Summer 2011

Beat the Heat Tips

- Keep cool: Spend as much time as you can in cooler surroundings, such as an airconditioned shopping mall, senior center, public library or movie theater
- Use an air-conditioner or fan: Air conditioning can provide lifesaving relief from heat stress, especially if you have a medical condition such as heart disease. Fans can draw cool air into your home at night or help provide good indoor air circulation during the day.

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PASCO Picayune





One Heckuva Summer

The summer of 2011 has certainly been an interesting one for PASCO. It began with nine mandatory meetings located throughout Denver. The meetings touched on fraud (how it can best be prevented), PASCO's new Code of Conduct and the introduction of the 2011 Policies and Procedures Booklet. Hopefully many questions were answered, and anxieties were alleviated. If you have a question that was submitted, and we have not yet answered it, or the issue has not resolved itself, we are still working on answering all inquiries. The second to last mandatory May meeting, occurred simultaneously as the state was at the PASCO office, conducting a surprise survey. The survey results were on the whole, positive, but unfortunately there were a few

marks against us. These deficiencies highlighted the point that when we conduct competency trainings for PASCO C.N.A.'s, we use a mannequin and do not use running water. The state of Colorado is specific, and very serious about rules not being followed to the letter, so PASCO had to respond immediately by booking four rooms, for eleven nights in Denver, (two nights in Loveland), and have contracted Registered Nurses conduct the competencies, with live models and running water. We really appreciate everyone coming together and making it a success. Some C.N.A.'s even felt that they learned a few things about their respective jobs. The summer would have not been complete without our most successful (to date) annual summer picnic at

Morse Park. Delicious BBQ from Frank's, face-painters, caricature artists, and everybody's favorite... Skiddles the Clown. We look forward to seeing everyone at the holiday party (Saturday, December 3, 2011) where we will gather around the piano, whilst sipping delicious eggnog and will reminisce about this crazy summer.



Skiddles to the Rescue!

May ADAPT Action in D.C.-—Stephanie Williams

On April 30th, I flew to Washington, DC for the second time. I went not because Washington, DC is a great place to visit with its many historical buildings and monuments. Although, there is no greater place to visit than our nation's capital, this trip was not about sightseeing or vacationing; this trip was about fighting for the rights of people with disabilities.

Most people do not have to

think twice about their freedom to choose where they live. However, for people with disabilities, this is a freedom that we must continuously and tirelessly fight for. This is because the government is much more willing to use Medicaid dollars to warehouse people with disabilities in nursing homes rather than to provide in-home care. The in-home care that states do have is at risk since the government assumes that the

best way to save money is to cut services for people with disabilities. However, the cost of inhome care is one third the cost of institutionalized care. So this assumption by our government is not only financially irresponsible it is also morally irresponsible since it denies American citizens the right to live in the environment of their choosing.

- Continued "ADAPT" Page 4

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I wanted to thank
all the CNA's and
office staff for
stepping up to the
plate to get the job
done.

Beat the Heat Tips

Baths and showers:
 Cool baths or showers

(with water temperature)

(with water temperature around 75 degrees) provide amazing relief from the heat 25 times faster than cool air.

• Clothing: Wear as little as possible when you are home. Lightweight, light -colored, loose-fitting clothing is more comfortable in hot weather. Cotton and other natural fabrics are very comfortable. Wear a hat or use a parasol or umbrella to protect your head and neck when you are outdoors.



Directors Corner —Barry Rosenberg

The last few months have been among the most hectic periods I have had since PASCO opened its door on January 1, 1992. The demands of the Health Department and subsequent competency trainings took their toll. In the end there were approximately 725 CNA's who were competency trained during that two week stretch in June. The Health Department did approve our Plan of Correction and while there are some loose ends, we are mostly out of the woods. I wanted to thank all the CNA's and office staff for stepping up to the plate to get the job done. Mostly I wanted to thank Lee Fisher for pitching in to work on the Plan of

Correction and implement it as well.

The State Medicaid agency is abuzz with meetings. They are looking at ways to cut costs, not services. I am told that based on the recent budget forecasts Medicaid will have to cut \$20M from their budget (down from \$50M based on the previous forecast) and they would like our input on where we think they can look at cutting. I have been and will continue to go to meetings to access the pro's and con's of various proposals and initiatives. I have received some emails regarding services for children. Medicaid is very concerned about the expansion of services to children

and increased utilization. Should there be any changes that will affect services, I will let you know in an email, phone call, or letter. We are all hanging in there. I'm looking forward to the fall.



