

Not One More Child in Arapahoe County

Not One More Child in Arapahoe County continues to reach new members in the community who want to learn and educate others about the work that is being done to prevent child abuse and neglect. **Not One More Child** should fall victim to abuse or neglect. This community coalition is a network of teachers, law enforcement officers, doctors, nurses, foster parents, faith leaders, attorneys and others who care deeply about protecting children in our community.



Packs of Hope

315 kids receiving services from Arapahoe County were provided backpacks filled with basic necessities and a few fun items. Thanks to our partnership with Packs of Hope, kids who come to us with nothing or very little can be better prepared for school.



Partnering for the Holidays



Partnering for the Holidays helped **389** families including **1389** individuals with holiday gifts.

This holiday gift giving program was created by Arapahoe County Human Services employees seeking to create a special holiday season for local individuals and families in need. The program helps children and

adults in crisis who are victims of abuse or neglect, and are experiencing financial hardship share in the holiday spirit.

House of Light

Arapahoe County referred **11** families in dire need of basic home furnishings to House of Light for help. In 2016, House of Light provided the basic furnishings they needed.



HANDS

Helping Arapahoe (County) Neighbors Discover Support reached **140** news-letter subscribers in 2016. This community network of the faith-based organizations and community agencies helped bring some much needed relief to families last year. Items include a washer/dryer, cribs, playpens and more.



“Promoting the independence and stability of individuals and families”

Child Support Services collected more than **\$40 Million** for Arapahoe County children in 2016.



Because one size doesn't fit all

Customized services are offered to non-custodial parents who are willing to overcome barriers that prevent them from meeting their child support obligations. Through the Colorado Parent Employment Program (CO-PEP), Arapahoe County offers:

- ▶ Employment Services
- ▶ Motherhood Classes
- ▶ Relationship Education Classes
- ▶ Domestic Violence Classes
- ▶ Substance Abuse Classes
- ▶ Free legal clinic Classes

“Enhancing your quality of life through exceptional delivery of services and efficient use of public funds.”

Community Support Services helps to connect citizens to federal and state assistance programs.

- ▶ **Health First Colorado (Medicaid program):** Provides public health coverage to low-income families, pregnant women and single adults. In 2016, Arapahoe County received an average of **1,556** applications per month and the average number of open cases per month was **72,872**.



- ▶ **Food Assistance:** Assists low-income individuals or families with the cost of purchasing food. Arapahoe County received an average of **2,350** applications per month. Human Services paid out **\$73.46 Million** for food assistance benefits in 2016.



- ▶ **Colorado Works (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families):** Provides financial and employment support to low-income families. Assistance and services provided may include child care, cash payments, transportation, counseling and other services. Arapahoe County received an average of **464** applications per month. Human Services paid out **\$7.63 Million** for services in 2016.



- ▶ **Adult Financial Programs:** Includes Old Age Pension, Home Care Allowance, Aid to the Needy Disabled and Aid to the Blind to help meet basic needs. Arapahoe County received an average of **289** applications per month. Human Services paid out **413.36 Million** for benefits in 2016.



Arapahoe County continues to be a leader by delivering services fast and correctly. In **2016** the Colorado Department of Human Services recognized Arapahoe County for exceeding all state timeliness and accuracy measurements.

Arapahoe County Department of Human Services

Building Strong Communities

2016 Annual Report



ARAPAHOE COUNTY
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ARAPAHOE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



At Arapahoe County Department of Human Services our mission is to build strong communities by promoting the safety, independence and stability of individuals and families. Our vision is to end the cycle of poverty and prevent abuse and neglect of children and vulnerable adults.

