

COLORADO School Safety Resource Center

Department of Public Safety

2014 Colorado

Safe Schools Summit

October 22-23, 2014

Embassy Suites, 4705 Clydesdale Parkway, Loveland, CO

In collaboration with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Office of Suicide Prevention



COLORADO Department of Public Health & Environment

Colorado Safe Schools Month

October, 2014



WHEREAS, education is paramount to the future of this state and nation; and

WHEREAS, excellence in education and academic achievement is dependent on safe, secure, and respectful learning environments; and

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of all students, teachers and school staff can be jeopardized by crime and violence, bullying, aggression, substance abuse, suicide concerns, gang activity, vandalism and absenteeism in our schools; and

WHEREAS, it is important for all community leaders – public, private, law enforcement, fire safety, emergency management, business and non-profit – to join with educators and the Colorado School Safety Resource Center to help ensure that our schools remain safe, positive environments, conducive to learning; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Safe Schools Month serves to remind us of the importance of school safety;

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the October, 2014,

SAFE SCHOOLS MONTH

in the State of Colorado.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of October, 2014

John W. Hickenlooper Governor

Acknowledgements

Colorado School Safety Resource Center, Colorado Department of Public Safety, would like to thank the following agencies and organizations for providing presenters for this training:

- Act On Drugs
- Adams 12 Five Star Schools
- Anti-Defamation League
- Arapahoe County Human Services
- Arrowhead Defense & Protective Services
- Aurora Fire Department
- Aurora Police Department
- Boulder District Attorney's Office
- Colorado Association of School Resource Officers (CASRO)
- Colorado Attorney General's Office, Safe2Tell®
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Office of Suicide Prevention
- Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, CU Boulder
- Cherry Creek Schools
- Colorado Education Initiative
- Colorado Special Olympics
- Denver Public Schools
- Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Facing History and Ourselves
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- Johnstown Police and Johnstown Schools
- Longmont High School
- Media Salad
- One Colorado
- Sources of Strength
- The Conflict Center
- The "I Love U Guys" Foundation

Special thanks to:

- Larry Borland, Consultant
- Stan Garnett, District Attorney, Twentieth Judicial District, Boulder
- Stan Hilkey, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
- Jarrod Hindman, Violence & Suicide Prevention Section Manager, Office of Suicide Prevention
- Kevin Hines, Author
- Linda Kanan, University of Denver
- Lynn Riemer, President, ACT on Drugs
- Loveland High School Choir—Tenorocity
- Mountain View High School—Army JROTC Color Guard
- Northridge High School-Marine Corps JROTC Color Guard
- Northridge High School Choir
- George Welsh, Superintendent, Center School District

Wednesday, October 22, 2014 - Schedule At-a-Glance

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Registration, Coffee, and Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Welcome and Introductions - <i>Mountain Holly Room</i> Color Guard - Mountain View High School - Army JROTC Choral Group - Loveland High School Choir - Tenorcity Christine R. Harms, M.S., Director, Colorado School Safety Resource Center Stan Hilkey, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Plenary: School Safety and the Five Preparedness Missions - (pg. 5) <i>Mountain Holly Room</i> Larry Borland, Retired Chief of Security and Transportation Services for Academy School District 20 in Colorado Springs
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM	Break
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	 First Break Out Session Communicating about School Safety with the Media - (pg. 5) Aspen Daisy Room Introduction to Social Norming Campaigns in Schools - (pg. 5) Big Thompson Room Preventing Youth Suicide in Colorado: Statewide Priorities, Programs and Partnerships - (pg. 5) River Birch B Room Signs of Suicide (SOS) School Suicide Prevention Program - (pg. 6) Lake Loveland Room Campus Attacks: Pre-Attack Behavioral Indicators - (pg. 6) River Birch A Room Safe2Tell®: Toolkits to Educate, Empower and Equip Youth to Prevent Violence in Schools - (pg. 6) River Birch C Room
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own A map of restaurants in the area is included at the end of this program guide.
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	 Second Break Out Session The Standard Reunification Method - (pg. 7) <i>River Birch C Room</i> Tools for Respecting Differences: An Introduction to ADL's No Place for Hate® Initiative - (pg. 7) <i>Big Thompson Room</i> Using the Colorado Framework for School Behavioral Health Services to Improve Student Outcomes: Lessons Learned from the Field - (pg. 7) <i>River Birch B Room</i> Starting and Supporting a Gay-Straight Alliance - (pg. 7) <i>Lake Loveland Room</i> The Big Deal: Marijuana & the Developing Brain - (pg. 8) <i>River Birch A Room</i> Characteristics of Effective School Resource Officer (SRO) Programs - (pg. 8) <i>Aspen Daisy Room</i>
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Break
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	Plenary: Reading from Cracked, Not Broken: Surviving and Thriving after a Suicide Attempt - Introduction by Jarrod Hindman, Office of Suicide Prevention and CSSRC Advisory Board Member - (pg. 8) Mountain Holly Room Kevin Hines, Author and Mental Health Advocate
4:00 PM	Adjournment

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Welcome and Introductions - (Mountain Holly Room)
	Christine R. Harms, M.S., Director, Colorado School Safety Resource Center
	Stan Hilkey, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Plenary: School Safety and the Five Preparedness Missions - (Mountain Holly Room)
	Presenter: Larry Borland, Retired Chief of Security, Academy School District 20
	This session will be a discussion of the five mission areas contained in the Presidential Policy
	Directive (PPD) 8 and the evolution of our understanding of national preparedness based
	upon lessons learned from terrorist attacks, hurricanes, school incidents and other
	experiences. The five mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response and
	Recovery as well as basic planning principles will be discussed. We will briefly discuss the
	six steps in the school emergency planning process and how they differ from previous federal
	guidance in these matters.
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM	Break
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	First Break Out Session
	1. Communicating about School Safety with the Media - (Aspen Daisy Room)

Presenter: Pat Hamilton, Executive Director of Operations, Adams 12 Five Star Schools In the world of social media, the speed at which news travels is minutes and we need to be prepared to compete in this era. This interactive presentation will provide you easy tools you can begin using immediately to help you quickly gather and communicate information during a crisis situation. You will also learn communication methods which are tried and proven when dealing with the media so your next interview goes the way you want it to go!

2. Introduction to Social Norming Campaigns in Schools - (Big Thompson Room) Presenter: Pearl Bell, Manager of Programs, Assessments and Evaluations, The Conflict Center

Learn the process of social norming for changing perceived norms in schools and the steps involved to have successful campaigns. We will discuss the origins of social norming as well as the process and potential topic areas.