Director of Nursing Corner-Lee Fisher and Pat Lankford

Thank you all for your cooperation and support. We have hired some new nursing staff that I would like to introduce to you, as some of you will be having them as your primary nurses. These nurses many of you worked with during our competency labs both in Denver and Loveland.

For our consumers in the northern region we have two new nurses who both have a great deal of experience in nursing and home health.

Rebecca Giannantonio R.N. She comes to us highly recommended and as we worked with her we found her to be an excellent nurse, caring, patient and knowledgeable.

Kathy Reineke R.N. has many years of experience in the home health field. She is also knowledgeable, caring, and comes with excellent nursing skills.

Kathy Cavanaugh R.N. will be working in the Denver Metro area, again a highly skilled, caring and knowledgeable individual.

Angela Savage R.N. is working with us in the Aurora and Littleton area. Angela is also a wound care specialist who often assists the nursing staff with wound care.

I am certain that all of you that work with these nurses will find them resourceful, caring, and great to work with. Here at PASCO we try to maintain a high level of nursing care, as well as retain the quality nursing staff we have.

Have a wonderful rest of your summer.

2011 Graduations--- Melinda Myrick

PASCO consumer. She just graduated from Monarch High School at the CU Events center in Boulder. She was the first MHS student to go through graduation who used a wheelchair. The CU facilities folks used a hand crank lift to get her up to the stage because we weren't having it

My daughter, Erin, is a

any other way! She led the class of 2011 in the processional and navigated the lift and the stage like a champ.

A VERY HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

GRADUATES!!!



Health Insurance Buy-In (HIBI)

The Health Insurance Buy-In program (HIBI) pays the health insurance premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, and/or copays for Medicaid clients who have a private (group, COBRA, or individual) health insurance plan, when it would be cost-effective for Medicaid to do so. This is a service in addition to the client's regular Medicaid benefits.

The purpose of the *HIBI* program is to stretch taxpayer dollars, to get more benefit for the money. Sometimes, it can be cheaper for Medicaid to pay a client's private health insurance costs (premium, deductible, coinsurance and/or copays, if

any) than to pay all of the medical costs. This is what *cost-effective* means.

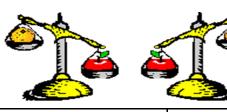
NOTE: Unless a client is on kidney dialysis, it will rarely be costeffective for *HIBI* to pay premiums for a Medicare supplement or Medicare HMO, because of Medicaid's pricing structure and the fact that Medicare payments are usually more than the amounts-Medicaid pays.

WHAT HIBI CAN DO

- The HIBI program can pay premiums to an insurance company, employer, COBRA administrator, or directly to the client or the policyholder (parent, spouse, etc.).
- Only the portion of the premium that covers Medicaid client(s) will be paid. This is the amount the policyholder (spouse or parent) would save if he or she did not pay for health insurance for the Medicaid client(s). This amount is obtained from the premium cost breakdown supplied by the employer, health plan, or insurance company. The full premium amount will be paid only if it is necessary to obtain health insurance coverage for Medicaid-eligible client(s).
- Premiums and cost-sharing will be paid beginning with the date the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing receives the completed request for HIBI (all parts) (no back-payments, except in rare cases).
- For pregnant women, premiums will be paid through the end of the month following the birth of the baby. For all other cases, premiums will be paid as long as the client is Medicaid-eligible and it remains cost -effective to do so.
- If the client's doctor, pharmacy, etc. is not a Medicaid pro-vider, the HIBI program will help pay his/her health insurance deductibles, coinsurance, and/or copays, if it would still be cost-effective to do so.

WHAT HIBI CANNOT DO:

- HIBI staff will not shop for health insurance plans for the client. He/she must decide what health insurance plan meets his/her needs best.
- The HIBI program cannot pay health insurance premiums if the health insurance coverage is a courtordered obligation for medical support.



WHAT THE CLIENT NEEDS TO DO

- 1) Provide a complete, properly signed, HIBI REQUEST PACKET:
 - a) MS-10 form must be signed by the policyholder or client.
 - b) HIBI Request form must be signed by the policyholder or client
 - c) Premium Rate Sheet showing all rates offered (e.g., single, single + family, etc.)
- 2) If Approved:
 - a) Provide instructions on how he/she wants his/her premiums to be paid.
 - b) Provide any other paperwork (documentation) requested by HIBI staff.

