



Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments

Communities Working Together

PPACG's
monthly newsletter
 Our goal is to help residents across the region know what services are offered by PPACG and what all the different local governments are doing together.

Residents Rights Month



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AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Each October is residents rights month. It is a time for consumers of long term care, staff of facilities, and residents themselves to bring awareness to resident rights and what quality care means.

In October of 2017, the theme will be **"It's all about me: my life, my care, my choices"**. Federal and state regulations support the right of self determination and autonomy of residents in care facilities. Residents have the right to choose their own relationships, direct their own care, be free from abuse and neglect, and be treated as individuals with their own specific needs and wants.

If you have a concern or questions about long term care in the Pikes Peak Region, you can contact an Ombudsman at the Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging at 719-471-7080.

A Long Term Care Ombudsman is an advocate. Ombudsmen work to identify, investigate, and resolve problems with care to improve the quality of life for residents of nursing homes and assisted living. They also provide Consumers resources to seek legal, administrative and other remedies to protect residents.

The responsibilities of Long Term Care Ombudsmen also include educating consumers about their rights and providing information regarding abuse prevention and best care practices.

Long Term Care Ombudsmen advocate for necessary improvements in care systemically, including representing the interest of consumers before governmental agencies.

Volunteer Spotlight

Every month we highlight volunteers at PPACG and thank them for their work!

This month we would like to highlight Pat Heitman.

Pat has been volunteering as an Information and Assistance Specialist at the AAA front desk since January 2013.

Pat developed a systematic tracking system to measure client flow. This report helps us to better serve our clients.

Thank you so much to Pat for all your work and effort!



Medicare Open Enrollment

Each year, you have a chance to make changes to your Medicare prescription drug coverage for the following year.

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people who are 65 or older and those who are eligible for Social Security based on a disability

This period, known as Medicare Open Enrollment, occurs from October 15th through December 7th every year.

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A Little Bit of History

In 1971 PPACG completed the Regional Development Framework, supporting regional and local planning activities, across the three county area. This helped PPACG assist our local governments to fund their planning programs as well.

Member Highlight

Teller County

Teller County Senior Coalition was recognized as the 2016 Colorado Association of Transit Agencies (CASTA) Small Transit of the Year Award!



Joint Land Use Study Update JLUS

JLUS staff has begun to draft the introductory chapters of the study document for consideration by the Policy and Technical Committees.

Chapters 1-3 cover the introduction to the study, a description of the land use compatibility issues covered, and an overview of the history of interaction between the military and the communities within El Paso, Fremont, Pueblo, and Teller Counties.

The JLUS Policy and Technical Committees will complete the review of these three chapters by the beginning of October, when it will be posted on the PPACG website for public comment.

We welcome your comments during the public comment period. These comments are an invaluable resource for development of the study.

Welcome New Community Advisory Committee Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who are now serving on the PPACG Community Advisory Committee.

Kim Mutchler
Citizen at Large

Patti Akkola
City of Colorado Springs

Thomas Pfeifle
City of Colorado Springs

Jon DeVaux
City of Woodland Park

Laura Nelson
El Paso County

Tim O'Donnell
Council of Neighbors and Organizations

October Events

October 11
PPACG Board of Directors Meeting
9:00 AM

October 16
Medicare 101
9:00 AM and 1:00 PM

October 19
Transportation Advisory Committee
1:30 PM

October 25
Community Advisory Committee
3:00 PM

October 26
Regional Advisory Council
9:00 AM

November 8
PPACG Board of Directors Meeting
9:00 AM

For more information or detail on any events call 719-471-7080 or check out www.ppacg.org