



Picayune

YEARS

SERVING COLORADO'S DISABILITY COMMUNITY

The Newsletter That Serves its Readers

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PASCO ACCOUNTABILITY TEAMWORK ADVOCACY **LEARNING** ETHICS

Sunday

MAY

19th

Colorado Health Care Policy & Finance (HCPF) Stabilizing Long-**Term Services and Supports** (LTSS)

Purpose

Our LTSS system is being impacted by several challenges at the same time, including:

- Increased county workload due to the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) combined with a record number of Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) renewals;
- The implementation of the new Care and Case Management IT system with issues that have required additional work for case managers; and
- The transition of members to new case management agencies (CMAs) to achieve conflict-free case management.

In the coming months, the IT innovations and case management redesign modernizations will create a better system for members, providers and CMAs. But the impact of all three occurring at once - which was not intended - is causing short-term challenges to member program eligibility, provider reimbursement, CMA processing and member service response time.

This page is intended to help members and families, case managers, providers, and other stakeholders navigate to HCPF webpages to learn more or access resources related to these concurrent challenges.

HCPF has created a hub https:// hcpf.colorado.gov/stabilizing-LTSS

designed to point members, providers, and community partners toward all things/resources related to all things PHE unwind, CCM implementation, Eligibility breaks, etc.

Autism Community Store Autism Resource Fair 2024

> Save the Date for the largest Autism Resource Fair in Colorado!



Know your Rights!

Everyone has rights!

1. Disabled people are inherently worthwhile

Disabled people are entitled to the same human rights as every other personDisabled people are experts on their own experiences and needs.

4. Disabilities are ordinary & familiar parts of who we are; they are not inspirations or tragedies.

5. Disability is not a bad word. Don't be afraid to say "disabled person" or "person with disabilities". Most importantly: Ask disabled people what they want to be called!

6. Increased access benefits everyone, including people with typical ability levels

7. Ask before you help; what you assume to be helpful, **may not be**.
8. **ALWAYS get consent** before touching disabled people or their equipment and

 Avoid using language that equates disability to "broken-ness".
 Insider language, such as reclaimed slurs, are for the disabled community to use amongst itself!

medical model us. Social model

Medical Model

The medical model of disability see's the physical differences of the mind or body as finite limitations to be repaired (if possible). Historically, the medical model has also seen disabilities as unfortunate tragedies to be overcome through feats of will and industry.

Social Model

The social model, however, argues that a lack of accommodation and access are the actual disabling agents; not differing ability levels. There is of course room for nuance regarding the physical impacts of disabilities, but in general, the more accessible a society becomes, the less disabling a health condition is to the overall quality of life experienced by disabled people

moral Issue?

Having a disability is morally neutral! Implying someone's disability has a moral or spiritual cause (either for negative or positive reasons) is inaccurate, discriminatory, and deeply



Intersectionality

Intersectionality is a term coined by Kimberié Crenshaw, which describes how a person's various marginalized identities work together to impact a person. "[[1] is a lens through which you can see where power comes and callides, where it interlocks and intersects. It's not simply that there's a race problem here, a gender problem here, and a class or LBGTQ problem there. Many times that framework erases what happens to people who are subject to all of these things." Disability is one of many possible intersections a person may experience

examples of harmful beliefs about disabilities:

- Claiming disabled people "chose to be disabled" before birth
- Claiming disabilities are special spiritual challenges to inspire others. · Claiming disabilities are spiritual punishments for past or present mistakes
- Claiming disabilities are the result of spiritual toxins or impurities.
- Claiming disabilities are easily curable with "proper" thinking.
- · Claiming disabilities are the consequence of belonging to a marginalized class of people.
 - Claiming disabilities are the consequence of belonging to certain social, political, racial, or religious groups.













Ask the CEO, Leslee Torres

ello PASCO family! Welcome to "Ask the CEO," our monthly blog series that brings you closer to the "why" behind PASCO initiatives, policies, and offerings. As a company committed to transparency and community building, we strongly believe in fostering open communication with our PASCO family.

By providing you with insights into our thought processes, we aim to build a stronger bridge of understanding and collaboration. If you have questions you would like answered in an upcoming blog, please do not hesitate to fill out the form below. We'd love to hear from you.

How is PASCO advocating for our families?

34 years ago this month, individuals with disabilities including several that are a part of the PASCO community, organized and participated in what became known as the "Capital Crawl". Over 1000 people marched from the White House to the US Capitol to demand that Congress pass the Americans with Disabilities Act, or ADA. Upon reaching their destination, approximately 60 demonstrators abandoned their wheelchairs and other assistive devices, choosing instead to crawl up the Capitol steps, symbolizing their determination and demand for equal rights.

As we honor the legacy of those who paved the way for progress, our call to advocacy remains stronger and as necessary as ever today. Despite Colorado being a leader in benefits and services available to individuals with disabilities, we're not meeting the needs of our community. PASCO continues to work tirelessly to advocate for necessary changes and improvements across multiple state entities that affect the disability community and beyond.

HCPF Changes and Challenges

Our funding source, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), faces challenges due to the Public Health Emergency (PHE) unwind, low staffing levels at case management agencies, and flawed system rollouts that have resulted in many community members losing benefits. PASCO has worked hard to be out in front of the PHE unwind for our families to ensure they were equipped with the knowledge, resources and planning necessary to complete redeterminations successfully. Even with these proactive efforts, ~10% of our community has still faced delays and disqualifications. PASCO has stepped in to advocate on behalf of our families where issues have arisen and have advanced over \$2.5M in wages over 9 months to keep households stable when our funding source is not. We've been actively advocating at the federal and state levels, including with HCPF, Joint Budget Committee and CO Dept. of Labor and Employment, to ensure our legislators understand and address this crisis. Over the last two months we've seen recognition of the problem from HCPF and a change in messaging, but there is still a long way to go. As we navigate these changes, know that We're With You. We have the scale, experience and connections to protect our families in these situations and to advocate on their behalf both individually and collectively.

