

Pueblo Continuum of Care
Minutes for February 21, 2017
EOC 101 West 10th St., Pueblo, CO 81003
Facilitator Sister Nancy Crafton
Recorder Meagan Schroeder

Members Present: Christina Leal, Avanye Renner – PCHC; Sister Nancy Crafton – Los Pobres; Meagan Schroeder, Anne Stattelman, LaTanya Yarbrough – Posada; Nancy Arredondo CDOC Parole; Jalyn Perkins, Amanda Cooper – Christlife Ministries; Benjamin Strand, Alison Gerbig – RMHS/HAV; Anne Gifford, RMHS; Jill Kidd – Pueblo City Schools; Mary Hobbs – VA HUD/VASH; Anthony Mason – Pueblo Workforce Center; Vanessa Brazee – PCCHD; Adrian Medina – Pueblo County Veteran Services; Janina Goodwin – Pueblo Library; Gail Rodosevich – CLS; Kristen Castor, CO Cross Disability; Lauren Erdman, Care and Share; Kimberly Yarbrough, DSS; Bill Edwards, Center for Disabilities; Bill Mackenzie – Colorado Drug Card; Brenda Nemick – 211; Judy Kagey – Parkview Medical Center; Karen Ashcraft - ; Teresa Martinez – CO Dep of Health, Melissa Bernstein – CO Aids Project; Barbara Ripperger – King of Kings Lutheran Church; Mary Rivera – Century Health:

I. Updates and Introductions

Melissa Bernstein, Southern CO Aids Project: Upcoming Women and Girls HIV awareness luncheon, March 10th.

Kristin Castor, CO Cross Disability: Disability community – Possible Medicaid block grants, flat funding, Restrict eligibility and cap programs, limit services, cut fees for providers. People with significant disabilities use about 70% of funds. Community services are not mandated and we are hoping they will be mandated in all states. We hope states are given a choice of whether to accept block grants or not. 1/3 of our state budget is Medicaid. Colorado is 45th on spending, we serve more people with the money we have than most.

Jalyn Perkins, Christlike Ministries: Renewed grant with probation, have housing programs, work mainly with men, but can work with women if needed. We help them with employment classes, help them get a job.

Nancy Arredondo, CDOC Parole: House Bill - jail time for any sheriff who does not cooperate with federal immigration enforcement. Allows victims of crime committed by non citizens to sue the city. Requires all law enforcement individuals pulling someone over or entering their house, must ask for their papers. Children who have DACA will be left alone, but no new children will be added. If deportation starts on large scale, we will have an economic problem in CO. We have farm workers who have been here for up to 20 years who cannot get papers. It's very hard to do. House Bill 1134.

Bill Edwards, Center for Disabilities: Fully invest in new location, across from Pueblo Chieftain. Adding staff with new location, including a youth transition position. Challenges - the need for food pantry rises. Increase with elderly needing to ask for assistance for first time because they can't pay for both food and electric bill. In Housing department, usually able to open up wait list once a year, but haven't been able to open it up for 18 months. People are staying because they are holding onto vouchers, affordable housing isn't available.

LaTanya Yarbrough, Posada: Picnic is June 24, 2017. Veterans Stand Down Sept 29th at Presbyterian Church. Elko emergency shelter is full. Yearly migration has already started this spring,

which is an early start. Salvation Army will close May 1st, and the Pueblo Rescue Mission will close end of March.

Gail Rodosevich, CO Legal Services: Provides services to indigent and low income. New service on taxes, year round. Call Pueblo number and dial 444. Eviction is priority. Clinics have been very well attended except for the last one. We do not screen or ask any questions.

Brenda Nemick, ADRC 211: Open enrollment has ended. If elderly are on oxygen, they can get a medical extension from BHE, but only one time.

Judy Kagey, Parkview: Parkview, open to public. Medicaid has open enrollment year round. Have indigent care program. Will do special enrollment for Connect for Health.

Marco Macaluso, PCDC: We recently were allowed to start performing DV classes. Gets them established with agency so they can start where they left off. Only county in CO allowed to do this at this time.

Integrated Community Health Partners: Completed final walk through of construction on building. Have over 300 participants now, with remodel will increase to 550. 6-9 months for completion.

Mary Rivera, Community Health Advocate, Century Health: Looking for children who are uninsured, working with adults and families around health literacy. Looking for ways to support others who work in medical assistance areas. Pueblo Step-Up is a part of Early Childhood, Resource Day on March 17th, training on ACES. Working on getting connected in school districts.

Lauren Erdman, Care and Share Food Bank: Working to expand capacity of current partners and establish new partners. Have resource list that lists all food pantries in Pueblo County and mobile food pantries (provided 1x/month).

Karen Ashcraft, Emergency Management: If clients don't feel comfortable calling 211, we can't give money, but can get help from Red Cross or other agency to help clean up. A lot of home looking at major flooding coming due to fire near Beulah. Will need volunteers to help save some of the homes. Pueblo has started BOAD.

Jill Kidd, Pueblo City Schools: Working with Pueblo Library District for summer lunch.

Adrian Medina, PC Veterans Services: Down to \$1900 left on Veteran Assistance Fund. Reached out to CSU and PCC to find ways to get veterans into school.

II. Minutes from January 2017

Minutes were accepted.

III. Colorado Drug Card Presentation

Bill Mackenzie – Regional Manager for Colorado Drug Card. Prescription card, only card HIPPA compliant. Collect no personal information. Vetted by CO Medical Society. In 2016, partnered with Children's Miracle Network. Do not mail to homes. Not an insurance program, a discount card. It's free. We contract with major pharmacies, they all take the card, but need to see the card. Can be discounted up to 75% off. Work with AIDS medications. Who is eligible? Any one is eligible to use

the card. We are a secondary plan. If you have insurance, our card can be used. We fill in a hole in Medicare and Medicaid. You cannot use it in conjunction with your insurance, has to be used separately. Card does not expire, it is an ongoing program. The Pharmacies and pharmaceutical companies are paying for this program through a processing fee. We visit every pharmacy once a month. Safeway is preferred pharmacist, will help clients sign up if they cannot pay for prescriptions. Walmart wants to see the card. What is the benefit to the pharmacy to use this? Pharmacies are all in competition with mail order companies. They use this as a marketing tool. They want our customer base. Our card cannot be used for mail order. We do not set the pricing, the companies do the discounting. Can download cards off the website. Will stop by agencies to set up with cards. The card works like a coupon. They all know how it works. We beat the pharmacies programs 90% of the time in discounts.

IV. Continuum of Care

a. Point in Time Count

Thank you to all who filled out sheets. If you still have any, please get them to Anne. Due to Denver February 24th.

b. Coordinated Entry

Figuring out best services for homeless clients in a streamlined fashion.

V. Pueblo Issues

a. Black Hills Energy

Public comment can go to PUC until February 27th. Support Frances, go to website and make a comment. Letters to the editor work.

b. Shelter and Outreach for the Winter Months

c. Homeless Task Force

Pueblo Municipal Justice Center, Rm 200 1:30pm. Ray Aguilar is trying to find solutions for sheltering the homeless population in Pueblo.

d. Housing Task Force

VI. Other Business