



Prevent • Promote • Protect

Pueblo Continuum of Care Meeting
April 18, 2017 10:00am
Sister Nancy Crafton-Facilitator
Meagan Schroeder-Recorder
Pueblo City County Health Department
101 West 9th Street
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 March 2017: (any corrections/additions)**
- III. **Continuum of Care: Tabled from the last meeting**
 - A) **Point in Time Count**
 - B) **Coordinated Entry**
- IV. **Pueblo Issues**
 - a) **Upcoming Clean-Ups**
 - b) **Marches**
 - c) **Advocacy**
- V. **Other Business**
- VI. **Adjourn no later than 11:30am**

Pueblo Continuum of Care

Minutes for March 21, 2017

EOC 101 West 10th St., Pueblo, CO 81003

Facilitator Sister Nancy Crafton

Recorder Meagan Schroeder

Members Present: Christina Leal – PCHC; Sister Nancy Crafton – Los Pobres; Meagan Schroeder, Anne Stattelmann, LaTanya Yarbrough, Paula Trujillo, Charlotte Bieber – Posada; Benjamin Strand – RMHS/HAV; Mary Hobbs, Stephen Bundy – VA HUD/VASH; Vanessa Brazee – PCCHD; Adrian Medina – Pueblo County Veteran Services; Kristen Castor, CO Cross Disability; Lauren Erdman, Care and Share; Kimberly Yarbrough, DSS; Bill Edwards, Center for Disabilities; Brenda Nemick – 211; Barbara Ripperger – King of Kings Lutheran Church; Mary Rivera – Century Health; Kate Booth, YWCA; Ada Clark – City of Pueblo Housing; Ray Aguilera – City Council; Edie De La Torre – Cooperative Care; Gaby Morales, PCHC; Antoinette Garcia, Samantha Nava – DSS; Kathy Cline – Salvation Army; Cindy Bernal, Paula Dunn – Pueblo EPIC; Jackie Jaramillo – Pueblo Rescue Mission; Garrison Ortiz – Pueblo County Commissioner; John Vigil – City Manager’s Office; Melissa Bernstein – Southern CO Aids Project

I. Updates and Introductions

Mary Hobbs, VA HUD/VASH: Have 9 openings. Homeless is sleeping outside, sleeping in your car or staying at the mission.

Steve Bundy, VA HUD/VASH: Hired another caseworker on team will introduce new member.

Adrian Medina, PC Veterans Services: The Commodities program (CSFP) and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) at Housing and Human Services needs more clients. It is run by Tanya Gurule, if you have any questions please contact her at 719-583-6199.

John Vigil, City Manager’s Office, and Assistant City Manager: Working on communicating to people the need to stop giving money to panhandlers and instead to give those funds to the United Way fund. There will be public service announcements to communicate this. You all may be hearing about a triage center trying to keep homeless out of the Emergency rooms. Have medical clearance, get folks off their high, then to the agency they may need.

Mary Rivera, Centura: Pueblo Step Up is housed on St. Mary Corwin Campus. It provides adult medical assistance, applying for Medicaid, looking for resources, etc. Free dental date, Oct 13th and 14th 2017.

Lauren Erdman, Care and Share: Looking for new locations to reach people falling through the gap.

Jackie Jaramillo, Pueblo Rescue Mission via Springs Rescue Mission: Asked by PRM to help them keep their doors open. Purchased a building on Lake Ave. Will start working on the building hoping to open a new shelter for chronic homeless, unaccompanied adults. Also may add Addiction Recovery, but will make sure that is something the community needs. PRM houses about 65 men and women. PRM is moving offices to a local church to operate. The current building is in disarray. Will be opening a low barrier shelter – means clients can be intoxicated or high as long as they are not violent or aggressive. Hoping to apply for some grants and open before the winter season next year. No daily cost for staying there.

Ray Aguilar, City Councilman: Supporting New Pueblo Rescue Mission. It solves a problem Pueblo has been struggling with since Salvation Army has decided to close its shelter after this season.

Paula Dunn, EPIC (Executives Partnering to Invest in Children): Developed a board to try to supply books to agencies that need them. Have book nooks at 10 different locations, Cooperative Care, PCC, Etc. Distribute literature throughout community where needed. Looking for board members if anyone is interested.

