

Colorado Alliance for Cruelty Prevention

Minutes

November 15, 2011

Present: Kay Dahlinger, Alexa Priddy, Heather Sackett, Jessica Frazier, Norm Renter, Jim Pyle, Janet Mickish, Dr. Susan Muench (phone)

Human Services Subcommittee:

- Janet Mickish reported that both TANF and Child Protective Services rules and handbooks include issues around the Link in family violence cases.
- Jim Pyle reported that Allyson Shuldberg will be meeting with Mayor Hancock regarding cross-reporting on issues involving the Link. Her meeting with the Mayor will be as a private citizen.
- Kathleen Schoen reported that she and Holly Counter Beaver are meeting with Diane McGill, Bancroft Charitable Foundation, to discuss issues around pet food bank.
- Alexa Priddy, Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault, said that she saw several ways CCASA could help with CACP, including connecting their members with resources, adding information to their website linking to CACP's website, educating on court room companions in child sexual assault cases, safety planning for animals, encouraging advocates to work with Colorado District Attorneys Council and Ending Violence Against Women team on expert witness testimony, and working with Sex Offender Management Board to assure training on the Link for therapists.

Veterinary Issues Subcommittee: Dr. Susan Muench reported:

- Besides issues around pet food, her subcommittee is discussing how to enlist other community partners to help with needs of pets of low-income, home-bound individuals, including grooming, housing, and transportation.
- In 2012 she hopes to begin the process of addressing the following issues:
 - Veterinary education around the Link.
 - Pet food bank.
 - Housing issues, including exploring how animals may be considered emotional support and fall within the guidelines of the American with Disabilities Act. This needs additional research.
 - Exploring whether the new Boulder County building that will house the coroner, would also have space to handle necropsies by veterinarians.
 - Collecting the names of veterinarians that are willing to:
 - Provide medical services to the pets of victims, and

- Provide forensic expertise in cases of abuse and neglect.

Criminal Justice Subcommittee:

- Heather Sackett reported that:
 - Several organizations (law enforcement and victim services) in Jefferson County have signed a memorandum of understanding with a local animal shelter to provide temporary care, shelter and food for pets of victims of family violence. The start date is December 1, 2011.
 - She, Lisa Scanga (DA's Office), and Diane Balkin are working on drafting protocols for law enforcement and animal control around investigation of animal abuse in domestic violence situations.
- Jim Pyle reported that Diane Balkin has presented draft changes to the Denver police operations manual what to do when police encounter animals in response to domestic violence calls.

Treatment and Evaluation: Jim Pyle reported that University of Denver intends to hold a conference on treatment of animal abuse in the context of domestic violence and sexual assault in spring 2012.

University of Denver Projects: Jim Pyle reported that DU will continue to develop the Colorado Link website and toolkits.

Funding: Jim Pyle reported that DU included their grant request to Animal Assistance Foundation for funds for CACP's coordinator. He has not heard whether they received the funding.

Next meeting: Tuesday January 17, 2012 at 12MT, CBA