



The State Office of Rural Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Colorado Rural Health Center Celebrates National Rural Health Day with Spanish Peaks
Regional Health Center**

*The Colorado Rural Health Center celebrated by the member facility in Walsenburg, CO as an example of
the value of rural facilities across the state.*

Walsenburg, CO – November 15, 2023– The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC), The State Office of Rural Health and Rural Health Association, is celebrating National Rural Health Day today alongside Walsenburg’s Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center (SPRHC). The annual celebration has taken place on the third Thursday in November since 2011 and is designed to honor and officially celebrate rural communities and the vital work they undertake across the state.

“National Rural Health Day is a day of celebration and a chance to honor rural communities,” said CRHC CEO Michelle Mills. “National Rural Health Day is a day to be thankful for our rural healthcare facilities and dedicated team members.”

This year, CRHC celebrated by highlighting the work of Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center. SPRHC has been caring for our community since 1963. In 1993, the new facility was built in its current location.

“This March, we celebrated 30 years of service to Huerfano County, and we are proud to be a dedicated partner to everyone who lives and works here. Our mission at Spanish Peaks is to “Improve the Lives We Touch.” As Huerfano County has grown and changed over the years,

we have identified and offered new services to the patients we serve,” said Stacy Cristelli, SPRHC Director of Marketing.

CRHC sent a meal to SPRHC from a local restaurant and secured a [Governor’s Proclamation](#) to honor the work of rural facilities.

“We are proud to count the dedicated workforce in Walsenburg as a CRHC member. Their work in their community is valued and appreciated,” said Mills.

Thank you to all our rural communities on this National Rural Health Day!

The Colorado Rural Health Center serves as Colorado’s State Office of Rural Health (SORH) and State Rural Health Association, partnering in its latter capacity with NRHA to maintain strong relationships with a robust coalition of rural members across Colorado.

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 www.coruralhealth.org, call 303-832-7493, or call toll free 800-851-6782 from rural Colorado.