

Minutes

Los Alamos Community Health Council		
8.3.2017	12:00-1:30 pm	Room 330, Municipal Building
Meeting called to order at 12:00 p.m.	Cynthia Goldblatt, Chair	
Approval of Agenda		
A motion to approve the agenda as presented was moved by Larry Martinez and seconded by Ken Hendricks; motion was unanimously approved.		
Approval of Minutes		
A motion to approve both sets of minutes from May 4 and June 1, 2017 as presented was moved by Pauline Schneider and seconded by Ellen Morris Bond; motion was unanimously approved.		
Round Table of Member Activities & Announcements		
<p>Somos Amigos: Inez Leibman indicated they can provide referrals and volunteers for home repair; for more info see www.somosamigosnm.org</p> <p>NM Alzheimer's Association: David Davis announced the upcoming Walk to End Alzheimer's on August 26th in Santa Fe Plaza; for more info see www.alz.org/newmexico/in_my_community_walk.asp</p> <p>Los Alamos Family Council: Cheryl Pongratz shared that the number of people seeking substance abuse counseling has been increasing lately. The Annual Fall Ball will be held on November 11 at Buffalo Thunder at 6 PM; it will again have a Western Theme but this time honor Emergency Responders. For more info please call 662-4160.</p> <p>NM DOH Health Promotions: Naomi Brodkey shared that there will be FY18 funding for this health council, and that the latest data on Los Alamos County is available at IBIS at: https://ibis.health.state.nm.us/community/highlight/index/GeoCnty/28.html If you have questions, please contact naomi.brodkey@state.nm.us.</p> <p>NM BC/BS: Winona Gishal is our regional outreach specialist and can answer all sorts of questions, including billing and claims; she can be reached at winona_gishal@bcbsnm.com or 816-2116. BC/BS is also participating in the State's Medicaid 'Centennial Care' Consultation Process.</p> <p>JJAB: Cindy Koehler announced the new Dolly Parton 'Imagination Library' Los Alamos Affiliate will hold its Kick-Off on August 29 at the Mesa Public Library in conjunction with the '1,000 Books Before Kindergarten' Kick-Off. Both are early literacy programs, and the 'Imagination Library' provides up to 60 free books to registered Los Alamos children under 5 years old. Parents can register at www.imaginationlibrary.com; Cindy can be reached at jjabfra4@gmail.com or 865-223-9362. Cindy also announced that LANL will be having its annual mental health fair scheduled for October 11th, for exhibitor info contact Lisa Celosse at lisa.celosse@lanl.gov or 667-7339.</p> <p>Los Alamos Heart Council: Phil Gursky announced that it's just 7 weeks until the Annual Health Fair on September 23 and registration packets will go out next week; he is hoping that groups of 4-6 mental health therapists will be interested in co-sharing booths. For more info, check out: www.losalamosheartcouncil.org/programs/health-fair</p>		

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LACF: David Izraelevitz announced that the Foundation will have Jen Bennet from the Historical Society present part 2 of social media training for non-profits; 'Harnessing the Power of the Media' will be held on August 24 at UNM-LA, Lecture Hall, (Bldg 2) at 5 pm. For more info, see: <http://35.184.119.91/index.php/2017/07/15/nonprofit-training-session-25-aug-2017>

Teen Center: Sylvan Argo reported that the Center continues to see an increase in visits to the Community Building site since it opened 2 years ago; plans to celebrate a 2 year anniversary in October are also being made. Many different and important programs are being offered and introduced; for more info see: <https://laymca.org/cms-view-page.php?page=los-alamos-teen-center>

BREAK FOR KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

United Way of NNM: Kristy Ortega has been on site visits to all the new funded partners of the United Way; the next meeting of 100+ Women Who Care will August 17 at the Smith's Plaza at 5:30 pm. The next Behavioral Health Initiative Meeting will be August 22 at LAMC; the United Way Community Kick-Off is being planned for the evening of September 13. For more info contact kristy@unitedwaynm.org or call 663-3891.