Health Insurance Costs:	Medicaid Costs:	Health Insurance Costs:	Medicaid Costs:
Annual Premium \$3,000	(Average Per Person Per Year)	Annual Premium \$3,000	(Average Per Person Per Year)
Annual Deductible +\$1,000	(inpatient, outpatient, doctor visits, lab & xray, drugs)	Annual Deductible +\$1,000	(inpatient, outpatient, doctor visits, lab & xray, drugs)
Total: \$4,000	\$6,672.07	Total: \$4,000	\$624.25
*Example			
Cost Effective		Not Cost Effective	

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we were so excited that our chanting drowned out the police officers speaking on bullhorns threatening us with arrest.



Sloshing through the streets of DC, after a night in the pokey.

You're never too young or too old to need a little help getting around!



Jared (then 22 months) and his 92-year-old great-grandmother.

"ADAPT" From Page 1

For this reason, I traveled to Washington, DC with a disability rights organization called ADAPT. For many years now this organization has fought to ensure that people with disabilities have the rights that they deserve. Their main goal now is to fight for the right of people to live wherever they choose, including in their own homes. Without this right, thousands of people arresting us one by one. When it was with disabilities will be forced to live in nursing homes. This is a violation of civil rights for people with disabilities.

This is why every six months ADAPT travels to our nation's capital and protests any policy that would prevent people with disabilities from living in the least restrictive environment possible. The most important item on their agenda this time was Senator Ryan's proposed Medicaid block grants. We went to several buildings around DC and asked for representatives from different states to listen to our stories and to help us in our fight of protecting the rights of people with disabilities. Most of them were very receptive to our message. One representative even marched with Martin Luther King and was arrested several times in the fight for his own civil rights. He told us this, as the police were making the perimeter around the area in which we were protesting. While many of us, myself

included, were already planning to get arrested that day, his speech to us not only inspired us, but it made many of us all the more excited to be arrested for our own civil rights. In fact we were so excited that our chanting drowned out the police officers speaking on bullhorns threatening us with arrest.

Shortly after, the police began my turn, a police officer came up to me and politely asked me if I would like to be arrested. My answer was an enthusiastic "yes." Unfortunately for me, I lost track of the officer that I was supposed to be following in order to get arrested. Determined and undeterred, I went back to the protest and continued chanting until another officer came to arrest me. This time I was successfully arrested along with one hundred other people.

All of us were charged with "unlawful conduct" and held for several hours. As it turns out being arrested is even less fun than it is cracked up to be. However, once I was released from jail, several members of ADAPT were waiting outside to congratulate me and all the others on our arrests. When everyone was released, I, as well as many others, had a great sense of pride in knowing that we were arrested for something we believe in. I would be happy to be arrested many more times if it meant making the life of even one

person better.

The next day, although we were all exhausted from the night before, we went right back out to protest again. This time, we lined up outside of Senator Ryan's office to ask him to speak to us about the proposed Medicaid block grants. Though he refused to speak to us, we continued to chant in protest. Ten more people were arrested that day and we all cheered as the police handcuffed them and carried each of them off to jail. It was the perfect end to another successful pro-

At the end of the trip, though completely exhausted, I was filled with a sense of accomplishment and happiness. Although the fight for people with disabilities is far from over, each time we protest, we do make progress. We were successful in getting several representatives to speak to us and understand our fight. Little by little we will continue to make positive changes in policy regarding people with disabilities. It is our hope that eventually every person will have the right to choose how and where they live their life. ADAPT will continue to protest until this hope becomes a reality, thus living up to their slogan: "Ain't no power like the power of ADAPT 'cause the power of ADAPT don't stop!"

Human Resource Connection

WOW, what can we say except, this has been a busy, busy year....and it is only August. PASCO's HR Department wishes to thank you all for your patience and understanding during this period. We look forward to a quieter Fall and hope you are all doing well. Please remember that CEU's are available online and will be due in No-

vember. We are working with Damian to organize some meetings for employees regarding financial planning and guardianship. These meetings will take place in the fall, so keep an eye out for PASCO alerts.



Carissa, Juana, and Steve scootin' to Meet Your Needs!

21 Years and Counting... Sybil Jackson

Not long ago in American history, a person could be fined or jailed for violating "ugly laws." According to these laws, no person who was deemed to be unsightly was allowed to be seen in public. People with disabilities were among those placed into this category. Consequently, for many years, people with disabilities were automatically institutionalized and thus separated from society. Eventually America came to its senses and by 1974 every state had repealed its so-called ugly laws. However, the disability community's fight for civil rights was just beginning.

