

Not One More Child Meeting Notes – July 17, 2017

Baby Boxes

- Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation launched their statewide initiative on July 13 to provide free baby boxes to all new moms. The program is familiar to programs in other states (including Texas, Ohio, New Jersey and Alabama). Additional states are also looking into such a program.
- The Foundation is working with Bright by 3, Vroom, Mother's Milk and Denver health professionals on the project.
- The boxes are designed specifically for Colorado and include a variety of goodies and educational materials, such as baby-parent interaction cards. They can be used for approximately the first six months, depending on the size and weight of the newborn. Before receiving a box, new moms are required to complete online training on safe sleep.
- Kerry MacIntyre said the box meets the same safety standards that apply to bassinets. The education portion can be completed on a smart phone or computer. Those giving out boxes are trusted agencies with knowledge and understanding of safe sleep practices.
- Kerry says moms who are economically secure love the idea, even though they have cribs and other options at home. The boxes are easier to maneuver than Pack 'n Plays, and more portable.
- Moms in dire economic straits also like the boxes. Example: A mom living with multiple people in a small motel room may not have the means or the room for a safe sleeping place for an infant.
- Moms in between those economic categories are resistant to the idea, because they are so determined to do whatever is best for their baby. The boxes are still a very new thing in the United States.
- Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation is working directly with interested hospitals.
- El Paso County Public health is distributing boxes. Presentation suggested for Court Care, and Tessa is another possible partner. DHS will also partner on the project for possible health fairs and other events.
- Falcon Exchange Club/Kyndra's Hope has Baby Boxes for new parents (flattened to save space). If you need a small number of Baby Boxes, please contact Kerry MacIntyre (kyndrashope@usa.com)
- Kerry is working on a brochure that could be given families who want a Baby Box that will include a list of locations to pick up a box.
- 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.
- News stories covering the launch:
 - o Denver Post – <http://www.denverpost.com/2017/07/12/colorado-baby-boxes-free/>
 - o KRDO – <http://www.krdo.com/news/colorado-springs/baby-box-program-comes-to-colorado/586023784>
 - o Fox21 – <http://fox21news.com/2017/07/11/baby-box-program-offers-free-baby-products-to-new-expectant-parents-in-colorado/>

Hospital and Medical Community – Response to Baby Boxes

- Temple University recently completed a three-year study on Baby Boxes but the results are not yet published.
- Committee reports that there are national concerns about promoting the Baby Boxes and those concerns are echoed in the local medical community, including Safe Kids, Memorial, St. Francis, Peak Vista, and pediatricians.
- Regional hospitals continue to review the baby boxes and evaluate the approach to safe sleep.
- Attached is a document that details some concerns.
- Hospitals continue to provide items to families in need such as sleep sacks and Pack 'n Plays. Education to families about safe sleep methods continues.
- 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.



Community Service Organizations – TESSA

- TESSA is a multi-faceted agency that includes a confidential Safehouse, Victim Advocacy, Counseling and Children's Programs, a 24/7 Crisis Line, and Community Outreach and Education.
- They are seeking teens to volunteer for the Peer Advisory Board, so if you know of anyone who may be interested, send to TESSA.
- The main phone number is 719-633-1462

Data Committee

- Just a reminder that updated information and maps are posted online:
<http://dhs.elpasoco.com/Pages/NOMCChildAbuseData.aspx>
- CDHS shares a lot of statewide data on the Community Performance Center:
<http://www.cdhsdatamatters.org/>

Faith Based Community – CarePortal

- Caseworkers make requests for families, and the churches use their congregation network to fill the request. Video: <https://vimeo.com/156324868>
- As of July 17th, CarePortal has served 699 children and 261 families.
- There are 16 active churches, and three churches are waiting to join.
- Mike Worley can be reached at 719-659-2781 or mike@beautifulredemption.com
- CarePortal seeks additional churches to expand the reach and impact of the program. Please share the information about CarePortal with churches and those connected to churches.

Military

- At Fort Carson, budget cuts have impacted the home visitor program, decreasing the number of staff making the home visits from seven down to three. There is a wait list for the home visitor program.
- Failure to Thrive protocol has been finalized.
- In the past, mandatory reporters have always shared information on child abuse/neglect cases with DHS. Now mandatory reporters are reporting directly to DHS. Additional training for reporters is ongoing.
- A new Commander is coming to Fort Carson in August; he's familiar with the post and the community.
- Schriever and Peterson are moving forward with a long-term violence prevention effort that encompasses multiple programs including the prevention of domestic violence and child abuse/neglect. They are seeking partners from the community.
- Schriever and Peterson are holding parent forums on youth suicide

Communication

- NOMC Community Cards are being ordered (English). Spanish cards are available. Contact kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com if you would like some for your organization.

- DHS PIO will look into costs, options, and availability for Public Service Announcements in local media.
- The Safe Sleep video is being added into the rotation on the County cable feed. We're checking with the Library and Colorado Springs cable channels for inclusion.

Colorado Department of Human Services

- The state is adding messaging about child sex trafficking to its communications materials.
- The state has a lot of "Caseworker conversations" and a video that previews the job of a caseworker on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/CO4Kids/>).
- CDHS is still looking for ways to continue the "it takes a community to prevent child abuse and neglect" and so asks organizations for stories that could be shared via social media. There are many ways to contribute to preventing child abuse and neglect. If you have someone to feature, contact Sarah Krcal, CDHS Public Awareness Communications Specialist, at 303.866.3258 or sarah.krcal@state.co.us.

Sky Sox Game Rescheduled

- The Sky Sox game during Child Abuse Prevention Month was canceled on account of weather. Not One More Child was invited back to attend the game on August 22, game begins at 6:40 p.m.
- Commissioner Mark Waller will throw the first pitch. He will also cover the radio interview during the game, highlighting prevention efforts and the need for foster parents, as well as other related information.
- If your organization would like to have materials passed out at the game – we have a table in the venue – please contact Kristina Iodice at kristinaiodice@elpasoco.com.

The Not One More Child large group will next meet 9 a.m. **September 18.**
Committees are encouraged to meet before then!

Notonemorechild.net