**LEVI General Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 8th, 2014**

Attendees: Robin Menschenfreund (Children First of the Rockies -formally the St. Vrain Family Center), Cheryl Hodgson (CPWD), Jeanette Nicastri, City of Longmont Youth Services, Danielle Fagin, Probation, Mallory Black and Mark Pape (RMOMS), Jackie List and JP Butler (Safe Shelter of St. Vrain), Kim Heard and Trish Wood (LEVI).

**Agency News:**

**Blue Sky Bridge**:

* The next Non-Offending Caregiver Support Group for those support childhood sexual abuse survivors starts on 1/27 at 6pm at BSB. Interested individuals need to call Christine Springer at 303-444-1388.
* Blue Sky Bridge By the Glass Fundraiser:

Join us again this year for our annual fun and fabulous wine tasting event, now with spirits! This fundraiser offers wine tasting from a variety of local sources, delicious catered food and now sample cocktails from local distilleries. Bring your friends, bring a date, or fly solo and meet some great local professionals from all over Boulder County.

The 2014 BSB By the Glass will be held at Sterling-Rice Group on their new and amazing location on the 1st floor. Tickets are $60.

**Children First of the Rockies**

* Robin talked about their statistics that in 2013 they had 200 parents in Parent Education, 57 in the Young Moms Support Group, and Safe Services served over 2000. The exchanges were down and visits were up last year. Their Love and Logic Classes were offered in both English and Spanish.
* They were invited to speak to the District Judges to clarify how their services work and how the orders should be written.
* Robin discussed their big DOJ-OVW 3-year Safe Haven Grant, where several LEVI members are participants.
* The still have safe exchange program at the Lafayette YMCA and in Boulder, with special arrangements, as well as the Longmont facility.

**CPWD**

* A new Executive Director has been hired (finally!) from another state and should be starting soon. He will be in charge of their 3 offices in the area.
* CPWD will be housed at The Suites until at least April, while their offices on Main St. are being repaired.
* Cheryl talked about the Suites – and that they have a new management company running the place – with a new Property Manager – Erin. They are usually full – with the rates of $834-864/month which includes a phone land line /cable/internet/utilities.
* CPWD no longer has a Section 8 Voucher system within their organization.

**Longmont PD – DV Detectives**

* Mark said that the 2012 Domestic Violence Stats for Longmont will be available soon.
* He discussed the Domestic Abuse Review Committee that meets every Wednesday morning at 9am and how it is going well with the participants at the table from: LPD DV Detectives, Safe Shelter, Victim’s Advocates from the DA’s office and Probation, Boulder County Housing and Human Services, LEVI and Journey Counseling (works with offenders).

**RMOMS**

* Mark Pape said he is now back from Aurora and managing the offices in our area.
* Mallory Black introduced herself again for those of us who didn’t meet her at the last meeting – as the manager in the Longmont RMOMs office.
* A RMOMs Victim Services Coordinator was hired in October and her name is Heather Schwartz.

**Safe Shelter**

* The Safe Shelter Christmas Store for Gifts for victims/families went well this year.
* People are staying in the shelter longer has there seems to be very little affordable housing in the area.
* They served 500+ victims and their families this year.
* This year they are starting a new program (which was started out of Pennsylvania) for Child/Youth – called KISS – A Kid is So Special – working on the relationships between non-offending parent/children.
* TERA is ongoing – there is a Capstone Project being started at Silver Creek High School – on an Anti-Violence Club. Three years (10th, 11th and 12th grades) of students are participating with this new club.
* Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month Planning is in the works – with J.P. and the TERA kids helping out this year.

**Youth Center**

* Abriendo Puertas group started in mid-January.
* Young Mom’s Group started in January.
* A Teen Grief Group will be starting up again soon.
* A Boy’s Group meets weekly.
* A Theater Group meets weekly.
* Open times at the Youth Center are afterschool – called “The Zone”.
* A monthly calendar can be found at: <http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/youth_services/calendar/index.htm>

**LEVI and Committee News**

* Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month will be in February and the planning efforts are underway, with J.P. from Safe Shelter, heading up the activities.
* Love, Sex and Lies Event at Front Range CC will be held on February 12th from 11-1.
* Training topics for 2014 include the brain & trauma, new elder abuse mandatory reporting law, The Link, Primary & Bystander Prevention, motives of those who batter. An announcement of the next quarterly training will be soon. We originally were going to partner with MESA on the brain and trauma, but that will not work out as we had hoped.
* Project Pinwheel (child sexual assault prevention) is still moving towards a strategic planning session on February 27th, 2014. One gap identified is around mandatory reporting so the committee has drafted a questionnaire that will go to all SVVSD employees assessing what they know/believe about the topic and what barriers to reporting exist. There is a significant parental component to PP.
* The LEVI Budget for 2014 was discussed. Between Project Pinwheel funding and some limited JAG Grant funding for domestic violence, LEVI will have less funding this year for domestic violence prevention/education issues.
* During the meeting we discussed having the LEVI meetings only once a quarter (January – April – July – Oct), with quarterly trainings also once a quarter. With so many meetings, LEVI’s bi-weekly update, and staff shortages, we thought this would help with getting people to these meetings.

**The next LEVI general meeting will take place next quarter – April 9th from 10-11:30 in the Community Room at the Longmont Safety & Justice Center.**