



Positive Press

The Official Newsletter of the Southern Colorado Health Network

May 2022

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*The
Ball
Was
Back!*



ACCESS POINT PUEBLO UPDATE

By Sarah Money, Syringe Access Program Manager



Access Point Pueblo (APP) saw a busy March! APP operated 15 days and had a total of 1158 visits. APP started distributing smoking and snorting supplies at the end of February, and saw a large increase in visits in March. APP ran out of smoking equipment much more quickly than expected and had to order more. Many participants who came by were disappointed that APP ran out of those supplies, but it helped APP staff see how grateful participants were to receive that equipment and how important it is to be offered.

APP had over 190 overdose reversals reported this year so far, despite challenges acquiring Narcan. There has been increased community interest surrounding Narcan trainings, with a few scheduled in April. APP Staff attended a Kloxxado training March 18 and established a connection with a Kloxxado representative.

At the end of March, Southern Colorado Family Medicine (SCFM) established services on site. SCFM is providing an urgent care clinic with walk-in availability. SCFM is able to treat basic wounds and prescribe medications such as antibiotics, PrEP, and birth control, along with the ability to provide Hepatitis C treatment at the main clinic. If services cannot be provided on-site, APP will be able to support with transportation to the main SCFM clinic.

APP has continued to work with CSU-Pueblo, hosting the first on-site testing event on March 30. Nineteen students got tested and APP will be planning more testing events with CSU-Pueblo based on identified need. This opportunity allowed APP to provide harm reduction and overdose prevention education, including the provision of Narcan and fentanyl test strips.

SCHN/APP will be hosting a resource fair on May 18, including community partners like PDPHE, LEAD, Friendly Harbor (mental health and substance use peer support services), Pueblo Community Health Center, Vivent Health, Green Chile Bike Bank, and the Homeless Assistance League.

SPRING RESOURCE FAIR SLATED FOR MAY 18 AT THE SCHN PUEBLO OFFICE

The SCHN Pueblo office is holding a Spring Resource Fair on Wednesday, May 18th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the SCHN parking lot located at 807 North Greenwood Street.

Access Point Pueblo (APP) will distribute donated clothes and snacks as well as train members of the public on how to use Narcan, distributing doses of the lifesaving medication to those that wish to carry it. APP will also provide walk-in HIV/Hep-C/STI testing for folks that want to know their status.

SCHN will also have a collection of community partners tabling at the fair offering free swag as well as on-the-spot services such as LEAD: Pueblo's Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion program, Friendly Harbor, Green Chile Bike Bank, Vivent Health and the Colorado Pet Pantry.



The Prevention department in Colorado Springs is thrilled to announce the opening of Hey719 at 2230 W Colorado Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. Currently, we will be open during business hours Monday – Thursday from 9am – 5pm. We are testing by appointment, as well as Narcan and fentanyl test strip trainings and distribution. Masks are required for staff and guests.

Hey719 is the result of a community needs assessment completed between late 2019 and early 2021. The mission of Hey719 is to improve the sexual health and overall well-being of all members of the Colorado Springs community, particularly those experiencing systems of oppression that impede access to testing, PrEP, and other resources. We do this by offering free, confidential, and affirming STI testing and referrals in English and Spanish in a comfortable, sex-positive setting. We commit to co-creating a safe and brave space for LGBTQIA2S+ and other marginalized communities to gather.

HIV Vaccine Awareness Day—May 18

Led by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, HIV Vaccine Awareness Day (HVAD) is observed annually on May 18. This event is an opportunity to recognize the many volunteers, community members, social workers, health professionals, and scientists who are working together to find a safe and effective vaccine to prevent HIV.



The concept of HIV Vaccine Awareness Day is rooted in a May 18, 1997, speech by then President Bill Clinton who challenged the world to develop an HIV/AIDS vaccine. The first HIV Vaccine Awareness Day was observed on May 18, 1998, to commemorate the first anniversary of Clinton’s speech. We must strive to educate all communities about HIV prevention and the importance of HIV vaccine research.

National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day—May 19

National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NAPIHAAD) is observed annually on May 19. Founded by the Banyan Tree Project, NAPIHAAD educates the public about the impact of HIV stigma among Asian and Pacific Islander people.

You can raise awareness of HIV stigma among Asian and Pacific Islander people and provide information on prevention, testing and treatment using *Let’s Stop HIV Together* campaign resources.



Hepatitis Testing Day—May 19



The month of May is designated as Hepatitis Awareness Month in the USA and May 19 is Hepatitis Testing Day. Millions of Americans have chronic viral hepatitis and most of them do not know they have it. The goal of Hepatitis Testing Day is to help raise awareness of hepatitis B and C and to encourage more individuals to learn their status.

Hepatitis Testing Day is an important opportunity for stakeholders across all sectors of society to educate their constituents and communities about viral hepatitis and encourage those at risk to be tested. Hepatitis Testing Day was designated as a national observance in 2013 to help raise awareness of the silent epidemic of viral hepatitis in the USA.



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2022 DENVER PRIDEFEST SLATED FOR JUNE 25-26



The 2022 Denver PrideFest will feature a two-day festival. The weekend kicks off with the Pride 5K run on Saturday morning, June 25. Following the run, the two-day festival celebration gets underway at Civic Center Park.

The Fest includes more than 250 exhibitors, 30 food and beverage vendors, and live performances all weekend long. Festivities begin at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, June 26, with colorful floats, marchers, music, and more at the annual Coors Light PrideFest Parade.

For additional information, go to www.DenverPride.org or check out Denver Pride on Facebook.



**Pikes Peak
PRIDE 2022**
**FLAUNT YOUR
PRIDE**

Pikes Peak Pride Event
Saturday, July 23, 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Sunday, July 24, 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Acacia Park

Pikes Peak Pride Parade
Sunday, July 24, 11:00 AM
Pioneer Museum to Acacia Park via Tejon



**SAVE THE
DATE**

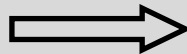
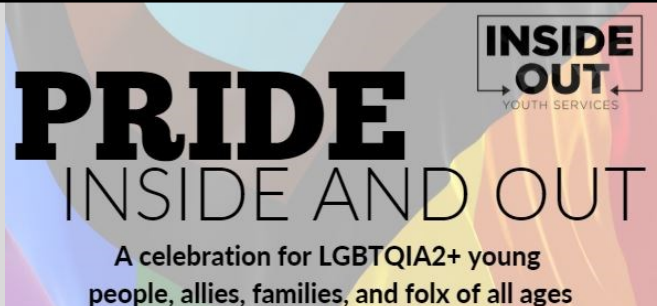
**AUGUST
21**

PUEBLO PRIDE 2022

More Details Soon!

INSIDE OUT YOUTH SERVICES PRIDE & PROM SLATED FOR JUNE 4

On June 4 at Hillside Community Center, Inside Out Youth Services will be hosting Pride: Inside and Out, a festival for LGBTQIA2+ youth, allies, families, and the overall community. Following the festival, ages 13-24 are welcome to stick around for Queer Prom, a semi-formal dance party! Visit www.OutOfYouths.org to volunteer, get a booth, get Queer Prom tickets, or learn more.

**INSIDE
OUT**
YOUTH SERVICES

PRIDE
INSIDE AND OUT

A celebration for LGBTQIA2+ young people, allies, families, and folx of all ages

Access Point Pueblo

Free, sterile supplies available for those who need them. **Tuesday & Thursday**
10am-12:00pm & 1:30pm-4:00pm
Southern Colorado Health Network
807 N. Greenwood St., Ste 200
Pueblo, CO 81003



719-621-1105

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