

PASCO News

March 2021

Hope on the Horizon

The return to some semblance of normalcy is on the horizon, and we couldn't be more proud of our families and our community for doing what is necessary to keep our vulnerable friends safe and healthy. We have found success in partnering with clinics that has resulted in hundreds of caregivers being vaccinated, and we have engaged our community for future opportunities as well. If you are a PASCO caregiver and have not received the COVID-19 vaccination yet, we encourage you to sign up on our interest list. This list is our communication channel with those who wish to be vaccinated.

You can sign up at: pascohh.com/covid-vaccine

It has been amazing to see the vaccine infrastructure in Colorado accelerating at a pace that didn't seem possible just a few months ago, and we are optimistic that we will be moving to vaccinate our clients by the end of March. As we learn more about these opportunities, we will be sure to let everyone know.



We also wanted to take a moment to thank Bloom Healthcare for partnering with us for not one, but two vaccine clinics.

Even in 6° weather we were able to create an efficient and effective solution for vaccinating our English and Spanish caregivers so they may provide the safest possible care to their families.

If you are looking for the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 vaccines in Colorado, please visit covid19.colorado.gov



COVID-19 Vaccine

Facts courtesy of cdc.gov

Having concerns about the new vaccines that have been developed to fight the COVID-19 pandemic is completely normal and understandable, and you should not hesitate to ask healthcare professional all your questions about the vaccines.

1. Is the vaccine safe? Yes. Safety has been a top priority as federal agencies work with vaccine manufacturers to develop and authorize COVID-19 vaccines.

2. Is the vaccine effective? Yes. Based on the clinical trials, Pfizer and Moderna report that their vaccines show approximately 95% efficacy at preventing both mild and severe symptoms of COVID-19, and appear to apply across age groups, racial and ethnic groups, and all genders.

3. Can I get coronavirus from the vaccine? No. None of the authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines or those currently in development in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

4. Will I still have to wear a mask after getting vaccinated? Yes. Everyone still needs to maintain the safety precautions for the foreseeable future. If you are among the estimated 5% to 10% of people for whom the vaccine is not effective, you could still catch and spread the coronavirus. Even when the vaccine is effective, the person may harbor the virus and pass it to others.



Did you Know?

PASCO works with nearly all Colorado Medicaid waivers, offering individualized services to meet your client's evolving needs for CNA, IHSS, and I/DD (Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities) supports.

Gratitude **CONTEST**

One year has passed since COVID-19 social distancing was implemented, which became a significant event in all of our lives. We want to focus on what we're thankful for.

"We at PASCO are thankful for the incredible dedication and resolution of clients and caregivers to persevere."

We would love to hear what you're thankful for and what PASCO means to you.

How it works?

- Record a short video (approx. 30 seconds) with the statements:
 - *"I am thankful for....."*
 - *"PASCO means....."*
- Upload the recording to: pascohh.com/gratitude-contest
- Winners will be announced at the end of March



WIN A \$25 GAS GIFT CARD

Since we're all hoping to be getting out of the house more, we wanted a prize to reflect that. We will randomly select 5 people to receive a prize.

PASCO CAREGIVER CLASSIFIEDS

PASCO is hiring ... our caregivers!

After the wildly successful pilot group of Caregiver Classifieds we're so impressed with the amazing talent that we have in our caregiver team - we had over a dozen applicants for our roles and are excited to begin working on some of these projects.

How can YOU get involved for future roles?

- 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

Community Events connection for the community

Community Support Group Spotlight on Stress




Too much stress can feel uncomfortable in our bodies and minds and have a negative impact on our relationships with ourselves and others. In our Community Support Group series "Spotlight on Stress," we will explore the hidden impact of stress on our lives and shine the light on sustainable practices for Caregivers and family members. **Join us for this 4 part series.**

 Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021  Online
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm






Virtual Special Needs Trust

Presenter Steven Owens, an attorney who practices extensively in the area of special needs planning, returns to PASCO to demonstrate how you can identify the dangers facing your child and your estate plan, and how to deal with them. He will also illustrate how you can ensure that there will be sufficient resources to care for your child.