3. Preventing Youth Suicide in Colorado: Statewide Priorities, Programs and Partnerships - (*River Birch B Room*)

Presenter: Jarrod Hindman, Violence and Suicide Prevention Section Manager, Office of Suicide Prevention

Attendees will hear about the latest suicide data in Colorado, will learn about school and community-based suicide prevention and intervention priorities, and will be able to identify community and statewide partnerships and programs committed to reducing the burden of suicide for children and youth in Colorado. The session will emphasize primary prevention, building resiliency in students, and fostering environments that enhance and support protective factors as imperative components of suicide prevention.

4. Signs of Suicide (SOS) School Suicide Prevention Program - (*Lake Loveland Room*) *Presenter:* Ellen Kelty, Manager of the Department of Social Work and Psychological Services, Denver Public Schools

This training will be an interactive session focusing on utilizing the Signs of Suicide (SOS) curriculum in middle and high schools. The SOS curriculum is a research-based curriculum, endorsed by National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and demonstrated to reduce adolescent suicide attempts. It is successfully used in 97% of the schools in Denver Public Schools serving this age group. We will also discuss parent and staff trainings. Ellen is passionate about the impact this program has had for the students in DPS and is happy to share her ideas.

5. Campus Attacks: Pre-Attack Behavioral Indicators - (River Birch A Room)

Presenter: Jonathan Grusing, Special Agent, FBI

The "Campus Attacks: Pre-Attack Behavioral Indicators" presentation focuses primarily on the behaviors and actions exhibited by persons prior to committing an attack on a school campus. The research in this presentation was conducted by the FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU), the Department of Education and the U.S. Secret Service.

6. Safe2Tell®: Toolkits to Educate, Empower and Equip Youth to Prevent Violence in Schools - (*River Birch C Room*)

Presenter: Susan Payne, Executive Director, Safe2Tell®

This workshop will provide an overview of the Safe2Tell® violence prevention model that was established in Colorado as a response to the Columbine High School tragedy. The purpose of Safe2Tell® is to ensure that every Colorado student, parent, teacher and community member has access to a safe and anonymous way to report any concerns about their safety or the safety of others. Safe2Tell® provides tangible solutions founded on the idea that prevention and early intervention are the keys to stopping school violence and saving lives.

A new Safe2Tell® Student Toolkit has been developed to increase the awareness among Colorado students on the Safe2Tell® resources available to them. The new toolkit, available for the first time at this session, was designed to equip educators and law enforcement with educational videos, classroom lesson guides, parent and student handouts and the resources they need to educate, empower and equip students with the knowledge that safer communities and safer schools begins with them. Susan Payne will inspire with her passion and true life stories that demonstrate the need for prevention efforts in creating safer schools and communities. Attendees will receive copies of the toolkits.

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Lunch on Your Own

A map of restaurants in the area is included at the end of this program guide.

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Second Break Out Session

7. The Standard Reunification Method - (River Birch C Room)

Presenter: John-Michael Keyes, Founder, The "I Love U Guys" Foundation One aspect in crisis response is accountable reunification of students with their parents or guardians in the event that controlled release is necessary. The Standard Reunification Method provides school and district safety teams solid, proven methods to plan, practice and achieve a successful reunification. Keep in mind though, this is an evolving process. While there is a smattering of science in these methods, there is certainly more art. Sitespecific considerations will impact how these practices can be integrated into school and district safety plans. Successful planning and implementation will also demand partnerships with all responding agencies.

8. Tools for Respecting Differences: An Introduction to ADL's No Place for Hate® Initiative - (*Big Thompson Room*)

Presenter: Tara Raju, Education Project Director, Anti-Defamation League ADL's Education programs provide interactive workshops and curricula for educators, administrators, students and parents to assist them in understanding the importance of fighting prejudice and creating an inclusive culture in our schools that leverages the strengths of everyone. This interactive workshop will introduce participants to Anti-Defamation League's education programs, particularly the No Place for Hate® Initiative, all of which have four major goals: recognize bias and the harm on individuals and society, explore the value of diversity, improve inter-group relations, and combat racism, anti-Semitism and all forms of prejudice and bigotry.

9. Using the Colorado Framework for School Behavioral Health Services to Improve Student Outcomes: Lessons Learned from the Field - (*River Birch B Room*)

Presenter: Eryn Elder, Associate of Initiatives, Colorado Education Initiative Throughout Colorado, students' behavioral health needs continue to go unmet, despite the growing body of research that reveals the connection between social, emotional, and behavioral health and academic achievement. With this understanding, the Colorado Education Initiative created the Colorado Framework for School Behavioral Health Services, which includes a best practices blueprint for comprehensive school behavioral health services, a roadmap of critical success elements, and tools and resources to support schools in their implementation of comprehensive behavioral health systems. This presentation will provide participants with the opportunity to learn about the strategies, tools, and resources from the Colorado Framework for School Behavioral Health Services. Additionally, several strategies being used in Colorado will be discussed, including the use of a universal behavioral health screener, developing a trauma-informed staff, and providing social-emotional learning opportunities for students.

10. Starting and Supporting a Gay-Straight Alliance - (Lake Loveland Room)

Presenter: Daniel Ramos, Political and Organizing Director, One Colorado One of the most effective tools to address bullying and harassment in a school is the presence of a gay-straight alliance - a student run, student-led club that supports LGBT young people and their allies. These student organizations are dynamic tools that advocate, educate and support these young leaders in their school environments. This interactive session will enhance your skills in guiding a GSA and facilitating an active and vibrant student club that empowers young leaders in a school environment.

4:00 PM	Adjournment
	Prevention and CSSRC Advisory Board Member- (Mountain Holly Room) Presenter: Kevin Hines, Author and Mental Health Advocate Kevin Hines, international speaker, mental health advocate, and award-winning author, will read excerpts from his book, Cracked, Not Broken, a memoir about his survival of a jump from the Golden Gate Bridge and his amazing will to live. Mr. Hines will also stay for a book signing at the end of the session.
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	Plenary: Reading from <i>Cracked, Not Broken: Surviving and Thriving after a Suicide Attempt -</i> Introduction by Jarrod Hindman, Office of Suicide
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Break
	 12. Characteristics of Effective School Resource Officer (SRO) Programs - (Aspen Daisy Room) Presenter: Ken Balltrip, President, CASRO, Johnstown Police, and Johnstown Schools This session will discuss the elements of being an effective School Resource Officer and how the SRO Program should enhance the educational process of a safe and healthy learning environment.
	 11. The Big Deal: Marijuana and the Developing Brain - (<i>River Birch A Room</i>) <i>Presenter:</i> Christine Tatum, CEO, Media Salad This interactive session will provide an overview of some of the latest science concerning marijuana's impact on the developing brain, a look at some of the trends in adolescent marijuana use and a shortlist of common marijuana myths that often attract youth.

