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Counties Come Together for NACo Annual Conference



By John (Chip) Taylor

Counties Come Together for NACo Annual Conference

The 2017 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition in Franklin County, Ohio, concluded yesterday. Commissioners and other county officials from around the country elevated Tarrant County, Texas, Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks to the office of NACo president and he announced his presidential initiative to focus on “Serving the Underserved,” especially our country’s children. Members also elected Douglas County, Nebraska’s Mary Ann Borgeson as NACo’s 2nd vice-president. Attendees adopted a national county platform and a wide variety of resolutions on important county issues that will be available on the [NACo webpage](#) in the coming days.

Commissioners found compromise on a number of contentious issues and ultimately adopted a platform and slate of resolutions that was supported by a broad majority of the membership. Additionally, members adopted a by-laws change to ensure that the relative voting strength of county members, which is population-based and has changed over time, is comparable to when the formula was adopted in 1991. Finally, NACo formally released its 2016-17 [annual report](#), highlighting the association’s accomplishments and efforts over the last year.

Colorado will be well-represented in NACo leadership in the coming year as Commissioner Jim Zwetzig continues his service as a NACo board member, Commissioner Nancy Sharpe continues to serve as chair of the Human Services and Education Steering Committee and Commissioner Lew Gaiter continues as chair of the Information Technology Committee. We are also grateful for the ongoing, active participation of over 50 Colorado county officials in NACo steering committees and task forces!

One other highlight was that Adams County was among 18 counties nationwide that received a prestigious NACo 2017 Achievement Award, Best in Category, for its collaborative planning effort with the city of Brighton “that encourages smart growth, sustainability, innovative economic development, agritourism, and farmland preservation.” Congratulations to Adams and Brighton officials who brought that partnership together.

I was once again impressed by the commitment of all county officials to working together and helping each other sort out the common problems they face, from human services and health, to natural resource and public lands management, to dealing with conflict and the identification of “fake news.” Daily summaries and presentation materials are all available through the main NACo webpage – www.naco.org. It should come as no surprise that your CCI director is a big believer in the value of county officials better understanding each other and the challenges they face and, once again, the NACo annual conference delivered!

John (Chip) Taylor is CCI’s Executive Director.

(See next page for photo highlights of the NACo conference)

Photo Highlights from the NACo Annual Conference



Thirty CCI members (top above) made the trip to Franklin County, Ohio for NACo's Annual Conference and Exposition at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. At left, CCI President and Larimer County Commissioner Lew Gaiter III speaks onstage. In center photo, CCI Board member and Morgan County Commissioner Jim Zwetzg (seated at far left) participated in a panel on the impacts of immigration on his county. At right, Gaiter and Jefferson County Commissioner Don Rosier before one of the conference's many informative educational programs.

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR COUNTIES:

Zinke: Canyons of the Ancients Monument Will Not be Modified

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke has announced that Colorado's Canyons of the Ancients National Monument is no longer under review from an executive order and that he will recommend that no modifications be made to the monument. The recommendation comes after review of public comments and conversations with stakeholders. "When the President and I began the monument review process we absolutely realized that not all monuments are the same and that not all monuments would require modifications," said Zinke. "... I'm announcing that Canyon of the Ancients National Monument review process has concluded and I am recommending no changes be made to the monument. Canyons of the Ancients is gorgeous land, but its monument status as the most high-density Native American archaeological sites in the nation is clear." Colorado U.S. Senator Cory Gardner and Rep. Scott Tipton, who made the case for maintaining the monument as is, applauded the announcement.

DOLA Local Government Division Hires 3 New Regional Managers

The Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) has announced the selection of three new Regional Managers in the Division of Local Government (DLG). They are:

- Patrick Rondinelli, Southwest Region. Rondinelli served 13 years as the City Administrator for the Town of Ouray, and has unique knowledge and experience that will be an asset to him in his new role. He is filling a vacancy created by the retirement of Ken Charles.
- Kim Bullen, Northwest Region. Bullen has served in three different communities on the western slope: the City Manager of Rifle, the County Manager in Rio Blanco, and the Emergency Manager for Mesa County. She has also served on the DLG Employee Residency committee. She is filling a vacancy created by the departure of Elyse Ackerman who has moved to the position of director of community and economic development in Delta, CO.
- Crestina Martinez, Southeast Region. Martinez has spent many years serving Colorado counties. She leaves the Government Relations & Partner Outreach and County Communication Specialist position with the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Finance, held the elected position of County Commissioner for Costilla County, and is the Health and Wellness Committee chair for the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs. She is filling a vacancy created by the retirement of Lee Merkel.