It was not until July 26, 1990 that Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This monumental piece of legislation prohibits discrimination against those with disabilities and allows them to be more integrated into society. Because of the ADA, it is now illegal to discriminate against any person with a disability with regards to employment, housing, community services, and transportation. For example, an employer cannot discriminate against any qualified potential employee on the grounds of disability. The employer is required to make reasonable accommodations in order for an employee with a disability to be able to perform his or her duties in the workplace. Likewise, if a person with a disability applies for an apartment, management can not deny the application because the applicant's condition. Furthermore, management must make modifications to the apartment

so that it is accessible to the tenet so long as it does not change the structure of the building. For public transit, buses must be equipped with a lift or a ramp to accommodate people with disabilities.

Fortunately, America has come a long way from the "ugly laws" of the 19th and 20th centuries. People with disabilities are now much more a part of the community than in decades past. Also, despite the fact that most people with disabilities do not work either because they are unable or because employers are afraid to hire them, employment opportunities for the disabled community do exist. Many people with disabilities have a full-time job and are productive members of society. Public buildings are now accessible due to the installation of ramps and elevators and public transportation is no longer inaccessible to the disabled population. These changes all stem from the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 which celebrates its 21st anniversary on July 26th of this year. We as a nation should celebrate the enormous progress that has been made possible through this legislation. Today the disabled community has been integrated into society more than ever before. Yet while celebrating progress, we must always remember that the fight for equality is never-ending.

There are many things that the ADA can not change. For instance, no law can change a person's atti-

tude towards those with disabilities.

Often people in the disability community are seen as helpless, worthy of pity, or are viewed as having little to contribute to society. People with disabilities, in fact, are far from being helpless or pitiful and have made countless contributions to society.

One such contribution is fighting for their civil liberties and speaking up for those with disabilities who otherwise would not have a voice.

People with disabilities have been fighting for their civil rights for decades. One of these rights is something that is not yet possible for many of them – the freedom to live independently. This right is most important in the fight for their civil liberties. Therefore, those in the disabled community will continue to demand this right until they are fully integrated in America.

Disability affects everyone either directly or indirectly. Most people will, at some point in their lives, become disabled or know someone who is. Therefore, American society as a whole needs to demand that the ADA be enforced, so that no one with a disability is denied their civil liberties. Instead of feeling sorry for the disabled community, we should all join in their mission and realize that the fight for equality is not simply someone else's struggle.



Colorado Alliance for Health and Independence Awarded Funds from The Civil Rights Division of The Department of Regulatory Agencies for Home and Accessibility Modifications

The Colorado Civil Rights Division has awarded more than \$150,000 to disability service organization in the state to provide home modification to individuals with mobility impairments. These funds are to be used to construct wheelchair ramps, widen doorways, and make other accessibility modifications in the homes of individuals with mobility limitations.

The Colorado Alliance for Health and Independence (CAHI) was one of four organizations receiving funding for this service. To extend the impact of this funding, CAHI is partnering with the Home Builders Foundation of Metro Denver.

CAHI is a non-profit disability care coordination organization funded by Medicaid that is designed to coordinate needed medical and community support services for persons with disabilities. This service is provided in accordance with a contract for such services with the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

To learn more about the home and accessibility modification program, get questions answered or to apply for assistance, please contact the Colorado Alliance for Health and Independence at 303-694-7744. You may also contact Mr. Larry Alflen, Executive Director at 303-694-7711 or lalflen@coahi.org.

8TH ANNUAL HYDROCEPHALUS ASSOCIATION WALK

AND

FAMILY FUN DAY IS ONLY A MONTH AWAY!

For more information on this event e-mail **Phyllis Rogers** or call (720) 984-7420.

Sunday, September 4, 2011

Redstone Park

3280 Redstone Park Circle

Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

www.walk4hy dro.kintera.org /denver

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RESOURCES WITH EMERGENCY AND DISASTER INFORMA-TION

Before you make your child's plan, look for tips and guides about emergencies and disasters. The Internet has many sites about preparing for emergencies for children and is your best resource. If you don't have a computer, call or visit your local library, school, community center, or parent group and ask for assistance finding emergency information to help you make a plan.

- Emergency Medical System for Children/EMSC. Visit www.ems-c.org, and click on Rehabilitation and Children with Special Needs to find materials like an Emergency Care Plan, as well as booklets and CDs for specific diagnoses or purposes. Phone is 202/884-4927.
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Going to www.aap.org, you will find a special section called Children Terrorism, and Disasters, where disaster plan kits and other information can help you.
- Call your local chapter. Or visit www.AmericanRedCross.org where there is information about on emergency planning and tips for people with dis-

abilities.

