

# PASCO News

June 2021

## Nurse Spotlight - Peggy Winter

Some kids grow up wanting to be things like firefighters, singers, and astronauts. Peggy, however, had her eyes set on some more unexpected roles that she wanted to be when she was growing up. As a kid, she wanted to be a flight attendant or secretary when she got older. While seemingly unrelated, these two things do have something in common – they both revolve around assisting others. Knowing that the underlying desire she had growing up revolved around care and compassion, deciding to become a nurse was a long time coming for Peggy. This passion for helping others let her set her sights on doing so in an even more impactful way. After having her daughter, Peggy embarked on her nursing journey.



Peggy's hardworking self has not only impacted the individuals she cares for but has inspired others to follow in her footsteps. One of her most memorable moments as a nurse is when she encouraged a fellow mom who was struggling to continue her nursing education. She told her that "If I can do this, so can you." Those motivational words from Peggy kept her going and allowed the world to gain another amazing nurse.

However, her biggest impact is through her own daughter. After seeing her mom work hard to support her as a single mom while also saving lives, Peggy's daughter became a nurse as well. One of the things Peggy is proudest of is how accomplished her daughter has become in the same field as her. She has received highly sought-after rewards in her workplace, including Employee of the Year. Both of these women exemplify what it takes to be a nurse and have created a legacy of compassion and care for others.

**Thank you, Peggy, for everything you do.**

### #ForTheCommunity

After hosting and facilitating over 10 vaccine clinics for our community, we are proud to report that the majority of our families and community partners were able to receive both doses of the vaccine.

Over 2,000 shots were administered in drive-thru settings that ranged from 6 degree winter days to sweltering spring afternoons. We couldn't have been happier to do our part and look forward to seeing all of our friends and families soon.

**PASCO**

### Looking for a COVID Vaccine?

Text **GETVAX (438829)** with your zip code or go to [comassvax.org](http://comassvax.org) to find clinics near you



### Did you Know?

Did you know PASCO provides small, no-fee loans to our employees? We understand that sometimes financial challenges arise and we want you to know that we are here for you. If you need a loan please reach out to our support team for more details at [support@pascohh.com](mailto:support@pascohh.com)

# PASCO PODCAST

## disability deep dives

A topical podcast that dives into issues, resources, ideas, culture, and personal stories pertaining to Colorado's dynamic disability community. Hosted by longtime ally and advocate Damian Rosenberg.

Two Episodes out now!



Listen Now: [pascohh.com/podcasts](https://pascohh.com/podcasts)



## Monthly Child Payments

Beginning July 15, families will be eligible to receive monthly child payments as part of the president's most recent relief package.

Qualified families will receive a payment of up to \$300 for each child up to 6 years of age, and up to \$250 monthly for children between the ages of 6 and 17. Nearly 88% of children are expected to qualify and receive benefits without any additional actions taken by their parents.

Couples earning \$150,000 or less can receive the full payment amounts via direct deposit from the IRS on the 15th of July. The benefits total \$3,600 annually for children under 6 and \$3,000 for those who are older. The IRS will determine eligibility based on the 2019 and 2020 tax years.

The president has proposed an extension of the increased child tax credit through 2025 as part of another relief plan.



## Alexis' Story

Alexis is a happy, compassionate, good-humored, and loving individual who isn't afraid to smile and say hi to everyone he sees. He loves to play with his favorite ball, loves his brother's dog, and especially loves it when his parents sing happy songs to him. Alexis also loves to be the center of attention and he is sure to let everyone know when he feels he is not receiving the attention he deserves. Most importantly, his parents are the world to him and he shows his appreciation to mom and dad by snuggling his cheek to their cheeks.



Before his first birthday, Alexis was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. This diagnosis hasn't slowed Alexis down. He loves to be on the move and in the community. .

