



Positive Press

The Official Newsletter of the Southern Colorado Health Network

May 2023

Volume 16, Issue 5

2023 RED RIBBON BALL RECAP and THANK YOU

This year, SCHN hosted our annual Red Ribbon Ball at the beautiful Pinery on the Hill. The event raised funds for programs and services that benefit people impacted by HIV in the Pikes Peak region. The Red Ribbon Ball has been a staple of Southern Colorado for decades. Thank you to everyone who attended the Ball and made the evening special. Your participation and support helped us meet the need and create further impact across the Pike Peak Region.



2023 Pride Season: Colorado Springs Before Denver This Year

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In 2023, for the first time in memory, Pikes Peak Pride in Colorado Springs will take place prior to Denver PrideFest. Pikes Peak Pride 2023 will take place Saturday and Sunday, June 10-11, at Alamo Square Park (Pioneer Museum), 215 S. Tejon Street in Colorado Springs. It is a community event that annually gathers thousands of visitors together from across the Pikes Peak region into downtown Colorado Springs. There will be two full days (10 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day) of vendor booths, food trucks, a beer garden, and high energy entertainment to include the traditionally fabulous parade on Sunday. For more information, visit www.pikespeakpride.org/home.

Denver PrideFest 2023 will take place Saturday and Sunday, June 24-25, at Denver's Civic Center Park. The Fest includes more than 250 exhibitors, food and beverage vendors, and live entertainment all weekend long. The Pride 5K run/walk starts the event on Saturday morning and the colorful Coors Light Denver PrideFest Parade happens on Sunday morning. For additional information, visit www.denverpride.org/fest.



Pueblo Prevention Update

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In the month of April, Prevention Services Coordinator Jefferson Campos completed his testing training, observations, and is now fully testing on his own. This was just in time for us to begin bi-weekly pop-up testing at CSU-Pueblo's Wolfpack Wellness Center. Working collaboratively with Statewide PrEP Coordinator Lead Auston Carlson, Pueblo Prevention staff will be on site at the Wolfpack Wellness Center every other Wednesday from 10am-3pm to provide free, confidential, and affirming STI testing and sexual health counseling.

With two Wednesday's under our belt in April, we learned a lot and saw 14 students receive testing services with one PrEP referral. We anticipate a busy Fall semester with this new venture and are excited to increase sexual health access and education within our CSU-Pueblo community.

Prevention staff also begin providing walk-in testing during Syringe Access times (T-Th, 10-12 & 1:30-4) with a goal of increasing testing among our participants who inject and/or use drugs. As the Drug User Health Hub team continues to integrate into programming and build out their network of referrals, we hope to collaboratively work to lessen the barriers to confirmatory testing and treatment of Hepatitis C and more.

In the last week of April, Coordinator James Wyatt provided harm reduction presentations to a Personal Health class at CSU-P that facilitated engaging dialogue among the students and faculty in each class. We look forward to Coordinator Kyle Meltzer providing companion lectures on Sexual Health & STI Prevention for her third semester in a row! Pueblo Prevention looks forward to a busy summer season!



ANNUAL SPRING RESOURCE FAIR SLATED FOR MAY 24 IN PUEBLO

The annual Spring Resource Fair, sponsored by the SCHN Pueblo office and Access Point Pueblo, will take place this year from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24, at the Pueblo office location, 807 N. Greenwood Street.

This year's "impact-driven" fair will feature free clothes, food, phones, haircuts, and pet supplies thanks to several generous community partners. They include Green Chili Bike Bank, Homeless Assistance League, Pueblo United, Porkchop Lady & Sam's Street Tacos, Pueblo Community Health Center, Colorado Pet Pantry, Access Wireless Phone Service, and Center Beauty College.

The focus will be on same-day services such as walk-in Hep-C/HIV/STI testing and, hopefully, on site medical assistance. Call James Wyatt in the SCHN Pueblo office at 719/621-1105 for more information.

(If room, use the Access Point Pueblo graphic and SCHN graphic.)

PATH2Wellness

People (50+) Aging & Thriving with HIV @ SCHN

This is a 10-week trial program at the SCHN Colorado Springs office on Fridays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. The program got underway on April 11 and will run through Friday, June 16.

You can still enroll or register for the program by contacting SCHN case manager Jennifer Bailey at 719-578-9092 or by email at Jennifer.bailey@coloradohealthnetwork.org.

WELCOME TO THE TWO NEWEST SCHN PROGRAM ASSISTANTS



LINDA RUIZ IN COLORADO SPRINGS

Linda comes to SCHN with experience in programs and executive support, event planning and social work knowledge. She is bilingual, speaking both Spanish and English.

A statement from Linda:

"Hello! My name is Linda Ruiz and I am so excited to be a part of the SCHN team! I feel very lucky for this amazing opportunity to work with like-minded individuals who share a genuine passion for social justice. I'm originally from Southern California but have lived in Colorado for the last two years. I'm currently a full time student at UCCS working towards a Bachelors in Social Work. On my free time I enjoy hiking, thrifting, cooking, and painting."

CAMILA VERA IN PUEBLO

Camila comes to SCHN with experience in production, services, selling and marketing. Camila speaks three languages-- Portuguese, Spanish, and English.

A statement from Camila:

"Hey all!!! I have less than a week working at CHN, but I am already loving every step of my onboarding, I am very confident that is a wonderful team that I am joining, and it will help me to go far and continue to keep learning about this amazing job! I can't wait to continue growing and supporting our community here in Pueblo, it will always be a pleasure to help the community here. Thank you for the support from each one of you! This gives me the support that I need to do my work better and achieve my personal goals."



Go to HIV.gov or CDC.gov for additional information



Access Point Pueblo

Free, sterile supplies available for those who need them.

Tuesday & Thursday,
10:00am-12:00pm
&
1:30pm-4:00pm



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