



FAMILIES PLUS

Mentoring Kids for Life!

June 2014 Newsletter

Staff

Dawn Reeder, CEO
Brenda K. Holland, Ph.D. Executive
Director, Psychologist
Thomas Friel, M.A., L.P.C.
Mental Health Professional
Karen Wolfram, M.A., L.P.C.
Mental Health Professional
Suzanne Horning-Rieder, M.A. DTR LPC
Mental Health Professional
Mariah Emond, M.S.C.P., L.P.C., L.A.C.
Clinical Director, Mental Health Prof.
Susan Simianer, Case Manager
Karen McFarland, Office Manager
Bonnie Aman, Health Integrator
Dave Armlovich, Web Master

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Lisa Joss, Vice President
Dave Shishim, Secretary
Dennis Bollig, Treasurer
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Dave Armlovich, Member
Al Hale, Member
Linda Black, Member
Steve Schultz, Member

MENTORING FAMILIES

Nevaeh and Kathy just happen to click!



Even though Families Plus mentors are usually an entire family, Kathy Svenson offered, with her typical enthusiasm, to help a Families Plus participant with her time and attention. She is a single woman at this point in her life, but has a welcoming household often full of friends. She met Nevaeh Angotti-Snyder February 5, 2013 while she was hosting two foreign exchange students from Russia and Denmark. The three girls immediately connected and Nevaeh was often seen with an elaborate braid in her hair that these new friends were pleased to provide.

Kathy and Nevaeh have spent many hours together, especially with their shared passion - horses. From horseback Nevaeh loves to explore the desert and may jump off her horse to collect dried skeleton bones, or to capture a latest bug or critter for her several habitat collections. She has competed in horse shows and plans to attend a Horsemanship Bible Camp this summer. But it hasn't stopped there. Kathy is not shy about teaching life's lessons and responsibilities as they frequently spend time together on Kathy's ranchette. Nevaeh has learned to sew on a machine, learned canning while making pickles, mended fences, gardened, and loves to help provide care for an older family friend. Nevaeh continues to enjoy her own church, the Delta United Methodist, but also attends with Kathy at her church activities.

Nevaeh's mother, Danielle Angotti, a dedicated and protective parent, and her brother, who has a serious medical condition requiring constant health care, join the mix as they come and go with Nevaeh. Nevertheless, Danielle manages a job and schooling while providing many other activities for her two active children. If strong relationships make strong children, Nevaeh is headed for a bright future.

Here's to all volunteers,
those dedicated people
who believe in all work
and no pay. ~ Robert Orben

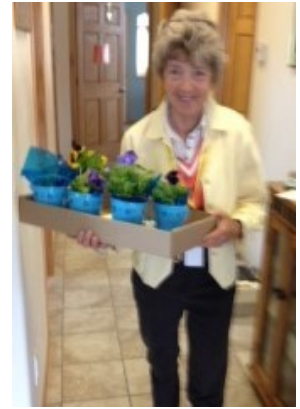
**Family Treatment
Centers**
Bob Lang LPC CAC III
*Professional Counseling,
Substance Abuse and Evaluation Services*
Located on Colorado's
Western Slope
1211 Colorado Ave.
Grand Junction, CO 81501

FAMILIES PLUS
Needs school supplies
for the children in
our program by Au-
gust 4th. If you can
help, call us 874-
0464 or drop off at
115 Grand Ave. Delta.

Mother's Day!

Spring, and the sweet smell of flowers, were definitely in the air this May for the Mother's Day event. Plants were donated by an employee of High Country Gardens. The Garden Center of Delta gave a discount, and Walmart offered a gift card for the purchase of potting soil. Leah Lewis, Senior Coordinator, Delta County Senior Resource Council (970.712.2295), and her wonderful group of volunteers joyfully potted the beautiful array of 88 flowering plants. What a job that was!

We are grateful for the volunteers who took time to make the deliveries. They included Linda Roper, Kathy Svenson, and Gerry Grosshans. The children in the program love the opportunity to give to "Mom" and it is a treat that the flowers get hand delivered.



Kathy Svenson delivering
Mother's day flowers



***LOOK HOW
OUR KIDS
ARE DOING!!***

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU!!

Cameron Porter on your new job!!

Dylan Hood passed his Hunters Safety Class, Congratulations!

