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### Experts to discuss bridging health care divides at the 2012 Colorado Health Symposium

*'Health Equity' to be the focus of annual health policy conference*

**What:** The [Colorado Health Foundation](http://www.ColoradoHealth.org) will host the [2012 Colorado Health Symposium](http://www.ColoradoHealth.org), one of the most widely discussed health policy conferences in the country. This year's theme, "Health Equity: Bridging the Divides," focuses on real-world solutions to challenges in health and health care. Though the Symposium is expected to sell out, space is available for credentialed media by contacting [Suzanne Beranek](mailto:Suzanne.Beranek@coloradohealth.org).

**When:** Wednesday, July 25 to Friday, July 27, 2012

**Where:** Keystone Resort & Conference Center, 21966 Highway 6, Keystone, Colo.

**Why:** In recent years, economic uncertainties have imposed financial burdens on our health systems and services as more people join the ranks of the poor and the unemployed. But it's not just those who live in abject poverty who suffer when people lack affordable health insurance, quality medical care or good choices. Poor health undermines our country's fiscal health and ultimately impacts every U.S. citizen.

Setting the tone for a more equitable future, the three-day conference will challenge presenters and participants to define opportunities for greater affordability, access and choice -- resulting in enhanced productivity, reduced health costs and, ultimately, improved lives.

**Who:** A sampling of confirmed speakers:

- **Jeffrey Brenner, MD, founder and executive director of the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers** – A New Jersey doctor who developed the groundbreaking "hotspot" health care model, Dr. Brenner's innovative approach was recently profiled on the PBS news show "[Frontline](http://www.pbs.org/newshour)."
- **Wes Moore, youth advocate and Army combat veteran** – Moore is the author of "The Other Wes Moore," a best-selling book in which he compares his life with the very different life of another man of the same name who grew up in the same decaying city. In his book, Moore explores the social determinants that might explain why their paths diverged. His story was featured on the "[PBS Newshour](http://www.pbs.org/newshour)."
- **Dr. Michael Minor, community organizer** – Known as "the Southern pastor who banned fried chicken in his church," Minor is a champion of faith-based health and wellness mobilization.
- **Manuel Pastor, Professor of Geography and American Studies & Ethnicity at the University of Southern California** – The son of immigrant parents, Pastor is a leading expert on the economic, environmental and social conditions facing low-income urban communities in the United States.
- **Marguerite Salazar** – A longtime champion of the medically underserved, Salazar currently serves as the regional director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**For more information:** Details and information about additional speakers, sessions and events are available at the [Symposium webpage](http://www.ColoradoHealth.org).

For those who cannot attend, the Foundation offers a number of [social media opportunities](http://www.ColoradoHealth.org) (including live streaming) to allow anyone to follow the conversation.