

COLUMBIA COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE CONSORTIUM, INC.



Growth



and



Renewal



2006 ANNUAL REPORT



Mission

- 🌻 The mission of the Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium is to increase access to quality health care through collaboration, education, information and service delivery.

Values

- 🌻 Access to quality health care is a fundamental right of every individual.
- 🌻 Improving the health of our community occurs through the partnership of health, social services, all levels of government, and wellness organizations.
- 🌻 Individuals are primarily responsible for their own health care decisions and require information and education to fulfill their role effectively.
- 🌻 Collaboration and provision of preventive and wellness services has long term efficiencies.

Vision for the Future

- 🌻 Health care consumers will be well informed.
- 🌻 Low income/uninsured/underinsured individuals will have equal access to primary care, dental and vision services.
- 🌻 Transportation to health care services will be accessible to all residents.
- 🌻 Health outcomes will make significant progress towards the Healthy People 2015 goals.
- 🌻 All people will have access to prescription medications and be educated about how to use them appropriately.



Growth

*T*he tendency to measure growth two-dimensionally does not do justice to the growth experienced at The Healthcare Consortium. Especially during this past year.

There has been growth in the programs we coordinate. We have been pleased to begin to offer services in two new programs. Some of our existing programs have realized increases in the number of people served, while others have broadened the scope of services offered. Still others have built upon past program successes in order to be able to offer new types of programs in new settings.

But there has also been growth in our staff as well. Not just in numbers, but in experience, too. We believe that each time we are able to help someone, we receive the gift of clearer understanding and greater compassion in return. And as we have grown as individuals, the level of caring and competency in our organization has also risen. It is this kind of growth that sets The Healthcare Consortium apart.





Renewal

Each year brings new opportunities for renewal, and this past year has been no exception.

We rely on our funding sources for our financial well-being and for the continuation of our many programs. In this very competitive environment, we are fortunate that our requests for funding have been approved. We appreciate this vote of confidence.

Many of the programs we coordinate are evolving to meet the changing needs of our community. The ability to quickly and deftly apply new strategies to meet these needs has become almost as necessary as the services we provide.

The Healthcare Consortium staff has responded extremely well to the changes. We are nimble and flexible in our outlook, and are willing to embrace new ways of reaching the members of our community.

As anyone who has used our services will attest, we are committed to going above and beyond for our community.





Our Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Jeffrey Rovitz Executive Director

Mental Health Association of Columbia & Greene Counties

VICE PRESIDENT

Anne Zittell Retired Public Health Nurse

Consumer Advocate

TREASURER

Kenneth Stall Chief Executive Officer

COARC

SECRETARY

Agnes Donlon Executive Director

Catholic Charities of Columbia & Greene Counties

Monika Boeckmann Executive Director

Alzheimer's Association of Northeast New York

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Nancy Winch Director

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Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia County

Amber Hurt Vice President

The Eddy Visiting Nurse Association

Dr Karyn Dornemann DC

Hudson Chiropractic

Rev James Slater Pastor, St. Luke's Church

Ichabod Crane Clergy Association

Norma Shook Medical Assistance Specialist

NYS Office of Managed Care

Todd Zbytniewski Administrator

Pine Haven Adult Home

Laura Murray President

Present Help

Jennifer Clark SANE Coordinator

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Beth Schuster Executive Director

Twin County Recovery Services

James Beal Executive Director

United Way of Columbia-Greene

Gretchen Brown Program Coordinator

Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood

Dr Richard Cappelletti MD

Dr Carmen Caruane PhD

Arthur Kowweek Businessman

Dr Stephen Krizar MD

Dr Bernard Mehl DPS



Our Staff

DIANE FRANZMAN, Executive Director

GINA ARMSTRONG, Deputy Director

JUNE BLAKE, Outreach Coordinator

DARCY CONNOR, Program Coordinator

KAREN dePEYSTER, Program Director

RICHARD FENOFF, Transportation Dispatcher

BETTY FOSS, Executive Assistant

JACQUELINE GODDEAU, Senior Program Coordinator

KATHY HOUSTON, Senior Data Manager

GWENDOLYN LACITIGNOLA, Outreach Coordinator

LETTY MALIN, Program Coordinator

VICTORIA MCGLYNN, Enrollment Counselor

STEPHANIE NEDWICK, Program Assistant

ANNA PASSARO, Enrollment Advocate

MARGO POTRZEBA, Outreach Assistant

KRISTIN PROVOST, Enrollment Counselor

SHERRY SALVATORE, Transportation Coordinator

CRYSTAL STRINGHAM, Communications Coordinator

LISA THOMAS, Senior Program Director

ROBERT USIS, Senior Communications Director

NANCY WEAVER, Fiscal Specialist

Drivers

GEORGE ATKINSON, ROGER DOOLEY, LAWRENCE HERMANCE, DAVID KIBLER, FRANK KLEIN,
ROBERT LA CASSE, ROGER MARVIN, JOSEPH SALVATORE, EDWARD SMEGOSKI



