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**Peak Vista Community Health Centers Announces New Pain & Wellness Center Initiative**

**Colorado Springs, Colo.** – As part of its commitment to improving patients’ quality of life through effective pain management, Peak Vista Community Health Centers (Peak Vista) announces the opening of its Pain & Wellness Center located at 340 Printers Parkway, Colorado Springs, 80910.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), on average 115 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose. Today, more than half (55%) of all drug overdose deaths in Colorado are related to opioids. As part of a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) agency, Peak Vista is at the front line of defense in combatting the nation’s opioid epidemic.

Around 4,800 Peak Vista patients have been identified as having a diagnosis of chronic pain. This program seeks to provide access to adjunct therapies including behavioral health therapy, physical therapy, massage, chiropractic, acupuncture and yoga, in place of or in addition to pharmacologic treatment. “We strive to preserve and enhance the quality of our patient’s day-to-day lives,” comments Dr. Andrews, Senior Vice President of Medical Services. “Chronic or debilitating pain from injury or illness can turn the simplest of activities into daunting challenges. Our goal is to provide our patients with comprehensive, compassionate pain treatment and to provide the tools and information they need to manage their conditions with minimum disruption to their lives.”

Patients age 18 or older may be referred to participate in this program. Initially all referrals are to be internal Peak Vista patients and we welcome those enrolled at any of the 26 health centers across the Pikes Peak and East Central regions. “Pain management is about developing individualized treatment plans for patients that will allow them to function more comfortably and efficiently in their day-to-day lives, preferably without the use of medications,” comments Dr. Michael D. Welch, Chief Medical and Dental Officer.

Initial provider staffing will be Dr. Wyn Andrews and Dr. Kaleen Cullen in collaboration with Behavioral Health including education and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). The Pain & Wellness Center will eventually serve as a clinical team training and demonstration site.

The Pain & Wellness Center at Peak Vista Community Health Centers is now open to Peak Vista patients. To find out how to enroll as a Peak Vista patient, please call 719-632-5700 or visit [peakvista.org](http://peakvista.org). If you are an existing Peak Vista patient, please speak to your primary care provider about a referral to the Pain and Wellness Center.

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**About Peak Vista Community Health Centers**

Peak Vista Community Health Centers is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide exceptional health care to people facing access barriers through clinical programs and education. Established in 1971, Peak Vista now offers primary medical, dental and behavioral health services to over 92,000 patients annually in the Pikes Peak and the East Central regions. To learn more about Peak Vista, visit [peakvista.org](http://peakvista.org).

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