LARSO: Pauline Schneider announced that the annual Ice Cream Social for those 90 years and older will be held on August 25; attendees must be sponsored by someone at least 90 years old. BESC will also be hosting Senator Tom Udall for office hours – 'Udall Serving You' will be held at August 31 from 11 AM to 1:30 PM. The transportation program is seeking more volunteer drivers as well as donations of vehicles; for more info, contact Pauline at Director@losalamosseniorcenter.com

OASN & Mini-Grant Update: Pauline also reported the Older Adult Services Network hosted a Senior Driving Forum this past May 31 with the NM Alzheimer's Association, and Dementia Friendly Trainings May 12 at the Chamber of Commerce and July 21 at LANL. Mini-grant funds received from LACHC for have been used to run PSAs at the Reel Deal Theatre. Pauline also shared that the Falls Prevention Coalition is getting ready to do home visits.

Self Help, Inc.: Ellen Morris Bond shared that transition plans for the Executive Director position are underway, as she plans to retire in the next year. A fundraiser is being planned for September 10 at the Pig & Fig in White Rock at 6PM; 40 tickets are available at \$95 each and Farm-to-Table will be supplying food. For more info visit <http://selfhelpla.org/> or call 662-4666.

BNS: Ellen has been chairing the Basic Needs Subcommittee and hope that this role can also be transitioned to a new chair in the meetings ahead.

LAMC: Liz Alvarez announced that she is the new Physician Relations & Marketing person; she can be reached at 661-9185 or 695-3315.

JJAB: Andrea Cunningham announced that there is a 'Go Fund Me' Drive happening now to provide school supplies in conjunction with LAPS; school starts August 17. Resource Specialists have been attending school open houses and will be hosting a booth at the August 18 Summer Concert. For more info please contact Andrea at andracjjab@gmail.com

JJAB: Irene Powell introduced herself as the Senior Representative.

LAPS: Kristine Coblenz, Healthy Schools Initiative Director, shared that she has been doing stress reduction trainings with staff, teachers and students; a new suicidality reduction software has been implemented. She is also planning activities for LAPS employees with the County; for more info contact k.coblenz@laschools.net or call 663-2263.

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YRS: Kristine is currently chairing the Youth Resiliency Committee; the Committee the next meeting will be held at the Teen Center on August 14 at 10 AM; for more info check out:

<https://sites.google.com/laschools.net/youthresiliencycommittee/home>

Home Instead Senior Care: Ken Hendricks announced that folks can walk with Home Instead at the upcoming Walk to End Alzheimer's on August 26th in Santa Fe; register at www.walkwithhomeinstead.com. Ken and his wife will also be playing in a benefit concert at Santa Fe Brewing the evening of September 10 for his daughter's school. For more info contact ken.hendricks@homeinstead.com or call 661-8040.

NM Nurses Association: Suzanne Canfield continues to provide 'Health Nurse NM' trainings; for more info, see www.nmna.org

LA Cares: June Gladney announced that the Farmer's Market has been providing additional fresh food on the Thursday prior to Friday distribution of boxes, which has been welcome. For more information, please call 661-8015

Mini-Grant Update: June presented a written report for the \$500 indicating funds predominantly went to provide laundry detergent, dish soap, and toilet paper for 70 families. Normally, recipients only are able to choose between these items rather than receive all of them at one time. Some funds were spent to supplement fresh produce, and some funds were used to purchase fresh meat and eggs; LA Cares expressed appreciation of the additional support they were able to provide to families.

FSN: Burgandy Brock announced a Welcome Back Party & Potluck will be held August 25, for more info call 662-4515.

PMS: Larry Martinez chaired the statewide Medicaid Advisory Committee held July 24 in Santa Fe; feedback from across NM about the Medicaid program was shared. NM HSD is planning to complete the draft Waiver Renewal of expanded Medicaid ('Centennial Care') – which will be submitted to the federal government by November 1, 2017. If approved, this 2nd Waiver Renewal of Centennial Care will go into effect on January 1, 2018. The draft will be available for public comment on September 1. NM HSD also plans to submit an amendment to the state Medicaid Plan that would authorize implementation of co-payments and premiums for selected Medicaid eligible persons. Larry also shared that Presbyterian Medical Services received a permit to remodel its Santa Fe Family Wellness Center on Camino Entrada to now offer medical services. Remodeling will begin August 7 and should be complete for re-opening by November 1, 2017. For more info contact Larry.Martinez@pmsnm.org or call (505) 955-1212.