Please note: Certificates of attendance will be available when you submit your evaluation for each day attended. Registrants leaving the Summit prior to 4:00pm will receive a certificate for a half-day's attendance.

Thursday, October 23, 2014 - Schedule At-a-Glance

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Registration, Coffee, and Continental Breakfast	
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Welcome and Introductions - Mountain Holly Room	
	Color Guard - Northridge High School - Marine Corps JROTC	
	Choral Group - Northridge High School Choir	
	Christine R. Harms, M.S., Director, Colorado School Safety Resource Center	
	George Welsh, Superintendent, Center School District and Chairperson of CSSRC Advisory Be	əard
8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Plenary: The Expansion of Restorative Justice Diversion for Juveniles	
	in the 20th Judicial District - (pg. 10) Mountain Holly Room	
	Stan Garnett, Boulder County District Attorney	
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM	Break	
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Third Break Out Session	
	13. The Heart-Mind Connection: The Secret to Engaging Students in Their Own	
	Success- (pg. 10) - River Birch A Room	
	14. Lifeskills Training (LST): Program Description, Fidelity/Adaptation, and Lessons Learned - (pg. 10) - <i>Lake Loveland Room</i>	
	15. Students Who Tell about Bullying and Suicide: Similarities and Differences - (pg. 11)	
	- Aspen Daisy Room	
	16. Trauma in Schools - (pg. 11) - Big Thompson Room	
	17. Understanding Social Media and Using it to Your Advantage for First Responders -	
	(pg. 11 - River Birch B Room	
	18. Commercially Sexually Exploited Children - (pg. 11) - River Birch C Room	
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
	A map of restaurants in the area is included at the end of this program guide	
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Fourth Break Out Session	
	19. Creating Safe and Inclusive Schools through Special Olympics Colorado Project Unify™	
	Program - (pg. 12) - Aspen Daisy Room	
	 Using the Humanities to Foster Empathy and Action in Our Schools - (pg. 12) - Big Thompson Room 	
	21. Upstream Prevention: Using a Strength-Based Wellness Model in Prevention Work -	
	(pg. 13) - Lake Loveland Room	
	22. Restorative Practices for Schools - (pg. 13) - <i>River Birch A Room</i>	
	 The Relationship Imperative: First Responders Building Cohesion with Schools - (pg. 13) - <i>River Birch B Room</i> 	
١	A Collaborative Response to Active Shooters - (pg. 13) - <i>River Birch C Room</i>	
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Break	
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	Plenary: New Trends in Youth Substance Abuse: Marijuana 2014 -	
2.451101 4.001101	(pg. 14) Mountain Holly Room	
	Lynn Riemer, ACT on Drugs	
4:00 PM	Adjournment	9
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8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Welcome and Introductions - (Mountain Holly Room)	
	Christine R. Harms, M.S., Director, Colorado School Safety Resource Center	
	George Welsh, Superintendent, Center School District and Chairperson of CSSRC Advisory	
	Board	
8:30 AM - 9:45 AM	Plenary: The Expansion of Restorative Justice Diversion for Juveniles	
	in the 20th Judicial District - (Mountain Holly Room)	
	Stan Garnett, Boulder County District Attorney	
	Mr. Garnett will present cases studies of two first-degree murder cases he has personally tried	
	since becoming the elected DA. Joseph Abeyta and Kevin McGregor were the two defendants.	
	Both are from Boulder county and grew up in very different circumstances but made a series of	
	bad life choices that lead to these crimes. The theme of this session is how could we as a	
	community have approached these two defendants when they were young people to head them	
	on a different path? Mr. Garnett will explain the context of what he is trying to focus on when	
	dealing with juveniles in his jurisdiction and the new emphasis on restorative justice.	
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM	Break	
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Third Breakout Session	
	13. The Heart-Mind Connection: The Secret to Engaging Students in Their Own	
	Success - (River Birch A Room)	
	Presenter: Finessa Ferrell, Director-Initiatives, Colorado Education Initiative	

For a multitude of reasons, traditional approaches to engaging adolescents have emphasized the rational, cognitive and executive functions of the brain, addressing emotional needs only when poor behavior disrupts these cognitive priorities. This practice does not adequately recognize, nor utilize the facts: the developing adolescent is geared—by biological design—to be heavily influenced by emotional impulse rather than rational decision making. By looking more carefully at how the adolescent brain works, in combination with recent research on grit, academic mindsets, stress response, motivation, anxiety, and trauma we can begin to understand the fundamental misalignment between how we have traditionally structured student engagement and how students actually become engaged in their own success.

14. Lifeskills Training (LST): Program Description, Fidelity/Adaptation, and Lessons Learned - (Lake Loveland Room)

Presenters: Sharon Mihalic, Research Associate, CU Boulder & Joan Bryant, Research Associate. Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

The presentation will provide a basic description of LifeSkills Training, a Blueprints model program. Key instructional techniques used in the program will be discussed. The importance of program fidelity, as well as acceptable adaptations to the program will also be discussed. Lastly, some lessons we have learned in our efforts to disseminate and sustain LST in 15 states will be presented.

15. Students Who Tell about Bullying and Suicide: Similarities and Differences -

(Aspen Daisy Room)

Presenters: Amy Plog, Research & Data Coordinator & Janise McNally, Wellness Coordinator, Cherry Creek Schools

The objectives of this workshop are to increase participant knowledge of the role of encouraging students to tell someone about bullying and suicidal thoughts in current prevention programs and to present information on what is known about who students tell and how likely they are to do so. Participants will be presented with data that describe who students told about bullying and suicidal thoughts and under what circumstances. Implications for intervention will be discussed.

16. Trauma in Schools - (Big Thompson Room)

Presenter: Teresa Chavez, Child & Family Supervisor, Arapahoe County Human Services The session will provide attendees with the definition of different types of trauma and the impact of trauma on the brain and all developmental domains. Attendees will also receive information regarding the Adverse Childhood Experiences study and how this may apply to children attending school. Lastly, the session will provide attendees with information regarding Trauma Informed Practice Strategies to use on a daily basis.

17. Understanding Social Media and Using it to Your Advantage for First Responders - *(River Birch B Room)*

Presenter: Nathan Hunerwadel, Communications Specialist, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

It is no secret that ours is a world were social media, apps and other online tools have a powerful presence in our communities. Our school communities are no different. Our students are heavily engaged in social media and the good news is you can be engaged as well! This 90 minute session will provide a brief overview regarding what tools and platforms are being used by students today and how you can participate directly in the dialogue. The session will begin with a look at current trends, platforms and apps. The end of the discussion will focus on what you, as an objective First Responder and as an important member of the school community, can do to use social media, apps and other online tools to your advantage.