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

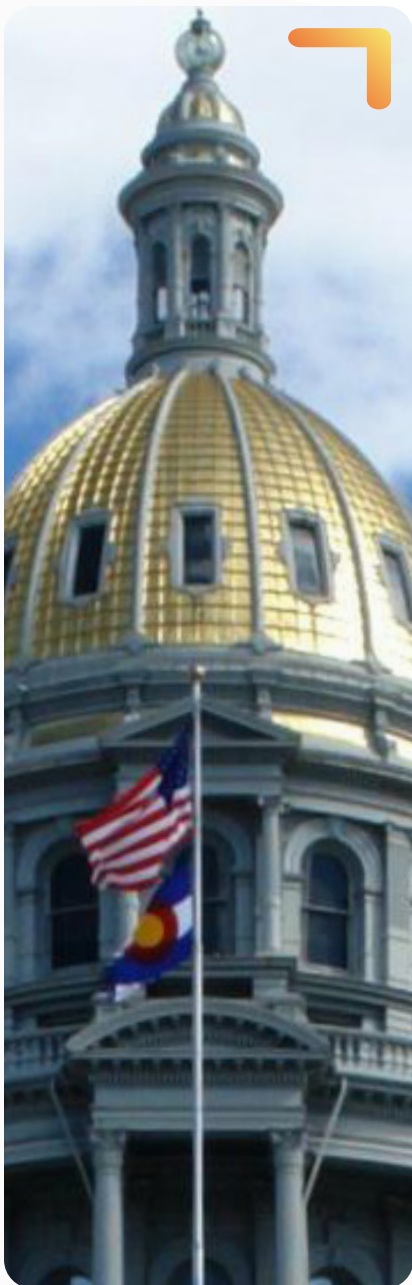
No estás Sola/Solo (Spanish Support Group)

PASCO is creating a community for individuals like you with the intention of sharing and supporting one another. Join us every third Thursday of the month. This month's session will feature Christy Blakely from Family Voices with a discussion on Medicaid Waivers.

 Mar 18 2021  Online
 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm



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



Advocacy Corner by David Bolin

Medicaid's Office of Community Living offers new webpage with a calendar of meetings: In early February, the Office of Community Living (OCL) developed a new OCL web page that includes a calendar of various stakeholder meetings. You can use this link: <https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/OCL-stakeholder-engagement> to see the meetings that may be of interest to you. If you see a meeting you want to attend, click on that meeting and you will be able to access the agenda, the link for the virtual meeting and see the conference line to call into with the appropriate meeting password. As you scroll further down the page, you will see the variety of stakeholder opportunities that the OCL offers. Many of us attend a variety of these meetings but the OCL is interested in widespread stakeholder engagement.

The Colorado Legislature is back in session with hundreds of bills introduced. The advocacy team is watching the state budget very closely to see how the Medicaid budget will be affected and how the State plans to utilize additional COVID funding from the federal government.

Medicaid has announced they will be phasing in many changes in their case management system over the next few years. They will be using a new case management software program beginning in June or July this year. Please let us know if you experience issues with eligibility for Medicaid or waiver services.

Next, Medicaid will be using a new Utilization Review/Utilization Management vendor for IHSS Health Maintenance Activities beginning in March/April. The new vendor will review all PAR requests for Health Maintenance Activities so if you have issues, please contact our PAR team!

In May/June/July, Medicaid will restart Pediatric Home Health PARs utilizing another new contractor. We are hoping this change will be smoother for all children we serve on Home Health but if you run into a problem, let us know!

Nationally, PASCO's advocacy team is working with a national association to advocate for better funding for Home and Community Based Services and for greater access to these programs. If a proposed (but not introduced) bill comes to pass, it will open a lot of opportunities for people with disabilities across the country to receive the services they need to remain independent in the community. Also, we are advocating with Congress to ensure that if a new national minimum wage is passed that the federal government will ensure states have adequate funding to cover the cost of compensation for direct care workers!

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)
- Therap Support
- Savii Support
- 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

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

📞 (303) 233-3122 📍 9197 W. 6TH AVE. STE 1000
🌐 [PASCOHH.COM](https://pascohh.com) LAKEWOOD, CO 80215

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