LAC Social Services: Kim Gabaldon, Manager, shared that the NM Association of Counties has already written a response NM HSD on the first phase of its Waiver Renewal Process. This response also referenced the one written by the NM Center on Law & Poverty, and was the first of its kind to be written as a collaboration between Dona Ana, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe, San Juan, Lincoln and Los Alamos counties. Kim thanked the social services contractors for their participation in a recent annual meeting to give feedback on the quarterly reporting process; she can be reached at kim.gabaldon@lacnm.us or 662-8312.

LAC Community Development Department: Andrew Harnden, Housing Program Manager, applications are now being reviewed for the Home Renewal Program; applications for the Home Buyers Assistance Program will be available in November. For more info contact andrew.harnden@lacnm.us or 662-8122.

LARC: Cynthia Goldblatt, Community Liaison, continues to develop programming and provide trainings. She also announced that she is looking for volunteers, particularly those that can provide pet therapy with a friendly, calm animal. For more info call Cynthia at 695-8981.

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Update: Older Adult Service Network

Pauline Schneider presented the OASN update during 'Introductions & Sharing'

Presentation: Los Alamos County Fire Department & Code Enforcement

Cynthia Goldblatt introduced Michael Arellano (Building Inspection & Code Enforcement Officer), Jeff Wetteland (Fire Marshal), and Andrew Harnden (Housing Program Manager).

Michael noted that the County follows international property maintenance codes. 'Hoarding', or the persistent collecting and/or difficulty parting with possessions, often has a mental health component (such as an anxiety disorder). Overcoming this issue often takes years to resolve, and requires creative solutions. Often, the individual doesn't know or accept that they're in need, which is tough for all involved. A lot of individuals are also reluctant to let anyone inside their homes (feeling shame or judgement for example). Adult Protective Services is often involved; sometimes children are at risk. The least invasive approach is usually the best – a simple knock on the door to start.

Jeff noted that 'hoarding' presents a safety issue for fire fighters. In addition to the difficulty navigating and preventing falls, the clutter can fuel the fire and raise its overall temperature. In private dwellings, however, people generally have the right to keep their homes in a state of 'mess'. Occupants, or tenants, also have rights about when and how a landlord can enter their home. As fire marshal, he is one of the few who can declare the dwelling an imminent danger or in a state of emergency. Individuals in these dwellings often also have medical issues impacting their ability to look after their homes as well as themselves. He has never been involved with a case with anyone under 50 years old; most individuals are seniors. A last resort is to have a judge issue a warrant to go into the home. Although he has anecdotal awareness that this is a growing issue, he could look at ways to gather data that would support a request to County Council, if necessary. Groups such as NM Aging & Long Term Services, LARC, Family Council or Self Help Inc. might also be able to provide some info on prevalence of this issue.

It's difficult for just Jeff and Michael to address 'hoarding' and so Jeff would like to propose a task force with other caring agencies. The group could develop a philosophy statement, a process for identifying those dealing with this issue, and community resources. Cynthia passed around a sign-up sheet for those interested in participating in such a task force. The following LACHC members signed up: Cheryl Pongratz, Phil Gursky, Kristy Ortega, Pauline Schneider, Ellen Morris Bond, Irene Powell, Ken Hendricks, Burgandy Brock, Larry Martinez, Andrew Harnden, & Kim Gabaldon. The LACHC Leadership Team may decide to further discuss establishing such a task force at its next September meeting.

Chair's Report: Mini Grant Updates

OASN and LA Cares Inc. each provided an update on the uses of their mini grant funds during 'Introductions & Sharing'

Next Meetings/Other

Next meeting: September 7, 2017

Presentations: TBD & Update from Basic Needs Subcommittee

Future Presentations: Las Cumbres Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, LANL EAP/Occupational Medicine / Ombuds, WEB Crew, NM Share, Adult Protective Services and others

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by June Gladney and seconded by Larry Martinez; motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.