

Steven Poole, M.D. is Professor and Vice Chairman of The Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Division Head of Community Pediatrics. He is also Executive Director of the Colorado Children's Healthcare Access Program (CCHAP), a non-profit organization devoted to improving access to health care and reducing health disparities experienced by children in low income families.

He attended the University of Southern California and the University of Rochester School of Medicine. He completed a residency in Pediatrics and a fellowship in child development, behavioral pediatrics, and general pediatrics, at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

After 2 years in private pediatric practice in Littleton, Colorado, he joined the pediatric faculty in 1977 and was also on the family medicine faculty. For 5 years he developed pediatric training programs for the Colorado Family Medicine Residencies. In 1982, he became one of the first University of Colorado faculty at the Children's Hospital of Denver (Now Children's Hospital Colorado), where he was Chief of Emergency Pediatrics and Chief of General Pediatrics.

For **Children's Hospital Colorado**, he established the After-Hours Telephone Care Program (the nurse advice line), the pediatric urgent care network throughout the metro area, the Pediatric Locum Tenens Service (which provides pediatricians to cover for private practice pediatricians when they have to take time away from their practice), and the Pediatric Hospitalist Service in community hospitals in the metro area. Currently, he is a member of the Children's Hospital Colorado Advocacy Institute Leadership Board, is Chair of the Access-To-Care Task Force of the Children's Hospital Colorado Advocacy Institute, and a member of the Community Benefit Committee of the Board of Directors of Children's Hospital Colorado.

For the **American Academy of Pediatrics**, he was the Founder and first Chairperson of the Section on Telephone Care for the American Academy of Pediatrics, which advanced care in the field of care over the telephone. He authored two books for the American Academy of Pediatrics, served on a variety of committees, and helped author policy statements. He consulted with over 50 other children's hospitals nationwide to help them start similar programs.

For the **University of Colorado School of Medicine**, he has been the head of 3 divisions over the years: General Pediatrics, Emergency Pediatrics and now Community Pediatrics. As the head of the Division of Community Pediatrics, he is Chair of the Cross-cultural Healthcare Committee, and oversees the community pediatrics curriculum, the cross-cultural communication curriculum, and the rural rotations for pediatric residents. He also co-chairs a committee to define the role of specialists in supporting primary care practices (the medical home).

He created (and is executive director of) a non-profit organization, The **Colorado Children's Healthcare Access Program (CCHAP)** devoted to helping all health care practices and clinics in Colorado provide access to high quality health care for children in low income families (for example, children on Medicaid) and enable these children to achieve health equity (health

outcomes equal to other children). CCHAP has been generously supported through grants from 7 Colorado Foundations and in-kind support from 30 community organizations and governmental agencies. When CCHAP started, less than 20% of Colorado pediatric and family practices accepted children covered by Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). CCHAP has recruited, and provided coaching and support, for 97% of Colorado pediatric practices and 75% of Family Practices, to enable them to accept, and improve the health of children covered by Medicaid and SCHIP. CCHAP now works closely with 255 primary care practices and over 850 providers throughout Colorado. CCHAP also assists private practice providers, pediatric faculty and pediatric residents to enhance their knowledge and skills in providing culturally sensitive and responsive health care for the increasing diverse families in Colorado. The current focus of CCHAP is to help practices and clinics statewide to address over 30 health disparities experienced by children in low income families.