Diversity effort breaks down communication barriers[1]
[2]

Computer access and use is an aspect of work life that many – especially those who grew up tech natives – take for granted. For some, though, the conveniences enabled by modern devices often remain inaccessible.

Colleagues in the Department of Infrastructure and Sustainability at CU Boulder knew other staffers who could benefit from some tech tutoring. Their effort – Literacy Training for English as a Second Language and Frontline Service Workers – received a 2018-19 Diversity and Inclusive Excellence Grant[3], a systemwide program.

Project authors Kelsey Draper, Claude Masson, Nancy Portner and Shawna Stushnoff say the initiative is a boost in professional development for engagement with others in the CU Boulder community.

While technology is made available to staff at the university, some have arrived with little tech experience, which can create barriers to electronic communication. For English as a Second Language staff members, the language barrier compounds the communication gap.

“I used to send out emails with information on engagement opportunities,” Draper said. “A lot of our custodians and frontline workers weren’t checking their emails.”

That inspired the launch a few years ago of a computer literacy class for frontline staff. Similar classes have met with success in CU Boulder’s Housing and Dining Services and at Colorado State University, Draper said.

“I recently was working with a custodian who had been working here for 25 years,” Draper said. “We helped her send her first email to her granddaughter.”

The current program consists of six weekly, 90-minute classes.

“It’s hard for anyone to learn those skills with that little time,” Draper said. “A lot of the staff we work with don’t have access to computers at home.”

To change that, this year’s grant will be used to help purchase tablets or refurbished laptop computers. Staff members who are enrolled in the class will be able to check out the devices for practice at home. The rollout is planned for this fall.

To learn more about the computer literacy training at CU Boulder, contact Kelsey Draper at Kelsey.p.draper@colorado.edu[4], and see the Infrastructure and Sustainability computer literacy website at https://www.colorado.edu/fm/computer-training[5].

Lawmakers consider expanding CU-led opioid addiction treatment program[6]
[7]

State legislators are considering expanding a pilot program, currently administered by the CU Anschutz Medical Campus College of Nursing, which has made significant inroads in addressing opioid addiction in rural Colorado.

Senate Bill 19-001[8] – sponsored by Sen. Leroy Garcia, D-Pueblo, and Rep. Bri Buentello, D-Pueblo – would expand a Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) pilot program signed into law in 2017. The effort increased access to treatment for opioid-dependent patients in Pueblo and Routt counties.

CU’s Government Relations team is working to advance the bill at the Capitol.

If passed by lawmakers and signed into law by the governor, the new legislation would provide funding enabling the

expansion of the pilot into counties in the San Luis Valley, as well as two more counties where a need is demonstrated.

Administration of the program would shift from the CU Anschutz Medical Campus College of Nursing to the Center for Research Into Substance Use Disorder Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Support Strategies, also based at CU Anschutz, in the CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

By increasing the number of treatment providers in Pueblo and Routt counties, the pilot increased MAT services for 99 clients in Pueblo County in 2017 to 517 clients through October 2018. Routt County, which previously had no such service, helped 51 clients through October 2018.

Funding for the program comes from the state's Marijuana Tax Cash Fund.

Ovia Health gives growing families support they need[9]
[10]

From pregnancy to parenting, it is common that many soon-to-be and new parents have many questions along the way.

To help answer these questions, the CU Health Plan now is offering Ovia Health[11] to CU Health Plan members.

Ovia Health offers a suite of mobile applications to help families throughout each stage of family planning with education on fertility, pregnancy and parenting, as well as specific information about the maternity benefits available through the University of Colorado.

There are distinct apps to meet diverse needs:
Ovia Fertility: Women can learn more about their health and fertility with cycle tracking, expert research and tips and instant data feedback. Use this app to predict periods and ovulation, track symptoms and mood and get pregnant faster. **Ovia Pregnancy:** Get answers to pregnancy questions with articles, health and wellness tips. Use this app to track the growth of your baby, research effects of foods and medications, learn about your symptoms and have an overall healthier pregnancy. **Ovia Parenting:** Ovia Parenting supports families with expert parenting articles, daily tips and guidance based on your child's age and the ability to share updates with friends and family. Use this app to identify and understand developmental milestones, track progress and have an easier transition to life with a new family member.
To learn more about Ovia and to sign up, visit the CU Health Plan online[11].

CU's first Rhodes Scholar in 25 years also wants to be Miss America [12]

Impulse control is just a click away[13]

Six graduate programs rank among nation's best by U.S. News & World Report[14]

Engineering college: New name, new vision, new building[15]

U.S. News ranks School of Public Affairs top 25 nationally[16]

CU School of Medicine among best medical schools in country[17]

Rose receives Southern Colorado Ally Award[18]

Chuong, Sharma awarded 2019 Sloan Research Fellowships[19]

Bensons honored at CU Anschutz benefactor event[20]

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/diversity-effort-breaks-down-communication-barriers[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/spotlight_comp-trng_top.jpg[3] https://www.cu.edu/oaa/grants/diversity-inclusive-excellence-grant[4] mailto:Kelsey.p.draper@colorado.edu[5] https://www.colorado.edu/fm/computer-training[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/lawmakers-consider-expanding-cu-led-opioid-addiction-treatment-program[7] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/opiod_feat.jpg[8] https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb19-001[9] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/ovia-health-gives-growing-families-support-they-need[10] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/ovia_feat.jpg[11] https://www.becolorado.org/program/ovia-health/[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-s-first-rhodes-scholar-25-years-also-wants-be-miss-america[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/impulse-control-just-click-away[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/six-graduate-programs-rank-among-nation-s-best-us-news-world-report[15] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/engineering-college-new-name-new-vision-new-building[16] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/us-news-ranks-school-public-affairs-top-25-nationally[17] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/cu-school-medicine-among-best-medical-schools-country[18] https://connections.cu.edu/people/rose-receives-southern-colorado-ally-award[19] https://connections.cu.edu/people/chuong-sharma-awarded-2019-sloan-research-fellowships[20] https://connections.cu.edu/people/bensons-honored-cu-anschutz-benefactor-event