DLG's Regional Managers play a critical role in the ability for DOLA to provide the best possible service throughout the state, offering technical assistance and expertise to help local governments and community agencies define issues, evaluate options, identify solutions, and achieve results.

Tracy Anselmo Named the New Executive Director of CALPHO



Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO) Board President Yvonne Long has announced that Theresa (Tracy) Anselmo (*pictured above*) has joined the team as Executive Director. Anselmo's experience includes 25 years in dentistry, and over 15 years in public health. She has worked in the public, private and nonprofit sectors, and she has served as a board member of several advisory bodies and nonprofit organizations. Prior to coming to CALPHO, she was the Executive Director for Partnership for the Children of San Luis Obispo County, the Oral Health Program Manager for the County of San Luis Obispo, and the Dental Director for the State of Colorado. "This is an exciting opportunity to work with local public health leaders and partners committed to improving the health of Colorado communities," said Anselmo. "I am excited to be part of an organization focused on shaping and facilitating the work of local public health agencies." Anselmo is planning a regional listening tour and looks forward to meeting with all LPHAs. She can be reached at theresa@calpho.org or 720.301.4441.

CMAT Teams Available to Help Counties Mitigate Wildfire Risks

The Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) is a U.S. Forest Service National Pilot designed to help counties build sustainable local capacity for wildfire mitigation during high risk times before, during, or after a wildfire when awareness of the need for risk reduction and the likelihood of action is highest. Teams may number four to seven people depending on county need and deployment training opportunities. Assignments have been for 11 to 14 days (including travel). Team members represent federal, state, local government, and non-government partners who specialize in wildfire mitigation. The Team collaborates with local partners to identify and help resolve mitigation challenges and build long-term mitigation efforts using best practices. The Team uses in-depth analysis, one-on-one interviews, mentoring, best practices, mini-workshops, CWPPS, risk and fire occurrence maps, home assessments, pertinent research, demographics, their experience, and close community collaboration to help communities move mitigation forward. If your county is interested in learning more about CMAT, or would like to request a Team, contact Jonathan Bruno at 719.433.6775 or jonathan@uppersouthplatte.org.

CCI Issues 2018-2019 Health & Human Services Budget Priorities

On July 12, CCI's HHS Steering Committee Leadership sent a letter (*attached to this edition of eCounty Lines*) to the Colorado Department of Human Services' Executive Director Reggie Bicha outlining county health and human services budget priorities for SFY2018-2019. Funding for child welfare and child care are the county HHS priority focus areas for next year's state budget. For both funding streams, caseload is outpacing available funding. CCI submits letters like this each summer to provide input to state leaders on county priorities prior to the November release of the Governor's budget. The attached letter was also shared with legislative members of the Joint Budget Committee and lead staff with the Office of Planning and Budgeting. Counties are encouraged to share this letter with members of their legislative delegation to help build awareness for these priorities.

CDHS Town Hall Meetings Set for Teller, Costilla Tomorrow

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) is conducting a series of town hall meetings to solicit feedback, comments and suggestions to help inform the direction of the department and priorities for the coming year. Tomorrow's meetings are set for Teller and Costilla counties. The meetings run through **August 10, 2017** with stops in Arapahoe and Broomfield counties. For a complete list of the meetings, and to register, click [here](#).

