

Not One More Child Meeting Notes – May 15, 2017

Safe Sleep

- Falcon Exchange Club/Kyndra's Hope has 41 Baby Boxes for the very early stages of a broader Safe Sleep Program on hand that are ready to be distributed. If you need a small number of Baby Boxes, please contact Kerry MacIntyre (kyndrashope@usa.com)
- Peak Vista Health Centers are giving Pack N Plays to clients in need, and sleep sacks, as next steps, and will continue to focus on education.
- Broad Baby Box/Safe Sleep Programs are in different stages of planning in several states, including Colorado. In some cases, a nonprofit is working to distribute Baby Boxes, with a focus on education for new parents, including brain-building materials for child-parent interaction, access to videos and other training materials, and ongoing contact with new parents.

Recap – Child Abuse Prevention Month (April)

- The plan was to be big and bold for Child Abuse Prevention Month, and that was achieved.
- The highlight was the dedication of the giant pinwheel art installation at the Citizens Service Center on April 27th. The Pinwheel is about 17 feet tall and 10-12 feet across, donated by community members. A permanent sign will be installed. The hope is that the pinwheel will serve as a visual reminder of child abuse/neglect prevention efforts.
- Hundreds of small pinwheels were given to children at a Sky Sox game in April, and NOMC Community Cards were distributed. Since the game was cancelled due to weather, we will return in June for another game, and Commissioner Waller will through the first pitch and talk about child abuse prevention efforts during a radio interview at the game.
- Colorado Department of Human Services made two stops in the region with its mobile billboard and guerilla marketing team promoting the state-wide child abuse/neglect reporting hotline.
- Proclamations were read by the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners, as well additional governing bodies: Fountain, Manitou Springs, Monument, Colorado Springs, Green Mountain Falls and Palmer Lake. We hope to add Calhan and Ramah to the list next year.
- Thousands of NOMC Community Cards were distributed across the region. Contact kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com if you would like pick up cards –Spanish cards are available; English are on order.

Ongoing Child Abuse Prevention Efforts

- Commissioner Clark asked NOMC members to think of one topic or small project that could be the focus for a month/two months in between meetings to keep the story going and continue to highlight efforts to prevent child abuse/neglect.
- DHS will review the list of ideas generated for Child Abuse Prevention Month and see if some activities/etc. can be used at other times. Details will be shared as soon as possible; April 4th is the tentative date for an event in Denver.
- Showcase one non-profit/NOMC partner at each meeting to highlight the public-private partnerships.

- One idea: Share message of child abuse/neglect prevention in schools in the region. Maybe NOMC could sponsor an art/writing competition in D11 and D2, and Sand Creek areas (where there were more child abuse/neglect calls noted in 2016).
- Colorado Springs Police and Fire Departments are encouraged to attend NOMC

Community Service Organizations – Moms Demand Action

- Moms Demand Action is a group focused on gun safety.
- The Be Smart program will be presented June 23 at the Her Story Café (6050 N. Carefree 80922). It is a Pillars of Unity event.
- The group is willing to set up an information table at health fairs, school functions, or at other events.
- For more information, contact Brook Squires at squires51@gmail.com

Nurse Visitor Program – El Paso County DHS and Public Health

- El Paso County DHS Case Workers and nurses from El Paso County Public Health are working closely together to finalize protocols and training for a home visitation program
- Nurses will assess children for medical needs and educate caregivers.
- One focus will be very young children exposed to drugs. Marijuana exposure is a growing problem in the region. THC will pass through the placenta and breast milk; calls for exposed children have increased at the area poison control center.

Data Committee

- The Data Committee presented maps created with 2016 DHS child protection numbers; the maps are posted online: <http://dhs.elpasoco.com/Pages/NOMCChildAbuseData.aspx>
- In 2016, El Paso County received 27,165 calls from concerned citizens, up slightly from 26,986 calls in 2015.
 - o El Paso County received 15,665 referrals in 2016. Out of those referrals, 6,310 were assigned for assessment.
- High-density area expanded from the previous maps (2015), with numbers increasing in many of the same areas as noted in previous years.
- Numbers have increased in Colorado Springs, and into Fountain and the Security/Widefield area.
- A very small portion of data was not included for various reasons, such as invalid street addresses.
- CDHS shares a lot of statewide data on the Community Performance Center: <http://www.cdhsdatamatters.org/>

Hospital and Medical Community Committee

- Regional hospitals are looking into Safe Sleep programs
- Hospitals are aware of some needs as new families are discharged, and providing car seats and Pack N Plays.

Military Committee

- Fort Carson Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is increasing the number of classes for mothers and fathers, in addition to the family support programs
- Nurturing and parenting classes are full.
- Other military installations are looking to emulate the programs at Fort Carson, as Fort Carson is recognized as “best practice” across the country.
- Here

Communication Committee

- NOMC Community Cards will be ordered (English). Spanish cards are available. Contact kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com if you would like some set aside for your organization.
- DHS PIO will look into costs, options, and availability for Public Service Announcements in local media.
- Will work on updating NOMC video.

Faith Based Community – CarePortal

- As of May 15th, CarePortal has served 491 children and 184 families.
- There are 15 active churches, and four churches are waiting to join.
- El Paso County is the first and currently the only county in Colorado using CarePortal.
- Based on interest and need, CarePortal is thinking of adding another County.
- Caseworkers make requests for families, and the churches use their congregation network to fill the request. Video: <https://vimeo.com/156324868>
- Mike Worley can be reached at 719-659-2781 or mike@beautifulredemption.com

The Not One More Child large group will next meet 9 a.m. **July 17.**

Notonemorechild.net