Cindy Bernal, EPIC: EPIC Pueblo and United Way offer businesses an opportunity to provide a Brown Bag Lunch series for its employees: The series includes: 1. Parents: A Child's First and Most Important Teacher; 2. Pueblo Reads: The Importance of Early Literacy: Birth through Three Years of Age; 3. Bright from the Start: Kindergarten Readiness; 4. How Does High-Quality Early Childhood Education and Programming Affect Employee Performance? We want to make sure community is aware of what we are doing and to have family friendly policies in their businesses. Sister Nancy commented that the East side really needs this program.

Kathy Cline, Salvation Army: Still open and doing business. Shelter has been given an extra month to be open until the end of April 2017. Continue to serve a meal everyday of week. Have food pantry twice a week, utility assistance, and multiple programs for children. There will be a new facility opening later this year or early next year and will create different programming by Salvation Army in Pueblo. The Community Center will focus on youth programming and other programs for families and children. Social service aspect will continue with food, pantry, and utility assistance. We have been doing our program for 4 years, Pathway of Hope, intensive case management program working with families to become sustainable. That will be the focus in the future. There will also be a chapel at the community center site. As early as this summer a new soccer field, softball, baseball field will be there on the Thatcher side. The playground will remain. We offer youth programs and will have summer day camp. Average 50 children. Will have new utility funding starting April 1 with no waiting list.

Brenda Nemick, ADRC 211: Getting many calls about utility assistance from young people with children. 70% of calls for utility assistance, half from elderly, half from families. We refer to Catholic Charities and Salvation Army.

Vanessa Brazee, Pueblo City County Health Department: Running a full-scale Pod exercise, June 17th, to test capabilities in Pueblo West. Are asking people to register in order to send them more info. Prizes will be given to the first 300 people. There is no cost, each participant goes through the Pod and then gives feedback. They want to test transportation capabilities so they will not be offering buses to bring participants there.

Sister Nancy Crafton, Los Pobres: Working on Immigration issues. Are 65,000 resident aliens in the Military. Not citizens. Had many deaths among them, if they die they can be buried in the U.S. They can be brought back to U.S. and be buried here if they die outside the country. For a resident alien, a DUI or Assault is a deportable action, even for an honorably discharged veteran. We have people being deported that were brought here as children, have served in our military, yet they can be deported because they have some miniscule offense that happened. It's a difficult time. We've had ICE pickups here in Pueblo already. Families here are living in fear, not going to school, not going to work. Our families here are suffering. All immigrants in our country are not bad. This is a problem.

Samantha Nava, DSS, LEAP: Help clients with heating. Doesn't have to be Xcel or gas, can help with wood, coal, propane, whatever the heating source is. The season ends the last day of April. If any agency needs applications, please let me know. Applications are down right now. The program helps a lot of people.

Antoinette Garcia, DSS Medicaid, Food Stamps: 200 new applicants last month. Down 5 staff right now at north office. Main location is fully staffed, but new staff are going through training.

Gaby Morales, PCHC: Registration and outreach for underinsured and uninsured. Have dental and a pharmacy as well.

Christina Leal, PCHC: We continue to experience slow growth process. Migrants, homeless, pregnant women, and children. Ada Clark asked: did you hire new doctors? There have been new doctors brought on board, but still not fully staffed. We don't have a waiting list.

Melissa Bernstein, Southern CO Aids Project: Trying to recruit people to attend our women's retreat. Available and free of charge for female and or HIV positive. Any clients need to call up to the CO Springs office and RSVP. Census of clients is growing and we are seeing more growth in some of the more rural parts of CO.

Edie De La Torre, COOP: Food pantry, clothing, hygiene, transportation, vouchers for ID, DL, birth cert. death cert., see 80-100 families. I have 3 security guards every day because we get a lot of mean people coming in, homeless from out of town, CO Springs, Denver. They are mean, demanding, cause a lot of trouble, destroy property around the area. We have 3 military retirees as security.

Paula Trujillo, Posada: No openings for programs. ESG – at her limit for this month.

LaTanya Yarbrough, Posada: Runs homeless shelter, temporary emergency shelter, priority is families with children. Currently full with 10 units. Open from 12-4 for clients to drop in. Last Friday, we had 90 people come in, 28 showers. Seeing a lot of people. We also work with Homeless Veterans Coalition. Had \$10,000 grant to help veterans. That grant is expended. The Community Picnic Remembrance Celebration, June 24th. Setting up for 1500 people this year. Call LaTanya if you as an agency wants to come 994-2939 cell phone. Location is Grown Park at Abriendo and Jewel.

Bill Edwards, Center for Disabilities: Just hired employee to work with youth in community. Many disabled youths that are high school age. There is a lack of available rentals for individuals that have wheelchairs. The ones that do have them have a waiting list of 3-4 years. Our clients are coming from nursing home transitions and have other issues in addition to the wheelchair.