CCI MEETINGS:

Front Range District Meeting Set for August 4 in Broomfield

The first of five CCI district meetings will be held **August 4, 2017** when the Front Range district meets in Broomfield. The lunches at these highly interactive and informative events are sponsored by the Colorado State University (CSU) Office of Engagement, a CCI Associate Member. Each meeting will begin at 10 am and go until approximately 2 pm. The schedule of meetings is as follows:

Front Range District Meeting: August 4, Health & Human Services Building, 100 Spader Way, Broomfield

Mountain District Meeting: August 24, Summit County Community & Senior Center, 83 Nancy's Place, Frisco

Western District Meeting: August 25, Ute Indian Museum, 17253 Chipeta Road, Montrose

Southern District Meeting: September 8, Huerfano County EMS Building, 326 Main Street, Walsenburg

Eastern District Meeting: September 15, Washington County Event Center, 551 West 2nd Street, Akron

INVOLVEMENT/EDUCATION/NETWORKING:

Adopt Colorado Kids Seeks County Feedback on Emancipation Age

Adopt Colorado Kids is seeking county input on the issue of raising the legal age of emancipation from 18 to 21 for foster youth in Colorado. A research document on the subject is attached to this edition of *eCounty Lines*. The group is looking at potential 2018 legislative changes to help serve kids aging out of foster care. To facilitate county feedback, especially on how the proposal would make a difference in the lives of aging out youth, CCI is hosting a meeting on August 17, 2017. Three time slots are proposed for that day – 10 am to Noon, 1 pm to 3 pm, and 2 pm to 4 pm. Please indicate on this doodle poll [link](#) which time slot works best for you. If you are unable to make that day, thorough notes will be taken and shared with everyone afterwards. Conference calling will also be available.

GOCO Grantwriting Workshops Continue for Next Two Weeks



Great Outdoors Colorado, a CCI Associate Member, will continue its series of grantwriting workshops over the next two weeks. The workshops will cover grant application writing for GOCO's Local Parks and Outdoor Recreation (LPOR) and mini-LPOR grant programs. A schedule of the workshops is attached at this edition of *eCounty Lines* and RSVPs are required through Evite. For questions, email [Madison Brannigan](#).

July 31: Courthouse/Jail Funding Interim Committee Meeting

The CCI-initiated Interim Committee on County Courthouse and County Jail Funding and Overcrowding Solutions meets again on **July 31, 2017**. The full schedule and agendas are posted [here](#). For anyone interested in keeping track of the committee and receiving email updates about meetings, please email CCI's [Alli Daley](#) to be added to the committee's email list.

August 10: TANF/CCAP MOU Work Group Meeting at CCI

In January, several counties began working on edits to the TANF/Child Care Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between each county and the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS). In accordance with statute, counties and CDHS are required to enter into an annual performance contract that explains a county's duties and responsibilities in implementing the Works Program and the Child Care Assistance Program. The work group will be meeting with CDHS to discuss the MOU on **August 10, 2017** from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at CCI. All are invited. For those who are unable to attend in person, the call-in number is 1.857.216.6700 and the passcode is 171009. Please contact CCI's [Alli Daley](#) with any questions.

August 17: Small Communities Workshop Set for Silverthorne

The Department of Local Affairs, in partnership with CCI, the Colorado Municipal League and the Special District Association, will be presenting the 5th Annual Small Communities Workshop on **August 17, 2017** in Silverthorne (Summit County). This year's day-long workshop will include sessions on workforce housing, fiscal sustainability, budgeting, recreational tourism, and marijuana issues. Tickets are \$35 per person. To register, please go to <http://dola.colorado.gov/workshops>. A flyer for the workshop is attached to this edition of *eCounty Lines*.

APPOINTMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Commissioner Needed to Serve on Civil Forfeiture Task Force

Last year, CCI worked with many other stakeholders to oppose HB17-1313, Civil Forfeiture Reform. Although Governor Hickenlooper signed the bill into law, he requested that a task force be formed to examine some of the problems of the bill. The task force will discuss process improvements to direct more forfeitures to the appropriate authority, alternatives to the bill's fining provisions, as well as an alternative agency to the Department of Local Affairs to conduct compliance work. CCI has been identified as a voting member of the task force. The first meeting will take place on **August 10, 2017** from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm (location to be determined). If you are interested in being appointed to serve on the task force, please email a résumé and letter of interest to CCI's [Kristin Dunn](#) by **tomorrow (July 26, 2017)**.