Colorado Therapies Funding

Colorado's funding for therapies is in a state of crisis. In 2023, PASCO joined Alliance, a not-for-profit, statewide association advocating on behalf of the IDD community. We recognized the need to amplify the voice of our families to ensure legislators understand the importance of these services and adequately fund them. In 2024, we've seen some important steps taken towards properly funding these programs from the state but more work is needed. Over the coming months and years, you will see PASCO doing more to ensure these services are available and accessible to our families.

Accessible CNA Testing for All

Did you know that CNA and QMAP (Qualified Medication Administration Person) testing are only available in English, yet nearly 20% of Colorado's population speaks a language other than English at home? We know health outcomes are better when individuals have choice, but today a lack of

language justice stands in the way of that right to choice. If your preferred caregiver speaks Spanish, CNA and DD services are not an option for you due to limits in testing and other processes. PASCO is working to bring equal access to these jobs. We've collaborated with Colorado legislators to draft a bill that will be discussed soon that, if approved, will require testing accommodations not only for individuals who speak a language other than English, but also for individuals with disabilities. If an individual wants a caregiver who doesn't speak English and that person can provide safe care that meets healthcare standards, our testing procedures should not get in the way. Our testing procedures need to accommodate the diversity of Colorado to ensure individuals can access the care they want. I sometimes get asked, "What makes PASCO different?" It's a question that gets me really fired up because the way I see it, everything is different. At PASCO, our team members are part of the disability community which makes our work personal. We carry over 30 years of stories, experiences, heartbreak and joys with us that influence every single decision we make. We organize and advocate on behalf of our community to improve opportunities and health outcomes. We create greater support and connectivity. We're a whole lot more than a home care agency. We're PASCO. We were with our community in 1992 when we opened our doors and we're there today. We're With You.

Submit a Question Here





ollectively we make innocuous decisions that won't greatly impact our day to day lives...or as some bohemians are now saying, "No biggies." These pronouncements can run the gamut from, "life is short...me thinks I'll grow a huge beard...whereby I'll attach bespoke wooden beads," to "I'm gonna start eating cottage cheese...on the regs," to "apartment size be damned...I'm going to adopt a middle aged ferret," and probably a few other small(ish) choices...with very little at stake. Yet sometimes these seemingly insignificant decisions, which are an afterthought have bigger ramifications... or what's known in the throwing rocks in a lake business...a "ripple effect". Case in point, where we spend our hard-earned monies...specifically when grabbing coffee/drinks/pizza/charcuteries/smoothies/icecream. With hundreds of national chains, so-so restaurants, mediocre coffee joints- why not use our incredible spending power... at places with missions, that help the wider community? Working in the disability space- and understanding the need for meaningful employment and the beauty of true inclusion- host a meeting at Brewability. Catch up with your pal over an iced mocha at Dirt <u>Coffee</u> or <u>Bitty & Beaus</u>. Be a hero at your block party by getting the Peace and Humanity Smoothie Bus to serve up refreshing strawberry/mango thingamajigs. Have Savory Snackables lay out an amazing spread at your next graduation. Catch up with your grandmother over a cuppa at Avery's Modern Teahouse. Delight the senses with Howdy Homemade Ice Cream. The experience, staff, delicious products and amazing missions are more than worth it

What eating/drinking establishments would you add?



Temporary Rental & Utility Assistance (TRUA)

Denver County

Program Overview

Below is a summary of the Temporary Rental and Utility
Assistance (TRUA) Program. More detailed information and
program requirements are outlined in the TRUA Program Guidelines, which can be found at denvergov.org/RentHelp.

Assistance Available



Up to 6 months of rental assistance may be provided to an eligible household within a 12-month period (calendar year). This may include rental arrears, the current month's rent, and one future



Utility Assistance

This program provides utility assistance to Denver Water and/or Xcel Energy (electric, gas) for renters and homeowners. Utility assistance may be provided to eligible households one time per utility within a 12-month period (calendar year).



Relocation Assistance

This may include security deposit, first month's rent, and application fees. Deposit and first month's rent will count as one month each towa the 6-month maximum.

Eligibility Requirements



Household income must be at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI).



Financial Hardshin

Household must be experiencing a financial hardship or other housing crisis



City & County of Denver

The residence for which assistance is being requested must be the primary residence and located in both the City AND County of Denver

Required Documentation

Applicants must provide at least one of the documents from each category.

Proof of Income

- · Pay stubs
- Tax returns

(Applicants are not required to

Evidence of Residency

- · Signed lease agreement
- Denver property record
 Official document showing Applicant's name and address

Evidence of Rent Due

- · Signed lease agreement
- Tenant ledger
- Demand or eviction notice

Evidence of Financial Hardship

- · Statement by Applicant in the online application
- · Additional documents may be requested on a case-by-case basis

Photo Identification

We are providing:

drinks

• pizza • music

• fun

- · Valid photo identification issued by
- any governmental entity · Refer to Program Guidelines for more

Apply Today!

Weld County





Join us



2024 Annual Weld County

Inclusive Community Pool Party

WHEN: SATURDAY, JULY 20TH 2024 FROM 6:30PM-8:30PM

WHERE DISCOVERY BAY POOL LOCATED AT 715 E. 24TH ST GREELEY, CO

What to bring:

- your family
- sunblock and friends
- · dancing shoes!

RSVP WITH THE OR CODE OR TO TIFFANY AT



RSVP BY: JULY 16TH

Check out all our amazing activities happening in May:

TR Indian Springs Outing

May 7

16+

Meet us at the Simms St. Center where we will pick up the van and make our way to Indian Hot Springs. We will spend an hour at the Springs then grab lunch at Big B's Soup and Grilled Cheese before making our way back. Our friends from the Longmont TR department will meet us there for some additional company, socialization and fun!

