

PASCO News

February 2021

Doing our Part What the Vaccine Means for our Community?

by Robyn Kaplan

In March of 2020, we were asked as a community to do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19 by staying home. This was a significant sacrifice to our families; staying home meant no more day programs, switching to at-home learning, or disruptions to routines that included remote working and maybe even layoffs. It's impossible to quantify how many lives were saved just by complying with these measures.

In mid-April, we learned the importance of doing our part by wearing masks when in public spaces. We learned that wearing a mask did less to protect the wearer and more to protect those around us. We do our part for our family members and friends who can't wear masks, and this is the same outlook we must take as our community becomes eligible for the COVID-19 vaccines.

There is no cost to receiving either of the COVID vaccines available to caregivers right now. So what's the cost of not receiving the vaccine? These vaccines do more than provide immunity from COVID-19. It allows our community the freedom to see family, to participate in in-person activities, and to go to the grocery store without fear. "Doing our part" as a member of the PASCO community includes getting vaccinated, so that our loved ones can experience the lives we are meant to be living, and moving beyond the "pause button" that impacted many aspects of our lives.

We find ourselves embracing patience again with the vaccine rollout. As the CDC guidelines were meant to be viewed as guidance, many county health departments, hospital organizations, and community partners find themselves in a tough position of limited supply and high demand. An effort like this – to vaccinate hundreds of millions of Americans as quickly as possible while coordinating two shots – is an unprecedented effort across the state. Colorado is among the many states that were promised many more vaccines than were received. Now, with a better logistical structure in place, we expect our families to be vaccinated within the correct accelerated phases. PASCO is working hard to prioritize our caregivers by connecting them directly with vaccine providers. In order to assist in this batched approach to vaccination appointments, we encourage you to visit our vaccine update page and submit your interest. We will connect directly with you to facilitate the best approach for you.






Sign up for the PASCO Vaccine Interest List at pascohh.com/covid-vaccine

If you are looking for the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 vaccines in Colorado please visit covid19.colorado.gov/for-coloradans/vaccine/where-can-i-get-vaccinated

Community Events connection for the community

Virtual Guardianship Class

Join us for a Virtual Guardianship Class, where Chris Brock, Managing Attorney of CCDC Probate Power, will present on the guardianship process, the requirements for filing for guardianship, and the responsibilities of a guardian once they are appointed.

 Feb 04 2021  Online
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm



PASCO
CCCC
COLORADO
CROSS-DISABILITY
COALITION

Virtual Guardianship Class
For Guardians/Parents
of Children 14-21 years old

THURSDAY
FEB 4th 2021
3pm - 4pm
Online

Featuring
Chris Brock
(CCDC Managing Attorney)



GBH
GUIDED BY HUMANITY




Adaptive Yoga
for all abilities

THURSDAY
FEB 11th 2021
10am - 11am
Online

PASCO




Adaptive Yoga for all abilities

This Adaptive Yoga class will offer meaningful variations of yoga poses with the goal of facilitating an opportunity for anyone and everyBODY to access the wisdom and health benefits of yoga. Students at home may choose to practice with a partner or caregiver. EveryBODY is welcome.

 Feb 11 2021  Online
 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Social Security Disability Benefits 101

We know that navigating our social security system can be an incredible challenge. PASCO is partnering with expert attorneys from Rocky Mountain Disability Law Group to provide a virtual presentation on the basics of SSI and SSDI. This will be one presentation out of a 4-part series on information regarding social security and disability benefits and will be recorded if you are unable to attend.

 Feb 18 2021  Online
 10:00 am - 11:00 am



**Rocky Mountain
DISABILITY
LAW GROUP**

**Social Security
Disability Benefits 101**
An overview of SSI/SSDI

THURSDAY
FEB 18th 2021
10am - 11am
Online

PASCO

Let's Connect! RSVP for your preferred events at: pascohh.com/community-events/

Caregiver Training Center resources to become the best caregiver

Are you looking for previous event recordings, educational videos, or topics that impact you? Please visit the brand new PASCO Caregiver Training Center for a robust collection of information, resources, worksheets and more.

Learn more at: pascohh.com/caregiver-training-center/

PASCO CAREGIVER CLASSIFIEDS

PASCO is hiring ... our caregivers!

After the wildly successful launch of Caregiver Classifieds we are thrilled to see the interest level that has been shown on these mini-roles and plan to launch more soon. In the meantime we recommend that if you are interested in signing up for our alerts regarding new and exciting projects please take a moment to visit the link below.

How can YOU get involved?

- Fill out a brief form to express your interest at: go.pascohh.com/classifieds
- All applicants will be added to a dedicated email list where we will promote new opportunities for PASCO Caregivers.
- Roles are intended to support PASCO remotely to avoid travel requirements



To share your interest, please visit: go.pascohh.com/classifieds

PASCO Support - for all of your employment needs

If you have questions, we have answers. Contact our helpful Support Team for any assistance with:

- Contact information changes
- Live-In Caregiver form support
- PASS support (unlocking timesheets, password resets, questions, etc)
- Checking status of compliance items
- Scheduling compliance items (e.g. CPR, Skills Den)
- Changing language preferences
- Employment verification requests
- Help accessing paystubs
- Questions about a paycheck
- Employee vacation requests
- Direct deposit enrollment/updates
- Financial Assistance program
- Something else? Send it to PASCO Support and we'll get you an answer.



CONTACT US
support@pascohh.com

(303) 233-3122
Ask for the Support Team



Advocacy Corner by David Bolin

Colorado Medicaid plans to roll out a new Case Management system software July 1, 2021. Medicaid is changing their case management system and software on July 1, 2021. The new software will include the new Assessment and Support Planning tool for LTSS eligibility and to help determine HCBS budgets. Their proposal to include an algorithm at the same time has been delayed to 2022 or 2023. Advocates are working diligently to ensure that an algorithm won't adversely affect HCBS participants. PASCO advocates have teamed with other organizations, parents and consumers to review the work of the contractor and to force the department to have adequate data to test the algorithm on. The Joint Budget Committee this week approved supplemental funding to extend out the algorithm work. A big win for HCBS participants!

IHSS News: The Utilization Review and Utilization Management stakeholder group were introduced to the new vendor for IHSS Health Maintenance Activities Utilization Manager, Telligen. They have some staff who have been case managers in Colorado so there is some experience with our processes. Advocates are checking with advocates in other states that Telligen does work in to get feedback on their past performance. Telligen will start reviewing HMA PAR requests starting March 1, 2021.

Colorado Legislative News: The legislature starts their real work on Feb. 16th, depending on COVID, and we will let you know the bills we are following that affect PASCO services. The budget work will be very important as usual and we will monitor the HCPF budget closely. One budget proposal that will see lots of advocacy is to remove the skilled nursing facility statutory rate increase of 3%. They are the only Medicaid provider that has a rate increase in statute and putting them on an even playing field with home health, HCBS and other providers makes good sense.



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Let's stay connected



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