He also won 2 awards from the Edge of Cedars Art Show!

Kaleb Lovelace is a member of the "Out of the Box, DI Rocks team!"

Kayla Rood has improved her GPA and is a Red Club member.

Courtney Mattler WOW, has a high GPA and a Blue Club member.

Sabrina Danielson and Kayla Rood are BLAZING BULLDOGS!

Ulysses Soby-Morales was recognized by the Paonia Elementary for his school achievements.

Tally Wachner is a member of the Cedaredge Elementary

Bear Den for his perseverance.

Jeff Griffith, responsibility/tenacity and Michael Roach, hard work, received the Virtuous Kids Award.

Sabrina Danielson, Caidy Danielson, Amber Mattler, Courtney Mattler and Kayla Rood are all members of the 2013-2014 School Year HONOR ROLL at Hotchkiss K-8! *WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL OF YOU KIDS!!!*****

Mentors & Family Friends

Dorothy Allen
Peggy Bathie
Richard & Linda Bell
Dwight & Karen Benson
Dennis & Mary Bollig
Matt & Terri Clark
Jared & Nicole Davis
Ken Gates
Jason & Britny Havertape
Jeff & Susie Hirsch
Dave & Jill Knutson
Sheldon & Hazel Kier
Shane & Mary Jo Lance
Stephen & Cynthia Lewis
Harry & Pat Masinton
Brian & Diana Matus
Lore McDonough
Artis Miller
Rita Murphy
Robert & Corey Rice
Kurt Roithmayr & Alisa Johnson
Linda Roper
Sherry Schenk
Troy & Cassandra Shenk
Dennis Schwartz
Mike & Vickie Street
Josh & Reveille Sullivan
Harold & Kathleen Schafforth
James & Dorothy Schwietert

VAN DEN BERG ACCEPTS CONSULTANT ROLE

Every couple of years, Dr. John VanDenBerg chooses a new agency to be the recipient of his well-established consulting skills. This year Dr. VanDenBerg has generously offered to consult with the Families Plus staff and board of directors over the next three years. He started his services at the Board of Directors retreat in Ouray in April. He played a pivotal role in helping the Directors plan for the next three years and establish healthy growth for the organization.

In addition to Families Plus, he has consulted with a national antipoverty program over the last several years and has helped it expand to national scale. Dr. VanDenBerg recently retired from a long consulting career with Vroon/VanDenBerg where he over 25 years developed High Fidelity Wraparound for children and helped the process become established in all fifty states and internationally. High Fidelity Wraparound is a process of individualized care planning for youth with complex needs and their families.

Dr. VanDenBerg located back to Delta County in 2007 after years of consulting, traveling and training. His roots runs deep in Delta County. His grandparents established themselves in the Paonia area in 1907. Dr. VanDenBerg now lives in his own parents' former home near Paonia. He enjoys many of the same activities that occupied his parents and grandparents in tending his orchard and large vegetable garden. Dr. VanDenBerg has years of experience in helping children get coordinated services and helping those organization that provide these services to make sure that children do get this high level of care.



EASTER BUNNIES AT DELTA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Many departments at the Delta County Courthouse make it an annual event to provide elaborate well-stocked Easter baskets to area children that could use an extra special moment. The tradition was started by Mary Ann Schweitzer in 2002. She would put a little Easter Basket on each coworker's desk on the Friday before Easter. When she became ill and passed on, courthouse employees transferred the practice to area children in her honor. Each year more departments join in. This year 17 baskets went out. Six Families Plus participating children received baskets. The baskets are filled with clothing, games, sports equipment, quilts, and of course candy. Families Plus wishes to recognize the work done by Barbara Yant, Victim Advocate Coordinator to also coordinate this outreach and all those generous public employees at the Courthouse that make so many children happy.

TABLETS ARE TIMELY

As summer unfolds, Families Plus children are beginning to “rent” 9 inch tablets to help them keep mentally engaged and hopefully learning over the summer. The first tablet went to 7th grader, Roger Towner. Roger has never had his own tablet and faithfully agreed to follow all the rental expectations of the tablets. He will keep the tablet in only his possession and will not access violent or inappropriate materials with it. The tablets are protected with Norton parental controls which regulates what children can access and the hours that they can be used. The tablets are being preparing for service by volunteer, Michael Aman. He is preloading them with educational materials and helping the Families Plus staff teach the children and their parents to manage the tablets. Michael is a college student home for the summer. He attends Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, Colorado where volunteering in the community is very much emphasized.



