



AGENCY CORNER

PREMIUM DIRECT CARE PROVIDERS, INC
1612 BONFORTE BLVD, PUEBLO, CO 81001
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Premium Direct Care Providers, Inc. is an independently owned and operated business founded and run by Ms. JoAnn Madrid, Director/Owner. Premium Direct Care Providers, Inc. opened for business in 2001, and offers direct services and support to individuals with intense medical and psychological needs.

PDCP supports and educates its special needs individuals in ways to help them achieve their goal of becoming as independent as their disability will allow. PDCP also provides continuing education to its direct staff to help them work more effectively and productively while working with special needs individuals.

PDCP has made and continues to make numerous financial donations in the community to help achieve the goal of building a better future for the people of Pueblo.

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- Pueblo Area Service Agencies' Generosity
• Annual 9Health Fair
In This Issue...

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IN TOUCH

-a publication of Colorado Bluesky Enterprises, Inc.

Spring 2009

Generosity of Pueblo Area Service Agencies Creates Tremendous Help for Families!

Since the fall of 2008, some of the service agencies have contributed substantially to the Colorado Bluesky Infant/Toddler Program. Special thanks to CARE, Jordan Residential Services, Pueblo Community Resources and Premium Direct Care for their outstanding generosity!

The abundance began last October when Jim and Joni Wolfe of CARE and FeAna Balsick determined that they would donate the memorials that had been made to CARE in Richard Brooks' memory to the Infant/Toddler Program. These memorials totaled more than \$2300.00! What great evidence of the love so many people held for FeAna's son, Richard!

Shortly afterward, a Service Agency Retreat was held at the El Pomar Center in Colorado Springs. When I announced the donation from CARE, both Mike Jordan of Jordan Residential and JoAnn Madrid of Premium Direct stepped forward and announced donations of \$2000.00 each! Although Nora and Duncan McAuliffe, owners of Pueblo Community Resources, were not present that day, they too contributed \$2000.00 to the program! Finally, in another wonderful gesture of support just prior to the holidays, the administrative staff of Pueblo Community Resources contributed \$850.00. All of this fantastic generosity has resulted in so much help to address the critical needs of children enrolled in the Infant/Toddler Program and their families.

Some of the things we have been able to do with these funds include providing transportation costs to families to take children to medical appointments out of town. We are able to assist families to visit their

newborn premature infants who are hospitalized, often for months, at the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs. It is so important that families be able to visit their infants in the hospital in order for the bonding process to occur. Sometimes the cost of a tank of gas can be the difference between being able to see their child or not.

We have also been able to provide special equipment and developmental toys to children as prescribed by their home visitor. Because of this, the children are able to work on their developmental goals on a daily basis.

In another instance, we were able to provide a thickener for formula for a baby coming out of the hospital who needed this supplement in order to be able to swallow formula. This was done until the child's Medicaid became effective and started picking up this cost. So, you see, the help the service agencies provided was absolutely critical in this case.

We can be proud the actions of our local service agencies are truly a testament to their commitment in supporting the needs of people with disabilities, including the children enrolled in the Infant/Toddler Program!

Words can never express our gratitude!

Jeff Dunn

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Pueblo, Colorado 81003
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www.coloradobluesky.org

Mission Statement

We believe all persons have the right to live, learn, and work in the community with the hope, dignity, choices, opportunities and responsibilities accorded all citizens.



Executive Directors Report

By

Michael F. Atlas-Acuña

As I write this article we continue to receive information from the State regarding the budget cuts that are being considered. As you all know, Developmental Disabilities will not be overlooked. The month of February was up and down because we thought we would be losing new resources and there would be a 1.5% cut to the new provider rates that went into effect January 1, 2009. As of this writing all that has changed.

Recently both the House and the Senate voted to restore the resources that were taken away and to restore the 1.5% to the provider rate. These changes are only for Fiscal Year 2008/2009, so we are still unclear what will occur in Fiscal Year 2009/2010.

The downside to all of this is that the system still does not have the resources to take persons off the waiting list, but at least current services are safe for the time being. Another area of concern for FY 2009/2010 is possible cuts to State programs such as Family Support and Supported Living Services. Hopefully the State economy will improve and these cuts will not come to pass. CBE and its service agencies are grateful to the Legislature for caring so much about services to persons with developmental disabilities, but we are all still planning for the worst, just to be safe.

On a more positive note, this month we are highlighting Premium Direct Care. This agency is operated by Joann Madrid and a great staff. Please take the time to read what Premium has been up to and what their plans are for the future.

