

News Release

December 9, 2010

OFFICE OF GOV. BILL RITTER, JR.
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GOV. RITTER PROCLAIMS COLORADO BEACON CONSORTIUM DAY

Today at Rocky Mountain Health Plans, Gov. Bill Ritter proclaimed ***COLORADO BEACON CONSORTIUM DAY***.

In announcing the proclamation, the Governor said, "Western Colorado has built a national reputation as an innovative pioneer that serves as an ongoing example of effective collaboration among not-for-profit, community-based health care organizations, physicians, and service agencies."

"The Western Colorado approach has received significant recognition around the state and across the nation. I'm proud to support the continued work being done here through the Colorado Beacon Consortium project, a community collaboration which is implementing the meaningful use of health information technology to reduce health care costs and improve quality."

The full text of Gov. Ritter's proclamation is on page 2.

COLORADO BEACON CONSORTIUM DAY
December 9, 2010

WHEREAS, Western Colorado has built a national reputation as an innovative pioneer that serves as an ongoing example of effective collaboration among not-for-profit, community-based health care organizations, physicians, and service agencies; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative efforts of the Western Colorado community to transform the way health care works has led to higher quality health care, better patient outcomes, and lower costs; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Beacon Consortium, a partnership among Quality Health Network, Rocky Mountain Health Plans, the Mesa County Physician's Independent Practice Association, and St. Mary's Hospital, is one of only seventeen community partnerships nationally to receive a prestigious Beacon Community Cooperative Agreement award; and

WHEREAS, Quality Health Network has created one of the highest functioning and most sustainable Health Information Exchange systems in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Rocky Mountain Health Plans focus on creating an integrated, community-based health care system, continuous quality improvement, and equitable coverage has resulted in numerous public/private partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the results of the community health care collaboration within Western Colorado continue to be the subject of academic inquiry by many notables, including Nobel laureate economist Elinor Ostrom, the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, as well as many others; and

WHEREAS, physician groups and hospitals throughout Western Colorado have committed to doing further, collaborative work with the Colorado Beacon Consortium to improve patient experiences and reduce the growth of health care costs;

Therefore, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim December 9, 2010,

COLORADO BEACON CONSORTIUM DAY

in the State of Colorado.

*GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of
the State of Colorado, this ninth day of December,
2010*

*Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor*