Our Vision:
We envision a partnership between the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and the surrounding neighborhoods that is equitable, mutually respectful, sustainable, responsive and that results in vibrant, healthy, learning communities both on and off campus.

Dear Partners, Supporters, and Friends of the Community-Campus Partnership (CCP),

Welcome to our first issue of the New Year which has been brought to you by our newest team member, Tessa Carlson, our new CCP Coordinator. She will be focused on the Newsletter (this is her first one!), the Weekly Updates, the Learn Local initiative, and supporting the CCP team. Tessa has recently completed her Bachelors in Human Services from Metropolitan State University which included internships at Colfax Community Network and Bright by Three. We are delighted to have her on the team—please join me in welcoming Tessa!

We are currently in full swing with our Hire Local and Learn Local work—the long-awaited Job Hub will be opening in early April following a Community Information Session on March 22—and the involvement of campus faculty, students, and staff with Aurora Public Schools continues to grow, thus expanding our Learn Local efforts. Plans are underway for our first “Community Engagement Forum”, to be held on April 5 (2-4pm) on the campus. Stay tuned for more on that. Finally, our participation in an emerging regional network of anchor institutions engaging in strategies to build community wealth and well-being has placed the Anschutz Medical Campus in a leadership role with this work in Colorado.

I hope you enjoy this issue of our Newsletter and as always, please pass along to your networks.

Wishing you all good health,

Robert McGranaghan, Director of the Community-Campus Partnership
Hire Local Update: Job Hub Coming Soon!

CCP planning for the Job Hub has been underway for some time now, and we're excited to be opening operations in early April. Prior to opening, on March 22 we will hold the first “Community Information Session” to inform local residents about the jobs we will be helping them apply for and, hopefully, get hired into. This session, held at the MLK Library on E. Colfax, will also describe the services and training available at the Job Hub. The Job Hub includes personnel from Bayaud Enterprises and Goodwill Industries, organizations that have established successful strategies and programs to assist individuals from vulnerable and underserved populations in gaining employment. Arcelia Mozée from Bayaud and Veronica O. White from Goodwill, will be helping in various capacities in our forthcoming Job Hub.

Here's how the Job Hub will work: After attending an information session a participant, interested in one of the promoted jobs, will complete a phone screening interview to verify they meet the basic requirements for employment. Next, the individual will be scheduled for an intake session with Arcelia so she can learn about their background, work history, and to complete a skills assessment. Based on that individual's readiness, the next steps include attending the appropriate class and/or tutoring session to prepare them for success. Led by Veronica, classes in Healthcare Culture and Communications, as well as Resume and Interviewing Skills will be of interest to most candidates. Interview practice skills will be a central training component, and personnel from the hiring employers on campus will be onsite to participate in mock interviews. Additional opportunities for tutoring/classes will be available based on an individual's needs in areas such as basic computer use and resume development. Finally, participants will work with the CCP's Hire Local Specialist, Jameel Mallory, to get assistance applying for jobs. Jameel will track participants throughout the application and interview process, and will stay connected post-hire to ensure they are successful at keeping their job.

If at any time during this process the participant and/or the Hire Local team determines the job is not the right match, they will refer the individual to other agencies to find a better fit for their needs and interests. We are very excited for the Job Hub to be underway, and we look forward to helping people find quality jobs here on campus. In future issues, we will keep our CCP Newsletter readers apprised of the Job Hub's progress, including the jobs we are focusing on, attendance at the Information Sessions, and traffic through the Hub.

Arcelia Mozée

Veronica White

Jameel Mallory
Learn Local Update #1: William Smith High School Hosts Science Career Day

On Wednesday, February 15th William Smith High School, an Aurora LIghts school, hosted a Health Science Career Day during which students met with representatives from various health and science-related fields in order to gain exposure to careers in these professions. As part of our Learn Local Program, the CCP team helped to recruit 31 participants from the Anschutz Medical Campus including faculty, students and staff from the School of Pharmacy, the School of Medicine, the Colorado School of Public Health, the Physical Therapy Department at Children’s Hospital Colorado, the College of Nursing, the Urban Underserved Track, the School of Dental Medicine, the Graduate School, the University of Colorado Hospital, and the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology.

