

# minutes

LACHC		
11.3.2016	12:00-1:30 pm	Rm 330, Municipal Building
Meeting called to order at 12:04 p.m.	Morrie Pongratz, Vice President	
Approval of Agenda and Minutes		
A motion to approve the agenda as presented was moved by Member Suzanne Canfield, and seconded by Member Donna McHenry; motion was unanimously approved.		
Minutes for the meeting of October 6, 2016, were unanimously approved; Member Bernadette Lauritzen moved, Member Donna McHenry seconded.		
Round Table of Member Activities		
Only announcements noted here		
Los Alamos Family Council (L AFC): Joy Beery announced the Youth Activity Centers are in need of staff to hire as program director and youth councilors, working with children grades 3-8. Benefits include paid time off. For more information, please contact Joy or Cheryl at 662-4160, or visit <a href="http://lafamilycouncil.org/">http://lafamilycouncil.org/</a>		
Los Alamos Community Foundation: David Izraelevitz, President, announced a series of training sessions available for nonprofit organizations to include Thursday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 5p.m. Joanna Gillespie, LAPS Foundation, will be presenting information about Board Development at UNM-LA. To sign up for future events, please contact <a href="mailto:info@losalamoscf.org">info@losalamoscf.org</a>		
Los Alamos Teen Center/The Family YMCA: Sylvan Argo announced the 1-year Anniversary Open House Celebration on Thursday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup> from 5-7 p.m. There will be teen-led tours, program demonstrations, refreshments and music. She went on to mention the most recent quarterly report indicates attendance at the teen center has gone up 20% in one year, and up 96% from the previous year! The Teen Center is looking to hire floor staff and substitutes for shorter shifts. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LATeenCenter/">https://www.facebook.com/LATeenCenter/</a> or call 695-7415.		
LAPS Prevention Office: Bernadette Lauritzen announced Native American History Month/ Rock Your Mocs event during the week of November 14-18 at Los Alamos Middle School. Students are encouraged to wear moccasins all week. For more information, please contact 663-3252.		
LARSO: Collette Fordham, for Pauline Schneider, announced the Festival of Trees will be on November 12 <sup>th</sup> at the Betty Ehart Senior Center (BESC) from 10am – 2pm. There will be a craft fair, live music, visits with Santa, and a silent auction. For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:larsobesc@hotmail.com">larsobesc@hotmail.com</a> or call 662-8920.		
Los Alamos Visiting Nurse Service (LAVNS): Collette Fordham reminded members about the annual Memorial Services to be held at Fuller Lodge on Sunday, November 6 <sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm. She urged folks to call to RSVP. For more information, please contact Debbie Weber at 662-2525.		
LAC Social Services: Deni Fell, Case Coordination Specialist, announced Open Enrollment is underway with Medicare from October 15-December 7 <sup>th</sup> , Affordable Care Act Insurance Open Enrollment began November 1 <sup>st</sup> , ending January 31, 2017. Also, many thanks to Ken Hendricks and Chip Cooper for their time and efforts in helping to launch the brand new Los Alamos Community Health Council website <a href="http://www.lachc.net">www.lachc.net</a> For questions or comments, please contact Deni at 663-1875 and please visit <a href="http://www.losalamosnm.us/cs/socialservice/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.losalamosnm.us/cs/socialservice/Pages/default.aspx</a> for general Social Services Division information.		
Home Instead Senior Care: Ken Hendricks, on behalf of the Older Adult Services Network, announced a Dementia Friendly workshop targeting caregivers to be held at the Betty Ehart Senior Center on Friday, November 11 <sup>th</sup> at 1pm. For more information, please contact 662-8920.		
LAFD/Falls Coalition: Donna McHenry invited all members to a Falls Coalition training event on November 17 <sup>th</sup> at Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 11:30am. She also mentioned that conversations have begun concerning mobile integrated health care involving LAFD. For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:donna.mchenry@lacnm.us">donna.mchenry@lacnm.us</a> or 662-8307.		

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LAPD: Jenn Bartram, Victim Advocate, announced the informational brochures have just been approved for Russian translation. For more information, please contact 663-3511.

JJAB: Andrea Cunningham announced her new position as Coordinator, who will share duties along with Co-Coordinator, Claire Beauparlant. For more information, please visit <http://losalamosjjab.com/> or contact [andreaacjjab@gmail.com](mailto:andreaacjjab@gmail.com)

LAPS Board: Andrea Cunningham spoke of the importance of providing community support for Teacher Appreciation Day, Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. She went on to emphasize the importance of providing student health services and encouraged members of the Health Council to drafting a letter endorsing County Council's concerns regarding closure of the Public Health Office.

LAPS: Kristine Coblenz, Program Director for the Healthy Schools Initiative, began new position on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. She's been tasked to lead LAPS' Strategic Plan Focus Area for student and staff well-being. For more information, please contact [k.coblenz@laschools.net](mailto:k.coblenz@laschools.net)

LA Cares: June Gladney announced the National Letter Carriers Food Drive will be on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to place non-perishables at your mailbox or at Smith's. Also, Church World Services CROP Hunger Walk will be on November 20<sup>th</sup> at Los Alamos Middle School, registration is at 1pm, walking at 2pm. LA Cares receives 25% of funds raised by this event. To find out more about CROP, please contact Lynn Wsocki Smith 661-9619. For information about LA Cares, please call 661-8015.

