



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS: FACE TO FACE



These are not the places we frequent in our normal course of life . . . or at least we hope they are not places we will ever need to “know.” **But the face to face contact at our flu clinics is more than a “grab and stab” model that can happen when there is not an understanding that vaccination clinics also need to be places of trust, respect, and dignity as well as sites for health prevention education.**

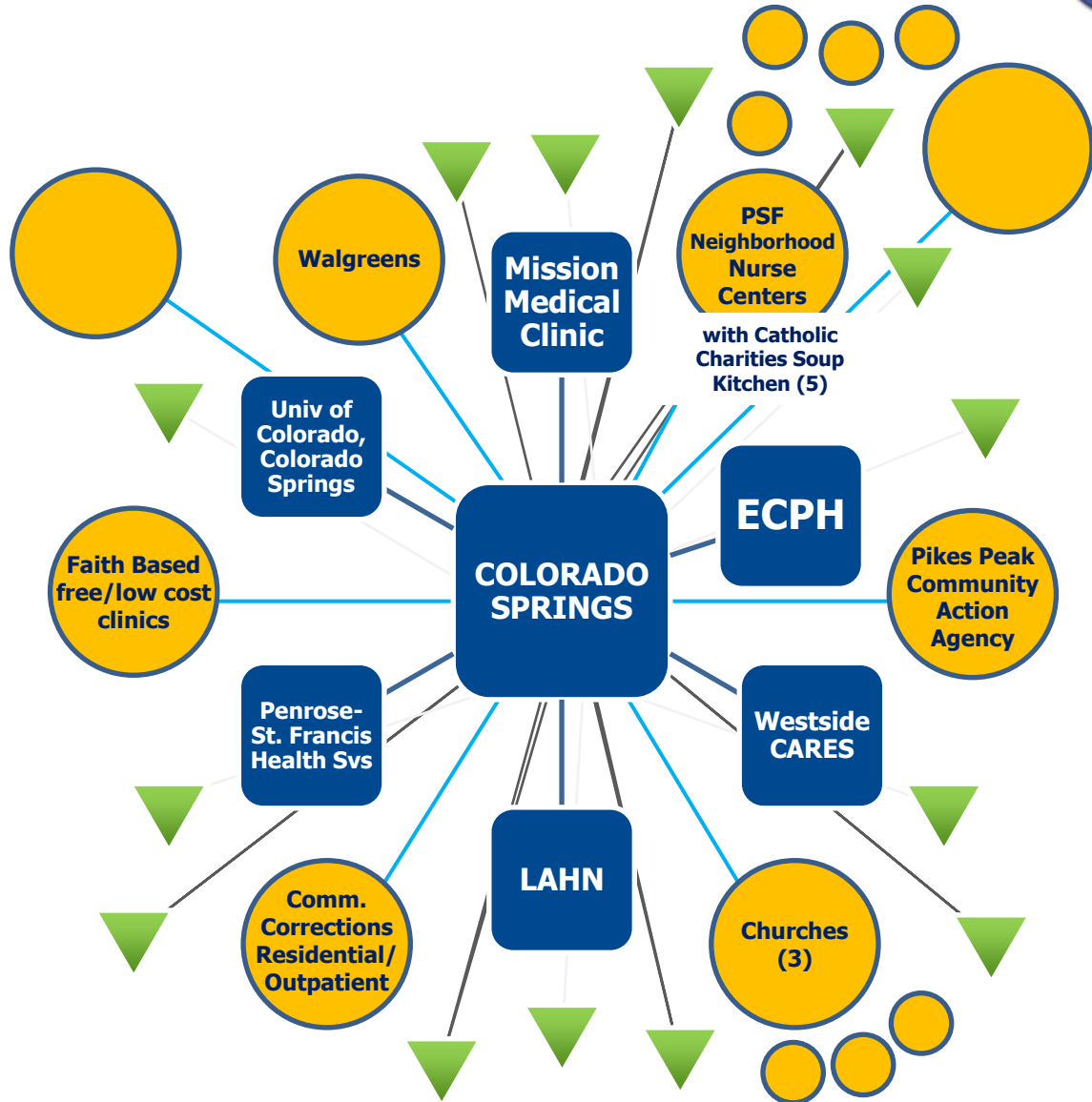
One new community partner this year was Walgreens. They were very accommodating and most willing to “do flu shot clinics.” But what they found was a community they hadn’t engaged with before. The immunization tech who staffed all 14 of our clinics shared her story in our focus group in January:

“ I thought I was ready for anything and I thought I knew my community and had an understanding that there were poor and those in need, but when I found out that we were going to ComCor, a work release prison, I started to panic. Yes, they all should have flu shots but what was I walking into? It was at night and not in the best part of town; I begged my husband to take me. He said, “you’ll be fine.” He had more faith in these residents than I did, but what I did walk in to were some of the most respectful, pleasant, thankful people I have ever run across. They are sisters, brothers, mothers, and fathers who have had some hard times and made some bad choices. My mind changed that day; I will not be in a state of panic when we have to go to ComCor for the 2012-2013 flu season.

The clinics were all over town and in many areas and settings that were very different than our normal Walgreens practice. Around the winter holidays, we also went to Springs Rescue Mission, another place I had never been to. A lady who reminded me of an Aunt I had come in. We administered her shot and she started to tear up. I asked her if she was okay. She proceeded to tell me that she has no job and no way to get unemployment because the doctor she worked for did not have a valid license to practice. He had just picked up, closed shop, and left. She went to work one day, the office was locked, and he is nowhere to be found. I believe I was there that day to hear her story and give her the biggest hug I have ever given. I KNOW we were there at that time on that day so I could hear her story and give her that hug. I was truly blessed.

Thanks to my District Pharmacy manager, I was put in touch with this wonderful team and the great work that they do. My mind, heart, and soul have been uplifted and changed.”

-- Amylynne Lindquist



VACCINATION REACH

- 14 vaccination events
- 682 persons vaccinated
 - Caucasian 53%
 - Hispanic 28%
 - African-American 7%
 - Asian/Pacific Islander 6%
 - Native American 3%
 - Other 3%
- 68% no health insurance

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- 6 Core Partners
- 14 Vaccination Site partners
 - All Faith-Based
- 14 Educational Outreach partners