Groups of students visited each set of presenters to learn about different professional degrees and jobs—some of which they had never heard of—and to ask questions about the scope of work for these fields, the length of time it takes to earn individual degrees, and the amount of pay they might expect to receive for various jobs. The level of engagement from the students, and the level of excitement from the presenters was wonderful to witness. It is clear that these types of learning opportunities are important to Aurora Public Schools students and the Anschutz Medical Campus’ participants. Lisa Gonzales, Guidance Counselor at William Smith High School said, “[Since the event] our students have been talking about the experience and having conversations with me about future career plans [and] goals. Thank you for that!”
Nearly 60 11th and 12th grade students from Hinkley High School joined student groups from St. Mary’s Academy and Regis Jesuit High School for “Learn about Cancer Day” hosted by the CU Cancer Center on Thursday, February 23rd. Their morning started with a presentation by Dr. John Tentler, who gave a general overview about the various ways cancer develops in our bodies as well as a brief history of how CU ended up on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

The students toured labs in the research buildings and were guided by Campus students and faculty members to see biopsy samples and cells with neon green nuclei through a microscope. After their lab tours, the students listened to presentations from Dr. Myles Cockburn about Melanoma and ways cancer can be prevented, and Dr. Karyn Goodman about how to treat cancer. The students then had a look at a Reveal Imager Machine. After lunch, students heard from a panel of breast cancer survivors about their individual experiences with the illness and treatment. After this, students got a chance to ask any questions they had regarding what they learned during the day. The level of curiosity and engagement among these students (AKA the next generation of research scientists!) was inspiring, and many of them expressed what a special experience it was for them.
Over the past few months, The Denver Foundation and Mile High Connects have been establishing an “Emerging Anchors Network” of a variety of anchor institutions in the Denver Metro area. The intention behind convening these meetings is to establish relationships and share information about the work each institution is doing in order to find ways to better support their communities.

Anchor institutions are place-based entities such as universities and hospitals tied to their surroundings by mission, invested capital, and/or relationships to patients, students, customers, employees, and/or vendors. There is widespread recognition among anchor institutions that economic development and community transformation needs to be an intentional component of their mission.

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus has long been identified as an anchor institution in Aurora, and the Community-Campus Partnership (CCP) serves as the campus’ central facilitator to achieve an anchor institution mission with Aurora through our Hire Local and Learn Local Programs, and through our various Community Engagement activities.

After attending the most recent Emerging Anchors Network meeting in February, representatives from the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) toured North Aurora and the Anschutz Medical Campus and visited with the CCP and some of our campus and community partners. Scot Spencer, AECF Associate Director of Advocacy and Influence, and Charles Rutheiser, AECF Senior Associate for the Center for Community and Economic Opportunity, engaged in a discussion with the CCP team, representatives from the Aurora community, Resident Leader Council, Aurora Public Schools, University of Colorado Hospital, The Denver Foundation, and Mile High Connects. The conversation highlighted the need and value of the CCP’s work in Aurora, and included an emotional statement from our intern from Aurora Public Schools, Nalleli Sanchez, who eloquently shared her gratitude for the work CCP is doing in the community. Scot and Charles expressed that they were impressed with CCP’s work, and that they are excited about where we are heading.
2040 Partners for Health (2040) is one of the CCP’s founding community partners whose work primarily focuses on fostering new and identifying existing resources in order to increase the strength and health in our communities. It is their ultimate vision that by the year 2040 this work will no longer be necessary as our communities will be sustainably healthy and prosperous. 2040 was founded in 2006 by local health advocates, educators, and public service professionals. They have formed partnerships with Northeast Denver Metro Area communities (including East Montclair, Greater Park Hill, Northeast Park Hill, Northwest Aurora, and Stapleton), the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, and the Stapleton Foundation. Many of the communities 2040 has connected with are very diverse and are expanding quickly. Some of these communities have a history of being marginalized, while in fact they have a great deal of resources, strengths, and assets to offer.

CCP Director Robert McGranaghan is on the Board of Directors for 2040 and currently the CCP works closely with 2040 and The Denver Foundation to coordinate monthly community networking events—a forum where community members and organizations gather for breakfasts or dinners to learn and share resources, ideas, and support. Additionally, the CCP team helps to connect CU researchers with 2040 to participate in various community events and initiatives. We are fortunate to partner with 2040, and we look forward to continuing our work with them.

The School of Dental Medicine (SDM) is one of CCP’s campus partners which supports the community by providing free services whenever they can. Part of this effort includes their Heroes Clinic, which in 2016 expanded to provide dental services to all low-income veterans (previously they were only able to serve veterans enrolled as CU students). The first patient they served under their expanded program was a 92-year-old World War II and Korean War veteran who was greeted with a “hero’s welcome” when he entered the SDM clinic, and left with his chipped tooth repaired. This gentleman is a widower living on a fixed income, and was visibly affected by the gesture. It was a positive experience for not only him, but the faculty and students involved as well!

The SDM was also busy engaging with the community this past month. February was National Children’s Dental Health Month, and Aurora’s Mayor, Steve Hogan, proclaimed February as Aurora Smiles Month. The SDM partnered with Aurora Health Access to promote free, preventative dental services offered at various locations in the community. Students and faculty from the SDM participated by providing services at the Comitis Crisis Center, and the Boys and Girls club. This outreach effort will likely be a yearly occurrence, so sign up for our mailing list and we’ll keep you posted!
Tell Us about Yourself and Your Experience in Aurora!