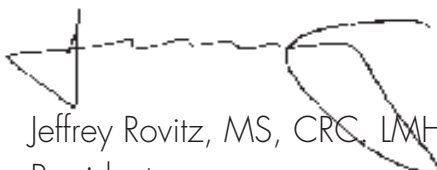
President's Perspective

When I agreed to take the position of President of the Columbia County Community Healthcare Consortium, in April 2006 there were specific factors that made the decision easy. First and foremost, as with any entire board, staff, and other committed involved individuals, I believe strongly in its mission. In addition, the Consortium has a history of doing necessary and vital work as Columbia County's rural health network, and doing it well. It has an extremely committed and competent staff. The Consortium board and staff act as a tight knit team where everyone feels supported. A glance at the board would reveal many founding members continuing to fully participate in the work of the organization. Finally, it enjoyed tremendous support from the Board of Supervisors, specifically under the leadership of the late Gerald Simons. We look to their continued support as we attempt to further increase access to quality health care for all residents of the county.

Many of us know the difficulties of leading an organization on a day-to-day basis, managing various levels of details, administrative requirements, team creation and program expansion, while also dynamically living and sharing a mission and vision as we plan for the future. Since April, the Consortium has added two new services which include long-term care insurance education and outreach and ovarian cancer education. Beginning in 2007 we will provide the colorectal cancer screening and education and prostate cancer education initiative. The fine leadership of the Executive Director, Diane Franzman, has driven so much of our success, as she is able to manage these difficult tasks with aplomb.

As we have, together, accomplished so much thus far, we look with clarity to the challenges that lie ahead. It is with full confidence, moving into our 9th year of operation, that we prepare to meet future needs.

It remains an honor to be associated with such a fine organization.



Jeffrey Rovitz, MS, CRC, LMHC
President



Executive Director's View

*I*f I were to paint a picture of the future, it would show every individual in our community having access to health insurance, with medical transportation available to all who need it, and seniors staying in their homes because support services were there to help with their needs. It would depict a medical community with access to the latest technology, having continuing education provided by experts in the field available through long distance learning opportunities. It would show consumers empowered with the knowledge to make informed decisions about their own health care. Support services for our residents living with chronic conditions would be readily available, and the work of the Healthcare Consortium would no longer be needed.

Although this picture has a way to go before it is completed, I feel we have been able to fill in a bit more of the canvas this year. We have done this with the continued growth of our medical transportation services, new cancer support initiatives, new screening programs, expansion of our educational offerings and the continued growth of our other programs.

This is not accomplished by any single individual. Our community supplies the canvas, our Board of Directors draw the outline to follow, our funding sources supply the paint, and our staff are the artists that bring it into being. As the Executive Director of this organization, I feel lucky to have the opportunity to work with this dedicated group of individuals. As we approach our tenth year of service to Columbia County and its neighbors, I am secure in the knowledge that this organization will continue to meet the unmet health care needs in our community and continue to paint a picture of good health for our residents.

Diane C. Franzman
Executive Director



Our Programs

Medical Transportation Service

Covering the Uninsured
(Columbia-Greene Facilitated Enrollment Program)

Rip Van Winkle Tobacco-Free Coalition
of Columbia and Greene Counties

Cancer Support Program for Columbia and Greene

Columbia County Healthy Women Partnership

Columbia-Greene Diabetes Coalition

Nutrition Outreach & Education Program
of the Twin Counties

Long Term Care Insurance
Education & Outreach Program

Ovarian Cancer Awareness & Education Initiative

Columbia County Community Partnership
for Children's Dental Health

health/education Speakers Bureau

Prescription Access

www.columbiahealthnet.org



Our *Medical Transportation Service* has been ensuring access to health services for residents with barriers to transportation since 1999. The program is a model of efficiency and effectiveness. We have provided hundreds of residents access to health care which might otherwise have been inaccessible.

The need for further development of transportation options for our rural population is evidenced by the continued growth of this service. In 2006 we transported 566 residents on 7366 trips covering 121,612 miles. 241 were new clients who had not used our service before. This represents a 28% increase from the previous year.



Our Medical Transportation Service includes an 8-passenger wheelchair-accessible minibus, in addition to 2 sedans, a wagon and 3 minivans.

After the medical transportation service, *Covering the Uninsured* (Columbia-Greene Facilitated Enrollment Program) is the largest program under our roof. Since it began in Winter 2003, this program has consistently ranked above average in application submissions, and generated 135% of its referral goal for the year.

2006 saw a remarkable 97% enrollment rate for Child Health Plus applicants. Of the 912 enrollments for the year, 671 were children.



Enrollment Counselor Victoria McGlynn and Senior Program Director Lisa Thomas point out Cover the Uninsured Week, a national campaign spearheaded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Our program supports that mission and seeks access to health coverage for every eligible individual in the 2 counties.



Rip Van Winkle Tobacco-Free Coalition of Columbia & Greene Counties uses media campaigns and other activities to encourage smokers to quit, to promote smoke-free homes, cars and outdoor spaces, and to mobilize public support against tobacco industry advertising, sponsorship and promotion.

In 2006, the percentage of homes in the county where smoking is not allowed increased to 74%, and calls to the NYS Quitline nearly doubled. The Coalition began a multi-year project to eliminate tobacco advertising near schools, and worked with the Columbia County Board of Health to propose smoking restrictions around entryways of county buildings.



Program Director Karen dePeyster presents a Certificate of Appreciation to an Athens student for participating in the Smoke-Free Homes and Cars campaign at local schools.

Cancer Support Program for Columbia and Greene has embraced an initiative to recruit cancer survivors as part of a Mentoring Network to match recently diagnosed cancer patients with survivors who offer social and emotional support.

The program has used a multi-media campaign to promote support groups and resources available to residents affected by cancer. More than 300 Cancer Services & Support directories for Columbia and Greene counties were distributed throughout the year.



Deputy Director Gina Armstrong is flanked by Sheri Scavonne (l) and Joanna Bull (r) after a breakfast meeting introducing Gilda's Club Capital Region to local providers. Ms. Bull is the founder of Gilda's Clubs Worldwide.



Columbia County Healthy Women Partnership exemplifies our program success by exceeding established precedents year after year. In 2006 that translated to a 114% success rate providing mammographies and cervical screenings to women locally. Mobile screenings at different venues throughout the county are drawing women who might not otherwise get screened.

Not uncharacteristically, this program has received accolades from clients as well as from state and local elected officials for the work it has done.



Program Coordinator Darcy Connor has worked tirelessly to help women get screened. Mobile screenings have allowed greater exposure for the Healthy Women Partnership.

Columbia-Greene Diabetes Coalition is the local chapter of the Greater Capital Region Coalition for Diabetes Prevention & Control. This program encourages the prevention and management of diabetes through education and raised awareness.

Area providers have helped direct visitors to monthly support meetings where a certified diabetes professional presents topical information about preventing and controlling diabetes. Community-based diabetes events have also helped to dramatically increase awareness of the Coalition's presence.



Residents listen to Cassandra Coyle, MS, RN, CDE speaking about the effects of diabetes on the human body, and techniques to control the disease.



Nutrition Outreach and Education Program of the Twin Counties helps eligible residents of Columbia and Greene Counties apply for Food Stamp Benefits. Many hours of community outreach with targeted marketing earned nearly 2700 contacts with potential program participants.

This program saw a 33% increase in households approved for Food Stamp Benefits in 2006. NOEP staff performed 1541 eligibility pre-screens during that same period.



Residents must meet income guidelines to qualify for Food Stamp Benefits. Program Coordinator Jacqueline Goddeau screens a potential participant to determine eligibility and assist with the application process.

The *Long-Term Care Insurance Education and Outreach Program* for Columbia County has been underway since mid-year. The program seeks to educate the residents of Columbia County about long term care insurance and all the available options to protect assets and/or ensure care during prolonged illness or old age.

Through presentations to groups and classes held several evenings at the community college, 163 residents have learned about protecting assets and options for nursing care for when they get older. This program does not recommend or endorse insurance carriers or plans, but can provide a list of participating insurance agents in the area.

Long-Term Care Insurance

Paying for Long-Term Care
Understanding the Options
2007

Professional slide presentations help guide residents through the options available for protecting assets and/or nursing care when they get older or have a prolonged illness.



Ovarian Cancer Awareness and Education Initiative for Columbia and Greene Counties seeks to provide women and medical professionals with increased awareness of the signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer. Because the symptoms can be mistaken for other, less serious illnesses, this treatable disease often goes undiagnosed.