Alexis' father, Abel, understands that some parents may ask "Why me?" but Abel looks past that question and sees the goodness in his and his wife's calling and they are truly grateful for their son. Abel believes the universe was aligning for his family before Alexis was born by calling him to Colorado 25 years ago. Unbeknownst to his family, Colorado is considered the gold standard for disability services and support, but those in this community know there is still a long way to go. These amazing Colorado services are where Abel and his family connected with PASCO. At PASCO, Abel's wife was able to be trained and paid in order to provide the most compassionate care to Alexis through the Family Caregiver Program and Abel himself provides backup services and support.

Abel can see the drastic improvement in the quality of life for his son Alexis and for his family. He continues to advocate for his son, and bring awareness to all those that he meets that Alexis may have special needs but he is one of the greatest gifts that has ever been bestowed on this earth.

Read more at: [pascohh.com/alexis-story-english/](https://pascohh.com/alexis-story-english/)

## Food Insecurity



PASCO is dedicated to helping our families through whatever hardships may come their way. If anyone in your PASCO family is experiencing food insecurity, please reach out to our Nutrition Program Coordinator Jan McCarty at [jan.mccarty@pascohh.com](mailto:jan.mccarty@pascohh.com). She is a knowledgeable source for references regarding local food assistance.

# We're Hiring! [Join the team](#)

We're a team of passionate individuals trying to make the world a better place. Whether it's through providing care or services in the field, or even working with local lawmakers to advance the interests of the disability community, all of our team members are pushing towards the same goal: to help our clients lead rich and fulfilling lives in the comfort and safety of their own homes and communities. We're confident that when people of all ability levels can pursue a life of their own choosing, we create a place where everyone succeeds.

We are looking for compassionate professionals to join our team and serve our community.

- Community Care Scheduler
- Operations Manager
- Senior Payroll Specialist
- Community Outreach Coordinator - Colorado Springs
- On-Call CNA / Certified Nursing Assistant
- On-Call Registered Nurse
- Personal Care Worker (PCW) - Home Healthcare
- Weekend On-call Home Health CNA / Scheduler
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Registered Nurse (RN)
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Bilingual RN (Registered Nurse)
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Office Admin
- IHSS Skills Validation Registered Nurse RN
- RN (Registered Nurse) Trainer
- HR Director
- Direct Support Provider



See all of PASCO's open support positions at: [pascohh.com/careers](https://pascohh.com/careers)



# Community Events connection for the community

## Financial Planning - Special Needs Trust

This seminar will feature 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 for his or her entire life.

June 23 2021

Online

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm



**PASCO** Financial Planning  
**Special Needs Trust**  
THURSDAY  
JUNE 23<sup>RD</sup> 2020  
2pm - 3pm  
Online

Featuring  
**Steven R. Owens**  
(Estate Planning Lawyer)

INTEGRATED  
WEALTH STRATEGIES  
BY THE LAW OFFICE OF STEVEN R. OWENS, P.C.



**PASCO**  
**CSNA**  
Children's Services Networking Alliance

THURSDAY  
JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> 2021  
4:00PM-6:00PM

**BREWABILITY**  
3445 S. BROADWAY  
ENGLEWOOD CO 80113

## CSNA

### (Children's Services Networking Alliance)

Collaborating to better serve the children's special needs community. Join a group of like-minded professionals looking to learn about amazing resources and connections while having fun in the process. Meet individuals who share your passions regarding the children with special needs space.

June 10 2021

Brewability Lab  
3445 South Broadway  
Englewood, CO 80113

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

## 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.

June 17 2021

Online

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm



**NO ESTÁ SOLA/SOLO**  
Spanish Support Group  
Por favor de mandar un texto a Maribel 720-517-5232  
para recibir el enlace de Zoom

JUEVES  
17 DE JUNIO  
5pm - 6pm  
Virtual

Únete a nosotras el tercer jueves de cada mes

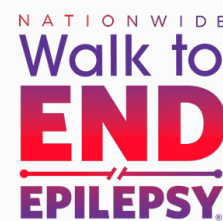
**PASCO**

Let's Connect! RSVP for your preferred events at: [pascohh.com/community-events/](https://pascohh.com/community-events/)

# Community Partner Events see us in person or online

Our amazing outreach team is back and in-person supporting the impressive missions of our community partners.