18. Commercially Sexually Exploited Children - (River Birch C Room)

Presenter: Anne Darr, Victim Specialist, FBI

The FBI's Rocky Mountain Safe Streets Innocence Lost Task Force regards the commercial sexual exploitation of children to be a significant and continuing problem in the United States. Federal, state, and local law enforcement partner with non-governmental organizations in order to provide a proactive response in order to break the cycle of commercial sexual exploitation and victimization of children. The training will provide an overview of recognizing commercial sexually exploited children (CSEC), understanding the trafficking victim, understanding the trafficker, prevention efforts, including the high risk model, and a case study.

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own
	A map of restaurants in the area is included at the end of this program guide.
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Fourth Breakout Session
	19. Creating Safe and Inclusive Schools through Special Olympics Colorado Project Unify™ Program - (Aspen Daisy Room)
	Presenter: Mindy Watrous, President and CEO, Colorado Special Olympics
	Special Olympics Project UNIFY ^{M} is a collaboration with school communities, community
	partners and Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) to engage and unify young people with and
	without intellectual disabilities as leaders promoting acceptance and inclusion in their schools,
	while utilizing the sports and education initiatives of Special Olympics. Project UNIFY™ is
	made up of three main components: Unified Sports, Youth Leadership and Advocacy, and
	Whole-School Engagement.
	SOCO has implemented Project UNIFY [™] in 107 Colorado schools and will expand to 158
	schools in the 2014 -2015 school year. A complete implementation in a school takes at least 3
	years to fully integrate all components of Project UNIFY TM . SOCO has district partnership
	agreements with all five of the largest school districts in Colorado as well as many smaller and/or
	rural districts. Our goal is to be in every school in Colorado, creating safe, inclusive and welcoming schools for
	ALL students.
	In 2013, SOCO added a critical partner to our collaboration – School Resource Officers (SROs).
	School-based policing is the fastest growing area of law enforcement. It was founded on the
	"triad" concept of school-based policing which divides the SRO's responsibilities into three
	areas: Teacher, Counselor, and Law Enforcement Officer. The goal of SRO programs is to
	provide safe learning environments in our nation's schools, provide valuable resources to school
	staff, foster a positive relationship with our nation's youth, and develop strategies to resolve
	problems affecting our youth with the goal of protecting every child so they can reach their
	fullest potential.
	The goals of school-based policing and the relationship between law enforcement and Special
	Olympics creates an amazing opportunity to partner together to change school climates to be
	welcoming and inclusive of all students, using the platform of sports and the power of youth leadership. Through a thoughtful and well-designed collaboration, bullying and school violence
	will be reduced and character development, volunteerism and youth leadership will flourish in
	Colorado schools.
	20. Using the Humanities to Foster Empathy and Action in Our Schools -
	(Big Thompson Room) Presenter: Dave Fulton, Director, Facing History and Ourselves
	In this interactive session, you will learn how strategies and resources from Facing History and
	Ourselves can help teachers create safe and inclusive humanities classrooms, and how this can
	positively impact the entire school culture. For nearly forty years, Facing History has helped
	students grapple with moral questions in history, by considering issues of individual and group
	identity, inclusion and exclusion, and civic action. We will demonstrate what Facing History
	lessons might look like in class, look at data showing the promise of school wide implement-
	ation, and highlight research indicating how schools can simultaneously teach history and
	develop empathy.

21. Upstream Prevention: Using a Strength-Based Wellness Model in Prevention Work - (Lake Loveland Room)

Presenter: Scott LoMurray, Deputy Director, Sources of Strength

This session will highlight lessons learned from the Sources of Strength prevention program. Sources of Strength is a best practice youth suicide prevention project designed to harness the power of peer social networks to change unhealthy norms and culture, ultimately preventing suicide, bullying, violence and substance abuse. This session will examine how to take an upstream, strength based, and peer leadership approach in our prevention efforts. The session will also address the power of peer social influence in public health campaigns, best practices in safe messaging and key benchmarks in using peer leaders for prevention efforts.

22. Restorative Practices for Schools - (River Birch A Room)

Presenters: Jason Malterud, SRO, Longmont High School & Anna Gisetti, School Outreach Consultant. CSSRC

Restorative practices are relationship-based approaches to not only school discipline, but school culture and climate. Students and staff engage in environments where respect is promoted, responsibility is taken for actions, and relationships are strengthened, fostering a place where students achieve greater success academically, behaviorally, and socially. Schools that have implemented restorative practices have seen substantial decreases in violent incidents and the number of tickets written, and significant decreases in out-of-school suspensions. Join us for this session, as participants will learn about the philosophy, the five R's, and the questions guiding the restorative approach. Participants will learn about the benefits to implementing the approach in the school environment, as well as lessons learned from a Colorado high school. Participants will also hear from a student panel about the benefits to implementing the approach, as well as some challenges they have faced.

23. The Relationship Imperative: First Responders Building Cohesion with Schools - *(River Birch B Room)*

Presenters: H. Alix Laraque-Two Elk, Chief Operating Officer & Alan Baccarella, Arrowhead Defense & Protective Services

Relationship building is the first step to increasing cohesion with schools. The emergency management field, including first responders, has an obligation to work with schools in order to increase capabilities at all phases of emergency management. By identifying the challenges facing increased cohesion between response personnel and schools, dialogue between first responders and school personnel will help close the gaps where vulnerabilities exist. This workshop explores those challenges and outlines a strategy to increase cohesion with schools.

24. A Collaborative Response to Active Shooters - (River Birch C Room)

Presenters: Scott Sare, Deputy Chief of Special Services, Aurora Fire Department & Ernie Ortiz, Training Section Commander, Aurora Police Department

The ideas and concepts presented in this session originate from lessons learned from other tragic events from around the country. We will show the next step in the response evolution and look at the paradigm shift of Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement in responding to an active shooter event involving mass casualties.

2:30 PM - 2:45 PM Break

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM Plenary: New Trends in Youth Substance Abuse: Marijuana 2014 -(Mountain Holly Room) Lynn Riemer, President, ACT on Drugs Marijuana use is increasing across the nation as perception of harm decreases. As more states look to legalize marijuana, or allow it for medicinal use, more problems are occurring. The marijuana on the street and sold in dispensaries today is extremely potent, edibles and concentrates are becoming very popular, as are ways to disguise its use. What must be remembered is that marijuana affects different people differently. Marijuana is a psychoactive drug that affects one's behavior and overall mental health. These effects are influenced by the social and behavioral environment and by the genetic traits of the individual. This makes it difficult to generalize as to how one individual may react after using marijuana, but nearly all experts (scientists) agree that the individual and societal effects of using marijuana are negative.