Departure time: 9:00 am

Return time: 1:00 pm

Register for TR Indian Springs Outing

Jefferson County

TR Craft Class

May 7-28, Tuesdays at 4:00 pm – Community Recreation Center: Art Room

12 +

Join us at the Community Recreation Center. We will be doing many fun projects. Craft class is designed to work on fine motor skills, selfexpression, precision, and socialization.

The class will be led by Laura Hartwig.

Register for TR Craft Class

TR Fun Art Friday

May 10 at 2:30 pm – Apex Center: Randall Room 12+

Join us at the Apex Center in the Randall Room. We will be making a themed art project once a month on Fridays. This month: Birdhouses. Fun Art Friday is designed to work on fine motor skills, self-expression, precision, and socialization, while offering a different time slot for participants who work or are in day programs earlier in the week. Register for Fun Art Friday

TR Music Therapy

May 13 – 20, Mondays at 3:15 pm – Community Recreation Center: Room B

(No class May 3 or 27)

12 +

Come sing and dance with our Music Therapy partner Kaitlyn. We will express ourselves musically while working on social, emotional, cognitive, and physical well-being.

Register for TR Music Therapy

TR Dinner Night Out

May 16 at 5:00 pm – Off-Site

Meet us at Randi's Pizza, (12312 W 64th Ave, Arvada, CO 80004). We will work on etiquette skills while socializing with friends.

Register for TR Dinner Night Out

TR Shows and Tunes

May 21 at 5:30 pm - Community Recreation Center

Join us at the Community Recreation Center at 5:30 pm. We will be watching a family friendly movie while enjoying pizza, popcorn, and each other's company. We will work on listening skills, socialization, sharing, and relaxation.

Register for TR Shows and Tunes

TR Muay Thai

May 28 at 12:15 pm – Apex Center

Learn some self-defense with our partner at Muay Thai Beyond Limits, Janelle. Her specialized lessons for people with disabilities are a great outlet for releasing energy, working on gross and fine motor movement, and building trust among friends. Classes will remain small, and there will be a sensory corner for anyone who needs it to take a break. Register for TR Muay Thai





Tuesday, April 23rd | 6:00-7:00 pm | Virtual Meeting Free and open to the public

Hosted by Children's Hospital Colorado

Presented by: Collette Fischer, PhD, Marissa Nunes Moreno, PhD, and Ashley Hayduke, Psy.D

Moderated by: Jessica Hawks, PhD, Child and Adolescent Psychologist

Virtual Mental Health Town Hall

Join us for a conversation on important and timely youth mental health topics. Our experts will discuss anxiety, stress management and mental health crisis management. Participants will also learn about community resources and will have the opportunity to ask questions. We encourage those interested in youth mental health to join the discussion.

Register online using the QR Code:





Children's Hospital Colorado

Chiters i Hospital Colorado

Children's Hospital Children's Hospit







What is the "Challenger Division" of Little League

Challenger is a division of Little League whose most fundamental goal is to give everyone a chance to play, regardless of their limitations..

- All children, with physical or mental disabilities are encouraged to participate Level of play CAN be based on player's size, age and skill level neams can vary in size, from 8-20 No Practices Buddy can help the player in the field or at bat to whatever degree is necessary The teams bat through the lineup The typical game length is two innings Game time is Games are usually on Saturday or Sunday One game a

- Game time is about 60-90 minutes
 One game a week

The Little League Challenger Division® was founded in 1989 and is Little League's adaptive baseball program for individuals with physical and intellectual challenges.

Any individual with a physical or intellectual challenge may participate. If an individual can participate in the traditional Little League Baseball or Softball program with reasonable accommodations, they should do so. The Little League Challenger Division accommodates players ages 4 to 18; or up to age 22 if still enrolled in school. The Senior League Challenger Division accommodates players ages 15 and above (no maximum age).

Current Operating Locations:

Westminster Little League - 73rd & DePew

Call 720-314-1299

https://westylittleleague.org/

Northern Lights Little League - 13950 York St, Thornton, CO 80602 https://www.northernlightslittleleague.com/Default.aspx?tabid=2740990 Call 720-210-4024

DISCOVER

Meeting children and families where they're at

OUR UNIQUE APPROACH

Discover Autism Support was created out of my passion to serve children and the desire to meet families where they are at through providing behavioral services across environments. At Discove all services are influenced by Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) practices and materials, and are provided directly by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) to ensure accelerated progress and the highest quality of care.

WHOLAM

I'm Marissa Bevington, a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst who has a passion for supporting families and helping kiddos learn to explore the world in new ways. I value collaboration with parents and all care providers to ensure holistic services that are compassionate, empowering, and effective are provided. I am focused on your child's unique needs and am here to help you and your family navigate the journey of autism





Let's Connect!

- (720) 675-8045
- www.discoverautismsupport.com

SERVICES



Therapy



Caregiver Coaching



Preparation



Training

Next Steps to Independence

Education, Employment and Program Opportunities for Teens and Young Adults with **Neurodiversity or Disabilities**



ARTS CENTER

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

5:30 pm Doors Open 5:45 - 7:00 pm Presentation 7:00 - 8:00 pm Resource Fair

Door Prizes and Refreshments

Lone Tree Arts Center

10075 Commons St. Lone Tree, CO 80124

Learn about 30 organizations that provide employment training, recreation, day programs, wellness, and many other services.

*For Information and Free Tickets. RSVP HERE at https://bit.ly/escltac24 by 4/26/24

Please contact Zoe Broughton at zbroughton@eastersealscolorado.org



Douglas County Developmental Disabilities Mill Levy Grant



Options? We are here to

help you find a full future.







