



COMMUNITY OF CARING FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER

Aspen Mine Center, Cripple Creek, Colorado

Fall-Winter 2008

www.aspenminecenter.org

Vol. 5, No. 3

FROM COMMUNITY INTO CARING: RE-1 IN-SERVICE PROGRAM

Community of Caring's Mary Bielz and Build a Generation's Lisa Noble used a mining theme to present their program proposal for collaboration between community members, businesses and the school district, at the start of the new school year in Cripple Creek. Emphasizing the three "veins" of Community of Caring — Values, Collaboration and Service — with RE-1 as the head frame, they began by asking, "What is the community doing to build relationships with all our kids?"

For the next three hours, attendees were led through a history of Community of Caring, its purpose and the model, and were finally challenged with this year's theme: "Claiming Community into Caring!" The group, including two dozen community agencies, were asked to come up with new ideas for connecting RE-1 with community to build opportunities for the youth of the district.

Numerous possibilities for collaboration, from new workforce center programs to helping with district museum projects, energized the group. Four \$500 awards will be given in May to community agencies or school groups for projects demonstrating excellence in positive impact.

Criteria for goals/objectives and outcomes for "Claiming Community into Caring" are available at the Aspen Mine Center. If you have an idea for collaboration with our



Mary Bielz and Lisa Noble presented an expanded Community of Caring concept during RE-1's in-service program for the new school year.

youth, take up the challenge of "Claiming Community into Caring!"

At the end of the day came the Bestowing of the Tools: hard hats borrowed from the CC&V gold mine represented a construction zone ("You are a work in progress"). Tiny donkeys symbolized cultural competency, a pair of gloves were protection from calluses, a candle represented light in darkness and a bag of taffy stood for elasticity and flexibility. Smiles showed the renewed emphasis on character and core values was a big hit!



Lights of Love 2008 handcrafted stained-glass ornaments. For more information, see p. 3.

Addressing the Need for Early Childhood Care

Community of Caring hosted a pre-provider informational meeting Sept. 13 at the Aspen Mine Center. Eleven people interested in the area's need for early childhood care attended. The orientation meeting was facilitated by Leanne Cabral and Child Care Connections of Colorado Springs. Snacks and child care were provided.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the re-

quirements of C-CAP under Teller County Social Services, for licensed and unlicensed in-home child care providers, as well as opportunities for training and mentoring to achieve qualification to state standards. Local discussion about meeting the critical early childhood needs in southern Teller County are ongoing. Stay tuned for more!

RURAL PHILANTHROPY DAYS SUCCESS!

For the first time ever, Cripple Creek hosted the Heart of Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days in late September. For a year, a steering committee of several dozen people met monthly and worked on subcommittees in between. Cripple Creek's Lisa Noble and Jill Sievers were two of the event's three co-chairs. Community of Caring's Suzanne Core was an active member of the steering committee and helped organize the dine-around portion. Heart of Colorado has a healthy nonprofit population, as evidenced by the fact that the 250-person limit was reached earlier than anticipated and registration ultimately had to be extended by another 25 to 30 participants.

RPD is an opportunity for two of eight Colorado regions to host the state's grant-makers once every four years. It includes conference sessions, social time (in this case a reception, Wednesday night dine-arounds, Thursday night banquet, breakfasts and lunch times), and a Friday morning "speed dating" event where grantseekers and grantmakers sat across from each other at round tables to discuss possibilities for funding various projects and programs.

Mary Bielz, Ted Borden and Suzanne Core attended the event for Community of Caring and the Aspen Mine Center. They all received positive feedback from a number of grantmakers contacted during the event. In particular, grantmakers gave green lights to seeking additional funds for transportation and food assistance.



"Miss Patsy" Brown is now working for Community of Caring as a Rocky Mountain SER participant. Patsy has been polishing her typing skills and working in the Food Pantry and the Clothes Closet. We are very grateful for her and for the RM-SER program.

THANKS TO VENTURE FOODS AND WEIGHT WATCHERS FOR SUCCESSFUL FOOD DRIVES

The Weight Watchers group that meets here Tuesday evenings held a six-week long "Lose for Good" program which benefited the Aspen Mine Center's food pantry as well as group members. The number of pounds lost during this fall food drive was the number of pounds of food goods donated to us by them. The group lost 129.2 pounds!

