

Pueblo Continuum of Care Meeting
August 16, 2016 10:00am
Sister Nancy Crafton-Facilitator
Meagan Schroeder-Recorder
SRDA Room 301 230 North Union, Pueblo CO 81003
Please note change of location for the August Meeting

- 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 July 2016: (any corrections/additions)**
- III. **Continuum of Care:**
- IV. **Pueblo Issues**
 - A) **Black Hills Energy PUC Hearing August 16th!**
 - B) **Outreach trends and updates—Sal Katz Presentation**
 - C) **Focus Group on Homelessness**
 - D) **Upcoming Homeless Stand Down**
 - E) **Available resources for kids for school this fall**
- V. **Other Business**
- VI. **Adjourn no later than 11:30am**

Pueblo Continuum of Care Meeting
Emergency Operations Center 101 West 10th Street
Pueblo, CO 81003
July 19th 2016 10:00pm

Members Present: Stephen Bundy, Mary Hobbs, Nancy Ward and George Blansett with HUD VASH, Allison Gerbig and Ben Strand-Rocky Mountain Human Services Homes for All Vets, Sal Katz, Celeste Espinoza, Steph Philipps, Anne Stattelman and Tamara Peralta-Posada, Edie DelaTorre from Cooperative Care, Steve Unruh with Church of the First Nazarene Jill Filer with the Pueblo City County Health Department, Barb Ripperger and Kenna Lawson from King of King Lutheran Church, Gail Rodosevich with Colorado Legal Services, Tammy Torres and Antoinette Garcia-DSS, Teresa Martinez-Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Marisol Stewart- 2-1-1, Kim Yarbrough-DSS, Nancy Arredondo-CDOC Pueblo-Parole, Melissa Hobkirk-Liver Health Connection, Randy Evetts-Caring for Colorado, Sister Nancy Crafton-Centro de Los Pobres and others

I. Updates and Introductions:

Stephen Bundy with HUD VASH introduced himself.

Mary Hobbs said that she has been inundated with homeless people and does not have room to shelter or accommodate them.

Allison Gerbig with Rocky Mountain Human Services, Homes for All Veterans said that Colorado Springs has many of the same challenges as Pueblo and it might be worth speaking to folks who are working on initiatives to address urban homelessness in that community.

Edie DelaTorre from Cooperative Care said that last quarter they served 9,000 people last quarter, opened up 400 new files and served 500 homeless individuals.

Steve Unruh with Church of the First Nazarene said he can't do too much to help but does assist people as he can and likes to keep an eye on what is going on.

Jill Filer with the Pueblo City County Health Department is busy with the Hayden Pass Fire. She is providing support, except for County Road Six. She set up an emergency shelter in Westcliffe. Right now the fire is 30 percent contained.

Barb Ripperger from King of King Lutheran Church looks forward to assisting with the Stand Down and School Supplies for children this fall.

Kenna Lawson also from King of Kings, invited the group to let them know what they can help us with during their week of service "God's Work, Our Hands." The week of service to the community will take place September 4th through the 11th with Tabor Church working with King of Kings on this project. .

Gail Rodosevich with Colorado Legal Services said that the Pro Bono Program is going strong. She mentioned that they are "crazy busy and dealing with a lot of evictions. To get a hold of a contact in regards to landlord/tenant issues—call 545-6708 ext. 444. You will always be routed to a live person but it might not be someone in Pueblo. Other events that are coming up include Legal Resource Day and the Senior Law Day. Notifications will be sent out to the group. Gail also mentioned that at the Community Picnic over 28 people were seen by "Ask a Lawyer."

Tammy Torres--- from DSS has been back two weeks after maternity leave. She mentioned that as of July 1 the three pronged areas including family service payments, Colorado works and

childcare will all be housed at Dessert Flower and adult services will be housed at Wells Fargo. If you have any questions please call Tammy at 583-6845.

By April 2018 they hope to house all services at the former Judicial Building. Clients will be using a system that is task based and not just using one technician. Antoinette Garcia is the new supervisor at the family service center.

Teresa Martinez from Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment said that they are serving many new people who are new HIV cases from out of State.

