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# MH MarillacHealth

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Medical, Dental, &  
Behavioral Health Care

*for your whole family*

Welcoming new patients of all ages!

970-200-1600



## News for Friends of Marillac—Autumn 2024



# Digging in the Dirt

7/22/24

We're in the ground! Finally, after many months of planning, designing, permitting, and budgeting, the dirt's a-flyin'. At first it was ceremonial, as nearly 100 supporters came out to celebrate the moment, watching as Marillac staff and board members donned hard hats and grabbed shovels to fling the first bits of dirt. And now, FCI Constructors and subcontractors are doing the real digging. Our new home is officially a construction site!

Some interesting facts:

- There are usually 18-20 crew members on-site every day
- Donut deliveries: 1 so far (and we didn't even take any out of the box before handing them over!)
- Toilets: 2 so far
- 60-70% of the subcontractors on this project are from the Western Slope
- We're under budget so far!
- Our new building will have nearly half a mile of piping for electrical (3,000 feet) and 1,830 feet for plumbing!



## Voter Registration at Marillac

Marillac joins many other health centers around the country and state to support non-partisan voter registration efforts "...as a means of reducing barriers to civic engagement within the communities they serve." (*HRSA Guidelines*) It has been shown that communities with greater levels of civic participation are healthier. Because Marillac is all about helping people who might experience barriers to accessing registration opportunities, we make this opportunity available to patients and staff.

Marillac has partnered with the Community Resource Center and Mesa County Public Health to host a table for a couple of hours each Monday in the MCPH lobby, between August and late October. CRC staff can help someone check their registration status, show them how to update their mailing address, answer questions about key dates, and help them through the registration process if they need it.

Do you have questions about your own registration status? Click here: [Community Health Centers | Linktree](#)

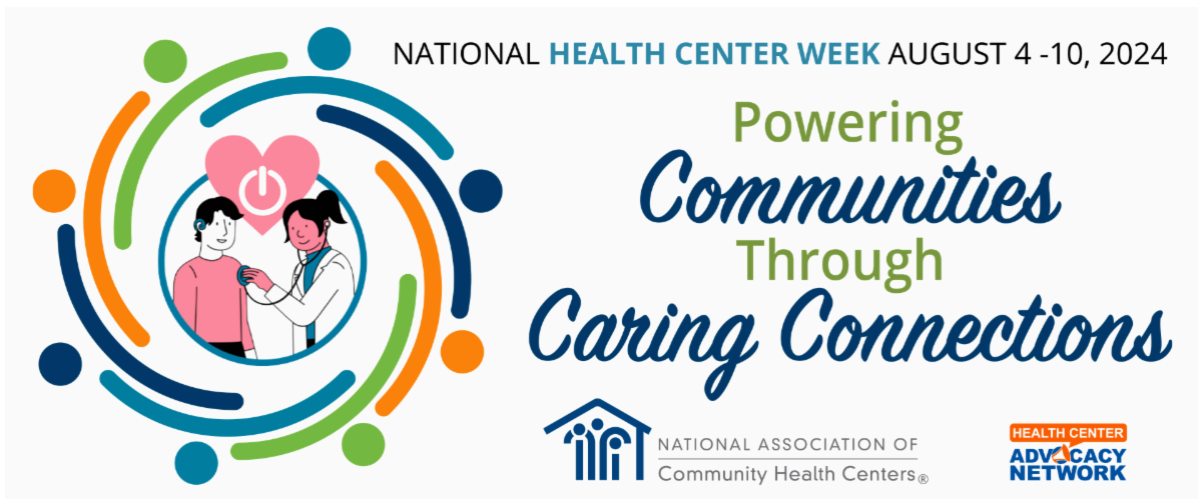
## Welcome to Tiger Wellness Center!

The Tiger Wellness Center (TWC) opened in August, along with the new Grand Junction High School.

TWC participated in the Grand Opening & Ribbon-Cutting Public Open House on August 3rd and welcomed hundreds of people into the health center for a tour. These visitors were glad to see the completed health center's two medical exam rooms, two behavioral health rooms, and one dental exam room.

