



Positive Press

The Official Newsletter of the Southern Colorado Health Network

February 2024

Volume 17. Issue 2

LUPE JOYNER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SCAP/SCHN

The 20-year SCAP/SCHN journey for Lupe Joyner got underway January 16th, 2004. Yes folks, last January Lupe reached a rare milestone when her 20 years of service to S-CAP/SCHN was recorded into the organization’s history book. It is indeed quite an accomplishment because only a handful of current or former CHN employees have been on board this long.

In January of 2004, Lupe was hired to be a Client Services Program Assistant and she provided a lot of translation services for S-CAP in this role. Her value to S-CAP became apparent in fairly rapid fashion and in August of 2004, Lupe was promoted to the position of Bilingual Medical Case Manager where she delivered medical case management that included a wide range of client services for the next two years.

In November of 2006, Lupe became the Case Management Service Director. In this role, she supervised the case management positions and other client services staff in all S-CAP service areas. Budget oversight and staff hiring and evaluations also appeared in the job description. Lupe carried out these duties for nearly four years.

For the next nine years (2010-2019), Lupe was a Senior Case Manager—Bilingual/SEPA instructor. Duties included providing a wide range of client services (medical, housing, legal, immigration, and public services). She continued to advocate strongly for clients, especially monolingual Spanish speaking clients, and served as the liaison between these clients and medical providers.

CHN realized a need for a Latinx Program Manager in 2019 and the brass made the wise decision to move Lupe into this role for CHN. It involves CHN community outreach to the Hispanic community statewide. SEPA (Salud-Health/Educacion-Education/Prevencion-Prevention/Autocuidado-Self Care) classes (community classes for Spanish women with a focus on the prevention of HIV, STIs and domestic violence) and instruction remained part of Lupe’s duties.



Colorado Health Network CEO Darrell Vigil presents a 20-year work anniversary plaque to Lupe Joyner.

“Congratulations Lupe on your 20th anniversary with CHN,” said Vigil. “That is an amazing accomplishment. Thank you so much for all you do to improve the lives of those we serve. I really appreciate your dedication and passion.”

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LUPE JOYNER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO S-CAP/SCHN (continued from page 1)

Lupe had this to say about her 20-year career with S-CAP/SCHN:

“It’s hard to believe that it has been 20 years since I started working at S-CAP/SCHN. As they say, ‘time flies when you are having fun.’ I am so blessed to work here. I have been around the most dedicated co-workers and some have become my family of choice. But I am especially proud of my real family, husband Jessie Joyner and our children (Jessie Jr. and Danny), who are there for me with love and support.

As a Mexican immigrant, woman, and social worker, I feel I represent many other humans like me who work hard and starve in this country and dedicate their professional lives to care for others without judgment or distinction. I feel a responsibility to become the voice for all minorities. My passion for ending the stigma surrounding HIV has grown during these 20 years, as sexual health and advocacy for a health equity system for people have been affected.

One of my most valuable achievements during this 20-year time frame was my participation in the development of the first HIV clinic in Colorado Springs, ‘Peak Vista CCA Clinic.’ I also started the only Colorado training for trainers of SEPA and became a Colorado leader of health equity. **I am always thankful for the opportunity to serve our clients and to be a part of this great organization.”**

2024 Red Ribbon Ball Slated for April 19 at the DoubleTree

This year, SCHN will celebrate its 32nd annual Red Ribbon Ball from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, 1775 E. Cheyenne Mountain Boulevard. The theme is “A Night Under the Stars.”

The Red Ribbon Ball is a premier southern Colorado annual gala benefiting the Southern Colorado Health Network. The event highlights the advances in HIV prevention, treatment and care and also serves as a time to reflect on the incredible gains we have achieved together as a community in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

A ticket purchase link will go live soon at www.coloradohealthnetwork.org



March 10th is Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

HIV incidence is one of the six “Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S.” indicators. HIV incidence refers to the estimated number of new HIV infections in a given year.

In the U.S., about 23 percent of people living with HIV are women and women have made up about 18 percent of new diagnoses the past few years. The highest number of new diagnoses were among women ages 25 to 44.

Fortunately, advances in testing, treatment, and prevention have resulted in progress towards the nation’s goal to end the HIV epidemic by 2030.

