



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Pueblo Communities that Care

In 2017, Pueblo Communities that Care (CTC) analyzed local-level data to prioritize risk and protective factors to address in the community: Academic Failure in Late Elementary School (risk factor) and Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement in the Community (protective factor). In 2018, CTC chose evidence-based strategies to address each of these risk and protective factors. To mitigate academic failure, CTC is working to increase accessibility, affordability, and availability of quality childcare (strategy); to increase prosocial opportunities in the community, CTC is working to make community spaces safe and healthier for young people (strategy).

In 2019, CTC strived, through collaborative efforts, to empower youth with opportunities to become healthy, educated, and responsible citizens. These efforts were made possible through the hard work of a coalition composed of over 45 members representing a variety

of sectors including youth-serving agencies, school districts, businesses, healthcare agencies, and health and human services.

After a year of implementation the Quality Childcare and Community Spaces strategy teams completed an in-depth community capacity growth assessment evaluating how capacity has changed over 2019. Overall, for both strategies, capacity has slightly increased which shows how important and impactful CTC and partners' work is for the community. Strategy teams will prioritize where to improve capacity in the next year of their strategic plan.

PYD Trainers and Champions

Becky Medina and Angela Sillas-Green, prepare to facilitate a Positive Youth Development (PYD) training in October 2019.



In 2019, there were 111 individuals that were trained in PYD! To expand on PYD knowledge, local trainers created *PYD 2.0: PYD in Action* as a follow-up to the original PYD curriculum where tools, tips, and tricks of youth engagement and youth voice/choice were disseminated.

The Executive Committee reviewed outcomes from the coalition health report for 2018 and identified strengths (coalition climate and inter-organizational relationships) and areas for improvement (simplicity of CTC and adult-youth relationships). Overall, Pueblo CTC is one of the happiest and healthiest in the state! To build areas of improvement, the group created a coalition health work plan and is actively working to increase capacity including finalizing and approving the bylaws, and transitioning to Google Drive where all documents and trackers are transparent and user-friendly.

This 2019 annual report highlights efforts and accomplishments of all CTC workgroups.



Colorado Youth Awareness Week September 23-27, 2019.
To kick off the week, CTC hosted a Teen Talk Chalk Walk where community members chalked what makes them happy and proud to live in Pueblo.

Party Planning Committee (PPC)

★ In order to recognize the contributions of coalition members, the Party Planning Committee created an annual peer recognition process where coalition members can nominate each other for three categories. In 2018, Outstanding CTC member was awarded to Becky Medina and Lin Chang, the Best Promoter of CTC was awarded to Jesse Sena and Kelsey Moore, and the Community Builder title was awarded to Jesse Sena. Congratulations to these great coalition members!

★ To celebrate mid-year successes, the PPC threw a Summer Celebration Spectacular in July where members and their families gathered to participate in games and summer fun.

★ In the next year, the group hopes to pilot Good Deed Tickets, working with local law enforcement agencies and media to recognize and celebrate young people doing random acts of kindness in the community.



2018 Recognition Award Winners
Becky Medina, Lin Chang, and Jesse Sena



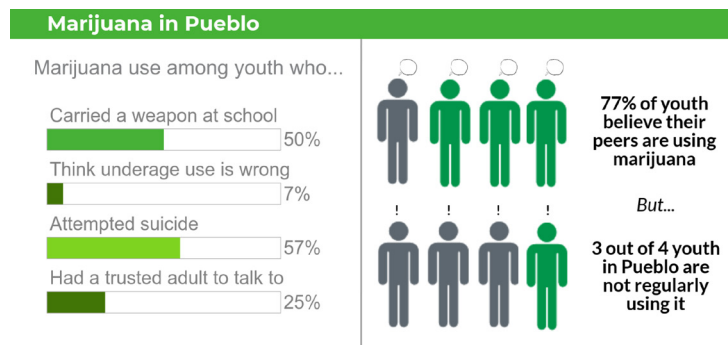
CTC members and their families competed in a water balloon toss at the Summer Celebration in June 2019.