Self Help, Inc.: Ellen Morris Bond encouraged members to visit the Mental Health Access Project (MHAP) website as new features are being added to include mental health first aid training schedules for 2016/2017, autism spectrum resources, and Veteran's Services resources coming soon. [www.losalamosmentalhealth.org](http://www.losalamosmentalhealth.org) For more information, please contact Ellen or Jackie at 662-4666, or visit [selfhelpla@gmail.com](mailto:selfhelpla@gmail.com)

LAC Social Services: Kim Gabaldon, Social Services Manager, announced new public walk-in hours are Tuesday through Friday 9am – 12pm, and 1pm – 4pm; all other times by appointment. She also thanked all Social Services contractors for submitting quarterly reports which can be viewed at <http://www.losalamosnm.us/cs/socialservices> For more information, please call the main line 662-8068.

LAMC: Lisa Wallace, new Interim CNO, introduced herself and made the following announcements – LAMC welcomes new Interim CEO John Whiteside; DaVita Dialysis Clinic is open, please contact Dr. Mills at MANNM at 661-8900; Children's Clinic welcomes new pediatrician, Dr. Meyer who recently relocated from Los Angeles; Dr. Amrani is treating patients with Barrett's esophagus using a radio-frequency ablation technique to remove pre-cancerous polyps. People with acid-reflux issues may be good candidates, please contact 661-3030 for more information; LAMC has received funding to improve Imaging Department as a first step toward digital tomosynthesis mammography; Classic Air Medical is offering Fire and Ice EMS conference November 18-20; and LAMC is sponsoring Los Alamos Family Council's Fall Ball Boots & Badges Saturday, November 12 at Buffalo Thunder Resort at 6 p.m. For more information please contact MaryBeth Maassen [marybeth.maassen@lpnt.net](mailto:marybeth.maassen@lpnt.net) or call (505) 661-9184.

Family Strengths Network (FSN): Carie Fanning announced Gingerbread House Building coming soon: Toddlers on 12/7 from 10:30-2, Elementary ages 12/7 & 12/14 from 1:30-3:30; and Adults and Teens on 12/9 from 4:00-6:00. Toddler fees are \$10 per kit, and Elementary, Teens & Adults \$20 per kit; all materials are provided. For more information, please visit [www.lafsn.org](http://www.lafsn.org) or call 662-4515.

Los Alamos Family Council (LAFAC): Cheryl Pongratz announced the Fall Ball: Boots & Badges, an annual fund raising event to be held on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Buffalo Thunder Resort & Casino. The annual Cookie Walk event will be on the first Saturday in December, a great way to get your holiday cookies. For more information, please call 662-4160, or visit <http://lafamilycouncil.org/>

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Kiwanis: Morrie Pongratz announced Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7-11 a.m. at the Better Ehart Senior Center, a free event also accepting canned food donations. For more information, please call Morrie 699-5312.

## Update: Basic Needs Subcommittee

Ellen Morris Bond

Ellen Morris Bond reminded members that the Basic Needs Subcommittee meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at Smith's Marketplace upstairs meeting room and discussions are on-going regarding homelessness, food, transitional housing and some unresolved issues related to mental health and alternatives to jail. She welcomed Jackie Fernandes, ENMU Social Work intern, to share some medical related resources for the community's' immigrant population that can also be found at [www.NMPovertylaw.org](http://www.NMPovertylaw.org) For more information, please contact Ellen or Jackie at 662-4666 or [selfhelpla@gmail.com](mailto:selfhelpla@gmail.com)

## Presentation: LAC Energy Assistance Program

Lisa Romero

Lisa Romero, Senior Management Analyst & Utilities/311 Supervisor, presented information about the Department of Public Utilities program available to assist low income qualifying residents of Los Alamos County. Residents can apply for up to 30% assistance toward electric, gas and water portions of their bill during the winter months (October through March) based upon the average usage from the previous year. Another program for seniors over 65 years of age may also be available year around, in addition to a one-time lump sum assistance any time of the year for those who qualify, and a new application must be submitted each year. The assistance fund is made possible through generous donations made by other County residents as an option on their utility bill. Ms. Romero stated over \$5000 assistance has been provided helping 6 year-round customers, 23 customers in 2015 and 45 in 2014. For more information, contact Los Alamos County Utilities at 662-8333.

## Discussion: County Council Letter Regarding Public Health Office

Morrie Pongratz & Kim Gabaldon

Morrie Pongratz opened the discussion by providing members a moment to read the October 21, 2016 letter written by County Council Chair, Rick Reiss, addressed to NM DOH Public Health Director for the NE Region, Susan Gonzales and NM DOH Deputy Director of Regions, Barbara Howe regarding the operation of our local Public Health Office. Kim Gabaldon, Social Services Manager, summarized the Councilor's requests:

- What the timeline is for filling the vacant Public Health Nurse Manager position in Los Alamos;
- Who is temporarily filling this role in the interim, and how our residents can contact him or her; and
- An assurance that local levels of services will once again be restored once this position is filled.

Ms. Gabaldon went on to share that New Mexico Association of Counties Health Services Affiliate has also been made aware of the unfortunate resignation of the Nurse Manager and current status of the Public Health Office. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Pongratz extended thanks to Councilor Reiss for the letter and suggested the following motion:

*"I move the Los Alamos Community Health Council draft a letter to endorse the October 21, 2016, letter written by County Council Chair, Rick Reiss, and sent to Susan Gonzales, NMDOH Public Health Director for the NE Region, and Barbara Howe, NMDOH Deputy Director of Regions."*

The motion was moved by Member Donna McHenry, and seconded by Member Sylvan Argo; the motion passed unanimously.

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President's Report	
	Cynthia Goldblatt
No report; Cynthia was not present.	
Next Meetings/Other	
	Morrie Pongratz
Next meeting: December 1, 2016 Presentations: Resiliency Subcommittee Future Presentations: LAC Emergency Management/Code Red, Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC), Las Cumbres Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Food Depot, WEB Crew, and others	
Meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.	

Respectfully Submitted,

Deni Fell, Coordinator  
Los Alamos Community Health Council