Special Highway Committee Has Opening for County Commissioner

CCI is soliciting for a county commissioner to serve on the Special Highway Committee (SHC). The SHC is a cooperative effort between CCI and the Colorado Municipal League that makes recommendations to CDOT on federal off-system bridge fund awards to local governments. The SHC meets once a year (in the late fall) to review applications from municipalities and counties and prioritize projects for funding. There is one spot open on the Special Highway Committee and the CCI Board of Directors will make the appointment later this summer. If you are interested in serving on the Special Highway Committee, please send a letter detailing your applicable experience and qualifications to Kristin Dunn at CCI by close of business on **Wednesday, August 9**. Kristin can be reached by e-mail at kdunn@ccionline.org. If you have any questions about serving on the Special Highway Committee, please call Eric Bergman at CCI at 303.861.4076.

Commissioner Slot on Child Welfare Executive Leadership Council

The Child Welfare Executive Leadership Council (CWELC) has one opening for a county commissioner. The purpose of the CWELC is to advise the Colorado Department of Human Services regarding policy, budget and program issues that impact the safety, permanence and well-being of Colorado's children and families. The CWELC holds quarterly meetings in the Denver area that usually meet on a Friday and run from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. If you wish to be considered for this open seat, please contact CCI Deputy Director [Kristin Dunn](#) no later than **Friday, August 4, 2017**.

NEW COMMISSIONER PROFILE:

Mineral's Jesse Albright Embraces Challenges of Leadership



This is the latest in a series of articles about Colorado's newly-elected commissioners.

Just maybe Jesse Albright of Mineral County has the perfect attitude for a first-term county commissioner. Don't be mistaken – he's dead serious when it comes to tackling the tough issues facing his rural southwestern Colorado county of 728 people. But he describes the challenges as “fun” and embraces the “learning curve” that will make him effective and successful.

(continued on next page)

“Not too many surprises so far,” says Albright, who attended county commissioner meetings for years before he won the elective office last fall. “But I will say that I may have underestimated the broad scope of how state and federal governments impact our county.” To that point, Albright and his fellow commissioners Scott Lamb and Ramona Weber are currently immersed in the details of purchasing the county landfill from the U.S. Forest Service. “This is a big deal for our county and we need to get it right,” says Albright. He’s also keenly focused on the budget, exploring ways to spend limited dollars as wisely as possible without negatively impacting the lives and lifestyles of his constituents. To be sure, Albright knows a thing or two about protecting people. When he’s not fulfilling his county leadership responsibilities or building homes as part of his father’s construction business, he serves as a volunteer firefighter and engages in emergency search-and-rescue operations. To Albright, the risks are worth it: “It’s all part of serving the county and the people that I care so deeply about.”

Next week: Washington County’s Leland Willeke.

ASSOCIATE PROFILE:

Intermountain Rural Electric Cooperative Serves 11 Counties



With more than 150,000 customers, CCI Foundation Pioneer-Level Associate Member Intermountain Rural Electric Association (IREA) is the largest electric distribution cooperative in Colorado and one of the largest in the U.S. As a customer-owned cooperative, IREA operates on a nonprofit basis. IREA’s 5,000-square-mile service territory includes portions of 11 counties to the east, west and south of Denver. IREA’s headquarters is located in Sedalia, about 20 miles south of Denver, and has district offices in Strasburg, Conifer, and Woodland Park. For more information on IREA, contact Josh Liss, corporate affairs manager, at 720.733.5543 or jbliss@irea.coop, or visit their web site at www.irea.coop.

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July 12, 2017

Reggie Bicha, Executive Director
Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)
1575 Sherman St. 8th Floor
Denver, CO 80203-1714

Dear Director Bicha:

Thank you for soliciting input from Colorado Counties, Inc. on our budget priorities for the Department's SFY 2018-2019 budget year. CCI's members appreciate the opportunity to work in collaboration with the Department in identifying county budget needs.