Our food pantry is 129.2 pounds heavier! Thanks! Meanwhile, our friends at Venture Food have been conducting an in-store food drive for us. Two bushel baskets are set up front-and-center, with signs telling customers there's a fall food drive for the AMC. They have been filled repeatedly during the last two months, primarily with canned goods and juices. This is just the current way Venture Foods is helping the community in which it lives. We are very grateful for Venture Foods in our community. Thanks to you both!

AMC BIDS FOND FAREWELL TO LIANA WALTERS!

"Liana Walters was on board with Community of Caring when the Aspen Mine Center was just an idea," said Mary Bielz. "She wanted to have a coffee shop. Her faithful stewardship of the shop was an extension to the public of our core values. Her hospitality has been remarkable, outstanding. She didn't have a job, she had a calling!"



Liana added a successful catering business to the coffee shop, serving throughout the community, everything from her legendary box lunches ("the pickle and the brownie") to full meals. Not just her popularity with locals but her proximity to the county courthouse kept the shop full.

"She was a conduit, a connection and a bridge for people," said Bielz. "We wish her continued success and thank her from the bottom of our coffee cups!"

The Aspen Mine Senior Club thanks everyone for their support of the Club's fall Garage Sale fund-raiser. The Oct. 11 Garage Sale, held at the Aspen Mine Center, was enjoyed by all and netted a

Cripple Creek Coffee has new owner

Wes and Mary Lou Kime recently purchased our popular local watering hole, Cripple Creek Coffee, from Liana Walters, who is leaving the area for the warmer climates of Tucson, Arizona.

"Nothing will change," says Wes. "At least there are no changes planned at this point."

Kime will continue the catering portion of the coffee shop business, as well as managing day-to-day operations. Mary Lou is majority owner of the shop

but works fulltime as group sales manager for the Double Eagle hotel and casino. Wes will continue to manage the local Starbucks coffee shop, which he has managed for a year and a half. The Kimes also own a cookie store in a Dallas mall.

The Kimes moved to the area full time about two years ago, after several years of commuting from Texas. Prior to moving here, Wes spent 25-30 years in office supply sales, including VP of Sales, covering a multi-state area.



Wes Kime is the new owner and manager of Cripple Creek Coffee.



SPOTLIGHT

An Aspen Mine Center program or agency spotlight will be a regular newsletter feature beginning with this issue.



Coordinator's Corner

by Ted Borden

Relatives In Need Of Support (RINOS), a Grandparent/Kinship Care Support Group, meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in The Aspen Mine Center. Child care is provided. For more information, contact Richard Kleiner at 689-3584 ext. 108 or

When I woke up today, the chill in the air and a few flurries fluttering to the ground reminded me of the coming winter. It also reminded me the holidays are just around the corner, the time when there seems to be a combination of joyous anticipation with anxiety regarding demands on our time and a feeling of being spread too thin. This year I challenge you, as well as myself, to make the holidays less hectic, more enjoyable, and more memorable. This year I will choose to participate only in meaningful events that bring joy to my heart and those around me. I will limit the gifts I give to a few thoughtful, one of a kind, purchases, and will not buy "stuff" just to give to those I feel obligated to buy for. Instead I will let them know I will honor them with an hour of bell ringing for the Salvation Army or a monetary donation in their name to a worthy non-profit, or perhaps I will adopt a family from the Aspen Mine Center's "Angel Tree" to buy for in their name. I will select only a few activities this

year to volunteer for, and I will look forward to those events because they were my carefully thought out choices.

I will notice the smiles on the faces of people passing by, and try my best to say "no thank you" to taking on just one more thing, knowing what's important is not doing "things" this time of year but true participation and giving of myself to activities I have carefully chosen. I will take time each morning and evening to reflect on the day and on what this time of year truly means to me. I will not rush through this time without enjoying my activities and the people I meet along the way, so as this holiday season comes and goes I will experience the true wonder of it all. Join me!

If you are interested in participating in any of the events or volunteer activities in your community, please contact us. We appreciate greatly the gift of your precious time, and will be honored you have chosen to spend some of it with us.

Have a blessed and joyous holiday season!