Melissa Bernstein is a case manager with the Southern Colorado AIDS project. They have been successful in their move to 505 West 8th Street, next to COMCAST. The needle exchange project-ACCESS Point will be moving to that address. Beginning on August 1—hours are as follows: New Day: Tuesdays New Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. AND 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (CLOSED 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.) They still need furniture and office furniture for the place. The open house date is still TBD. Additionally for information or for an appointment for Free HIV/testing—call Colorado Springs at 719-57-9092 SCAP Upcoming Events include: AIDS Walk Sept 24—Garden of the Gods, Pueblo Pride August 21---10 to 4pm at Mineral Palace Park, August 20th Water Balloons, August 19th-----Gold Dust fundraiser. These fundraisers are crucial as SCAP is out of funds for clients until April of next year. They are seeing more people than ever before.

Marisol Stewart with ARCH 2-1-1 said that she doesn't know where to send people with shut offs. Black Hills Energy is the bane of her existence. She receives at least 15 to 20 calls per day. They shut off the elderly with no concern. Her office is also in the process of getting prepared for Medicare recertifications in October. Connect for Health is changing its process and overall it is dismal.

Randy Evetts with the Packard Foundation and Caring Colorado came to the meeting to just hear what is going on in the community.

Steph Philipps and Celeste Espinoza are interns with Posada and attend Loras College in Dubuque Iowa.

Tamara Peralta is a social work major from CSU-Pueblo and working with Posada this summer.

Dorcy Cancer Center reported that they provide a Vinyasa Yoga Class Every Tuesday from 5pm-6pm Healing Arts Room, Dorcy Cancer Center Take part in an hour of relaxation and Vinyasa yoga to support St. Mary-Corwin's Race for the Cure fundraiser. A portion of the proceeds benefit the St. Mary-Corwin Race for the Cure team. A minimum donation of \$10 covers the registration fee and will be collected upon online sign-up or at the door. Register at www.studioshareii.com Contact Brenda Galassini at 719-557-4548 for additional information on the fundraiser or for the Race for the Cure event in September.

George Blansett from the VA said that he is aware of nine families living/staying at the truck stop at Business 50.

Sister Nancy Crafton said that workers are pulling onions---working even on Sundays. Long - long hours. Sister has successfully gotten two families into farm worker housing and this is a huge accomplishment as federal rules make it very difficult to help people who qualify. She said that the crops are rolling in and everyone needs to support the Chili Festival so that we can support our workers.

Melissa Hobkirk from Liver Health Connection continues to do provide outreach and testing in the field in Pueblo.

II. The Minutes were accepted as sent.

III. Continuum of Care: No major news at this time

IV. Pueblo Issues:

- A) Black Hills Energy Upcoming Rate Case Hearings in Pueblo. Tonight Town Hall July 19 5:30 pm El Pueblo History Museum. **PUC Hearing August 16th 4pm Pueblo Convention Center**
- B) Sal Katz was unable to provide his presentation but informed the group about the trends and issues with homeless camps in Pueblo. Sal told the story of how every day people are assisting the homeless in our community and gave the example of Mr. Chiarto, a Diesel Mechanic on the north side who are helping people move forward.
There will be a group formed to speak about the possibility of putting together a homeless camping area in the City and County and other ways to stem the tide of homelessness in our community.
- C) Upcoming Homeless Stand Down September 30th—First Presbyterian Church There is no federal grant to support the Stand Down—so Mary and all will be asking for donations from the community for the event
- D) Edie DelaTorre said that Cooperative Care did not get their grant for school supplies. There will be a report on other school supply options at the August meeting.

V. Other Business:

Gail Rodosevich brought up the report that Channel 7 from Denver reported on that half of the babies born at Saint Mary Corwin are born with pot in their systems. Many of these mothers are not originally from Pueblo. She is worried about the long term impacts of this silent epidemic. Mary Hobbs with the VA said that pot has changed the face of homelessness in Pueblo.

Someone ended the meeting with the comment that “Not only is housing not affordable in Pueblo even substandard housing is not affordable in Pueblo.”

Meeting adjourned. The next meeting will take place at 10:00am on August 16th in our old meeting room at SRDA 230 North Union, Pueblo CO 81003 Room 301.