Thanks in large part to the Department's leadership, counties received critical financial support from the State in the SFY 2017-2018 budget that begins July 1, 2017. Working jointly with you, your staff, the Joint Budget Committee and the Governor's Office, counties received additional child welfare funding to hire new child welfare staff, additional resources for the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP), and a significant increase in our County Administration allocation. We applaud the state for these investments and know they will make a difference in the lives of those we serve. Thank you!

With the help of our staff, we have identified our funding priorities for the SFY 2018-2019 budget year. In summary, those include additional funding for the Child Welfare Block Grant and CCCAP—two programs that continue to grow at rates that outpace funding.

It is our assumption that full funding for all three tiers of the County Tax Base Relief Fund will continue to be a statewide priority in SFY 2018-2019. We also assume that, in response to the deficit identified in the Child Welfare Workload Study, increased child welfare staffing will continue to be a priority for CDHS. Finally, we hope to work with the State and the General Assembly to monitor and respond to developments at the Federal level that may have significant impacts on our administration of human services through Colorado.

Reggie Bicha, Executive Director
Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)
July 12, 2017
Page 2

The enclosed letter from the Colorado Human Service Director's Association speaks to these priorities in greater detail.

Thank you, again, for this opportunity and for including us in CDHS' budget process.

Sincerely,



Commissioner Nancy Sharpe
CCI HHS Steering Committee, Chair



Commissioner Wendy Buxton-Andrade
CCI HHS Steering Committee, V. Chair

cc: Members of the Joint Budget Committee (JBC)
Robin Smart, JBC Staff Analyst
Henry Sobanet, Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB)
Ann Renaud, OSPB

June 29, 2016

To: Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI)
From: Colorado Human Services Director's Association (CHSDA)
Regarding: SFY 2017/2018 Budget Recommendations

Dear CCI,

We appreciate the opportunity to share with you the areas of need and our recommended program funding priorities to best inform and guide the discussions you as Commissioners will be having with the Colorado Department of Human Services, Joint Budget Committee, and State legislators.

Through the ongoing committee work of CHSDA, strategic planning conversations, and a review of year to date allocation spending, the following budget priorities were identified that best represent the challenges, issues, and priorities of Colorado human services directors.

Priority #1 – Colorado Child Care Assistance Program Funding

In 2014, the General Assembly passed House Bill 14-1317, which made sweeping changes to the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) in order to provide low-to moderate-income families with access to affordable child care that helps families achieve self-sufficiency while also providing families access to high-quality early childhood development and school readiness programs.

Now that the provisions of the bill, including tiered reimbursement based on quality, have been fully implemented, the funding impact of these legislative requirements can now be observed in counties' spending trends. These trends clearly point to the need to increase funding for CCCAP. While counties are very much appreciative of the General Assembly's approval of an additional approximately \$2.5 million increase in funding for CCCAP for SFY 2017-18 (made up of primarily Federal funds), the current level of funding is inadequate to cover future CCCAP expenditures and will limit the number of children served.

Through April 2017, spending on CCCAP has increased by 18.6% (\$68,270,223) compared to this time a year ago (\$61,132,557). In fact, despite the additional \$2.5 million provided by the Joint Budget Committee through a supplemental for this year, as of April 2017, counties are still projected to be overspent by more than \$3 million for SFY 2016-2017, which includes overspending by 22 counties. As a result, many counties have already begun to implement waiting lists as a cost containment measure, which ultimately reduces the number of families that can be served through CCCAP. This creates a very challenging situation for Counties who are also tasked with helping our Colorado families find and keep employment. Absent additional funding, we would anticipate that a greater number of counties will need to implement waiting lists in the coming fiscal year. This is particularly concerning because implementing waiting lists compounds the issues for the poorest families in our communities. Three of four families currently utilizing CCCAP have incomes of less than 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (for a family of four that equates to \$36,900/year). Inadequate CCCAP funding does not allow counties to meet the intent of HB14-1317.

Priority #2 – Child Welfare Block Grant

Counties are extraordinarily appreciative of the strong commitment CDHS and the Colorado General Assembly have shown towards funding new child welfare caseworkers in order to address the significant deficit identified in the 2014 Child Welfare Workload Study. However, while this funding is critical and should be continued, it does not address the overall demand for services and shift in workload across the

entire state that counties have seen in child welfare. Generally, funding has not kept pace with the increase in workload and child welfare costs associated with best outcomes for children. As a result of overall increase in workload discussed below and other important developments, the Child Welfare Block is expected to be overspent in SFY 2016-17 by approximately \$3.6 million.