4:00 PM Adjournment

Please note: Certificates of attendance will be available when you submit your evaluation for each day attended. Registrants leaving the Summit prior to 4:00pm will receive a certificate for a half-day's attendance.

Presenters Plenary Speakers in Order of Appearance

Larry Borland

Larry Borland retired in June, 2013 as Chief of Security and Transportation Services for Academy School District 20 in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he was responsible for the development and maintenance of all safety and security programs for the district, including emergency response and management, law enforcement liaison, and management and supervision of all security staff in the District. Mr. Borland was a school security chief for almost 19 years, having previously served in the Douglas County School District and Colorado Springs School District 11. He was Manager of Fiscal and Support Services for the Colorado Springs Police Department from 1984-1995, and a Sergeant for the El Paso County (Colorado) Sheriff's Department from 1979-1984. Larry does school safety consulting and conducts training nation-wide for principals and administrators on managing school emergencies and other school safety issues. Mr. Borland holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Southern Colorado, a Master of Arts degree in Sociology/Criminology from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Colorado at Denver. Mr. Borland has served on the U.S. Department of Education School Police and Security Chiefs Committee, the Colorado School Safety Resource Center Advisory Council and the Safe2Tell® Board of Directors. He is Past President of the National Association of School Safety and Law Enforcement Officials. In November of 2013, Larry was elected to the Academy School District board of education, responsible for the governance of a school district of 25,000 students.

Kevin Hines

Kevin Hines is an international speaker, author and mental health advocate who reaches audiences with his story of an unlikely survival and will to live. Two years after he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder (at 19 years old), he attempted to take his own life by jumping from the Golden Gate Bridge. He is one of thirty-three to survive the fall and he is also the only GGB survivor who is actively spreading the message of living mentally healthy around the globe. In 2012, he was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding work as a suicide prevention advocate and speaker. He has also been recognized as a Voice Awards Fellow and Award Winner, an Achievement Winner by Veterans Affairs, and he has received a Three Star Marine Generals Medal Award in addition to his numerous accolades. Kevin's will to live and stay mentally well has inspired hundreds of thousands of people worldwide. His compelling story has touched diverse audiences on university campuses, organizations, corporations, clergy, military, clinicians, the medical community, community organizations, and international conferences. His memoir *Cracked, Not Broken* continues to sell out since its release in July 2013 and is since in its twelfth printing.

Stan Garnett

Stanley L. Garnett is a long-time Boulder resident. He graduated from Fairview High School in 1974 and received his Juris Doctor from the University of Colorado in 1982. From 1982 to 1986, he worked as a Deputy District Attorney in the Denver District Attorney's Office. He was a trial lawyer for 22 years at the firm Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber and Schreck, specializing in complex litigation at the state and federal levels. He has practiced before the United States Supreme Court, the 10th and 11th Circuit Courts of Appeal, the Colorado Appellate Courts, and in state and federal trial courts across the United States, receiving a number of distinctions from the legal community. He also served two terms on the Boulder Valley School Board, from 1997-2005, and was President and Treasurer of the Board. He was elected District Attorney for the Twentieth Judicial District in November, 2008. Since being elected, he has worked to restructure the District Attorney's Office while also significantly increasing the number of jury trials prosecuted by the office, expanding the DA Investigative Unit, and strengthening the District Attorney's relationships with local and state law enforcement.

Lynn Riemer

Lynn Riemer, affectionately known as the "Martha Stewart of Meth Labs," has over 10 years of experience working in Narcotics. Lynn was a Forensic Chemist with the DEA and spent seven years as the Chemist/Criminalist with the North Metro Drug Task Force in Denver. She started a nonprofit four years ago, and currently does nationwide training. Lynn has trained over 100,000 professionals and Junior & Senior High School students in the areas of Drug Awareness, Drug Endangered Children, and Meth Lab Hazards, Recognition & Personal Safety. The majority of children, teens, and college students using drugs are not drug addicts, they are simply experimenting. Due to changes in technology, the internet is a place of "glamorizing" and promoting drug use. The types of drugs out on the street continue to change; many are sold online, in gas stations and in smoke shops. Many are legal and have devastating consequences. Drugs are being colored and flavored to make them more appealing to our youth as well. By educating parents and school officials, they can become the first line in defense to combating drug use. Knowing how to recognize what the drugs look like, the indicators of someone under the influence and what to do if someone has a substance abuse problem is only the first part of the battle.

Ken Balltrip

Ken Balltrip is the current President of the Colorado Association of School Resource Officers (CASRO). Ken is a third generation law enforcement officer and has served for the Weld County Sheriff's Office (Colorado), Johnston Atoll Law Enforcement (US Territory), Manassa Police Department (Colorado), Costilla County Sheriff's Department (Colorado), Blanca Marshal's Office (Colorado), and Larimer County Courts - Juvenile Division (Colorado). Ken has been with Johnstown Police Department for the last eight years and has served as school resource officer for the last six years. Prior to serving as the SRO for Roosevelt High School, he was the Community Outreach Deputy for Centennial School District (San Luis, Colorado). Ken has been trained by: CASRO, NASRO (Basic & Advanced), OJJDP (Leadership Development & Key Elements). He serves as cadre for the Weld County Law Enforcement Training Academy (Defensive Tactics), JPD defensive tactics instructor, chemical agent instructor, and Glock Armorer. Ken is CIT/CIC trained and holds numerous certifications in a variety of subjects. He has attended Aims Community College and is currently working towards his degree. Ken is an Eagle Scout and served in the US Army as a Cavalry Scout (Ft. Knox, Kentucky).

Pearl Bell

Pearl Bell is the Manager of Programs, Assessments and Evaluations at the Conflict Center. She received her Master's degrees in Conflict Resolution and International Studies from the University of Denver in 2005. Pearl has experience in group facilitation, conducting dialogue groups, and restorative justice in schools.

Joan Bryant

Joan Bryant completed a B.A. at Hanover College, M.S. in Counseling at the University of Tennessee, and Ph.D. in Counselor Education at Auburn University. She worked as a Research Fellow at Vanderbilt University and Duke University prior to coming to University of Colorado Boulder in 2009. Currently, Joan is a Research Associate in the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at CU-Boulder and works as Blueprints Project Manager for a grant supporting dissemination of the LifeSkills Training Program.

