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Colorado Rural Health Center Debuts HARC DataBank Interactive Dashboard

The Colorado Rural Health Center (CRHC) this week published its first interactive data dashboard featuring healthy lifestyle statistics derived from CRHC's Health Awareness for Rural Communities (HARC) DataBank

Denver, Colo – The Colorado Rural Health Center's HARC DataBank is celebrating its one year anniversary this month with the launch of its first interactive, data dashboard. HARC is the first databank created solely to examine the health and wellness dynamics of rural and frontier counties in Colorado, through the use of quantitative measures.

CRHC's chief executive officer, Michelle Mills, said recent advancements toward data-driven healthcare spurred CRHC to launch the HARC DataBank. "We wanted to streamline data sharing and collaboration among rural healthcare providers," says Mills.

The interactive data dashboard launched this week, features county-level food environment index data, including rural, frontier and urban averages. One component focuses on the rate of adults that do not consume vegetables daily. With data from the HARC DataBank, the dashboard illustrates the disparity between rural, urban and frontier counties, with a 19 percent rate in rural and urban and upwards of 22 percent in frontier counties.

The interactive nature of the dashboard is its key feature, allowing users to explore the visual data on a single screen. "We are very excited about the new interactive dashboard and its ability for users to quickly and easily comprehend the data," explains Mills.

"They say a picture is worth a thousand words. The visualizations in the dashboard allow users to creatively analyze trends and draw conclusions without reading an entire publication," adds Mills.

The dashboard is open to the public and can be accessed on the CRHC website at <http://coruralhealth.org/population-health-data-analysis>.

CRHC has plans to release additional dashboards on various topics. “We are currently working on compiling data around access to care in rural Colorado,” Mills said.

“Our focus will remain on demonstrating that rural and frontier areas of the state show unanticipated strengths and opportunities,” emphasized Mills.

CRHC offers an array of data services, including the ability to create customized dashboards, access to nearly 400 health indicators, data analysis, in addition to specialized reporting and projects.

To learn more about the HARC DataBank visit the CRHC website at <http://coruralhealth.org/population-health-data-analysis>. For additional questions please contact info@coruralhealth.org or call 303.832.7493.

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

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