Charlotte Bieber, Posada: We continue to provide outreach services to the homeless youth in the community. Opening new facility for longer term stay hopefully by Sept 15th.

Ada Clark, City of Pueblo Housing: City funded Posada to do improvements for Homeless youth facility, as well as funded Posada to hire a new TBRA Case Manager to expend the funds. Our housing is really substandard. Trying to place clients in houses when houses do not meet minimal

standards – running water, toilets flush, heating, windows open and close. Our housing stock is really bad. When we do have money to house folks, we can't put them places and housing vouchers expire. Agencies in the state tell clients to come to Pueblo because we have affordable housing. There is no solution on the forefront. We are building a universal house on Pennwood, for 265,000. Construction is really high, building new housing is not an option, unless it's mass and its tax credits. Our projects are cash flow. Action Plans – those of you who get funded through us, we're in the process of completing that and will be sending it out. May 1 application will be out for CDBG. We don't know anything about the budget.

Garrison Ortiz, Pueblo County: I've worked with several organizations here and have a great appreciation for all the work everyone does here on a daily basis. I would like to be helpful in any way I can. It would be a joint effort on the County and City, have proposed to BOCC that we have a much more formal meeting to talk about these issues, such as the demolition of many debilitated housing units and how to restore those to provide more housing. Is there any way for the City and County to work together and fund some of the demolition of some of these homes? Ray Aguilera commented, it cost \$250,000 to just tear down a house that was burnt down. Sister Nancy commented that it shouldn't cost that much. It has to do with Asbestos, etc. Garrison Ortiz commented I met with Lori Winner, if we were able to put our money together and bid out these projects. I do think some of the prices we are given are outrageous. If there's a way to put money together and bid out several contracts at one time and be aggressive in how we do that. The City is working hard on that, there's more we can do on the County side. Affordable housing, in regards to some of these sights for historical preservation, to create housing more than bare minimum.

II. Minutes from February 2017

Minutes were accepted.

III. Continuum of Care: Tabled until next meeting

A) Point in Time Count

B) Coordinate Entry

IV. American Health Care Act-Kristen Castor-Colorado Cross Disability Coalition

State of Medicaid in Federal Budget. Handouts will be sent by email. How many of you depend on Medicaid in some way? Medicaid and Medicare set up in 1965. Repealing Obamacare will strip away all that funding. Traditional insurance cannot cover the cost of long term care. That originally meant nursing homes. 1974/1975 had community options. AHCA will potentially remove all those supports. Traditional insurance doesn't pay for individualized wheelchairs. We are trying to set an example that says I am disabled, I am willing to work some, I am willing to pay what I can. We want disabled to be able to work. This bill would cut the federal match. When you're cutting that much out of Medicaid you have 3 choices: 1. Tighten eligibility standards, (children, people with disabilities, or elderly). 2. Reduce amount, duration, scope of services. (If Medicaid provides one services in Denver, it has to do that statewide). Part of the problem with medical transportation, people won't make it to the doctor. Can increase taxes. We have waivers, which disallows one of the eligibility factors of Medicaid. Ex: Down syndrome, there is a waiver to only serve that population. Nursing homes now run about \$8-9000 a month. 3. Medicaid is an entitlement, if you meet the eligibility requirements, you get it. At beginning of year, it makes a guess, they get the budget from federal government. At end of year, they make up anything that went over. The change would be no overage at the end of the year. We the people, the states, would end up paying that amount. Medicaid takes up 30% of state budget. It is very expensive. The state has always seen that as a good

investment, once that drops... Looking at 2 ways of reducing Medicaid: Per capita cap, or a block grant. Either of these approaches are designed to zero out Medicaid. It pays for things other insurance companies won't pay for. We are fighting this with a story collection and ADAPT. People who sat in front of buses in the 1990's. Domestic programs the government usually funds, many of them are to be zeroed out including CDBG, Legal Services. It takes out everything we've fought for the last 50 years.

a. Black Hills Energy-status of BHEAP

Cutting BHEAP program by half. Dora_puc_complaints@state.co.us

b. PEF-Upcoming Town Hall Meeting

March 30, at 5:30pm at El Pueblo History Museum.

c. Shelter Through May 1 and Current Status of Homeless Camps

Having problems with fires with homeless camps. The police will be moving people out of those camps and hopefully not start new camps. Have the potential for homeless camps tripling this summer.

V. Other Business

Meeting in April will be at the Health Department across the street.