Teresa Chavez

Teresa Chavez, MSW, is a Child & Family Supervisor at Arapahoe County Department of Human Services. Ms. Chavez has worked in child welfare and juvenile justice for 25 years. She has served as the Day-to-Day Manager for a trauma collaborative through the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) regarding children involved with child welfare. She has trained throughout Colorado regarding trauma competent child welfare practice and creating a trauma informed child welfare system to include local school district professionals.

Anne Darr

Anne Darr received her Bachelor of Science degree from Illinois State University and two Master of Arts degrees in Forensic Psychology and Counseling from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. Anne entered into the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in May 2008 as a Victim Specialist. She is assigned to the Rocky Mountain Innocence Lost Task Force, which works to combat domestic sex trafficking, and the Colorado Trafficking and Organized Crime Coalition Task Force, which works to combat international human trafficking and labor trafficking. She created the Front Range Anti-Trafficking Coalition, which is a collaboration of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies working together with NGO's to provide comprehensive victim-centered services to trafficking victims. She is experienced in providing local, state, and national trainings specific to domestic sex trafficking. In 2009, she was nominated for the state of Alaska's Federal Employee of the Year (Civilian Category III). In addition, she was one of eleven team members who were awarded the Director's Award from the United States Attorney's Office for Best Performance by a Litigative Team, which was presented by Attorney General Eric Holder in December 2010. In 2013, she was nominated for Colorado Victim Advocate of the Year for her work with commercially sexually exploited children.

Eryn Elder

Eryn Elder, M.A. is an Associate of Initiatives focused in health and wellness at the Colorado Education Initiative (CEI). In her role, she researches behavioral health and school climate best practices; analyzes and reports on gaps in social and emotional mental health student services; and facilitates a leadership committee for student behavioral health supports. Before joining CEI, Eryn taught high school language arts and coached freshman volleyball in Wichita, Kansas, and she also taught AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), which is a college preparatory class. During her teaching career, Eryn received the Kansas Horizon Award, the state's top honor for first year teachers, and the district's Distinguished New Secondary Teacher of the Year Award. Eryn graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kansas State University where she received her B.S. in secondary education for English and journalism, and she holds a M.A. from the University of Colorado at Boulder in Educational Foundations, Policy, and Practice.

Finessa Ferrell

Representing the Colorado Education Initiative, Finessa Ferrell directs work in school climate change, equity, student behavioral health and social emotional learning. Before joining CEI, Ms. Ferrell led the National Center for School Engagement and Colorado's Office of Homeless Youth Services; she was an evaluator for Search Institute, a policy analyst in school violence prevention for the National Conference of State Legislatures as well as a college professor. Finessa's career has focused on the intersection of social-emotional health, academic achievement and school safety and she holds graduate and undergraduate degrees in political science, communication arts, education policy and education administration.

Dave Fulton

David Fulton is the director of the Denver/Rocky Mountain States office of Facing History and Ourselves, an international nonprofit that links ethical reflection and action to the deep study of history. David holds a Ph.D. in philosophy of education, with an emphasis on moral education from UW-Madison, and is co-author of the book Building School Culture: Excellence in Academics and Character (Corwin Press, 2007). Prior to joining Facing History, he was an assistant principal in Mapleton School District.

Anna Gisetti

Anna Gisetti, M.A., began working at the Denver Children's Home with at-risk youth in a residential treatment setting before joining the Colorado public school system for over six years as a school counselor. She provided professional development to staff on many topics, including bullying prevention, suicide intervention, substance abuse prevention, restorative practices, and threat assessment. As the School Outreach Consultant for the CSSRC, Anna continues to train school staff on these and other school safety topics, as well as provide workshops for parents. Anna holds a M.A. in Counseling Psychology and Counselor Education from the University of Colorado at Denver, and a B.S.B.A. from American University in Washington, D.C.

Jonathan Grusing

Jonathan began with the FBI as a Special Agent in 1996 and worked Counter Terrorism matters until 1998. Since 1998 he has been assigned to the Violent Crimes Squad, working on such matters as kidnappings, bank robberies, fugitives, special jurisdiction crimes and serial homicides in conjunction with the Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU). He currently serves as the FBI Denver Coordinator for the National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime (NCAVC), as a liaison between local jurisdictions and the BAU. Jonathan is assigned to the Rocky Mountain Safe Streets Task Force, working closely with Denver area police departments and sheriff's offices to address the Denver area violent crime problem.

Pat Hamilton

Pat currently serves as the Executive Director of Operations for Adams 12 Five Star Schools. Pat has been with Adams 12 for 14 years, which makes him officially old! Pat has a master's degree in organizational leadership and management from Regis University. He is a registered environmental health specialist through the National Environmental Health Association, and recently graduated from a year-long advanced leadership program through the Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership. Pat is the co-creator of the Advancing School Safety video and the School Emergency Reunification video. He is a recipient of the National Excellence Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and is an all-around good guy! In his copious amounts of free time ,Pat serves on the board of directors for Safe2Tell®, snowboards at least 25 days a year and pedals 2,000 miles a year.

Christine Harms

Chris is a Pennsylvania native and former public school teacher, private school administrator, psychotherapist and trainer with over 30 years experience working with youth, professionals and parents in schools, private practice and victim serving agencies. Her undergraduate degrees are in psychology and education and she earned her Master of Science degree in counseling and human relations from Villanova University. Before coming to Colorado in 2005, Chris spent five years as the co-coordinator of a large suburban Philadelphia school safety center that received one of the first Emergency Response and Crisis Management grants (ERCM, now REMS) in 2003. Chris has trained professionals on such issues as violence prevention, school-based crisis response, adolescent trauma, sexual harassment and misconduct, suicide intervention, and mandated reporting of child abuse.

Jarrod Hindman

Jarrod Hindman is the Violence and Suicide Prevention Section Manager in the Injury, Suicide and Violence – Mental Health Promotion Branch at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Mr. Hindman oversees violence and suicide prevention programs including the Sexual Violence Prevention Program, Essentials for Childhood: Creating Safe, Stable and Nurturing Relationships and Environments project, and the Office of Suicide Prevention.

Nathan Hunerwadel

Nathan Hunerwadel joined the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management as a Communications Specialist / Public Information Officer in February 2014. Prior to joining the Division Hunerwadel worked as Deputy Sheriff for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (JCSO) in Colorado. While at the JCSO he became a public information officer for the Jefferson County Type III Incident Management Team and created and coordinated the first year of the Colorado Virtual Operations Support Team (COVOST). He is now the COVOST manager as one of his assignments with DHSEM. Hunerwadel has worked several large incidents as a member of the Jefferson County IMT including the Lower North Fork Fire, Waldo Canyon Fire, Lime Gulch Fire and support Westminster Police Department during the Jessica Ridgeway incident. Hunerwadel graduated from American University with a BA in Political Science and International Relations.