CRIPPLE CREEK-VICTOR MOUNTAIN HEALTH CENTER ALMOST HERE! by Lauren Murray

Cripple Creek-Victor Mountain Health Center (CCV MHC) School-Based Health Center is awaiting final licensing to open its doors at Cresson Elementary in the nurse's office. We anticipate opening in late fall or early winter. There will be a kickoff for registration during the week of Nov. 16-20. Nov. 20-21 will be parent/teacher conferences and registration will be available during those times. CCV MHC looks forward to serving CCV students and their siblings ages 0-21 years. CCV MHC will provide physical health, dental health and behavioral health needs in the school setting. CCV MHC has partnered with Peak Vista Community Health Center, Pikes Peak Mental Health and Cripple Creek Coun-

seling Center to provide health care services. A mid-level provider will be on-site at school two days a week to serve the needs of our students. Some of the services offered will be: athletic and well child physicals, immunizations, sick child care, some prescription funding, dental screenings, sealants and restorative care, and group counseling in elementary, junior and senior high schools. CCV MHC is funded through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. It will be continually funded through grants. A \$5.00 donation will be requested at each visit but will not be required for a student to see a provider.



20th annual LIGHTS OF LOVE

PROSPECT HOME CARE & HOSPICE
Your Partner. For Life
A Celebration of Love and Remembrance
Thursday Dec. 4 – 6:00 pm
Ute Pass Cultural Center

2008 ornaments sale:
Ornament Only \$20
To honor/remember someone at the celebration \$15
Ornament & honor/remembrance set \$35
Call Janet at 687-0549

Make a tax-deductible contribution to Community of Caring today!

\$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$_____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

Mail to: Veldean, Aspen Mine Center, P.O. Box 1587, Cripple Creek CO 80813

Services and Office Hours at the Aspen Mine Center

Services accessible through the Aspen Mine Center, 166 E. Bennett Avenue, Cripple Creek, 689-3584:

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings ... 7 p.m. Mondays

Aspen Mine Food Pantry ... 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday

Aspen Mine Senior Club ... Hot meals 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Mon., Wed., Fri.; for information on activities and resources, call 689-3584.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) ... By appointment. Call 447-9898 x1007

Commodities... 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. last Friday of each month.

Community of Caring (assistance programs) ... 9 a.m.— 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Community Health Centers ... Peak Vista's clinic in Divide is open 7:30 a.m.— 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. For appointments, call 687-4460. For transportation, call Ted or Veldean at 689-3584.

Community Partnership ... Play group for ages 0-9, Fridays 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Cresson Elementary Pre-school rooms. For information, call Cathy at 687-8054. For information on other programs, call 686-0705.

Cripple Creek Coffee (and Internet Café) ... winter hours: 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Friday. **Disability Services of Colorado** ... Free hearing tests, last Friday of month, 9 a.m.—noon.

Dressing Room (clothes closet) ... 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. See staff for key.

Journeys Counseling Center ... Group classes 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Thursdays or by appointment. To schedule, call Barbara at 687-6927.

Legal Help ... Third Thursdays: "Call a Lawyer" 7 pm—9 pm; Legal Aid by appointment. 471-0381.

Pikes Peak Mental Health Center ... 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 572-6330 or 689-3584.

Pikes Peak Workforce Center ... 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday through Friday; see Hank. Second and fourth Tuesdays Spanish-speaking assistance by appointment. Call for more information 689-3584.

Prospect Home Care & Hospice ... By appointment at the Aspen Mine or your home. Call 687-0549.

RINOS Support Group... 6-8 p.m. first and third Thursdays. Call 719-499-2151 for more information.

Salvation Army ... 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Teller County Dept. of Social Services (Medicaid) ... 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.; 8:30 to noon, Tuesday.

Teller County Public Health (TCPH) ... Every Wednesday, by appointment 11 a.m.—noon and the last Friday of each month by appointment 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 687-6416 for information/appointments.

Well-Child exams and preschool physicals; Child/Adult Immunizations;

Health Screenings (cholesterol, blood pressure, glucose, oxygen level);

Women's and Men's Health Services; Nutrition/Weight education; Smoking Cessation

Teller/Park Early Childhood Council ... For more information or to participate, call 719-836-0706.

Teller Pregnancy Resource Center (ultrasound) ... 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Fridays; Woodland Park noon to 4 p.m. Monday—Friday. Call 687-1200.

TESSA (advocacy and therapy for victims of domestic violence) ... 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday—Friday; call 689-3584 x118. Crisis line 719 633-3819.

The Resource Exchange... For information, call Diane at 687-5047.

Vocational Rehab ... As needed; call for appointment.

Weight Watchers ... 6 p.m. Tuesdays.

Welcome Home Warrior... For information on services, call Donna at 719 439 3621.

Wraparound/Family Support Partner ... For information, call 719-499-2151.

The Aspen Mine Center newsletter is published quarterly by the **Community of Caring Foundation**, a 501c3 organization.
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