Arapahoe County

is the third biggest county in Colorado with a population of 637,068



Median household income in Arapahoe County (2011-2015) is **\$63,265** compared to **\$53,889** nationally.*



40.1% of persons **25+** have a bachelor's degree or higher in Arapahoe County compared to **29.8%** nationally.*

92% of persons **25+** are high school graduates or higher in Arapahoe County compared to **86.7%** nationally.*



1 in 4 Arapahoe County citizens is a child.*



Approximately **1 in 6** Arapahoe County Children lives in poverty.*



15% of children live below the federal poverty level.*

Collaborative Foster Care Program

Arapahoe • Douglas • Jefferson Counties



Arapahoe • Douglas • Jefferson Counties

In child protection, our main goal is to **keep families together** and children safely at home with their parents or guardians.

90% of children involved remained safely at home or in the home of their relatives or kin.



266 children served in foster family homes or higher levels of congregate care.



72 youth were adopted in 2016.

"We value collaboration with our community and those we serve."

* Source U.S. Census Bureau



Protecting our children and vulnerable adults
Anyone can call the crisis hotline.

If you suspect abuse and or neglect, make the call. The crisis hotline is open to anyone.

Arapahoe County crisis hotline is 303-636-1750
Statewide hotline is 1-844-CO-4-KIDS

In 2016, both lines received **24,241** calls into Arapahoe County.

Calls were made by community members and mandatory reporters with concerns about the safety and wellbeing of children, youth and at-risk adults, as well as questions about community resources, support services and issues not related to abuse and neglect.



We are on your side

In 2016, the Crisis Hotline expanded its coverage to better serve the community. A team of experienced social workers and screeners are available after-hours to take your call.



Crisis Hotline hours:

7 a.m. – Midnight Mon. – Fri.
9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sat. & Sun.

*Calls outside of these times will be taken by the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office



Mandatory Reporters must call

Designated professions mandated by law must report any and all suspicious child and adult maltreatment including IDD individuals (Intellectual and Developmental Disability). These are professionals who have frequent contact with children and at-risk adults including:

- ▶ Social workers
- ▶ Teachers, principals, and other school personnel
- ▶ Physicians, nurses, and other health-care workers
- ▶ Counselors, therapists, and other mental health professionals
- ▶ Child and adult care providers
- ▶ Medical examiners or coroners
- ▶ Law enforcement officers

Bringing the training to your organization

Arapahoe County Human Services offers a more personal and customized Mandated Reporter Training for organizations and agencies with mandatory reporters. Our trainers are happy to come to your place of business. For inquiries, email MRT@arapahoegov.com

What happens when a call is made?

Any calls alleging suspected abuse and neglect of a child or at-risk adult, or youth beyond control of their parents are generated into **referrals**. Our hotline workers use enhanced screening for every referral, asking questions to gather as much information as possible about each alleged victim, family and circumstances.



In 2016, Arapahoe County received **10,768** Child Protection Referrals and **1,911** Adult protection Referrals.

Every referral goes through a group **screening** process conducted by highly trained social workers. The group checks for any prior child welfare history, criminal history and determines next steps. Referrals can either be assigned to a social worker for an assessment, screened out, and/or community support and prevention services may be provided.



In 2016, there were **6,660** Child Protection and **1,365** Adult Protection Referrals screened out.



There were **1,152** referrals to Early Intervention and Prevention Services.



In 2016, nurses joined the Child and Adult Protection Services Division as another source of expertise to help in screening and other related matters.

When a referral is assigned, a social worker visits the home to meet with the alleged victim and family. The social worker will do an **assessment** of safety concerns. Families who are assessed at a low-to-moderate risk level may be offered a variety of community-based intervention services designed to help the family safely and adequately care for their children or adult in the home, without ongoing involvement of the County Department of Human Services.



In 2016, there were **4,108** Child Protection and **546** Adult Protection Referrals assigned for assessment.

Families who are assessed at a moderate-to-high risk level may be deemed in need of longer-term services to ensure safety for their children or at-risk adult family member, which may require court involvement, or to aid a family with a youth who is beyond their control or involved with delinquency court. The County may open a **case** for direct services from our permanency teams until safety concerns are resolved.

On any given day, there are 1,200+ children and 133+ at-risk adults with open cases.

