

# FACT SHEET

December 2008

## Kaiser Permanente Colorado

- Is an integrated health care delivery system operated by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado and the Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C., which together have provided comprehensive health care to Kaiser Permanente Colorado members since July 1, 1969. Colorado Permanente Medical Group physicians provide health care for Kaiser Permanente members.
- Is Colorado's oldest and largest group practice health care organization, with **479,748** members in the six-county Denver/Boulder metropolitan area and Colorado Springs service area.
- Is a major Colorado nonprofit health plan with more than **5,400** health plan employees.
- Owns and operates **17** medical offices, and **three** behavioral health and chemical dependency offices, throughout the Denver/Boulder area. In addition to the Denver/Boulder medical offices, the emergency departments at Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center, Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital, and The Children's Hospital are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, providing urgent and emergency care to members.
- Provides health care in the Colorado Springs service area through a network of **219** primary care physicians and **534** specialists and is affiliated with Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs and Parkview Medical Center in Pueblo.
- Stores medical records electronically on its state-of-the-art KP HealthConnect® system, which gives providers 24-hour access to information at all 17 medical offices and at Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center, Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital, and The Children's Hospital.
- In 2007, directed more than **\$42 million** to community benefit programs to improve the health of all Coloradans. Each year, Kaiser Permanente Colorado provides free health care services to thousands of uninsured and underinsured metro Denver area residents at its Neighbors in Health Fair. In addition, its Connections subsidized insurance program provided low-cost access to health care coverage for more than **2,800** individuals this year.
- Sponsors educational theatre programs and interactive workshops for children. More than 1.5 million audience members have been entertained and educated by Kaiser Permanente Colorado's Educational Theatre Program presentations since 1985.
- Works with organized labor unions in the most ambitious **Labor Management Partnership** of any industry in the United States. Kaiser Permanente's Labor Management Partnership is designed to deliver high-quality care and service to members, improve organizational performance, and actively involve the unions and individual workers in decisions that affect the workplace.
- Is one of the regions in a national program serving a total of more than **8.7 million** members in California, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Maryland, Ohio, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington—as well as Colorado.
- Was founded by industrialist Henry J. Kaiser and Sidney Garfield, MD. The pair demonstrated the viability of prepaid group practice health care on projects such as the Los Angeles Aqueduct and Grand Coulee Dam, and during World War II in the construction of Liberty Ships. Kaiser Permanente was opened to community enrollment in 1945.

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## Colorado Permanente Medical Group, P.C.

- contracts with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Colorado to form **Kaiser Permanente Colorado**, the state's oldest and largest group practice health care organization, founded in 1969.
- is a corporation of physician shareholders with a board of directors comprised of elected physicians. The board oversees the overall function of the medical group and delegates management to physician managers from within Colorado Permanente Medical Group.
- is Colorado's largest medical group practice within a health care organization, and employs **833** regular status physicians representing all medical specialties and major sub-specialties. There are **529** specialty care physicians and **304** primary care physicians. Colorado Permanente Medical Group physicians provide care for Kaiser Permanente members.
- attracts a majority of physicians from established medical practices. Nearly **58 percent** of physicians who joined the group in 2007 came from established practices.
- is comprised of **39 percent** female physicians and **61 percent** male physicians.
- averages **three to five** interested and qualified applicants for each opening.
- includes physicians who have practiced with Kaiser Permanente for an average of **nine years**, ranging from **one to 32 years** with the medical group.
- includes physicians who are all board eligible in their specialties. As of Dec. 31, 2007, **94 percent** of the physicians were board certified. Board certification, which consists of rigorous tests in medical specialties, is required to become a CPMG shareholder. By way of comparison, nearly **85 percent** of US physicians are board certified, according to the American Board of Medical Specialties.
- hosts several continuing medical education (CME) classes each month for physicians to share and learn best practices. In 2007, the CPMG Education department accredited **more than 150** programs. In fact, **nearly 700** physicians attended and returned evaluations for at least one CPMG-accredited CME program last year. CPMG physicians earned **8,282** CME credits from our internal programs in 2007.
- donates nearly **25,000** hours each year to medically-related community service programs and teaching medical students, interns, residents, and other health professions' students.

CPMG physicians are actively involved in a variety of innovative projects and committees that improve quality, control costs, and take a cooperative approach to solving problems and making decisions. Examples of such projects are a teen pregnancy program, influenza and pediatric immunization programs, advanced technology, biomedical ethics, research and development, and prevention committees.

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