FREE WEBINAR Tips for Families for A Positive Summer

Thursday, May 16th 12:00-1:00PM MST Zoom

Spanish Translation Available

Registration:



Soon school will be out for the year and the kids will be home for the summer months. This webinar was created to help families create a calmer and more peaceful environment at home during summer break.

Sponsored by:



EXPLORE:

Summer home matrix

Tips to help create a calm and peaceful home environment.

Strategies to help support effective communication and acknowledgement.

Focus on positive supports through PBIS

PEDIATRIC NEURODIVERSITY

> **RESOURCE** PANEL

RSVP HERE

THURSDAY APRIL 25 12:00-1:00







Phone: 719-531-9400 Email: Training@peakparent.org www.peakparent.org



FAMILY FUN WORKSHOP

"HEALTHY HEARTS & KIDS AS CHEFS"



Explore fun ways to add physical activity into your family routine



art with colorful fruits and vegetables



Receive a tool to help implement healthy eating at home

ADDRESS/WHERE TO MEET

TIME 11:15 am-12 pm

For more information please contact:



Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center





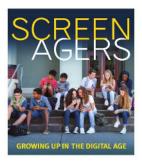
This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



RESILIENCE1220 PRESENTS

APRIL 28 4:30-6:30 PM PLATTE CANYON **FIREHOUSE IN BAILEY**

This is an award-winning film that probes into the vulnerable corners of family life and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games, and academics. The film offers solutions on how we can help our kids navigate the digital world.



Additional Details:

- » This is a FREE event! Open to the community, ages 12+
- » Pizza provided
- » Panel discussion following the film with a Resilience1220 Mental Health Therapist

To reserve your spot go to *R1220.org* or scan the QR code











Class Schedule: 9am-11am

Tuesdays: Get Ready for Kindergarten

- This group is designed to prepare children for kindergarten by focusing on tial language, motor, and social skills. Activities include interactive games,
- storytime/circle time, and hands-on learning experiences.

 Target Audience: Children aged 4 to 5 who will be transitioning to kindergarten.

 Therapeutic Focus: Language development, fine and gross motor skills, social

 interaction, and school readiness.

Wednesdays:

Food Explorers

- The Food Group addresses picky eating habits through a combination of sensory exploration, oral motor exercises, and communication strategies. Participants engage in activities such as taste testing, food play, and mealtime simulations
- . Target Audience: Children up to 10 years old who struggle with food aversions or
- Therapeutic Focus: Sensory processing, oral motor skills, food acceptance, and

Thursdays: Life Skills Group for Teens

- This group supports older participants in developing independence and functional skills for daily living. Activities focus on tasks such as dressing grooming, cooking, and organization, tailored to the individual needs of each
- participant. Target Audience: Children aged 13+ who require additional support in mastering
- Therapeutic Focus: Activities of daily living (ADLs), fine and gross motor

Groups open to new & current families!

What is a Case Management Agency Exception?

Jefferson County Human Services (JCHS) will consider making an exception to provide case management services to members enrolled in an HCBS waiver program who reside outside of Jefferson and Clear Creek counties (our service area) that meet all the following criteria:

The member resides within the Front Range Urban corridor which includes Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, or Douglas County and their residence is within a 30-mile radius of the Jefferson County Human Services building located at 900 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden, CO 80401.

The member has requested receiving case management services from JCHS using JCHS's established exceptions request

Jefferson County cannot provide case management services to members enrolled in State Supported Living Services or Family Support services that reside outside of Jefferson and Clear Creek County. See the full **CMA Exceptions Process document** for more details.

Welcome

41st Annual Colorado Junior Wheelchair Sports Camp

Monday, June 3rd - Friday, June 7th from 9am - 3pm

This day camp is special...

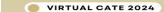
it is a sports camp for the physically disabled, designed for children who use a wheelchair or could use a wheelchair, so that they are able to compete in wheelchair sports or are ambulatory and have a physical disability. The Colorado Junior Wheelchair Sports Camp enables youth with disabilities to enjoy the same experience a day camp provides to their able-bodied peers. It will be most beneficial for youth with the ability to learn the rules of specific sports.

- This FREE sports camp is limited to the first 120 students with disabilities ages 6-21.
- The sports camp is scheduled daily, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. beginning Monday, June 3rd – Friday, June 7th. Daily lunch and snacks will be provided.
- All sports equipment will be provided, but participants should bring a swimsuit and towel each day. Camp will continue, regardless of weather conditions. Please bring rain gear.
- Overnight accommodations are available for out-of-town campers at an additional cost. Out-of-town participants should be self sufficient in regards to their daily needs unless a full-time support person is provided.

The wheelchair sports camp include participation in sports such as:







ONFERENCE FOR EDUCATION

THURS, JUN 6 - FRI, JUN 7



Center for Inclusive Design and Engineering (CIDE)







How to be an Advocate for your Child - The journey of raising a child with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) may require unwavering support from parent advocates who champion their children's rights, voices, inclusion, and overall needs. For parents of children, both adults and youth, navigating this advocacy path often becomes a lifelong commitment. In this THINK+change episode, join them as they sit down with Cindy, a seasoned parent advocate in Colorado. With over 30 years of experience advocating for her son, Cindy shares invaluable insights for fellow parents on their own advocacy journeys. Watch or Listen: https://thinkchange.training/how-to-advocate-for-your-child/





AtlantisReady Is Here!

Monthly Workshop Addressing Planning for Disasters and other Emergencies.

Our April workshop will address the C, **Communication**, in the C-MIST planning memory tool. We need to be able to receive, understand, and share timely information about changing conditions. The ability to communicate informs our behaviors, helps us stay connected and informed, and connects us to needed resources. We will learn what emergency alerts mean, how receive alerts, and create emergency communication plans.

C-MIST identifies people's actual needs during an emergency rather than labeling them as "special needs" or "vulnerable populations".