The ovarian cancer awareness program educator has scheduled community presentations for women and medical professionals. We expect this knowledge to empower women to “ask your doctor,” and to have doctors “asking the patient.”



Consultations with health care providers will be more about good patient-doctor communication. Our program seeks to advise health professionals about the need to recognize and talk about ovarian cancer symptoms with their female patients.

Columbia County Community Partnership for Children's Dental Health entered its fifth year bringing preventive education and dental services to pre-school and third grade children. Licensed dental hygienists provided oral health education and performed screenings at primary schools, WIC and Head Start sites in Columbia County.

330 third graders were seen by the hygienists for screenings and treatments. Of those, 195 received sealant applications on back teeth that can help to prevent cavities from developing. 37 children were referred to a dentist for treatment. Another 31 youngsters were referred to Child Health Plus for health/dental coverage.



Marion Turino, a licensed dental hygienist, gives a 3rd grade student a thorough dental screening. Oral health education is also a major component of the dental program.



Our *health education Speakers Bureau* was begun to meet a need to provide expert information and material on topical health issues to the public. By enlisting the expertise of providers and human services organizations in the region, presentations could be coordinated for small and large groups.

The Speakers Bureau is available to schools, businesses, civic and fraternal organizations, and clubs and social groups. This has been a particularly valuable service to senior groups, who have had presentations on topics such as First Aid, Blood Pressure & Diabetes, Osteoporosis, Beating Winter Blues and the Vial of Life emergency identification kit, to name a few.



Presentations to groups both small and large are coordinated by the Healthcare Consortium. Experts in their respective fields are available to provide health information on dozens of topics.

Prescription Access provides assistance to Columbia County residents to obtain medications from Patient Assistance Programs (PAP) at participating pharmaceutical companies. Each company's program has its own qualification process.

The program helps low-to-mid income residents file applications with the pharmaceutical companies' PAP, following the requirements set by each company. During 2006 this program served 73 residents, assisting them to obtain 242 prescription medications at low or no cost. Twenty-one clients were new to the program.



Most U.S. pharmaceutical companies make low- or no-cost prescription medications available to individuals who meet their eligibility requirements.



The Healthcare Consortium maintains a 24-hour web presence at www.columbiahealthnet.org. A monthly events calendar, listing of local resources, on-line directories and links to reputable health sites are features available on the site day and night. Visitors can expect prompt responses to queries posted to our website.

The web site is updated regularly and on average, nearly 12,000 pages have been sent to visitors each month. More than 150,000 pages were requested from the site in 2006.



24-hour health information is available from our website: www.columbiahealthnet.org. The website is updated regularly and features a monthly events calendar, a listing of local health resources, links to reputable sites, and on-line service directories.

The Healthcare Consortium is involved in many areas of health care access beyond just our program responsibilities. We represent Columbia County on several statewide groups and initiatives such as NYS Association for Rural Health, Hudson-Catskill Area Health Education Center, NYS Telepsychiatry Task Force, and the NYS Cancer Consortium.

We have conducted outreach and surveys to help us identify the greatest needs in several important areas such as long term care, transportation and youth behaviors. And board members and staff meet annually for Strategic Planning sessions where issues are dissected and resolutions are reached.



Strategic Planning sessions are an annual exercise where the board members and staff discuss issues in great detail to reach consensus and resolution for next steps.



Statement of Financial Position

Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2006

ASSETS		2006
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	29,475
Grants receivable		234,735
Total Current Assets		264,210
Other Assets		
Equipment, furniture and fixtures		182,169
Accumulated depreciation		(124,815)
		57,354
Total Assets	\$	321,564
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$	33,537
Accrued wages and benefits		13,503
Accrued compensated absences		23,194
Line of credit		20,000
Deferred revenue		6,118
		96,352
Net Assets		
Temporarily restricted		4,472
Unrestricted		220,740
Total Net Assets		225,212
Total liabilities/net assets	\$	321,564



