

Southern Colorado Region Respite Coalition  
Meeting 1/19/17

Linda (SKSF)     Anita (Health Dept.)     Connie (Arc)     Shay (Playdate)     Beth Ann (TRE)  
Sarah (TRE)     Georgette (Zach's Place)     Pam (SKSF)

- Discuss 2017 Goals
- 2016 Respite Fair – 14 attendees at fair, not a large turnout but all were able to make good personal connections. There were some good quality discussions and attendees were able to sign up on the spot (no follow-up due to no sign in sheet-will work on that for 2017 fair [space for phone # and email and how you heard about respite fair section]). Linda suggest that we start planning earlier and broaden our advertising – get it to school districts and any free event sites asap. Connie will also have better access to Arc community events person as she is back in the office after having her baby.
- Due to the delay of quarterly meetings, Connie will work on an email response form which will be sent out for any feedback after the fair (difficulty remembering after X # of months between fair and next meeting).
- It was decided that we should keep the respite fair going as an annual fair and hopefully grow to help more families get the assistance that they need. Plan to have the fair a little earlier in the year but make sure that it doesn't conflict with PPITT fair. We tentatively scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:30 and the Arc building will be completed by then so the fair will be held there, either 10 or 12 N. Meade Ave., 80909.
- SCRRRC next quarterly meeting is April 20<sup>th</sup> and will be held back at the Health Dept. on Garden of the Gods at the Citizens Service Center due to the availability of call in attendance. Anita will check on room availability.
- Sarah advised that she phoned into the state meeting last week – there is a committee formed for Medicaid rate increases, this committee will only be able to put together suggestions and send them to legislators). Respite rates are too low; they do not cover the services provided. Currently Colorado is 47<sup>th</sup> in pay rates for services that we all provide. Can make more money by going to almost any other state. Per Sarah, the vouchers were not discussed and there wasn't too much accomplished in the meeting as after the speakers, there were a lot of complaining and no solutions to the issues so the meeting ended.
- The “person centered” services that the state is working toward will cost our companies more and without more money coming in for this requirement, we will all be forced to pull from programs to support the costs. This will ultimately impact staff retention, if we can't pay enough to retain staff, they will look elsewhere for employment which in turn will cost more in training.
- Anita suggest that we revisit website updates yearly – All agree
- Program updates – Arc Sweetheart Dance will take place on Friday, February 17 (flyer handed out-I will also attached it to this email) and the 2017 Annual Dinner & Awards Celebration Building for Change will take place May 20 (flyer/Nomination form attached). This information is also on the Arc Facebook page as well as their website.
- Arc 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Achieve With Us film festival will take place on March 1, 2017 at the Stargazers Theater (full info on Arc website calendar)
- Positive exposures done by TRE (by a New York photographer as well as a local photographer) is currently at the Chapel Hills Mall and due to availability of space, its stay will be extended indefinitely at no charge which is really great exposure and helps to shed some light on a

population that typically hide. Look at possibly getting this set up at the airport once it is taken down from the mall.

- Playdate having 10 year anniversary (Big to-do) 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April (4/8/17) from 10 – 2, Invitations will be sent.
- Health Dept. change another nurse was hired, partner with DHS – more with special needs in foster care. Higher referrals over the last 6-8 months working on getting more exposure.
- DHS has 3 social workers 1 TRE house at DHS
- Mainstream foster kids don't get enough...
- Strong and Health Families partnership with TANF – completion rate low – DHS reorganize and not doing classroom piece – will find a nurse – unsure of how it will play out.
- Gearing up again for SibShops, have spring dates and through the school year grades K-6<sup>th</sup>. Arc helps to support this and we couldn't do it without them. \*Some interest in a different model for Jr. High – High school as well as for adults.
- Transportation is crucial and difficult – staff maxed – all districts out at same time – Metro Mobility – Amblicab – no ride a-longs – parents don't feel safe – need ideas. Work with schools – Schools won't let outside staff into schools.
- If know of other programs that might be interested in attending SCRRC, let them know.
- Would like to see more adult

Our next SCRRC meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2017 @ 9:00 AM at the [Senior Resource Development Agency 230 N Union Ave Pueblo, CO 81003](#).

I will be sending out a reminder soon

**Next meeting dates are April 20, 2017, July 20, 2017, September 21, 2017 and January 18, 2018**