, Chronic Disease, Veteran Health, and Workforce. Additionally, the report has more rural-specific data points than ever before, including 20 new maps.

Another new addition this year is the ability to read the snapshot in more digestible pieces by downloading sections individually from the CRHC website.

Colorado Rural Health Center CEO, Michelle Mills, is excited about the updated and expanded snapshot. "Every year, our team works to create a product in the Snapshot that serves as an invaluable resource for healthcare facilities, policy makers, providers, and members of the

public" explains Mills. "The Snapshot offers a chance to engage in healthcare dialogue from a uniquely rural lens."

The *Snapshot of Rural Health* includes data collected and analyzed by CRHC's Epidemiologist and the organization's Associate Director of Policy and Advocacy. A comprehensive citations page makes sourcing each fact from the 84 page report easy and convenient.

Michelle Mills, alongside other CRHC staff and board, travel to Washington DC this week (February 13-15) where they will meet with legislators as part of the National Rural Health Association's Rural Health Policy Institute. CRHC's team is meeting with six of the state's senators and representatives in Washington DC. The annual policy institute event gives Colorado-based staff an opportunity to meet with policymakers and stakeholders to discuss legislative priorities. The *Snapshot of Rural Health* is a vital component of these discussions.

As Colorado's State Office of Rural Health and member-based association for rural health facilities, CRHC is a clearinghouse for rural health information and resources, helping providers throughout Colorado enhance healthcare services available in rural communities, and helping elected officials make informed decisions about healthcare policy.

The Snapshot of Rural Health is available for download at <a href="https://coruralhealth.org/snapshot-of-rural-health">https://coruralhealth.org/snapshot-of-rural-health</a> - For additional resources, visit the CRHC resource center at <a href="http://coruralhealth.org/resources">http://coruralhealth.org/resources</a>.

## 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 serves dual roles as the State Office of Rural Health and the State Rural Health Association. The organization's mission is to enhance healthcare services in the state by providing information, education, linkages, tools, and energy toward addressing rural health issues. CRHC's vision is to improve healthcare services available in rural communities to ensure that all rural Coloradans have access to

comprehensive, affordable, high quality healthcare. For more information visit <a href="www.coruralhealth.org">www.coruralhealth.org</a>, call 303-832-7493, or call toll free 800-851-6782 from rural Colorado.