

Department of Human Services Unit Reports

Adult Services Unit

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STAFF

- The new Case Aide starts on September 23.

CASELOAD

Adult Protection:

- One open case.
- Guardianship: Hallie (3), Joanna (2)

Single Entry Point/Long Term Care Medicaid

138 clients, 9 intakes, 1 nursing home referrals, 0 denied

Hallie (67)

Joanna (69)

ACTIVITIES

- Commodities is currently scheduled to start up again on September 25.

Case Management Agency

- Case managers continue system work arounds and training to ensure timely Prior Authorizations Requests for community partners.

Adult Protective Services

- Case Managers will be attending National Adult Protection Services Association Conference September 16-18th in Albuquerque, NM.
- Case Managers completed their Quality Assurance Survey. Joanna Hribar had 2 guardianship cases without deficiencies. Hallie Coulter had 2 guardianship cases without deficiencies. Areas for improvement identified were: baseline assessments, uploading legal documents to the Colorado Adult Protection System, and case plan reviews.

Assistance Payments Unit (Eligibility)

STAFF

- The Department is Fully Staffed

CASELOAD

New Applications

- Adult Financial (cash assistance): 15
- Colorado Works: 7
- Medicaid: 61
- SNAP: 43
- Expedited SNAP: 15

Redeterminations

- Adult Financial: 3
- Colorado Works: 4
- Medicaid: 38
- Snap: 79

Long-Term Care Nursing Facility cases

- 28 active cases

ACTIVITIES

- Timeliness:
 - Application timeliness: 93%
 - Card in hand timeliness: 90%
- Tayla, Dylan and Kathleen visited Las Animas County and received some great information from their experts so
- that we can fully implement the Workforce Development program to fully offer the Work Activities for our
- customers.
- Carey and Kathleen visited Las Animas County to see how their Call Center is set up and we received some
- valuable information that we can use to better our Customer Service to our community members
- Kathleen completed the required IPV Training for CCCAP

Child Welfare Unit

STAFF

- The unit is currently fully staffed.

CASELOAD

- 20 open cases
 - 18 cases are open dependency or neglect cases
 - 3 voluntary case
- We have a total of 24 children
 - Foster care: 9 children
 - Kinship care: 8 children
 - Home with parents: 7 children
 - Youth in Office: 0
 - Medically fragile in hospital: 0
- Ashley Wilkins, Leadworker
 - 9 cases; 3 assessments
- April Romero, Caseworker I
 - 3 cases; 2 assessments
- Kyle Gomez, Caseworker I
 - 5 Cases; 4 assessment
- Krista Cordova, Caseworker I
 - 3 Cases; 4 Assessments
- Dreama Ortivez, Supervisor
 - 1 case (courtesy for Trinidad)

We currently have two county foster homes

October 1, 2024 is Foster Home Audit

ACTIVITY UPDATES

- We have two adoptions upcoming. We are hoping for September.
- We returned two placements to out of state parents.
- Kinship audit passed. One case scored 98% and other case scored 89%.
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Family Resource Center

STAFF

- FRC is fully staffed.

CASELOAD

Referrals

- 10 Total: 7 agency, 3 walk-ins.

Ongoing Case Management/Parent Support

- Huerfano: 10 families
- Las Animas: 8 families

Basic Needs/Services

- Huerfano: 3

Playgroup Participants

- 15 families

ACTIVITIES

Trainings and Meetings Held and/or Attended by FRC Director/Staff

- o 2024 CoSHI Summit
- o Las Animas County FEM Improvement Discussion Part 2
- o PSSF Intensive Case Management/Kinship/Adoption Support Guidelines Meeting
- o Huerfano Las Animas IOG Meeting
- o Community Coalition – Creating the Change
- o FEM Initial Meet Up with Lindsey
- o Effective Collaboration CMP Training
- o HULA Meeting
- o Collaborative Management Program State Steering Committee Meeting
- o Huerfano County Harassment Training
- o PSSF All-Site Meeting
- o Benefits in Action and FRC Introduction Meeting
- o Collaborative Management Program Southeast Regional Meeting
- o Weekly Staff and Supervisor Case Planning Check-Ins
- o FRC Monthly Staff Meeting
- o DHS Supervisors Meeting
- o FRCA Summer EBT Kick-Off/Informational Meeting