American Red Cross.

- Independent Living Center of San Francisco. Go to www.ilrcsf.org to find excellent materials in several languages --- from tip sheets to basic preparedness. Or call 415/543-6222.
- The National Safety Council. Visit www.nsc.org for sections on Emergencies and Disasters, Checklist for Home, and links to the Red Cross and other resources. Toll free 1/800-621-7619.

Disasters and Emergencies: Keeping Children and Youth Safe

We hope emergencies and disasters never happen, especially to our children. But we know they do. As parents, teachers, relatives, neighbors, and friends who care for and about children and youth with special health care needs, we want to keep our children safe.

ALL families should have emergency plans for their children. If your son or daughter has special health care needs, your emergency plan will probably be more complicated, involve more people, and may require equipment. This will be the case if your child or youth:

- Depends on electricity --- to breathe, be fed, stay comfortable;
- Cannot be moved easily because of his medical condition or attachment to equipment;
- Uses a wheelchair, walker, or other device to move;
- Cannot survive extreme temperatures, whether hot or cold;
- Becomes afraid or agitated when sudden changes happen;
 Cannot get out of an emergency by herself for physical or emotional reasons.

IDEAS FOR MAKING AN EMERGENCY PLAN

Below are some simple tips to help you begin to make an emergency plan, followed by a short list of resources that can provide more information. We strongly suggest that you ask your child's physician or your local parent organization to help you make your plan.

EMERGENCY INFOR-MATION FORM

The Emergency Information Form, developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American College of Emergency Physicians, can be downloaded from the AAP website in an interactive format so it can be saved on a family's home computer and easily updated, or it can be printed

out. This is a good format to use when developing an emergency plan with your child's physician for your child with complex conditions.

Start by filling out this simple 2-page emergency form. Distribute the completed form where your child goes regularly. The form is available on the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) website: http://www.aap.org/advocacy/eif.doc.

HOME

Everyone in your home should know what to do in an emergency, whether it's a power outage, fire, or natural disaster, such as a flood or tornado.

- Instructions: Prepare simple, one-page emergency instructions, and update as things change. Include information about exits, fire extinguishers, and power shut-offs. Place them where they can be seen.

 And have everyone practice.
- Medical Things: Make sure your child's medicine, medical records, and important equipment are easy to grab if you have to leave suddenly.
- Electricity and Telephone: Tell your local utilities that your child depends on electricity. Ask them to "flag" your household and to bring power back quickly to your home. Get a generator if you can.
- Emergency Services: Visit your nearest emergency center (fire department, rescue squad, 911 facility). Tell them about your child. Invite them to your home to become familiar with the situation and to give you emergency tips.
- Local Hospital: For some children or youth, the nearest hospital might be the safest place to be in a disaster, so you and your doctor should work out admitting procedures to avoid an ER wait.

Emergency Box: Keep a box containing flashlight, water, blankets, with necessities and comforts for your child, close to an exit.

SCHOOL

Every student with special health care needs, whether physical or emotional, must have a school emergency plan. A student's IEP plan should include emergency plans available to all school personnel. But one team member must be responsible for getting your child to safety, no matter where he is in the school, and must practice with your child frequently. Make sure your child's school bus staff also knows what to do in an emergency—and has practiced it.

OTHER PLACES

Every place your child goes should have an emergency plan for your child. This includes child care center, summer camp, hospital, grandparent's house, recreation program, as well as the glove compartment in each of your cars, and your child's backpack. The 2-page emergency form(see above) might be the easiest way to do this.



Beat the Heat Tips

Drink often: In hot weather, your body needs more water. Don't wait until you are thirsty, because your body needs more fluid than thirst will indicate. By the time you feel thirsty, you might already be dangerously low on water.

• If you have a disease, a medical condition or a problem with body water balance, check with your doctor for advice on how much water you should drink in hot weather.

Guardianship Alliance of Colorado

Over and above the daily challenges of advocating for a child with cognitive disabilities, many parents and other caregivers find themselves facing an unexpected hurdle when kids become adults: the moment they turn 18, suddenly the very people charged with making good decisions for their families are prevented from contributing to any decisions at all. They're told they need to become their kids' legal guardians.

While parents never stop being parents, their legal ability to be active advocates for their kids ends abruptly at seventeen years,

366 days. There's no such thing as custody for an adult. Every individual who turns 18 in Colorado is granted the same protections, privileges and responsibilities, regardless of their capabilities.

