

# Caring & Sharing

THE monthly networking meeting for child, youth  
and family service providers in Larimer County.

**Friday, January 8, 2010 – 8:30-10:00 a.m.**  
**PSD Partnership Office, 1630 S. Stover St., Fort Collins**

Brought to you by: [Healthier Communities Coalition of Larimer County](#)

## Minutes

**In attendance:** Brownie McGraw, Carol Aguero, Tracy Mead, Lauren Powers, Katie Reiff, Christie Brucher, Mike Demma, Lizzy Slatt, Candace Sindoris, Elise Tobler, Shelly Borrmann, Jill Homann, Nicholette Fabrizio, Andrea Clement-Johnson, Pam Rud, Ann Marie Arbo, Erich Phillips, Cinda Lopez, Deanna TeBockyorst, Kathy Miner, Leah Jones, Nikki Mansfield, Kate Broeking, Meera Mittal, Tyler Robertson, Andrea Bloomquist, Nettie Underwood, Juanita Aguirre, Carrie Landers, Jerri Howe, Kim Sharpe

**Participants were welcomed and introductions were made.**

**Presentation by Katie Reiff, executive director, [Macdonald Family Charity](#)**

Macdonald Family Charity, established in 2007, serves kids 2-18 years (legal, U.S. citizens) who are struggling. MFC's purpose is to give them hope. MFC is not connected to MadDonald's restaurant, but when you see the golden arches, bend them into a heart and think of MFC. Katie shared several stories about the kids to whom they've granted dreams. You can read about them on MFC's website. Since 2007, MFC has fulfilled 16 dreams. They have five more lined up so far for 2010, but want to complete a total of 14 this year. The open application period is from September 1-October 15. Applications are accepted from parents, teachers, service providers and other who know these kids. MFC holds applications for one year. If you know of a child who could use a dream fulfilled and it's not during the application period, MFC may make an exception depending on the circumstances. You can support MFC by attending its upcoming Fashion Show & Silent Auction on Friday, 2/26, 5-9pm, upstairs at The Rio in Fort Collins. Check the website for more information.

## **Round Robin Discussion**

- Reflections for Youth – a safe home for kids (ages 12-17) in therapy. Reflections' annual fundraising event is on Sat., 2/27. Any nonprofit can have a table/booth at the event.; now has a Medical Marijuana 12- step program.
- Christie Brucher told participants about the community meetings that were held this week in Wellington on the topic of teen pregnancy prevention.
- Carol Aguero – followed up on a question that came up last month about where kids go who may need to leave their home due to unsafe conditions. She said kids can go to the Alley Cat Coffee House (Laurel and College in Fort Collins) or the Waffle House (I-25). They can stay at either place overnight if they purchase a cup of coffee.
- Jerri Howe said its Host Homes program is back up and running for kids 18+ years. Host Homes are temporary placements (up to 6 months). For kids who can't go to their own

home and are too old for foster care. More Host Homes are needed. There's an informational meeting on 3/10. Host Homes aren't given money to provide space for these kids; the idea is that the kids need to be cared for without someone being paid to do it. Jerri also mentioned two fundraisers for The Matthews House: Cultivate Hope Garden Party on 5/6 and Rodizio Grill gift certificates that can be purchased in increments of \$5.

- Angel House – Ann Marie said the Angel House, based in Loveland, is a homeless shelter. They will take 18 year olds with children. The Angel House is wanting to make services available in Fort Collins. So far, they're working with six FC churches, but are hoping to partner with more.
- United Way – Hosting Global Youth Service Day and an Alternative Spring Break. Go to its website for more information.
- SAVA – partnering with Lamda to provide a free film series starting Monday, 2pm, at Avo's in Fort Collins. It's called Straight Laced and includes interviews with high school students about the pressures they face to perform or conform. Also performing their play, "Until Someone Wakes Up," on Thurs., 2/18, 7pm, Rocky Mtn. HS, and on Tues., 3/2, 7pm, Poudre HS. Also, performing the Vagina Monologues on March 5 & 6 at CSU.
- ChildSafe – hosting a 3 ½ training for parents about children (2-5 years) with autism. Sliding fee scale.
- Partners Mentoring Youth – have their annual race coming up, Sharin' O the Green, on 3/13.
- Early Childhood Council – having a fundraiser at Café Mexicali. See the Feb. 1 issue of the [NEWS from HCC](#) for the coupon to use.
- Children and Nature Network (CN&N) of Colorado- Lt Gov. published report of 10 things Colorado kids should do before they grow up
- Adoption Dreams Come True- dream room with clothing and diapers for children 0-2 yrs olds; Nice environment with good quality clothes to be able to shop with dignity. Shop for free if you're a Larimer County resident. Also has resource table for other non-profit possibilities.
- Trip for Kids in Denver- inexpensive mountain biking; for more information , visit [tripforkidsdenver.org](http://tripforkidsdenver.org) or call Andy at 303-725-6723
- Boys and Girls Club- Bike Safety Clinics
- HCC- BPEC (Bicycle and Pedestrian Education Coalition), Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition, Snapshot going online by first week of March.
- Early childhood education classes at Barton- enrollment is now open, call 490-3204.

**Next Meeting: Friday, March 12, 8:30-10am, PSD Partnership Center.**

Kris Cord, PSD Partnership Center, and Mike Demma, PSD Foundation, will share how they collaborate to create a single-entry point (Partnership Center) to our community for the purpose of streamlining all levels of community involvement in our schools.