The tablets are partially being made possible by a grant from the USDA to promote rural development. Through this grant, 55 % of the cost of this essential equipment for the Families Plus program is being matched through federal monies. David Carter, Rural Development Specialist, of the USDA has worked with Families Plus to secure this grant. Families Plus expects to provide 30 tablet to children with this support over the coming year. Anyone wishing to help cover the matching costs of these tablets can contribute at 115 Grand Avenue, Delta, Colorado.

100 Club: An Easy Way to Help Delta County Children in Need

The 100 Club is an easy and rewarding way to support children in need in Delta County. One phone call to (970) 874-0464 is all it takes. Choose amount of \$8.34 per month or more that you wish to give—either by automatic debit (checking) or credit card—and you’re in! Monthly contributors provide a stream of dollars that helps pay for sports fees and lessons, school supplies, tutoring, and many other special activities and items that Families Plus kids need and deserve. Every cent donated goes directly to our kids. A generous monthly gift can make a huge difference in the life of a child.

We make a living by
what we get, but we
make a life by what
we give.

~ Winston Churchill



How can we expect our
children to know and ex-
perience the joy of giving
unless we teach them that
the greater pleasure in
life lies in the art of giv-
ing rather than receiving.

~ James Cash Penny

Families Plus (Now Our Official Name!) Directors Retreat Focused on Funding

The beautiful mountain community of Ouray served as the backdrop for the annual Families Plus board retreat on April 11–12, 2014. The theme of the meeting was “Thriving in Three”—building a network of sustainable funding within three years. Attendees heard from Executive Director Dr. Brenda Holland and Families Plus volunteer consultant Dr. John VanDenBerg on how our nonprofit is currently being funded and the challenges we face as we transition to long-term sustainable support. Obtaining a license to become a child placement agency was proposed as one way to secure a consistent source of funding, however, licensing therapists who can bill to Medicaid is a complex and slow process.

Suzanne Horning-Rieder and Karen Wolfram, both licensed professional counselors for Families Plus, discussed the day-to-day challenges of working with disadvantaged families. Board members Al Hale and Lisa Joss updated members on changes to the Articles of Incorporation. The board voted to change our nonprofit’s name from All American Families to, officially, Families Plus. Board member and webmaster Dave Armlovich presented a blueprint for redesigning the Families Plus website, which we hope will be even more informative and interactive.

Because the Families Plus wraparound care model is so unique and effective in Delta County communities and because we must compete with other health organizations and agencies for limited dollars, the board opted to become more proactive in its search for sustainable support. By working directly with our state legislators and other government agency players, the board is creating an action plan to find ways to access not only Medicaid dollars but also funds from other national programs.

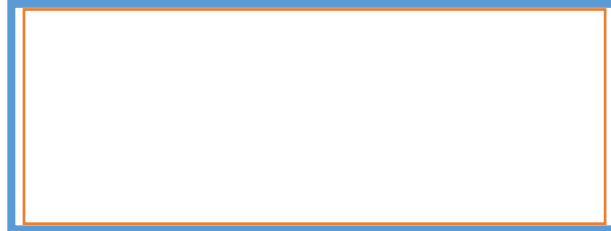


**TO ALL OF YOU THAT HAVE SO GENEROUSLY
GIVEN OF YOUR TIME, TALENTS, GIFTS AND FINAN-
CIAL SUPPORT. WE AT FAMILIES PLUS APPRECIATE
EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU.**

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Families Plus
115 Grand Avenue, Suite 2
Delta, CO 81416

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
DELTA, CO
PERMIT NO. 4



FAMILIES PLUS

ANNUAL POTLUCK PICNIC

AUGUST 8, 2014

5:30 P.M. @ LIONS PAVILION

CONFLUENCE PARK

Come and join us in the fun we have planned for the children and the good food. The picture above is some of the children enjoy an art activity during last years picnic.

The children pick out the school supplies they need for their new school year from all the donated items we receive from our generous donors.

RSVP by August 1, 2014 by calling 874-0464.