

Pueblo Continuum of Care Meeting
January 19, 2016 10:00am
Sister Nancy Crafton-Facilitator



Pueblo County Sheriff's Office
Emergency Services Center
101 W. 10th St
Pueblo, CO 81003

- I. Updates and Introductions:** If your agency has extensive updates consider emailing them to stattelman@yahoo.com or Anne.Stattelman@posadapueblo.org prior to the meeting so that all the information is entered correctly in the minutes.
- II. Minutes from November 2015: (any corrections/additions)**
- III. Continuum of Care:**
 - A) Guidance and Forms for Point in Time Count January 26th**
 - B) Coordinated Assessment Pilot**
- IV. Debrief on:**
 - A) Holiday Projects**
 - B) Shelter and Cold Weather Update**
 - C) Upcoming Dates**
- V. Other Business**
- VI. Adjourn no later than 11:30am**

Continuum of Care Meeting November 17, 2015
10:00am SRDA 3rd Floor
Facilitator Sister Nancy Crafton

Members Present: Ben Strand-Rocky Mountain Human Resources, Paula Trujillo, LaTanya Yarbrough, Mary Joy Kogovsek and Anne Stattelman-Posada, Leslie Montoya and James Shanks-Social Security Administration, Avanye Renner-Pueblo Community Health Center, Catherine McGibbon-Posada Intern, Cecile Martinez-Crossroads Turning Point, Barbara Ripperger-King of Kings Lutheran Church, Tamra Axworthy and Julie Catalano-A Caring Pregnancy Center, Amy Miller-Bethlehem Square Apartments, Mary Hobbs and Stephen Bundy-VA-VASH, Edie DelaTorre-Cooperative Care Center, Kathy Cline-The Salvation Army, Barbara Herran – ARCH 2-1-1, George O’Brian-Advocate and Assistive Team, Melissa Bernstein-Southern Colorado AIDs Project, Teresa Martinez-Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Sister Nancy Crafton-Centro de Los Pobres, Herminia Encina-School District 60 Liaison, Karla Cordova-Frontier Home Health Care, Sally Romero, Neighborworks, Evie Harris-Catholic Charities, Laurisa Rodriquez, Nancy Arredondo-Reintegration and Kristi Harchbarger-HOPE PCC

I. Updates and Introductions:

Tamra Axworthy from A Caring Pregnancy Center said that their banquet went well with approximately 445 attendees raising 53K that night. According to her “We plan on hosting another Diamond Standard class soon so agencies should begin notifying clients that they can use our program to fulfill community service requirements. It’s a great way for them to get engaged and come away with valuable life skills. We’ve also agreed to begin taking clients directly from Parkview medical center when they have patients who could benefit from our services. ACPC has recently begun partnering with the YWCA and CrossRoads to offer classes once per month on rotation with other local agencies.”

Tamra was also there as a representative of the Southern Colorado Spay and Neuter Association and said that they have food available for pets of the homeless. They also have a voucher program for their vaccination services for those in need. Posada has already begun as a recipient agency to help distribute the food as needed. They look at the possibility of offering additional services to the farmers in the Avondale area.

Kristen Castor from the Cross Disability Coalition could not be there but sent the following report.

I have commitments from State Senator Leroy Garcia and State Reps Clarisse Navarro and Daneya Esgar to meet with us on Friday November 20 at the Lucero Library behind the east side Safeway from 10-12. We reserved the room until 2 just in case. I am still working to get Ed Vigil and Kevin Grantham, even though they are closer to other communities. The purpose of this meeting is to share the issues we are concerned about and why and to hear from our

legislators how they feel. We hope to build credibility for the upcoming session. We are sharing these topics beforehand.

1. We are concerned about Physician Assisted Suicide. All of us know someone who has disconnected their ventilator or refused services when there was nothing more to be done. This is legal now. We understand that people want control and choice at the end of life, but we do not feel comfortable with turning that choice over to a physician because it makes death a treatment option. This is what happened in Nazi Germany. Most of us have very severe disabilities and doctors often comment that they would not want to live "like that." We know of no law in any state or country that can protect severely disabled people from being persuaded to end their lives rather than be a burden on their families. It should be noted that people with significant disabilities make up about 10% of the Medicaid population and use about 70% of the budget. (I have to check this against the new population of Medicaid insured.)