Operating Revenues

Fiscal Year ending June 30



2001 ● \$463,700

2002 ● \$586,446

2003 ● \$773,950

2004 ● \$982,743

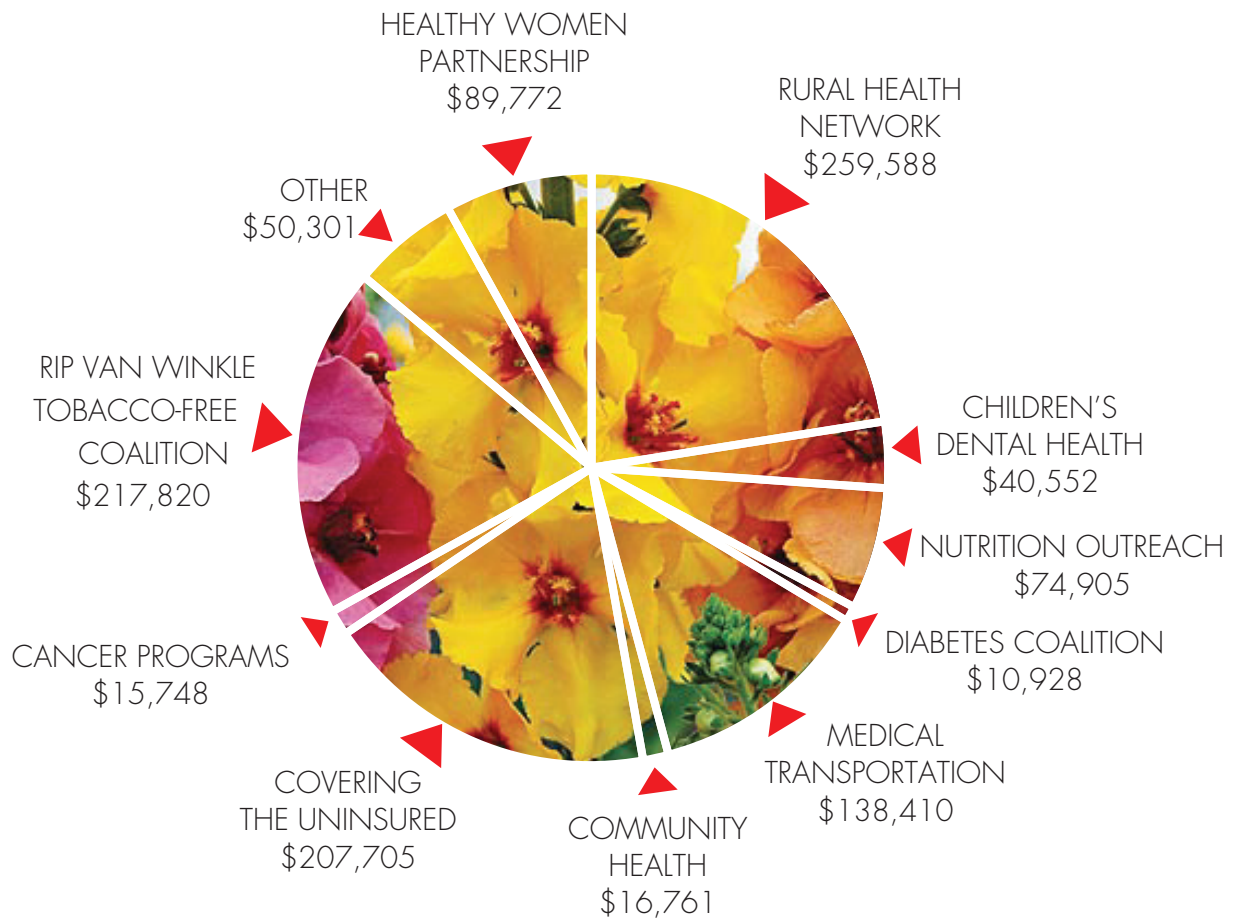
2005 ● \$1,000,406

2006 ● \$1,122,490

Revenues have increased 242% from 2001 to 2006.



Our Funded Programs



CANCER PROGRAMS

*Cancer Support for Adults
Cancer Support for Children
Ovarian Cancer Awareness
& Education*

COMMUNITY HEALTH

*Ancram-Copake
Prescription Access &
Ancram-Copake
Shuttle Service*

OTHER

*Medicare Part D Education
Palliative Care Education
General Administration
Dyson Foundation*



Our Funding Sources

New York State Department of Health

Office of Rural Health

Bureau of Tobacco Use Prevention & Control

Division of Planning, Policy & Resource Development

Bureau of Chronic Diseases

Bureau of Dental Health

New York State Department of Social Services (Medicaid)

Nutrition Consortium of New York State

Health Research Institute

Columbia County Government

Columbia County Office for the Aging

Sharon CT Foundation for Community Health

Columbia County Department of Health

Columbia County Department of Social Services

Columbia County Department of Human Services

Columbia County Pine Haven Adult Home

Columbia County Youth Bureau

Greene County Rural Health Network

Northeast Health

Dyson Foundation

S.P.A.R.C.

Fidelis Health Care

Hudson River Bank & Trust Company Foundation

New York State Unified Court System

Sidney & Beatrice Albert Foundation

Private Donations



THE Healthcare Consortium

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