

The logo for Juniper Network News features the word "Juniper" in a large, dark blue serif font. The letter "i" is stylized with a vertical line and a dot above it. Below "Juniper", the words "Network News" are written in a smaller, orange sans-serif font. The background is a light blue gradient with a pattern of small white dots.

Juniper

Network News

Dear Providers,

I can't believe we only have 7 weeks left of 2025. It has been a wild year full of ups (news that Medicare is moving to add codes for classes) and downs (the CCH bill not passing). We have many exciting things to look forward to in 2026, two of which are highlighted as items in the newsletter this month.

A quick note about contracts. I am hoping to get contracts out to you for review and signature by the end of November. I've been waiting for approval for some final details, which will allow us to consolidate everything into a single agreement rather than issuing an agreement and then later a separate amendment. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we finalize these details.

With appreciation,

Rachel

651-917-4622

Rbremness@trellisconnects.org

In This Issue

- Update: Software Transition
- 2026 Leader Training
- Minnesota's Rural Health Transformation Application Update
- Stepping On Peer Facilitator Webinar

Update: Software Transition

I am excited to share that we have begun work to create our new software solution using the Salesforce platform. We explored many software solutions in our search. We knew with Juniper's evolving needs we needed a platform that could do the following:

- Manage DPP classes
- Manage other EBHP classes
- Have a user-friendly interface for registration and forms
- Manage home and community-based services
- Revenue cycle management for claims

The only software with all the capabilities we need is a customized Salesforce solution. We are very excited about this change and glad to report that the project is running on time. We are well into the requirements gathering phase. We have seen preliminary software that looks promising.

Our work is happening in phases. In the first phase, we will recreate our existing capabilities as soon as possible to have software for class management. We still expect a gap in software at the start of 2026 but anticipate that the software will be ready by March 2026.

In future phases throughout 2026 and beyond, we plan to add additional capabilities to help automate our work and reduce administrative burden. Please stay tuned for additional updates as we upgrade our software!

2026 Leader Training

Stepping On

January 12, 13, and 14 (must attend all 3 days)

In-Person, NE Minneapolis

[More information & Registration](#)

Cost: \$150 - \$500

Further scholarship could be granted based on serving in diverse communities.

A Matter of Balance

February 23 & 24 (must attend both days)

In-person, NE Minneapolis

[More information & Registration](#)

Cost: \$100 - \$600

Help us plan Leader Training for 2026! Fill out the [Leader Training Needs Survey](#).

Minnesota's Rural Health Transformation Program

Application Update

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is leading the effort for Minnesota's application to this program. Back in August 2025, they asked for public comment. Thanks to comments that were submitted by the Juniper network, Community Care Hubs have been included in the application that MDH will be sending to CMS!

Specifically, Community Care Hubs are mentioned in Initiative #1: Community-Based Preventative Care and Chronic Disease Management which begins on [page 16 of the application](#). Estimated funding for Initiative 1 is \$46 to \$52 million annually.

This news is not a guarantee of funding. Applications will be reviewed by CMS, and funding levels will be determined by the end of December. CMS' determinations will impact the final project's scope and budget.

Nonetheless, it is exciting to be included in the application. It's an indication of the importance of hubs like Juniper and your work. It is also a big opportunity for the Juniper hub to keep on your radar.

Need a refresher on the Rural Health Transformation program? MDH has a helpful summary on their website [here](#).

Stepping On Peer Facilitator Webinar

The recording is now available for WIHA's November 5th webinar on peer facilitators. Peer facilitators can be an incredibly valuable part of your Stepping On strategy. They help to augment the capacity of your Stepping On class leaders while bringing lived experience that resonates with participants. In the webinar, WIHA covers the following:

- What makes someone a great peer facilitator
- Strategies for recruiting and training peers
- Tips for managing and supporting peers
- How to work with peers in both rural and urban settings
- The many benefits of adding peer facilitators to your program

Watch the recording here: [Strengthening Stepping On with Peer Facilitators](#)

Thank you!

Thank you for all you do to help people take control of their well-being. As always, please reach out with any questions or concerns you have. I speak for the Juniper team when I say we are grateful for your partnership!