WHEN: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 6:00-7:00 PM

Atlantis

WHERE: Atlantis Apartments Community Room, 201 S. Cherokee Street, Denver, Co 80223

"We strive to ensure inclusive, accessible meetings that enable all individuals to engage fully. To request any accommodations or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact *us* at *peersupport@atlantiscommunity.org* or 303-733-9324 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to have enough time to fill the request

Accessible Trailer for Sale Seller's Description

2021 Hl Enterprise Harbor view MODELHV-29CKRBMB. Harborview wheelchair accessible travel trailer. This trailer has all the upgrades at the price of lower than brand new. Barely used over the last few years. Upgraded tankless water heater. Upgraded auto level with wireless access to control from phone app. Sure hands wall lift that can transfer a person from wheelchair to the bed. Has been great for us but unfortunately must sell for family matters. Also comes with a solar battery charger, camera monitor allowing you to see behind and both sides while digging. For towing, you have a Hemsley hitch that eliminates any kind of trailer

https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/item/1037092894392451/?mibextid=6ojiHh



FREE RAFFLE FOR PRIZES AND PIZZA FOR EVERYONE WHO ATTENDS!

Benefits

in Action



April 25, 2024 | 4pm-6pm

5100 Lincoln St, Denver, CO

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

athanataweenont@gormanusa.com sbaars@gormanusa.com





EXPLORE:

- Visuals to support understanding

Family Engagement Webinar Series: For Families & Professionals

AND MORE!

Tuesday, May 7, 14, & 21 6:00-7:00PM MDT

This 3- part webinar series is intended to support family engagement and give families tools to increase collaboration in the IEP process.

Family Engagement Beyond the IEP Meeting Tuesday, May 7, 2024 6:00-7:00PM MDT Registration Link & QR Code: https://www.tfaforms.com/5121139

□ ↑ □ o. 5-9.

Dispute Prevention & Tools to Improve IEP Team Collaboration

Tuesday, May 14, 2024 6:00-7:00PM MDT

Registration Link & OR Code: https://www.tfaforms.com/5121145

• **•**

Preparing for Transition IEP Meetings Tuesday, May 21, 2024

6:00-7:00PM MDT Registration Link & QR Code: https://www.tfaforms.com/5121146



Co-Sponsored By:







Phone: 719-531-9400 Email: awilson@peakparent.org www.peakparent.org



Scam Alert

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 28, 2024

oig.ssa.gov Media Inquiries: oig.de

Don't Hand Off Cash to "Agents" Real SSA OIG agents will never ask you to give them cash or gift cards

The Social Security Administration (SSA) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is receiving alarming reports that criminals are impersonating SSA OIG agents and are requesting that their targets meet them in person to hand off cash. SSA OIG agents will never pick up money at your door or in any type of exchange. This is a SCAM!

NEVER exchange money or funds of any kind with any individual stating they are an SSA OIG agent. This new scam trend introduces an element of physical danger to scams that never existed before

This recent method of handing cash directly to a phony agent is a dangerous twist on a known scam tactic that pressures individuals to pay in a specific way by using cash or gift cards. SSA OIG and official government agencies do NOT conduct business in this

"This is the latest example of how scammers are constantly evolving their tactics to intimidate or pressure people into making hasty decisions that usually involve stealing their target's hard-earned money," said Inspector General Gail S. Ennis. "While our agents are out in the field, they will not ask you for money. I urge you not to respond to these kinds of requests."

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'VE BEEN SCAMMED

Stop talking to the scammer. Notify financial institutions and safeguard accounts. Call the police and file a police report. File a complaint with the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (ic3.gov). Report Social Security-related scams to SSA OIG (oig.ssa.gov). Report other scams to the Federal Trade Commission (ftc.gov). Keep financial transaction information and the record of all communications with the scammer

Members of the press may make inquiries to Social Security OIG at oig.dcom@ssa.gov. Connect with us on social media: Facebook | Twitter | LinkedIn





The Care and Feeding of the Exceptional Parent

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 12:15-1:15 PM MST

CRAIG KNIPPENBERG, LCSW, M.DIV. AUTHOR OF SHAME FREE PARENTING





2024 EPILEPSY CONNECT SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM AT SWEDISH MEDICAL CENTER

A wide variety of presentations will be offered including Gene Therapy, Financial Navigation within the Medical System, and more.



Childrens Hospital CO Springs

Epilepsy Syndrome Classification



Financial Navigation of the Medical System



Childrens Hospital Alternative Therapies



Childrens Hospital Genomics/Gene Therapy



Jacob Pellinen MD **UC Health**

Changes & Seizures



Spanish Navegación Financiera del Sistema Medico

GOLD SPONSOR





life science



Emily Harvey Esq.

Disability Law CO

Disability Rights, Laws &



EPILEPSY 60



EPILEPSYCOLORADOWYOMING.ORG



FREE

FAMILY FUN WORKSHOP

"HEALTHY HEARTS & KIDS AS CHEFS"



Explore fun ways to add physical activity into your family routine



Create and taste food art with colorful fruits and vegetables



Receive a tool to help implement healthy eating at home

ADDRESS/WHERE TO MEET

11:15 am-12 pm

For more information please contact:



Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center





This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

PASCO

9197 W 6th Ave Suite 1000 Lakewood, CO 80215 (303) 233-3133 pascohh.com

SU EQUIPO BILINGÜE

Rebecca Bordner

Apoyo al Empleado





Angel Salazar Coordinador de















ver el reverso para mas

Taking great pride in fulfilling our PASCO Promise (Medicaid Made Easy, Together we Thrive, Advocacy for All, Care Through all Ages & Stages, Care for the Caregiver, Collaborative Care) every department in the organization has on its team a native Spanish speaker. From Human Resources to Payroll to Intake to Outreach to I/DD Case Management—no more will a person who is far more comfortable speaking in their native Spanish, need to rely on translation (which oftentimes overlooks nuances and subtleties).





















SAME MARKET - NEW LOCATION!

