



*The State Office of Rural Health*

**RELEASE DATE: July 16, 2014**

Contact: Bridgette Olson, Outreach Program Manager

303-832-7493 or [bo@coruralhealth.org](mailto:bo@coruralhealth.org)

### **Family Health West Recognized as Colorado Rural Health Center's Featured Member of the Month**

Denver, Colo - Family Health West is a nonprofit 501(c)3 critical access hospital located in Fruita, Colorado. In the mid-1940s local farmers and ranchers traveled to Utah bringing back supplies and bricks to build the hospital. Today, Family Health West, a comprehensive healthcare provider with over 500 employees, is committed to ensuring patients receive the best in health services.

Family Health West provides services to the community and nearby Mesa county residents through their 16-bed hospital, surgery and emergency care, lab and imaging services, physical rehabilitation, 85-bed assisted living residence, 90-bed long-term care facility and respite, specialized Alzheimer's care, outpatient procedure center, coagulation clinic, wound care center and pediatric therapy center.

As a long standing member of Colorado Rural Health Center, Family Health West is very involved with several CRHC programs and services. The hospital is currently involved with the Small Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) grant, the Colorado Resource for Emergency And Trauma Education (CREATE) program and several regional workshops and other educational opportunities.

In addition, Family Health West's chief financial officer, Jason McCormick, serves on CRHC's board of directors, providing recommendations and expertise on rural health issues.

Recently Family Health West opened a new radiology wing in the hospital to provide early detection and diagnosis of the most common diseases affecting women. This also includes the new 3-D mammography and some of the most advanced MRI and osteoporosis machines in the Grand Valley. According to a [news release](#) published last week, over 200 3-D mammograms have been performed in the last two months.

This news comes after another [announcement in early July](#) that the hospital plans to add more space to the emergency room and expand from 16 inpatient beds to 25. In 2013, Family Health West Hospital had over 24,000 hospital visitors.

The Colorado Rural Health Center is proud to recognize Family Health West as this month's featured member of the month. To learn more about Family Health West visit, <http://www.familyhealthwest.org/>.

### **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](http://www.coruralhealth.org), call 303-832-7493, or call toll free 800-851-6782 from rural Colorado.

###