While this feels like a barrier to many parents, it's also a vast improvement on our past laws, where young people's rights were routinely taken away because they fell under an umbrella of disability; regardless of the unique capabilities of the individual, a diagnosis of Down Syndrome, Fragile X or others were an immediate path to guardianship.

If it seems like a whole lot of work, hoop jumping and yes, money, to obtain legal guardianship, just so that tomorrow looks like yesterday, well, you're right. But when our kids need lifelong advocacy, it's sometimes the only way to go. The good news is that there's help.

To learn more about guardianship, whether it's necessary and how to pursue it (or less restrictive measures), contact Christi Romero-Roseth with the Guardianship Alliance of Colorado.

www.guardianshipallianceofcolor ado.org, 303-228-5382.

Lemonade Pie — Gretchen Olmsted PASCO CNA

Graham cracker crust

(Makes one pie crust)

 $1\,1/2$ cup crushed graham crackers (about 20 squares), crushed in a food processor or with back of wooden spoon until fairly fine

3 Tbsp. sugar

1/3 cup melted butter (don't use more or it will not bake properly)

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Mix ingredients. Save a couple of tablespoons of graham cracker mixture to sprinkle over the top of the pie.

Press into the bottom of a pie pan and bake 10 minutes. Let cool completely before adding pie filling.

Lemonade Pie

Make 1 mixing bowl of freshly made whipping cream until it makes stiff peaks

Add one 6 oz. can frozen lemonade or 1/2 of regular size can (take straight out of freezer and **don't** thaw out first) and several drops of freshly squeezed lemon juice

Fold it all in gently together until it's nicely mixed but whipping cream is still

Pour into the cooled pie crust and sprinkle on a little of the left over crumbles from the crust.

Chill in freezer for several hours.

Allow to thaw slightly before serving.

Optional: you may also substitute limeade instead of lemonade to this recipe.

This is a nice light dessert, perfect for Summer!





GUARDIANSHIP ALLIANCE OF COLORADO

The Alliance has the following programs and services:

- Volunteer Guardian Program
- Guardian Training classes
- Guardianship
 Petition Assistance classes
- Information and Referral Services
- Presentations and In-Service Training

Advocacy Denver

Webinar

Special Education 101: Individualized Education Program

Date: Wednesday, August

31, 2011

Time: 5:30-6:30 PM MDT

Space is limited.

Reserve your Webinar seat

now at: https://

www1.gotomeeting.com/ register/768439377 Check Us Out on Facebook

PASCO (Personnel Assistance Services of Colorado)

THE NEWSLETTER THAT SERVES ITS READERS

Personal Assistance Services of Colorado (PASCO) 6015 W. 16th Ave. Lakewood, CO 80214

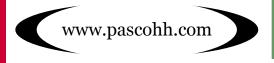
Phone:(303) 233-3122 Fax: (303) 233-1478

EMAIL: damian@pascohh.com

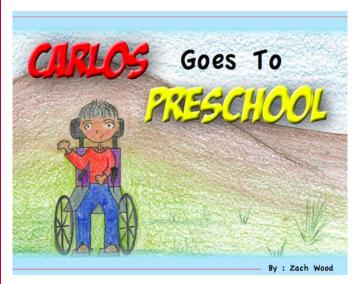
Personal Assistance Services of Colorado(PASCO) is certified under Medicare, Medicaid, and the Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) program to provide personal assistance services to children and adults with severe disabilities. PASCO was incorporated in 1991and began providing services to persons with disabilities on January 1, 1992.

PASCO's mission is to provide personal assistance services, promoting independence and safety to clients and/or their families. PASCO continuously strives for client and employee satisfaction. The foundation of PASCO is CHOICE. To the maximum extent possible, PASCO works to accommodate the needs and wants of each consumer/client.

PASCO provides services in the following counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, Jefferson, Larimer, Park & Weld.







"Carlos Goes To Preschool" is the first book in the Carlos series. It is a story about a boy who is just starting school and venturing out of his comfort zone. You will enjoy sharing all of his new experiences with him as he makes his way through his first day!

About the Author

Hi! My name is Zach Wood. I am 20 years old. I wrote this book to let people know that it is O.K. to be handicapped. Handicapped people have many of the same qualities as non-handicapped people do. I wrote this book to emphasize this point. I also wrote this book to inspire other handicapped people to follow their dreams and be all they can.

~Zach Wood

http://www.carlosworld.com