- **STRIDE Storybook 5k** - Saturday, June 5, 2021 in Aurora  
<https://runsignup.com/Race/CO/Aurora/StrideFamily5k>
- **Special Olympics Colorado Front Range Summer Games** - Saturday, June 5, 2021 in Aurora  
<https://specialolympicsco.org/event/frontrangestatessummergames/>
- **Parkinson Association of the Rockies Vitality 5K Walk & Run** - Sunday, June 6, 2021 in Denver & Colorado Springs  
<https://parkinsonrockies.org/get-involved/community-events/vitality/>
- **Epilepsy Foundation of Colorado's 2021 Denver Walk to END EPILEPSY** - Sunday June 13th  
<https://runsignup.com/Race/CO/Denver/2021DenverWalktoENDEPILEPSY>



## PASCO Support - for all of your employment needs

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

- Caregiver and Client 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)
- Remote Learning support (PASCO Connect)
- 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](mailto:support@pascohh.com)

**(303) 233-3122**  
Ask for the Support Team



## Advocacy Corner by David Bolin

**American Rescue Plan Act:** The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) has posted a survey for input into how stakeholders think about the extra funding that is coming to the state for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). The funding can only be used to expand, enhance or strengthen HCBS services. The link for the survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CO-HCPF-ARPA>. The deadline to submit your survey is July 4th. You can also email the department to give your input or send it to [david@teamsvc.com](mailto:david@teamsvc.com) and I will submit ideas to the department before their deadline.

You can view their slideshow at: <https://hcpf.colorado.gov/arpa>. Midway down the page, you will see “Materials: Slide Deck” that opens to their 30 slide deck. The advocacy team has provided Colorado Medicaid with suggestions of how to utilize the one-year additional federal matching funds for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). We also provided the same list to the Joint Budget Committee. Last week, the Joint Budget Committee drafted the authorization to utilize the extra federal match for HCBS with Senate Bill 21-286. Here is the link to the bill: <http://leg.colorado.gov/bills/SB21-286>. We expect this bill will fly through the legislature before the session ends in June.

**Nationally,** the 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. President Biden has plans to expand funding for HCBS with significant funding over 5 years.

**Colorado Legislature:** The legislature is still in session with over 100 bills still to be considered over the next few weeks. Our next newsletter will have a list of bills that affect our clients, our services and all of our employees. By the next newsletter, we'll know what legislation passed and what bills the Governor signed.

**For IHSS Consumer/Attendants:** HCPF started using a Utilization Review/Utilization Management (URUM) vendor, Telligen, on March 1st to review all Prior Authorization Requests for Health Maintenance Activities (HMA). Some of you have been adversely affected due to the slowness of the system in place. Case management agencies may contact you to get additional documentation to support the need for HMA. Documentation could include more information from your physician, exercise plans, or other items to support HMA. Our IHSS and PAR team staff will help you gather the information requested to prevent service interruptions.

**For Pediatric Home Health clients/CNAs:** HCPF will start having their new URUM vendor for Home Health (KEPRO) review PAR requests in July or August. The start date has been a moving target for some time. There has been over a year delay in doing these reviews but HCPF believes they are about ready to start. PASCO has suggested ways to transition to these reviews so that not everyone's PAR will be reviewed right away. The Home Health Department and PAR Team are your go to contacts if you have questions.

**HCPF develops Person Centered Planning for People with Disabilities:** HCPF has developed an online 10 week course with the University of Colorado Colorado Springs for clients to receive training on conducting their own person centered planning sessions. For more information to: <https://speakupcolorado.com/>



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Let's stay connected



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