NEW - FOOD BOX PICKUPS!

Tuesdays, 9 a.m. - noon June 25 - Oct. 1 **Margaret Carpenter Rec Center** 11151 Colorado Blvd., Thornton

Fresh produce, food products, and goods from local vendors available for purchase. Anyone who receives SNAP, WIC, or Medicaid benefits or is at least 65 years of age will receive a \$25 voucher. Community and health resources, live

entertainment, and hot food.

Thursdays 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. June 27 - Oct. 3 **McAllister Park** 750 W. 96th Ave., Thornton

Instead of distributed vouchers, anyone who receives SNAP, WIC, or Medicaid benefits or is at least 65 years of age will receive a pre-packaged box of farm-fresh food. Community and health resources will still be provided.

No markets the weeks of Independence Day and Labor Day. For more information, please contact Thornton Community Connections at 720-977-5800, Visit goCoT.net/healthyfarmersmarkets for updates and news.















For families who have a child, ages 0 to 18, with a life-threatening medical condition such as cancer.



Birthday Toy Market

Saturday, May 4 Denver



Craft & Chat

Friday, May 10 Virtual



Sip & Paint

Sunday, May 19 Colorado Springs



Monster SuperCross

Saturday, May 4 Denver



Mother's Day Tea

Saturday, May 11 Loveland



Alpine Symphony

Sunday, May 26 Denver



To attend HopeKids events, apply at WWW.HOPEKIDS.ORG





ROUNDUP RESET & REFRESH! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 5

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Support our mission by helping us give our campsite a reset & refresh after each Family Camp session! You'll help make sure camp is sparkly and ready to welcome the next group of excited campers!

YOUR DAY MAY INCLUDE:

- Hardcore cleaning fun including sanitizing, laundry, and organizing
 Rockin' out to your favorite playlist while tidying cabins
 Free RRR t-shirt and Newman's
- Own product

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:

- Wear comfy, cleaning clothes!
- Bring a water bottle
- · Lunch will be provided

- If you are under the age of 18, you will need an adult with you.
- If you are interested in specialty volunteer projects or other services projects, please reach out to our team!

DETAILS OF THE DAY

LOCATION

Our campsite in Gypsum, Colorado! 8333 Colorado River Road, Gypsum, CO 81637

2024 DATES

If Sunday doesn't work, you can also request for the following Monday or Tuesday following!

- Sunday, August 25
- Sunday, September 8

- Sunday, September 22 Sunday, October 6 Sunday, October 13

SCHEDULE

9:30AM - Meet for orientation 10AM-12PM - Cleaning party 12:30PM - Lunch provided by RRR 12-2PM - Finish cleaning party 2PM - Wrap-up and head home

Sign up by emailing Volunteer@RoundupRiverRanch.org Questions? Email or call Kara at 970.524.5714



Emergency Access for People with Disabilities

Community Townhall

Hosted by the Colorado 911 Task Force Equal Access Committee

Saturday May 11th, 2024 1pm to 4pm

Atlantis Apartments Community Room

201 S Cherokee St, Denver, CO 80223

Prize Giveaways & Refreshments Provided!





Discuss your experience with 911 and contacting Emergency Services. Learn from 911 Professionals and ask questions about how the 911 process works. Help provide valuable insight to your local Emergency Services Partners.

RSVP for this event and take a short 5 minute survey by clicking the link.

tinyurl.com/townhall911

RSVP by May 6th. Space is limited.

Sign Up Today

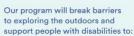
ASL interpreters and CART accommodations will be provided. To request specific accommodations, please RSVP.





adaptive cycling!

JFS is piloting an adaptive bike program, and Douglas County residents in the intellectual/ developmental disability (IDD) community over the age of 18 are encouraged to participate!



- Increase mobility.
- · Enjoy the benefits of improved health, both physical and mental.
- · Build social connections.
- Work on bike and safety skills.
- · Have fun in their community!



We will provide adaptive bikes and safety gear. The program will run from June through September at Parker Fieldhouse (18700 Plaza Dr, Parker, CO 80134), and Medicaid waivers and private pay will be accepted.



Interested?

Please scan the QR code and complete a short interest form or contact Maria Erlandson, CTRS, at merlandson@jewishfamilyservice.org.





BIRTH TO 4 YEARS

"WE HELP AND LOVE EVERYONE"

DAYCARE & SUMMER CAMP FOR CHILDREN WITH SPEICAL NEEDS **OPENING JUNE 2024**

7AM-6PM | MONDAY-FRIDAY

Hurry up and register your son or daughter using one of the above QR Codes!

WHAT'S SPECIAL AT OUR PLACE?

- We are the only Weld County Childcare Center providing Respite Level Daycare
- · We have specially trained staff to work with children with delays and disabilities
- Our child to adult ratio is 4 to 1
- We are accepting CCCAP
- Offering Summer Camp for children with disabilities 5-20 years of age
- Brand new facilities



5 YEARS TO 20 YEARS

WWW.WHALERESPITE.ORG

The 10th Annual Envision



Celebrating 60 years serving Weld County





Race

Registration

Saturday, June 8, 2024 Check-in & Registration opens - 7am Race starts - 8:30am @ Envision 1050 37th St. Evans 80620

scan the QR codes for more info!

Vendor Booth







Thank you for helping empower people to Live, Love, work and play their way! www.5kinmyshoes.com / 970-313-2603 / cewert@envisionco.org



IDDEAS

LIFT YOUR VOICE, ELEVATE THE COMMUNITY

Support People Living with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Denver Human Services (DHS) is seeking people who live in Denver that have experience with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to join the IDDEAS advisory council. Council members give DHS advice about the wants and needs of their community.

The IDDEAS program manages local tax dollars that help Denver residents with I/DD.

ARE YOU OUR NEXT COUNCIL MEMBER?

