

# THE HISTORY OF Kids First Health Care

*In August 1978 the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation awarded a five year grant for \$560,176 to Adams 14 to develop a way to improve the health outcomes of school-age children by using the services of Nurse Practitioners in schools. Adams 14 was 1 of 3 sites selected in Colorado to be funded and 1 in 9 nationally.*

<b>1978</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦September 1978 - Adams County School District #14, School Health Corporation is incorporated</li> <li>♦Established first School-Based Health Center in Colorado</li> </ul>
<b>1979</b>	♦November 1979 - saw first patients at 8702 Rosemary, Commerce City
<b>1982</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦Received 501(c)(3) status</li> <li>♦School nursing services contracted to Adams 14</li> </ul>
<b>1984</b>	♦Name changed to Commerce City Community Health Services (CCHS or CHS)
<b>1990</b>	♦Construction completed on new location and moved to 4675 E. 69 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Commerce City CO 80022
<b>1992</b>	♦Opened a School-Based Health Centers at Adams City Middle School and Kearney Middle School
<b>1994</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦Ms. Betty Pepin becomes the new Executive Director after serving many years on the board and as a volunteer</li> <li>♦Opened a School-Based Health Center at Lester Arnold High School</li> </ul>
<b>1995</b>	♦Started the Keep Me Safe Program, managed by first health educator with the focus on car seat safety and baby proofing
<b>1997</b>	♦Integrated mental health care with physical health care
<b>2000</b>	♦Received funding to hire first outreach staff for Medicaid/Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) application assistance
<b>2004</b>	♦August 2004 - opened the Baker clinic in Westminster Public Schools
<b>2005</b>	♦School nursing services contracted to Westminster Public Schools
<b>2008</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦Ms. Betty Pepin, Executive Director retired and Ms. Norma Portnoy was hired as the new Executive Director</li> <li>♦Started the Kids First Health Care Youth Advisory Board called VOIHCE - <i>Voicing Our Imperative Health Concerns Every day</i></li> </ul>
<b>2009</b>	♦August 2009 - moved into the wellness center at the new Adams City High School
<b>2011</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦September 2011 - held naming ceremony of wellness center to the “Lois M. Kimmes Wellness Center” in honor of a long time board member that passed away in October 2010</li> <li>♦Set up of the Lois M. Kimmes memorial fund</li> </ul>
<b>2014</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦February 2014 - changed name to Kids First Health Care</li> <li>♦October 2014 - moved the Baker clinic to Gregory Hill</li> </ul>
<b>2017</b>	♦August 2017 - opened a new School-Based Health Center at Thornton High School
<b>2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦August 2018 - opened a new School-Based Health Center at Brighton High School</li> <li>♦November 2018 - Kids First Health Care celebrated 40 years and honored Ms. Betty Pepin former Executive Director, whom passed away in July 2018</li> <li>♦Set up of the Betty Pepin Memorial Fund</li> </ul>
<b>2019</b>	April 2019 - hired new Executive Director, Ms. Whitney Gustin Connor

***- Keeping the mission of providing high quality health care to underserved children and teens in Adams county since 1978***

***- Our vision has remained consistent throughout our history: “That all children have access to the high quality health care they deserve, regardless of the family's insurance status or ability to pay... “***