Notably, child abuse and neglect referral rates have increased by more than 19% between CY 2014 and 2016. Similarly, the number of assessments counties conduct on child welfare referrals has increased by more than 17% during that time period. In response to this increased activity, counties have increased their program services spending for Child Welfare by more than 15% during this time.

Although workload has increased on the front end, counties have successfully implemented prevention and early intervention strategies that have avoided a commensurate increase in costly out of home placements. Importantly, while in SFY12, there were 129 children in placement per 1,000 referrals received, by CY2016, only 65 children were in placement per 1,000 referrals in Colorado. Similarly, despite a nationwide emphasis on reducing out of home placements, according to data from kidscount.org, the nation as a whole has seen total placements rise by 7.3% between CY2011 and CY2015, while in Colorado there has been a 6.5% *decrease* over that same time period.

The Child Welfare Allocation has also not kept pace with inflation. In fact, excluding SFY 2006-2007, which was embedded in the allocation, the General Assembly provided a cumulative 7.2% provider rate increase between SFY07 and SFY16. The rate of inflation over this same timeframe has been about 16.7%.

Counties are also preparing themselves for a loss of IV-E Waiver funding, which could shift practice away from this critical front end work and towards the most expensive back end system penetration (out of home placements), making an increased investment in child welfare funding more important than ever. A loss of funding for early intervention is bad for our allocations, but much more importantly, is bad for the outcomes for children and families.

Additional Important Items:

In addition to our top two funding priorities listed above, it is our assumption that full funding for all three tiers of the County Tax Base Relief Fund will continue to be a statewide priority in SFY 2018-2019.

We also assume that, in response to the deficit identified in the 2014 Child Welfare Workload Study, increased child welfare staffing will continue to be a priority for CDHS.

Finally, we hope to work with the State and the General Assembly to monitor and respond to developments at the Federal level that may have significant impacts on our administration of human services throughout Colorado.

RAISING THE LEGAL AGE OF EMANCIPATION FROM 18-21 FOR FOSTER YOUTH IN COLORADO

Stats

Current Outcomes for Emancipating Youth

EDUCATIONAL

- 40% OF FOSTER YOUTH WILL NOT GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL BY AGE 19
- DUE TO CONSISTENT INSTABILITY, 40% REPEATED ONE OR MORE GRADES
- BETWEEN 1 AND 11% OF FORMER FOSTER YOUTH WILL GRADUATE COLLEGE

SOCIAL

- 75% OF FEMALES WILL HAVE BEEN PREGNANT BY AGE 24
- 1 IN 3 WILL EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS
- 1 IN 4 WILL EXPERIENCE PTSD

Argument

Why 21?

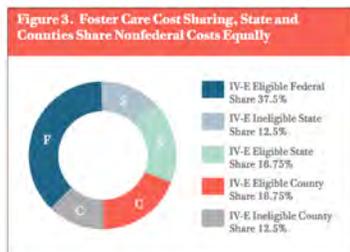
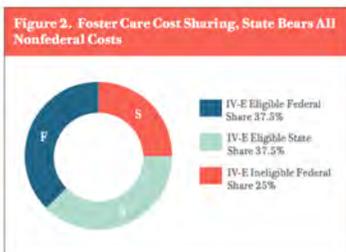
Emerging Adulthood: Age 18-25 is a period of as much brain growth and development as infancy. Youth in this age group's brains function by the "use it or lose it" principle where skills and experiences that occur regularly are reinforced to last, and those that do not are pruned and lost.

Trauma: Trauma and consistent disruptions stunt emotional health and development.

Resiliency: The ability to overcome adverse conditions and function normally in the face of risk. While trauma has caused most of these youth to regress developmentally, the high capacity for brain development of emerging adulthood gives them a high capacity for resiliency, and therefore, full recovery through a "re-wiring" of their brain.