Ellen Kelty

Ellen Kelty is the Manager of the Department of Social Work and Psychological Services in the Office of Social and Emotional Learning at Denver Public Schools. She is a school psychologist and has served DPS for fifteen years. She is a Nationally Accredited School Suicide Prevention Expert and coordinates the district's suicide prevention and assessment efforts and crisis response team. She has served previously on the board of directors for the Second Wind Fund, Inc.

John-Michael Keyes

John-Michael represents The "I Love U Guys" Foundation to districts, departments, agencies and organizations regarding school safety. His professional career has included graphic design, software development, and workflow analysis. The death of his daughter, Emily, at the hands of a gunman at Platte Canyon High School compelled Mr. Keyes to bring his professional expertise to the arena of school safety. The Keyes family's response to the events at Platte Canyon High School was immediate support for first responders and compassionate outreach to law enforcement.

Alix Laraque-Two Elk

H. Alix Laraque-Two Elk is Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer at Arrowhead Defense & Protective Services, LLC (ADPS, LLC), a security company licensed in the City and County of Denver. He helped develop the company to train individuals and organizations on security, emergency management, and related subjects. He has over twelve years of experience in the private security sector, of which close to three years were spent in a large school district in Colorado. Alix co-hosts a Native American radio program on KUVO/KVJZ 89.3 FM in Denver on Sunday mornings, where he discusses topics to help build resiliency within Colorado communities. He completed a B.A. in homeland security in 2012 and is expected to complete an M.A. in November 2014. He can be reached at: <u>alix@adps-llc.com</u>

Scott LoMurray

Scott LoMurray is the Deputy Director for the Sources of Strength prevention project, a national best practices program in suicide prevention. He is a well recognized national trainer working in a wide range of campus, community, and faith-based environments, including urban, rural, Latino, LGBTQ, Native American, and college settings. In the past several years he has worked closely with research projects related to impact of peer to peer strength-based messaging on whole school populations with the University of Rochester's National Peer Leadership Study, and Stanford University's research on impact of Sources of Strength in schools that have experienced suicide clusters.

Jason Malterud

Jason Malterud is a police officer with the Longmont Police Department where he is currently the School Resource Officer for Longmont High School. Jason assisted in developing and implementing restorative justice (RJ) in Longmont High School as an alternative to traditional school discipline and police action. He is an active member of the RJ team for the school where he works and provides training for the high school students that are a part of the team. Jason has provided RJ training to both schools, staff and police departments around the State that have started RJ programs in their communities.

Janise McNally

Janise McNally is the Wellness Coordinator for the Cherry Creek School District. She earned her graduate degree in Educational Psychology from the University of Colorado at Denver and is a Nationally Licensed School Psychologist. Janise's professional background includes 12 years as a school psychologist at the elementary, middle and high school levels in both traditional and alternative schools/programs. Through her current position, Janise coordinates initiatives related to suicide prevention, drug/alcohol use, positive school climate, social emotional learning, stress management, parent education and physical and psychological wellness for students and staff. She serves on the district's Safe Schools Design Team and crisis team and is trained in PREPaRE, ASIST, QPR and SOS.

Sharon Mihalic

Sharon is a Research Associate at the University of Colorado Boulder, where she has worked for 24 years. During the last 18 years, she has been Director of the Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development initiative. She is a contributing author on the twelve Blueprints books, as well as the volume editor of each book, and the co-editor of the Blueprints series. She provided the direction and management for two past Blueprints dissemination projects to replicate the Blueprints programs in multiple sites nationwide. She was the Principal Investigator (PI) on a project to evaluate two of the Blueprints programs. She is Co-PI on a grant that disseminates and conducts process evaluation for the LifeSkills Training program in 15 states. Research from the Blueprints initiative includes seven articles, two bulletins, and a monograph. She received the "Science to Practice" Award from the Society for Prevention Research in 2008.

Ernie Ortiz

Lt. Ernie Ortiz serves as the Training Section Commander for the Aurora Police Department. He has dedicated his career to the law enforcement profession and presently, is in his 29th year of police service. The Lieutenant has a Bachelor of Science degree in business management, completed the Daniels College of Business, Public Safety Leadership program and most recently concluded the 57th Session of the Senior Management Institute for Police. He has served as the second in command of the Aurora Police Department's District 3 Station as the Executive Officer. The Lieutenant devoted four years of his career as the S.W.A.T. Commander, managing a 54 member tactical team. Lt. Ortiz is also involved in regional efforts to unify law enforcement, EMS and fire in the event of a mass casualty event. The coordinated effort is being advanced through the assistance of the Denver region's Urban Area Security grant program.

Susan Payne

Susan Payne is the Founding Executive Director of the Safe2Tell®, a prevention initiative developed as a response to the Columbine tragedy in Colorado. Susan served in this role as a Special Agent with the Colorado Department of Public Safety, Homeland Security from 2006 until 2010; she currently serves as the Director of Safe Schools with the Colorado Attorney General's Office. Susan is a 24-year law enforcement veteran. Susan served a 17-year career with the Colorado Springs Police Department. She has developed a unique train-the-trainer program for school resource officers and counselors, which includes certifications to conduct classroom guided discussions with youth on issues they face today.

Amy Plog

Amy Plog received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Houston. She has worked with the Cherry Creek School District in Colorado for over fifteen years as the Research and Data Coordinator for the district's Health and Wellness Department, Mental Health Team, and Safe Schools Design Team. In this role, she has compiled annual district data on student risk behavior and has directed several district-wide assessments of bullying, school climate, and student risk and protective factors. She has presented data at statewide and national conferences regarding bullying prevention, school safety, and at-risk behavior.

Tara Raju

Tara Raju, M.S.W. has worked in education and non-profit organizations for over 15 years. At the ADL, she is responsible for antibias education for the classroom, community, colleges, law enforcement officers and Holocaust Education. She earned her MSW from the University of Pennsylvania and her BA from Washington University in St. Louis.

Daniel Ramos

Daniel Ramos is the Political and Organizing Director for One Colorado. He is responsible for implementing the organization's statewide political activities, and organizing programs to secure protections and opportunities for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Coloradans and their families. Daniel graduated from the University of Colorado Boulder with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Spanish and also received his certificate in the Study and Practice of Leadership as a Scholar in the President's Leadership Class. Daniel completed his Masters of Public Administration at the University of Colorado School of Public Affairs in 2014.