Join the discussion about advancements and work within the HIV medical community and SCHN’s prevention impact on local communities.



HEALTH ACCESS FEBRUARY UPDATE

Positive Press

- Are you over income for Medicaid? Did you miss open enrollment through the Colorado Marketplace or your employer? You have one more opportunity to enroll in health insurance for 2024 when you file your taxes for 2023. Watch for a box on your Colorado tax return form that asks if someone in your household is uninsured; checking this box will give you a 'special enrollment period' and you will receive a letter from Connect for Health Colorado with a code that can be used to do an enrollment. The Health Access Program can pay the premium and associated copay costs for an individual plan for someone enrolled in ADAP. Please let your case manager or HAPC know if you have requested this enrollment. This will only happen if you check the box while completing your Colorado taxes: you can't go back once you've filed your Colorado taxes to request this.
- Looking for another reason to file your Colorado taxes? You might be eligible for a \$800 TABOR refund. Go to <https://tax.colorado.gov/TABOR> to learn more.

ACCESS POINT COLORADO SPRINGS/HEY719 PREVENTION UPDATE

Access Point

- We had 85 participants in December and 1,600 for the year (80-100 average each month) and even more in the month of January.
- Access Point and Hey 719 will be working with PRISM Community Collective. We will begin planning to offer an indoor space for people and off trainings such as Narcan trainings for those who need it soon.
- We are accepting donations for clothing, health and hygiene items for the unhoused.
- Hope COS is now a warming shelter during the winter months. **See hopecos.org/warming-shelter-information/ for more details and openings.**

HEY719

- Congrats to Andrea for a two-year work anniversary. We appreciate having you and all of the hard work you do!
- We will be participating in the UCCS Sex Ed Week with a sexual health trivia night at UCCS on Feb. 13th.
- **Extended hours (9 a.m. to 7 p.m.) on Wednesdays started on Jan. 31. See Hey 719 for more details and to schedule your testing.**

ACCESS POINT PUEBLO/PREVENTION UPDATE FOR FEBRUARY

January was dedicated to refocusing on our core services in the new year. Staff met with CSU-Pueblo and Otero College to discuss opportunities to do outreach related to STI testing and harm reduction. Christine and Kyle will be tabling at Otero College's Substance Use event on Tuesday, February 13. Through the month, we were also able to provide the following tests: 6 HIV, 2 HCV, 5 Syphilis, C/G for 5 clients.

With syringe access, much of January was spent tweaking program flow to accomplish ongoing collection of demographics and use data – big shout out to Behavioral Health who are assisting with this collection and using the time spent with clients to build rapport and notify of Connection Point services. In January, we saw 573 unique individuals with 932 visits and 8 overdose reversals reported; pipes continue to be the most popular supply!

Finally, we have an open prevention services coordinator position in Paycom and are looking to conduct interviews in mid-February, to replace Jefferson.

Updated job description and link to apply here: <https://www.paycomonline.net/v4/ats/web.php/jobs/ViewJobDetails?job=50622&clientkey=F8CF73C607E1FCBE325F79BAC22B2377>

SPRINGS SCHN OFFICE HAS A NEW HEALTHY AGING CASE MANAGER: BRYAN SCHEUTZ

Bryan moved to Colorado Springs from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the fall of 2023. He moved for a change of pace and to deep dive into his lifelong hobbies of hiking, climbing and fishing. This summer, he looks forward to exploring all that the Colorado outdoors has to offer. He also enjoys running, reading, and writing whenever he can.

In Pittsburgh, Bryan was previously working with individuals with special needs for the past five years. For the past three years, Bryan worked with social services as a Supports Coordinator for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Bryan looks forward to the new opportunity in front of him with SCHN and continuing his work in the non-profit sector.



THE PIKES PEAK PRIDE MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE: A FUNDRAISER FOR PIKES PEAK PRIDE 2024



This isn't just an event, it is a pivotal fundraiser for the 2024 Pikes Peak Pride festival.

The Mardi Gras Masquerade will be from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday, February 13, at The Pinery At the Hill, 775 W. Bijou St. in Colorado Springs.

Join in a celebration of diversity and unity where every ticket, every dance, and every mask contributes to a brighter future for the local LGBTQIA+ community.

Visit www.pikespeakpride.org/masquerade for more 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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