Permanent Connections: Just as in infancy, the best development in emerging adulthood occurs when these youth have a safe base for exploration.

Opportunities for more planning, decision making, and independent living skills.



I.e. California where 70% of Foster youth are Title IV Eligible:

Table 2: Allocation of the Costs of Extending Care Across Levels of Government

	Title IV-E Ineligible		Title IV-E Eligible		Total
Federal		+	50% * 70%	=	35%
State	40% * 30%	+	40% * 50% * 70%	=	26%
County	60% * 30%	+	60% * 50% * 70%	=	39%
Total	30%	+	70%	=	100%

Argument

Cost-Benefit Analysis

Studies show, "The Financial benefits of extending foster care--both for individual youth and for society-- outweigh the costs to government by a factor of approximately 2 to 1"

This is due to...

- Increased individual lifetime earnings related to better education outcomes
- Decreased expenditures of public assistance via decreased need for Social Security Income, food stamps, TANF, and other welfare payments.
- Decreased social cost to society by decreased incidence of teen and unplanned pregnancy, incarceration, mental health crises, and homelessness.

Argument

Legislation & Mechanism

HB 1079 Chap 83(CO): Requires the court to consider the individual circumstances of each youth in out-of-home placement who is at least age 17 to determine whether the youth is ready to become independent on reaching age 18 or whether he or she should remain under the care of the county until age 21.

Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Fed): Youth who turn 18 in care without permanent families can remain in care, at state option, to 19, 20, or 21 with continued federal support. Federal support will constitute 50-83% of total cost depending on the proportion of youth who are eligible for Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.

RAISING THE LEGAL AGE OF EMANCIPATION FROM 18-21 FOR FOSTER YOUTH IN COLORADO

Action

Steps to Take

- 1) Leverage your **platform** to spread awareness and advocate for this issue.
- 2) Activate your **network** to take action towards passing legislation to resolve this issue.

Do you know someone who could make a real difference in changing the legal age of emancipation in Colorado? Are you willing to meet with us and them to pursue taking the next step for youth aging out?

Sources

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Register Now!

5th Annual

Small Communities Workshop

Governance and Intergovernmental Cooperation for Local Government Officials

Thursday, August 17th @ the Silverthorne Pavilion

Elected and appointed municipal, county, and special district officials from across the state are invited to participate in this day-long workshop, which will provide valuable information and tools to those leading smaller jurisdictions.

Tickets are just \$35 per person.

Workshop will include:

- Housing 101: Investigating your community's housing needs
- Fiscal sustainability and budgeting: Gallagher's local impact
- How to develop recreational tourism in your community
- Marijuana: Challenges and opportunities for small communities

Join us the evening before for a networking mixer with light hors d' oeuvres at The Bakers' Brewery!

Visit our website to register

<http://dola.colorado.gov/workshops>

Proudly presented by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs in partnership with Colorado Counties Inc., the Colorado Municipal League, the Special District Association of Colorado, Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, and the Town of Silverthorne





Grantwriting Workshop Schedule

These free workshops will cover grant application writing for GOCO's Local Parks and Outdoor Recreation (LPOR) and mini LPOR grant programs. This schedule will be updated as event details are finalized.

RSVP is required through Evite. Click the location name below to RSVP through Evite. This link can also be shared with your colleagues to RSVP with.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	ADDRESS
July 17	9 – 11 am	Delta	Rec Center 531 N Palmer St.
July 18	9 – 11 am	Leadville	City Hall 800 Harrison Ave.
July 19	10 am – 12 pm	Kremmling	Chamber of Commerce 203 Park Ave.
July 20	9 – 11 am	Greeley	Greeley Ice Haus 900 8th Ave
July 25	1 – 3 pm	Stratton	Town Hall 918 Colorado Ave.
July 26	9 – 11 am	La Junta	Court House Room 107 13 West 3 rd St.
July 27	9 – 11 am	Blanca	Town Hall 601 Main St.
July 28	9 – 11 am	Silverton	Town Hall 1360 Green St.
August 2	9 – 11 am	Aurora	Arapahoe County Board Room 6954 S Lima St.

Contact Madison Brannigan at mbrannigan@goco.org with any questions.