The Collaborative Management Program

As defined in C.R.S. § 24-1.9-102 and 12 CCR 2509 Section 7.303.3, the Collaborative Management Program promotes the adoption of collaborative management structures

at the county level to achieve a variety of goals, including:

- Develop a more uniform system of collaborative management that includes the input, expertise, and active participation of parent advocacy or family advocacy organizations
- Reduce duplication and eliminate fragmentation, and increase quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of services delivered to children or families who would benefit from integrated multi-agency services
- Encourage cost sharing among service providers and cost-reduction for services
- Achieve positive outcomes for children and families, particularly in the child welfare system in Colorado

Huerfano and Las Animas Counties were awarded \$174,068.00 for continued work with the Collaborative Management Program and our local Interagency Oversight Group! We are grateful to the stakeholders for IOG participation and their support of prevention and intervention programming through school districts, agencies, and the courts, with a dedication of improving outcomes for children, youth, and families involved in multiple agencies.

More information can be found at <https://cdhs.colorado.gov/cmp>.

Colorado Sexual Health Initiative (CoSHI)

- The FRC's CoSHI Coordinator, Giana Barela, and the FRC's Director, Andrea Montoya, attended the 2024 CoSHI Summit. From The CDHS CO4KIDS Community Blog:

On August 5-7, almost 70 individuals from across Colorado's youth-serving organizations convened in Avon for the fourth annual CoSHI Summit. Over the three-day conference, speakers from diverse initiatives and community organizations led group discussions and self-reflection activities to teach strategies for professionals to more effectively work with youth and communities.

A pervasive theme explored throughout the presentations was the importance of connecting culture and history to sexual health advocacy. The Denver Indian Family Resource Center (DIFRC) discussed how connections to native culture like ribbon work, beading, and teaching the medicine wheel act as a protective factor for native youth. América Ramírez from the Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR) detailed the history of reproductive rights and justice in Colorado, the United States, and Puerto Rico.

Other sessions — such as presentations by Life as Told by Youth, Andrew Aleman with the Lived Experience (LEX) Project, and Gen Morris from Western Slope

Empowerment — highlighted the power of storytelling, centering lived experiences, and taking a trauma-informed approach. After learning how to “Harness Your Innate Power” from Dominique Morgan of The Fund for Trans Generations at Borealis Philanthropy, and investigating the intersection of faith and sexual health education with Reverend Candace Woods participants left the Summit with new internal insights and skills. The hope is that participants will use the knowledge they have gained to continue engaging in complex conversations with young people and the communities that support them.

More information about CoSHI can be found here: <https://cdhs.colorado.gov/CoSHI>

To read the CDHS CO4KIDS Community Blog: <https://co4kids.org/category/community-blog/>

Organizational Report

STAFF

- Currently fully staffed.
- Adult Services Case-Aide starts on September 23.
- Need cross training resources.

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- We are ready to start re-engaging in FEM meetings.
- We are starting budgeting and financial work at our office.
 - Training at end of September for finance
- Starting professional development with Child Welfare Unit on Infant and Early childhood mental health.
- Currently working through complete contracts review.
- Management Evaluation questions have been released. Review begins in October. Anticipate 60-80 hours of time to complete necessary documentation.
- We would like to explore a four day work week. We have a sample schedule.
- Hunger Relief:

Care and Share

The Huerfano County DHS office runs a Care and Share distribution program one time per month. The program is run by Deah Weller with support from the HC Road and Bridge Department and with volunteers comprised of DHS family members.

June 2024

Total Households: 403

Total Adults: 628

Total Children: 73

Commodities

Commodities are scheduled to have a distribution on the 25th.

- Continue to have ongoing meetings with the state to support training.