**Colorado Crisis Standards of Care**

**Palliative Care and Hospice Workgroup**

**Hospice Leadership Meeting**

**Notes 12/3/20**

23 Participants

1. Welcome and Introductions
   1. Meeting Recording [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkXBUWS39Hg&feature=youtu.be).
   2. Meeting Materials [here](http://www.nationalhospiceanalytics.com/hospice-care-products-and-services/co-crisis-standards-of-care/mtg-mtls-12-03-20).
2. CHER updates, [Jean Abbott, MD MH](mailto:jean.abbott@cuanschutz.edu)
   1. Increasing concern around the state regarding illness of healthcare staff.
   2. When institutions say they are “full”, this is an expansion concept rather than “full = no beds”. Beds can be reallocated. Staffing the beds is another issue.
   3. Palliative care hot line – developing a call center number to provide palliative care expertise for Colorado providers. Look for CDPHE letter in the next few days with details and looking for volunteers. Contact [Jenn Klus](mailto:jenn.klus@state.co.us) with questions and to volunteer.
3. CDPHE updates, [Jenn Klus, MPH](mailto:jenn.klus@state.co.us)
   1. Alternative Care Sites – working on details.
   2. Advance Directives Without Signatures – working on details.
   3. CDPHE Lab – There was a pre-Thanksgiving slow down on getting results, although it appears there’re running faster than ever now. It appears CDPHE is contracting with a new lab that is increasing efficiencies.
4. Colorado Hospice Survey updates, [Cordt Kassner, PhD](mailto:ckassner@hospiceanalytics.com)
   1. CDPHE Data 12/2/20:
      1. **4062 Cases reported today; 279 new hospital admits; 14.30% state positivity rate; 2695 deaths due to COVID-19.**
      2. **CDPHE Hospice Outbreaks: No active outbreaks; 2 resolved cases.**
   2. [Weekly Colorado Hospice Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HA-CSC) – Discussed low response rate and how to increase it. suggestions included moving it every other week, identifying a separate “reminder list” for those completing surveys, and reviewing questions. Data is shared with CDPHE to have communication pipeline in place regarding early identification of hospice concerns.
   3. NHPCO letter prioritizing Hospice and HHA staff for COVID-19 vaccine, attached.
5. Homecare & Hospice Association of Colorado – [Don Knox](mailto:info@homecarehospicecolorado.org) encouraged participants to contact him with questions and concerns regarding hospice advocacy, and how HHAC can assist.
6. Moral Distress, [Jenn Flaum, LCSW MBA](mailto:jflaum@heartlightcenter.org)
   1. Heartlight will be offering a support group for professional caregivers targeted to hospice workers in December. We are also putting programming together for hospice professionals to offer a “Healing Stories Circle” with a professional storyteller in January. Flyer attached.
   2. Hotline for hospice / healthcare professionals staffed by counselors – potential grant, more to follow.
   3. How are our hospice teams doing and what might help?
      1. A Buddy System – pairing staff during work hours to cover when someone needs to breakaway for a little while.
      2. Ensure we have adequate staff – more flexible staffing ratios.
      3. Joy Burger providing in-services Tues and Thurs mornings regarding moral distress for a hospice.
      4. HeartLight Center ([Jenn Flaum](mailto:jflaum@heartlightcenter.org)) available to assist.
      5. Add this to future agendas.
7. Discussion Topics: [Michelle Quinn](mailto:michelle@fremontregionalhospice.com)
   1. Hospice Entry to Facilities During COVID
   2. Testing / Rapid Tests
   3. A question came up regarding a NF skilling a patient who got COVID, and presumably took the patient off hospice. Is that the regulation? Have other hospices encountered this?
   4. Do any hospices have a systematized training for CNAs? This might be beneficiary for hospices.
   5. Other?

**Next Call: 12/17/20 @ 10:00-11:00 AM (**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7430085211**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7430085211)**)**