Janie Pillips, FNP, primary care provider at TWC, said they are seeing both staff and students for a variety of reasons: acute visits, sports physicals, dental checks, and more. Patients interest in dental cleanings is so strong that Marillac made a request to Western Colorado Community Foundation to support the purchase of equipment and instruments to allow the clinic to provide this service. Thanks to the generosity of WCCF, we now offer dental cleanings!





## ICYMI (In Case You Missed It): CHC Week Explained in Local Newspapers

Each August, the 1,400 Community Health Centers (CHCs) across America celebrate National Community Health Center Week, a week that is devoted to celebrating and increasing awareness of us and the more than 31.5 million patients we serve annually. (That means nearly one in ten Americans visit a CHC for health care at least once a year!) Sponsored by the National Association of Community Health Centers, this annual event shines a light on the commitment and passion of CHC staff, board members, and supporters who make it possible to provide quality care to so many of our nation's population.

Marillac takes this opportunity to communicate to our neighbors the importance of CHCs. Take a moment to read these articles published in The Business Times and The Daily Sentinel. [MarillacHealth Recognizes National Health Center Week 2024 - MarillacHealth](#)



## Marillac Once Again Receives Prestigious Quality Designations

Earlier this month, the nation's Health Resources & Services Administration announced various 2024 quality designations in the areas of Access, Quality, Health Equity, and Health Information Technology, with Marillac again earning four awards:

**Access Enhancer**—patient population expansion from 9,800 patients in 2022 to 13,512 patients in 2023

**Health Disparities Reducer**—improvement in health outcomes in at least two areas for one or more racial or ethnic groups

**Advancing Health Information Technology**—utilizing technology in delivery of healthcare

**Addressing Social Risk Factors**—gathering information from patients to help support better health outcomes

## Marillac Secures Funding to Expand Care for Patients with Mental Health Needs Substance Use Disorder

We can finally stop holding our breath and cheer: the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) has awarded \$1.1 million (\$600,000 of which falls into Year 1) to expand our behavioral health and substance use disorder treatments to all patients across our seven locations! Why were we holding our breath? Marillac was competing with many other Federally Qualified Health Centers across the country for a total \$240 million in funds that were being made available to only 400 organizations.

This funding will have a significant impact on the people in our region who seek this care: it allows us to expand our clinical mental health and treatment workforce and increase our capacity to screen, treat, and support the recovery of persons impacted by substance use. For our community, this means Marillac will provide patient-centered, culturally humble care that is appropriate for persons of all ages, cultures, and lifestyles.

For more information, refer to this press release: **[Biden-Harris Administration Announces Historic Investment to Integrate Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment into Primary Care | HHS.gov](#)**

## Digital or Paper? It's Up to You!

In 2025, we hope mail fewer paper newsletters and send more emails, thereby spending less money on printing and mailing. But we want you to receive our newsletters the way you want, so we need to hear from you! **email** Martha or call her at **970-200-1628** with your preference.

## Turn Your Vehicle into Health Care

Whether it is running or not, your old car, boat, RV, or ATV can help fuel Marillac. The process is easy because we partner with Cars Helping Charities. You contact them directly and they take care of the logistics, including free towing and sale. All you need is the title. To get started, visit our donation page on Cars Helping Charities' website ([bit.ly/3HcbFaP](https://bit.ly/3HcbFaP)) and enter your information, or call **1-866-701-2277**.



*"Getting rid of my car as a donation was easier than I thought it would be! I called, arranged a date to get it towed, they showed up on time, and we were good to go. Two weeks later, I received notification of the sale and the amount that would go to Marillac. It was a great way for me to give more than I thought I could!"*

—A happy car donor

To make a donation or to discuss leaving a gift in your will or estate, visit **[MarillacHealth.org/Donate](https://MarillacHealth.org/Donate)** or call Martha Graf at **970-200-1628**.

MarillacHealth | 2333 N. 6th Street | Grand Junction, CO 81501 US

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