

**CHAC Annual Meeting**  
January 12, 2018  
Durango Recreation Center

**Attendees:**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Kari Plante, SJBPH                            | Eileen Wasserbach, SUCAP; CHAC Board              |
| Elsa Inman, MRMC                              | Lynn Westberg, CHAC Board                         |
| Guinn Unger, Indivisible Durango              | Bob Cox, physician, "My Life" Co-Lead             |
| Vic Lopez, physician, CHAC Board              | Emily Steen, CHCC intern                          |
| Eve Presler, RMHP                             | Brandy Wright, Four Corners Health Care Center    |
| Scott Mathis, MRMC Board                      | Heather Hawk, Early Childhood Council of La Plata |
| Sheila Casey, LPC Senior Services; CHAC Board | Christie Schler, MRMC, CHAC Board                 |
| Scott Wallace, CORHIO, CHAC Board             | Bill Warren, Axis                                 |
| Doug McCarthy, Commonwealth Fund              | Jenny Treanor, MRMC                               |
| Jigger Staby, Christ the King Lutheran Church | Lon Erwin, CHAC Board                             |
| Claire Ninde, SJBPH                           | Laura Warner, SJBPH                               |
| Cathy Roberts, MRMC                           | Stuart Jenkins, Senator Bennet's Office           |
| Margaret Martin, Indivisible Durango          | Kathy Sherer, CHAC                                |
| Cathy Cowles, Facilitator                     | pattie adler, CHAC                                |

**2017 Initiatives & Accomplishments**

Advance Care Planning – Bob Cox

In the first year of our grant, we surpassed our goal by reaching 800 community members and 250 professionals. The next open educational community event will be held Thursday, Feb. 15 at the Durango public library from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. We are also planning a longer open event for April 28 from (probably) 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Durango library. We will be working more closely with providers and their patients this year. We are also reaching out to Fort Lewis College. The response to our programs has been overwhelmingly positive.

In addition to ACP, three priority areas were identified at the 2017 Annual Meeting last January. Here are brief updates for the year:

Political Advocacy – Eileen Wasserbach

CHAC is a forum where everyone and all points of view are welcome. Time is set aside at each meeting for topics to be raised by members. We also connected with Indivisible Durango's Healthcare and Senior Issues Team as it is an action-oriented group. A form can be filled out and given to the Board for consideration if a member is requesting action. CHAC will take a position on a specific issue when it's deemed appropriate (i.e., the fluoride issue).

Oral Health – Kari Plante

An Integrated Care training occurred on May 30, particularly for professionals working with an older population. An adult Medicaid Orthodontist clinic opened in November. The dental clinic is booked out 3-4 months. Axis is looking for another dentist. The Oral Health Team continues to meet.

### Behavioral Health – Jenny Treanor

The BH team has been meeting every 2-3 months while still under CHAC's umbrella. Free posters to help with depression are available for distribution; they include wallet cards with tips and resources. The team is discussing improving social connectedness. The next meeting is Jan. 18 (3:00-4:30pm).

### 2017 Health Hero – pattie adler

Kip Boyd, Sheila Casey, Kari Plante and Eileen Wasserbach have been nominated. Please cast your vote before leaving today. The winner will be announced at the February 9<sup>th</sup> CHAC meeting.

### **CHAC Sustainability – Eileen Wasserbach**

CHAC has sustained itself since 2001 without an ongoing, steady source of funding. Grants have been received for specific community projects (i.e., Access to Health Care, Advance Care Planning). Our current ACP grant ends September 30 of this year. As you know, CHAC partners and Board currently are in a process of exploring what un/under met health issue(s) CHAC can best help with in the county beyond this grant (today's meeting is part of that process). There also is a sustainability team.

Without grants, we will need to rely more heavily on membership dues. It has been determined that it would cost about \$15,000 per year to continue our core activities (i.e., monthly meetings and communications). An annual membership for an organization is \$75 and an individual membership is \$25. If you appreciate what we're doing together, please pay your 2018 dues; if you're unsure about your payment status, please contact pattie.

### **Priorities for 2018 – Cathy Cowles, Facilitator**

The group developed a list of criteria that will be used to determine our priorities:

- Non-duplication
- Coordinate efforts
- Positive outcome
- Significant impact
- Sustainability after initiative
- Use momentum we have
- State level issue – mirror locally
- Fill a gap
- Dedicated leadership
- Capacity: people, money, other resources
- Data driven, if possible

Small groups chose priority health issues. Those issues were then divided into the six categories below by group discussion. Note: Names in parentheses are people who volunteered to be involved.

### Education/Coordination/Communication

Cost/Access – choosing wisely

Community Health Information (Doug M., Eileen W.)

Collective impact (for single health issue)

Advance Care Planning (Sheila C., Bob C.)

Focus on health vs. health care

### Behavioral Health (watch for duplication)

Reduce stigma around mental health & substance abuse; education; media (Sheila C., Brandy W., Eve P., Jenny T., Claire N.)

Community electronic addiction

Coordinate suicide prevention efforts (Laura W.)

Persistent drunk driving

Social connectedness (Vic L., Elsa I.)

Substance abuse education/awareness; change community norms (Sheila C., Jenny T.)

Mobilize community volunteers to reduce depression; social connectedness (Lynn W.)

Suicide prevention

Support of early childhood education (Heather H., Lon E.)

### Social Determinants of Health

Housing – health and homeless

Funding advocacy for public transportation (Eve P. could help lead, Elsa I.- Behavioral Health Team)

### Obesity Prevention

Childhood obesity & nutrition (Heather H., Eileen W.)

Obesity reduction for rural La Plata County

Equitable access to outdoor activities

### Access to Healthcare for Targeted Populations

More access/availability to under-served (Margaret M.)

Veterans with other than honorable discharge

Rural/Ag support

Advocacy for Universal Healthcare (identified as needing low effort by CHAC since Invisible Durango is an action partner)

Coordination of contact with legislators (Guinn U., Margaret M.)

### **Conclusion**

Where there is duplication, coordination may be something that's needed.

"Death by Despair" is one way to look at suicide and substance abuse when defining our role.

The CHAC Board will study today's results and come back to the group with a suggested next step at the February meeting.

**The next monthly CHAC meeting is scheduled for February 9 at the Durango Rec. Center.**

**All meetings will be from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.**

Meeting notes submitted by Kathy Sherer with minor additions by pattie adler