Finally, I want to say goodbye to Judy Sikes, PhD. Judy has been a member of our Board of Directors since 1995. During that time she served on the Executive Committee and was President from 1997 to 2000. Judy was also responsible for designing and developing our employee survey that has been in use for the past eight years. Judy provided a wealth of knowledge to our staff and board and will be missed. So to Judy I say may you be blessed with good health and prosperity.

Enjoy this issue of the In Touch.



Annual 9HealthFair Provides Free Health Education and Screenings

The CSU-Pueblo Nursing Department will coordinate with local organizations to provide health screenings and education at the annual 9HealthFair from 7 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 18, at Praise Assembly of God, 2000 Troy Avenue, Pueblo.

The 9HealthFair provides free medical screening services and education to those 18 years and older. Additional in-depth screening services will be available for a nominal fee. Attendees may talk with health professionals and obtain free colorectal exams, pap screenings, and blood sugar testing, as well as free height, weight, Body Mass Index, vision, hearing, oral, breast, diabetes, and blood pressure/pulse screenings. Body in Balance, bone density, foot, and lung functions are also available. Participants may receive a prostate specific antigen (PSA) screen for \$25, colon cancer screening kits for \$20, blood count screening for \$15, and a blood chemistry screening for \$30.

Visit www.9HealthFair.org or call 800-332-3078 for additional information.

WINTER 2008/SPRING 2009 DONATIONS

Infant/Toddler Program

\$2,000 +
FeAna & Dave Balsick and
Jim & Joni Wolfe
Mike Jordan,
Jordan Residential
JoAnn Madrid,
Premium Direct Care
Duncan & Nora McAuliffe,
Pueblo Community Resources

\$1,000 - \$1,999
Knights of Columbus #12020

\$500 - \$999
Knights of Columbus #552
Knights of Columbus #12720
Pueblo Community Resources
Administrative Staff

\$100 - \$499
Clark Spring Water
Regina DeSalvo
Eagles Auxiliary #145
Ease Medical Supplies
Joni Fair
David & Joyce Herlacher
Kerry Kramer
Greg McCain & Gina Fisher
Melvin Miller
Mel & Heather Otero
Pueblo Elkettes
Robert & Sara Tonsing
United Way
Ralph & Jan Williams

Infant/Toddler Program

\$10 - \$99
Patrick Armstrong
Dr. Ganapathy Bala
Col. Boyd Baldauf
Sharon Barela
Albert & Norma Becco
Anthony & Barbara Bravo
James Concialdi
Neta DeRose
David & Joni Donley
Betty Brianne Edwards
James & Sharon Fowler
Nancy Froelich
Diana Giordano
Tony & Roberta Gomez
Fred & Harriett Grey
Cora-Belle Higbee
Dorothy & Carol Hoppe
Jim & Janet Hunter
Ronald & Alysia Ivan
Mary Louise Keating
Rahesh Khosla
Carol Kilstofte
Dave & Jan Kawecki
Sue Mastro
Ray & Kathleen Mattarocci
Sandra Montee
Lydia Montoya
Marcella Montoya
Michael & Ruth Nerenberg
Loretta Opferman
Paul & Maxine Palermo
Mary Propes
Sollie Raso
Valerie Rosen
Dr. Judy Sikes
C. H. & D. L. Walls

Infant/Toddler Program

\$10 - \$99 (Continued)
Stephen & Annette Warfield
Dorothy Weber
Ruth Wilson
LaVeta Wood
Becky Wright
Ann E. Zaitz

We would also like to thank
Target for its grant in the
amount of \$1,000 to the Infant/
Toddler Program.

Colorado Bluesky Foundation

\$100 - \$499
John Scutti

\$10 - \$99
Col. Boyd Baldauf
Art & Patty Martinez

BASS Facility

\$100 - \$499
Angelus Chapel
Lucy Teague
Larry & Susan Velasco

In Kind
Pat Collette
Carol Hanold
Caroline Rosales
Judy Sikes
Robert Smith
David Warren

CONTRIBUTION CARD

Name of Donor _____ Day Phone (____) _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Donation: \$10 ____ \$25 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 ____ \$250 ____ Other \$ _____

Please make check payable to: **Colorado Bluesky Foundation**
and mail to: **115 West Second Street, Pueblo, CO 81003**

Please apply my donation to: **Infant Toddler Program** _____ **Foundation** _____ **OR**

Tree of Life Engraved Apples _____ (\$50.00 each) Number of Apples _____ Total Amt. Enclosed \$ _____

Please engrave the apple(s) as follows (up to 45 letters per apple) _____

Please inform _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ that a donation has been made in honor/memory of: _____