In addition to having personal or professional experience with I/DD and living in Denver, future council members* will:

- · Attend monthly meetings virtually on Zoom
- · Share their ideas and opinions with other people
- · Care about making Denver a better place and having fun!

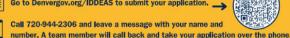
If a council member has an I/DD, they can either live within Denver OR spend time in Denver working, attending day programs, Denver Public Schools, or similar activities.



WAYS TO APPLY



Go to Denvergov.org/IDDEAS to submit your application.



Submit a written application by email to iddeas@denvergov.org or mail to IDDEAS Program, 1200 Federal Blvd., Floor 4, Denver, CO 80204.

ACCESSIBILITY

Because we're committed to promoting access and equity on our council, we offer:

- A \$60 stipend for each council meeting you attend
- Any help you may need to attend and share at the meetings
- Various accommodations: You have the right to get help with spoken or written language, sign language interpretation, live captioning, or accommodations for disabilities. If you need any of these services can ask for them by emailing iddeas@denvergov.org at least three business days before you need them You won't be charged for these services.

Do you have a child support order for a child with chronic, high, and lifelong support needs?

Want to improve the system?



We want to hear from you!



Are you a parent or caregiver with a past or present child support order as a payor or payee? Would you like to help improve the system? The Child Support Commission would love to hear from you about what is working and what suggestions you have for improvement!

The Children with Disabilities Committee meets virtually on the first Thursday of every month at 12:00-1:00 pm. Join via Google Meet:

> Video call link: https://meet.google.com/jkd-uqgh-wob Or dial: (US) +1 404-566-5692 PIN: 883 402 201#

Contact Kathryn LePome, Advisor to the Commission, for more information: Kathryn.LePome@state.co.us 303.319.5550



Music & Sound Therapy For

Sunday, May 19th 4-5pm

Pet Loss

Tickets: S30/

Teddy Cat Cafe Support

person

Online Registration: teddycatcafe.com



What to expect: **Bonnie Houpt of** *Connecting with others Rhythmic Roots Music Services Sound therapy meditation & Colleen Christy of *Group songwriting Rainbow Sound Therapy *Cat Cuddles





Arts and Community Exploration (ACE) Program

Open House

Whether you're looking to make new friends, explore the community, volunteer, or just have some fun, ACE has something for everyone. Join us at one, or all, of our open houses and learn how to become a part of our family!

- . Tour the ACE program and view participants' original works of art.
- Enjoy outdoor games and food demonstrations.

BINGO Night - win prizes! April 9, 4-6 p.m.

Art Gallery - get creative! May 15, 4-6 p.m. Balloon painting demonstration

Block Party - meet new people! June 11, 2:30-4:30 p.m.





We're Hiring



SEASONAL PROGRAM LEAD

Execute and lead
Colorado-based
Extended Day Travel
Programs while
supporting a group of
neurodiverse travelers.

APPLY TODAY



REQUIREMENTS:

- Experience working with individuals with disabilities
- Passionate about travel, adventure, inclusion, & accessibility
- Ability to work with a high degree of autonomy & initiative

TIME COMMITMENT:

- (minimum) 10 hours (maximum) 30 hours per week
- Work days: Friday's, Saturday's, and/or Sunday's beginning May through Aug
- · Opportunity for year-round work

BENEFITS:

- Compensation will vary based on experience, education, training, credentials, & performance
- Opportunity to travel locally, domestically, & internationally with The Gnomes all expenses paid

www.thetravelinggnomes.org / info@thetravelinggnomes.org



In the world of fashion, inclusivity and diversity are becoming increasingly important. Denver Fashion Week in partnership with Guided By Humanity will shine a spotlight on incredibly talented designers with disabilities, seen and unseen, who are not only breaking barriers but also revolutionizing the industry with their adaptive and universally designed clothing. The designers have used their lives experiences and unique perspectives to create fashion pieces that cater to a wider audience. From inclusive sizing to adaptive features that make dressing easier for individuals with disabilities, their collections are not only stylish but also functional. By embracing universal design principles, they are paving the way for a more inclusive and accessible fashion industry. Featuring designs from GBH's everyBODY accessible athleisure line, adaptive clothing from No Limbits, one-of-a-kind sustainable pieces designed by Denver artist Quána Madison, and adaptive wear from DE-FY Wear, this year's All Inclusive Fashion show will offer a fresh and innovative approach to the fashion world.

Through their work, these designers have used their lived experiences and unique perspectives to create fashion pieces that cater to a wider audience.

Please extend this invitation to your family and friends as well. Let's come together and celebrate the latest trends and designs in a fun and stylish gathering.

Event Schedule:

3:00 P.M.- Red Carpet Cocktail Reception

4:00 P.M.- Doors are closed / No entry

5:00 P.M.- Start Seating

5:20 P.M.- First segment

5:45 P.M.- Entertainment

6:00 P.M.- Second segment

<u>Tickets are now on sale!! Get yours today!!</u>

GUIDED BY HUMANITY





1 LEARNING CEU

Seeking Research Participation - Functional MRI Research Study

Individuals with autism spectrum disorders are needed for a research study to learn more about how exercise and social gaming affect brain responses.

Volunteers must:

- Have a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder without intellectual disability
- Be at least 13 years old
- Be capable of mild to moderate exercise
- Not have metal or electronic devices in their body
- Not be claustrophobic

Study participants:

- Will complete MRI Scans
- Will complete blood draws
- Will complete tests of cognitive abilities, such as memory and atten-
- Will complete questionnaires about physical activity and emotions
- May be asked to participate in 10 weeks of exercise or social gaming

You will be compensated for your time.

For more information contact, Principal Investigator: Jason Tregellas,

MRIstudy@ucdenver.edu or 303-724-2817.