Quality Childcare Strategy Team

- ★ With help from the Colorado Health Institute, the team performed an extensive policy scan to identify feasible policy changes with the goal of reallocating existing funds to benefit early childhood.
- ★ Team members educated local elected officials on barriers of getting zoned as a childcare home and how this contributed to the current childcare desert. In June 2019, City Council passed a resolution that changed the zoning application fee from \$500 to \$150. Since 2014, there were only seven childcare zoning applications processed in the City Planning Office; since this resolution passed in June, there have been over 30 childcare home zoning applications processed!
- ★ The Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment was awarded a grant to support many of the activities written into the implementation plan. Starting this year, the grant now has a full time employee dedicated to promoting family-friendly business policies and strengthening local childcare provider systems.
- ★ In the next year, the team is looking to pursue leveraging existing marijuana tax funds in order to subsidize scholarships for childcare while working to build community capacity around the CO Childcare Contribution tax credit.

Data Workgroup

- ★ Local middle and high schools in Districts 60 and 70 completed the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) this fall. In the meantime, the data workgroup cross-tabulated several risk-factors and behavioral indicators from 2017 HKCS data to see how the presence of more than one risk-factor effects problem behaviors.
- ★ In the next year, the workgroup plans to create a comprehensive tracking system for not only CTC's work, but for efforts aligned with CTC as a measure of collective impact and community-wide progress.



Cross-tabulation of HKCS data from 2017 show marijuana use among young people who engaged in problem behaviors.

Outreach & Youth Involvement Workgroup:

★ The workgroup hosted a contest to create a video around alcohol and drug prevention created by and for youth: youtu.be/Y2ABI-B6Vgc This provided an opportunity to learn how young people view substance use, and to showcase local youth talent.

★ Through an application and interview process, the workgroup hired two new youth advisers. Together, the youth named themselves the Youth Action Board (YAB).

★ The YAB completed a skills inventory assessment to identify what skills they currently have and what they want to build, including learning more about politics and how to get involved as a young person, spokesperson training, how to work with media, and public speaking.

★ In the next year, the workgroup wants to do more media outreach, and plan fun youth and community engagement projects and events.

CTC's YAB members traveled to Comcast Studios in Denver where they represented Pueblo in a new statewide social media campaign for the Attorney General and Office of Behavioral Health.



YAB members Jace and Daniel facilitated a breakout session at local a youth conference, on how to get involved in the community.



Community Spaces Strategy Team

★ The strategy team facilitated and analyzed qualitative and quantitative focus group data from Pueblo youth. 88 young people were asked where they do (and don't) hang out in Pueblo County and why.

★ Explored replicating the "My Denver Card" initiative that guarantees Denver youth free access to recreational activities, libraries, and bus transportation.

★ In the next year, the team will make recommendations to organizational policies of places that youth hang out to make spaces safer, healthier, and more youth friendly.

Barriers: Youth want to go more often but don't... Why?

 <p>Safety (27): Youth feel unsafe/uncomfortable Riverwalk at night: "Unsafe for girls" Parks (Briarwood, Mitchell, Bessemer): "Parks have bad lighting that doesn't cover slopes" Midtown: "I feel uncomfortable there" Central Plaza downtown: "Bad Lighting" Skate City: "Friday night drama"</p> <p>Also identified as barrier for parents</p>	 <p>Transportation (27): Youth can't access the location as frequently as they wish YMCA: "It's a little too out there to go often" "I have to get my mom to take me" Walking and longboarding were cited frequently as means, biking and bussing less Mesa Drive-In: "Why don't they have playgrounds there anymore?"</p> <p>Also identified as barrier for parents</p>
 <p>Cost (25): Youth find it too costly to go frequently "Everything" ...but most frequently cited: Cinemark, YMCA, Pueblo Mall, restaurants Youth seem to thrive on free spaces at a higher frequency than adults</p>	 <p>Time (8): Not enough personal time to go Pueblo Mall Lake Pueblo Seasonal events/facilities: Mesa Drive-in, Colorado State Fairgrounds</p>
 <p>Schedules (10): Spaces that have that aren't accommodating Bus Station, Pueblo Ice Arena, libraries "We don't really like to go to parties, but there's nothing better to do at night"</p>	 <p>Engagement (15): Some places youth feel less engaged to attend Pueblo Mall: "They never keep the cool places" Lake Pueblo: Groups only Mesa Drive-In: "Why Don't they have playgrounds there anymore?"</p>

To see a map of where youth frequently hang out or where they would like to go more often, scan the QR code



bit.ly/PuebloYouth19