

Pueblo's 2018 Public Health Champion Announced

The Pueblo Department of Public Health & Environment announced the **Southern Colorado Health Network** was selected as the **2018 Public Health Champion** for displaying significant contributions to Pueblo's public health.

"Congratulations on a well-deserved award for Southern Colorado Health Network. Pueblo's public health community acknowledges Southern Colorado Health Network as a role model in the Pueblo community," stated Sylvia Proud, public health director at the Pueblo Department of Public Health & Environment.



Sylvia Proud, Public Health Director with 2018 Public Health Champion, Southern Colorado Health Network representatives Bob Benvenuto and Theresa Martinez.

A community selection committee chose Southern Colorado Health Network for its promotion of health and protecting the environment. Southern Colorado Health Network accepted the award at the monthly Pueblo Board of Health meeting in April.

Southern Colorado Health Network's involvement as a role model for public health was observed in many areas

- Services to individuals living with HIV/AIDS
- Continually expanding services and partnerships to prevent disease and promote population health
- Case management, referrals for mental health and substance use counseling, prevention outreach, testing and education programs, and most recently developed a food bank and more.
- First clean syringe access program within Pueblo County, an evidence-based effort to reduce the rate of transmission of diseases such as HIV, hepatitis B and C. Assisted the Human Relations Commission with opening a second needle exchange program to expand services in Pueblo.

Nominations were received from Pueblo community partners in addition to Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment Board of Health and health department staff members.

Southern Colorado Health Network joins past Public Health Champions in receiving this prestigious award:

2017	Kim Arline	2014	Dr. Anne Courtright
2016	Pueblo Community College	2013	John Panepinto, BPH
2015	Southern Colorado Runners Club	2012	Dr. Jarvis Ryals

View photos of the past Public Health Champion recipients by visiting www.pueblohealth.org.

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