Scott Sare

Scott Sare currently serves as the Deputy Chief of Special Services for the Aurora Fire Department. Scott has been in the fire service for 15 years, the last 12 of which have been with the Aurora Fire Department. Scott holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, a Certificate in Public Safety and is currently enrolled in the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. Prior to his current assignment of Deputy Chief of Special Services, he was the Department's Training Chief and Co-director of the Rocky Mountain Fire Academy. Scott is also the department representative currently overseeing the construction of a new Police/Fire Training Center in Aurora. Scott worked to develop a policy for Multi-Casualty response for the fire department and delivered the training to all company officers. In addition, he continues to be a liaison with the police department on collaborative trainings and exercises.

Christine Tatum

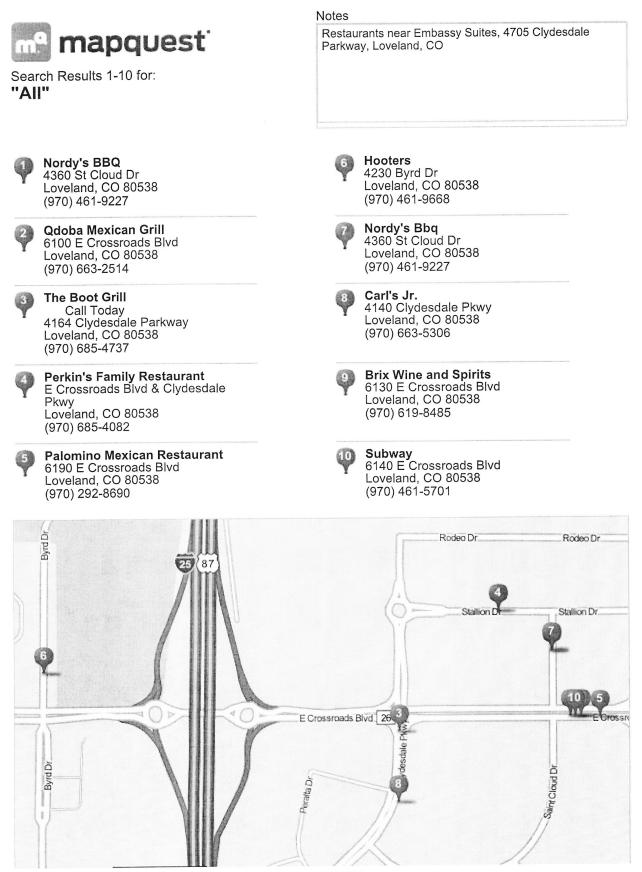
Christine Tatum is a veteran journalist whose market research firm, Media Salad, Inc., helps companies and nonprofit organizations win business and stay ahead of their competitors. Her professional stops include the Chicago Tribune, The Denver Post, the (Arlington Heights, III.) Daily Herald and the (Greensboro, N.C.) News & Record. Her work also has appeared in The Wall Street Journal, New York Times and Glamour magazine. She was elected to serve as 2006-07 national president of the Society of Professional Journalists, one of the United States' largest and oldest journalism advocacy organizations, and has been honored to teach concepts in responsible journalism around the world at the invitation of the U.S. State Department. Ms. Tatum's work has been honored by the Society of American Business Editors and Writers, the Society of Professional Journalists, the Colorado chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists and the National American Arab Journalists Association. Ms. Tatum frequently collaborates with her husband, Dr. Christian Thurstone, to produce communications designed to educate and inform the public about substance abuse and addiction. She is a regular contributor to this website.

Mindy Watrous

Mindy has led Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) for seven years as its President and CEO. Under her leadership, Watrous has doubled the number of athletes served by the organization, and has successfully completed a fiscal turn around ensuring diversified revenue streams and sustainable growth. Using sports as the platform, SOCO has adopted several new initiatives empowering more Coloradans, and serving more than 15,000 athletes throughout Colorado. Special Olympics Colorado now reaches youth with developmental/intellectual disabilities or delays beginning as early as 2 ½ years old and throughout elementary, middle and high school, and college. SOCO works with 158 Colorado schools and impacts approximately 75,000 students. SOCO also introduced an extensive school-based program, Project UNIFYTM. Project UNIFYTM works to create inclusive schools through youth leadership, whole school/district engagement, and Unified Sports[®]. Unified sports are inclusive sports programs where individuals with and without intellectual disabilities play together on co-ed teams. Watrous has also worked with university partners to design and implement comprehensive program evaluations measuring SOCO's impact in schools across the Denver Metro Area, and employing a continuous improvement model.

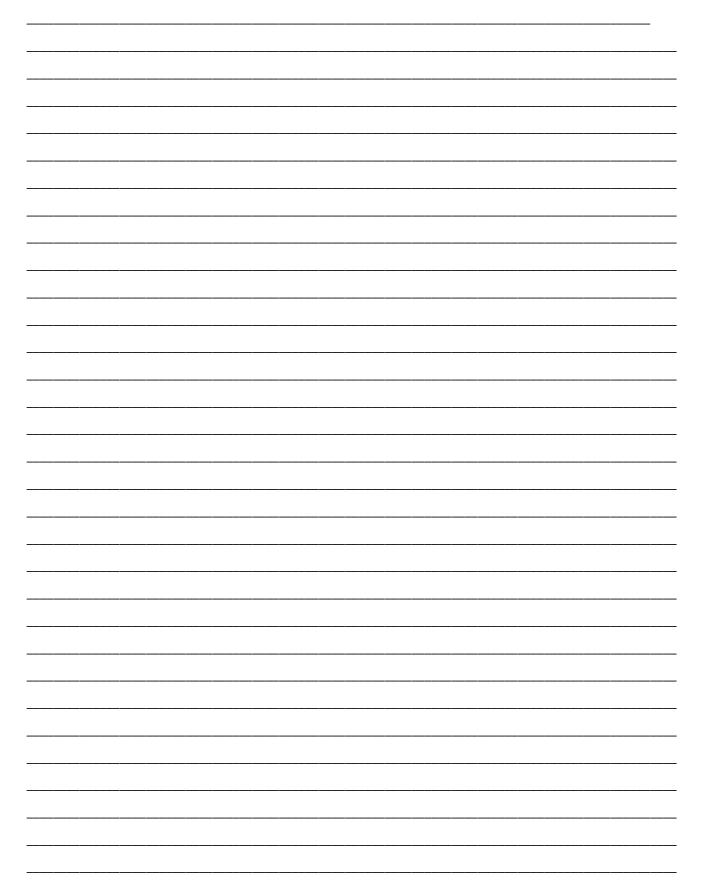
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