Infant Safety Events



K Partners

ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

choose from 3 different days and locations

Thornton - Wednesday, May 22nd

Community Connections: 9471 Dorothy Blvd, "Pine Forest Room," Thornton

- 9:00 AM-10:30 AM Infant CPR (MUST REGISTER)
- 10:30 AM-12:00 PM Car seat checks/installs, safety demos, giveaways (NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY)

Register for CPR class: https://shorturl.at/dAK17

Brighton - Saturday, June 29th

Hughes Station Community Room: 231 N. Main St, Brighton

- 9:00 AM 10:30 AM Infant CPR (MUST REGISTER)
- 10:30 AM 12:00 PM Car seat checks/installs, safety demos, giveaways (NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY)

Register for CPR class: https://shorturl.at/aezFG

Westminster - Tuesday, July 23rd

Adams County Human Services: 11860 N. Pecos St, "Apple B Room," Westminster

- 9:00 AM 10:30 AM Infant CPR (MUST REGISTER)
- 10:30 AM 12:00 PM Car seat checks/installs, safety demos, giveaways (NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY)

Register for CPR class: https://shorturl.at/htR47

























PRESENTED BY THE COMMERCE CITY SENIOR COMMISSION

SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR

SATURDAY, JUNE 8 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. EAGLE POINTE RECREATION CENTER 6060 PARKWAY DR.

Come learn about free and low-cost resources for seniors in addition to enjoying free food, giveaways, demonstrations, and educational seminars!

















For questions, contact the Senior Commission at SeniorCommission@c3gov.com



Do you live in Highlands Ranch, Littleton, Lone Tree, or Castle Pines and need house cleaning services? Our community partner, CompanyClean, is offering a special promotion where you can name your price, and they will donate all proceeds to Developmental Pathways!

Space is limited, so secure your spot by booking their cleaning services and mentioning this promotion. Once the cleaning is complete, you can choose the amount to donate, which will then be donated to DP. Check if your address falls within their service area by visiting https:// companyclean.co/service-areas/.

Take advantage of this chance to support individuals with disabilities while enjoying top-notch cleaning services. For more details and to schedule your cleaning, visit Company Clean's website at https:// companyclean.co/name-your-price-for-charity/ and watch the video to-

Advance Care Planning Quality of Life - Hospice Care

Why Choose Hospice When Considering End of Life Care

Hospice care focuses on the care, comfort, and quality of life of a person with a serious illness who is approaching the end of life. At some point, it may not be possible to cure a serious illness, or a patient may choose not to undergo certain treatments. Hospice is designed for this situation. Learn more about how Hospice services work, who provides them, where they are provided, and how they are paid for, as well as tips for making decisions to choose a Hospice program if that plan of care meets your needs in the future.

DATE AND TIME: April 25, 2024 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Register

TOPIC:

Quality of Life: Hospice

Care

PRESENTER: Eileen Doherty, MS **Executive Director** Colorado Gerontological Society



CAREGIVERS GROUP

A space to discuss the stresses, challenges, and rewards of caring for a loved one

Wednesday's 6:00-7:30 P.M. Meets virtually on a weekly basis 10 weeks May 29 - July 31

Contact: Shaelyn McCabe shaelyn@lifereimaginedtherapygroup.com (720)248-8406

THERAPY GROUP



Pricing: \$50 per session or \$450 paid in full



SPECIAL HEAR OUR VOICES PRESENTATION BEING A SELF ADVOCATE: LOOK WHO HAS DONE IT AND SO CAN YOU!

Presented by Tina Fitzgerald - Self-Advocate and 2024 LEND

Tina is a Self Advocate from Syracuse NY that has worked with a variety of people as an advocate and Case Manager in her career. She loves to help people find passion in their lives. Tina holds a BSE in Special Education and a Masters in Social Work.

April 25th from 6pm to 7pm

REGISTRATION LINK:
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJISD-GTQTGSH9P9R4WRNUVKU5Y7QGR2VQ4Q

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL: NHASTINGS@WIHD.ORG NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME. PLEASE SHARE FLYER WITH OTHER SELF-ADVOCATES.



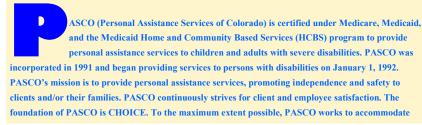






PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES OF COLORADO

9197 West 6th Avenue **Suite 1000** Lakewood, Colorado 80215 (303)233-3122 info@pascohh.com





Please help PASCO fill up its robust community calendar, by submitting; events, fundraisers, resource fairs, jubilees, book signings, gettogethers, shindigs, open-houses, special speakers, barn-raisings, pancake breakfasts, anniversary parties, celebrations and good old fashioned get togethers. https://pascohh.com/submit-event/. For questions or concerns please feel free to reach out.



RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES INCLUDE:

ADHD, Dyslexia, Executive Functioning, Autism, Mental Health, Speech, Sensory Processing, and morel

Saturday, June 22 11:00AM - 2:00 PM

Accelerated Schools

2160 S. Cook Street Denver, CO 80210

Register Today



FAMILY FUN:

Food Trucks, Inflatable Obstacle Course, Face Painting, Balloon Animals, and fun for the whole family!

> CONNECT DISCOVER **EMPOWER** UNITE









PASCO proudly serves the following counties:



Town Hall Events

All members, families of members, and advocates are invited to attend one of two Town Halls in May. Come meet the new Jeffco Case Management Agency (CMA) Team and hear from DDRC leadership. We have been working together to design, create, and develop the CMA and would like to share our vision and hear your questions.

- Thursday, May 2 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Jefferson County Courts & Admin Building, 100 Jefferson County Pkwy, Golden, CO 80401 in Hearing Room
- Tuesday, May 14 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Developmental Disabilities Resource Center (DDRC), 11177 West 8th Avenue, Lakewood, CO 80215 in Twin Lakes Conference Room

Registration is required to receive access to the virtual link and encouraged for in-person attendance.