I was born in Michoacán Mexico, and I am a senior at the University of Colorado Denver pursuing a dual degree in Biology (B.S.) and International Studies (B.A.) with a minor in Economics. I come from a hardworking and dedicated family that has taught me the importance and the value of education. I moved to the U.S. in 2008, and since then my life has had a lot of personal and professional challenges that I have learned to see as opportunities to improve and to keep persevering. The very first American school that I attended was Hinkley High School. As a recent immigrant, adapting to the American lifestyle was a challenge, because of the language barrier and also because half of my family did not receive a visa and had to stay in Mexico. During my second semester of high school, I was allowed to take International Baccalaureate (IB) and Advanced Placement (AP) classes that were more challenging and gave me a solid background to be ready for college.

When I started college I was very interested in medical school and I decided to major in biology. However, after a study abroad trip to Oaxaca Mexico, which gave me the opportunity to visit local hospitals, meet local doctors, and learn more about the diversity of ethnic groups in the region, my perception about my career changed completely. Thanks to this experience, I felt even more passionate about the health field, but I also became intrigued by the variety of factors that influence health, such as: education, traditions, economics, and even governmental policies. As a result of this trip I decided to double major in international studies and minor in economics to better understand the origin of chronic conditions, and to combine my multidisciplinary background to find better, culturally sensitive preventative strategies for diverse populations. Growing up in Mexico and living in the US has allowed me to appreciate diversity and it has given me the opportunity to learn more about different healthcare systems and prevention. All these experiences have helped me develop a stronger interest and passion for Public Health. My immediate goal is to become a Public Health specialist who contributes to the improvement of healthcare locally in Colorado and at an international level.

Why Did You Join The Resident Leadership Council (RLC)?

I joined the RLC in 2015 because I wanted to be part of a group of community leaders that wish to create opportunities for professional, educational, and cultural development for people in our community. The main goal is to build a bridge between the Anschutz Medical Campus and the Aurora Community. Another reason why I decided to join the RLC was because I wanted to provide resources and opportunities that would support the economic and social development of Northwest Aurora. I strongly believe that social change is a result of people from different backgrounds working towards a common goal that benefits everyone around them even if they don’t share the same cultural characteristics. For this reason, I believe that the RLC could serve as a model for other community groups who wish to improve the quality of life of people in their neighborhoods. The RLC has also given me the opportunity to network and develop strong friendships with Aurora Residents who see diversity as a gift, and who empower their communities. I hope that as a member of the RLC we continue promoting educational, professional opportunities for Aurora residents, and that we continue promoting diversity as a strength because we all contribute valuable skills and abilities for our community.
On Thursday, February 16th Hope Communities hosted our monthly Community Network meeting at their Hidden Brook property at 13th and Xenia Street, where refugees make up 80% of their tenant population. Community members and organization representatives joined together in a big circle to share breakfast and to discuss available resources and opportunities in the community. Attendees speak a variety of languages at these meetings and therefore language translation is provided to reduce communication barriers. At this past event the languages spoken included Burmese, Spanish, and English.

The morning began with introductions and a warm up question (“What made you smile today?”), and was followed by the “Business of the Network” session, where attendees get more in-depth information about a few select organizations that presented at a “station”.

Next, everyone regrouped and participated in the “Marketplace” segment of the event, where participants have the opportunity to make an offer for services, an announcement about their organization or neighborhood, or make a request for services they are in need of. The morning concluded with a great sense of community and connection among attendees, and all were invited to take with them a delicious homemade Burmese meal!
Mark Your Calendars for The Next Community Network Event!

Please join us on Thursday, April 20th for FREE breakfast and a chance to network with community members and organizations!

Host:
Rocky Mountain Prep

Location:
Boettcher Boys and Girls Club
1523 Boston Street, Aurora

Time:
9—10:30am
Community-Campus Partnership

CCP Coalition Members

**Community Partners:**
- 2040 Partners for Health
- Aurora Health Access
- Aurora Strong Resilience Center
- Aurora Public Schools
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver
- Central Colorado AHEC
- City of Aurora: Ward 1
- City of Aurora: Neighborhood Services Department
- City of Aurora: Parks, Recreation and Open Space
- Colorado Access
- CCP Resident Leader Council
- Community College of Aurora
- North Aurora Neighborhood Organization (NANO)
- Stapleton Foundation/be well NW Aurora
- The Denver Foundation
- The Fields Foundation
- Together Colorado
- Tri-County Health Department

**University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus:**
- CU Anschutz Chancellors Office
- University of Colorado Hospital
- Children’s Hospital Colorado
- Colorado School of Public Health
- CU College of Nursing
- CU School of Dental Medicine
- CU School of Medicine
- CU Health Sciences Library
- CU Health and Wellness Center
- CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences
- CU Urban Underserved Track
- Primary Care Progress Colorado Chapter/DAWN Clinic
- CU Communications
- CU National Behavioral Health Innovation Center

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