2. Two or three years ago all the hospitals in the state agreed to pay a fee into a pool that could be used to draw down federal dollars and re-allocate money to the hospitals. At present, it pays for the Medicaid expansion programs. These programs do not have a secure source of funding once the federal government withdraws in a few years. Several other government entities want to re-direct this money to their own projects. The poor and disabled will bear the consequence.

3. Our best advocates are refused every position for every board they apply for, whether these are departmental boards or governor's commissions. We do not and cannot represent everyone who has a disability. We have developed a job description we want appointees to meet to be sure they use and understand the services they are making policy on so that they truly represent a population larger than themselves

4. We intend to revise the Civil Rights statute to add a certification requirement with some kind of a hefty fine to prevent people from impersonating service dogs with their pets. (Please Note: The DOJ defined service animals as ONLY dogs or miniature horses that are trained to perform specific tasks, safely, in public that a person needs because of disability. People can have any animal they need in their homes.

5. There is always Black Hills and the PUC.

At this time no agency is aware of utility assistance in Pueblo. A number someone said might work for assistance for clients in trouble is 1-888-775-5327. This number will connect you with Energy Outreach Colorado and they may be able to assist with some energy assistance.

Kathy Cline with the Salvation Army said that they are still taking names for the Angel Tree and will extend that deadline as needed. The warming shelter is up and running and this year things seem to be worse than usual in regards to violence and substance abuse. All programs are going well and they hope to be in their new building soon. The Salvation Army has no utility assistance and we are not sure that Catholic Charities has assistance.

Leslie Montoya from the Social Security Administration introduced James Shanks who will be taking Melinda Minor's position. James is excited to be in Colorado and can't wait for more winter weather. Leslie and James are encouraging Continuum of Care Agencies to assist clients in setting up online accounts with the SSA. This will minimize wait times at offices and on phone lines. Their website: <https://www.ssa.gov/>

Pueblo Social Security Office Address 3769 PARKER BLVD PUEBLO, CO 81008 Social

Security Phone (Local) : 1-719-545-9248

Social Security Phone (Nat'l) : 1-800-772-1213

TTY : 1-719-583-1907

Social Security Office Hours : MON: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM; TUES: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM;

WED: 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM; THUR: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM; FRI: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM; SAT & SUN: CLOSED

Amy Miller with Bethlehem Squares Apartment said that they hope to provide community outreach and want to partner with other organizations on the West Side, hopefully with the Community Center.

Edie DelaTorre said that the Cooperative Care Center is always busy and that they continue to see many out of State clients. They will not be providing baskets for Christmas or Thanksgiving.

Teresa Martinez from CDPHE and Melissa Bernstein reported that this year, PCHC will host a World AIDS Day event from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Dec. 1 at Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library. There will be speakers, a candlelight vigil, a Pueblo AIDS Quilt presentation and refreshments. To show your support of those living with HIV, wear a red ribbon and attend the event. To learn more about getting free testing, clinic locations or available services at PCHC, call 719-543-8711 or visit pueblochc.org. For more information on World AIDS Day, visit worldaidsday.org.

Sally Romero from Neighborworks said that they can assist homeowners with new refrigerators and swamp coolers. Information is on their website.

- II. Minutes from October 2015 There were no corrections or additions. The minutes stand as read.
- III. Continuum of Care: The Point in Time Count for 2016 is scheduled for January 26, 2016. The count is a shelter count this year although counts may also be done in our area for youth and the street population. HUD requires us to conduct the count during the last 10 days of January, or January 22 through 31. Last January, we settled on Tuesday night as the "night of the count," with additional surveying taking place on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The night of Tuesday January 26th will be the "night of the count," and we could continue completing surveys on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday January 27th, 28th and 29th. Catherine McGibbons will be interning with Posada and will be contacting agencies about forms and deadlines for this year's count. Thank you Catherine.

- IV. Updates: There will be a Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner this year at the Pueblo Depot Activity for both holidays. The meal will take place from 11am to 1:30pm and everyone is invited. Jerry Carter is planning the food and coordination, Coco Robinson is doing the volunteer coordination and Posada is acting as the fiscal agent. For more information please go to Posada's website at www.posadapueblo.org
- V. No other business
- VI. The meeting adjourned at 11:15am

There will be no December meeting. Beginning January 16, 2016 Meetings will take place at the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office ESC 101 West 10th Street, Pueblo CO 81003. Thank you to Karen Ashcraft for setting that up for the group.



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