

**OPG Board meeting
Director Report
10.23.2024**

Purpose: The Director Report will provide information about new matters, updates about the previous month's matters, and next steps for the following month. The Director will provide the Director Report to all Commission members. Questions about the Director Report will be addressed at the Commission meetings, if necessary. Commissioners are encouraged to reach out to the Director directly regarding any questions in between meetings.

- Attachment 1: Colorado Elder Justice Summit Flyer

I. Budget and Administrative Update.

- a. There is no current monthly budget summary report as the Judicial Budget Analyst priority is the JBC Budget requests.
- b. OPG Board vacancies – the Board has one Chief Justice vacancy. Criteria: Attorney, not from the 2nd or 7th Congressional Districts; not from the Boulder or Arvada Judicial Districts/Localities; from any Party.
 1. I confirmed that the attorney that reached out to Chair Fields and me about the vacancy was to apply 10.10.2024.
- c. FY26 Budget Request.
 1. I have a meeting scheduled with the new JBC Budget Analyst, Scott Thompson on 10.15.2024.
 2. The Judicial Budget Manager has not provided me with a final FY Budget document to be submitted to the JBC. It is due on 11.01.2024.
 3. We requested two Decision Items:
 - a. \$263,392 for 1.0 FTE Grants Specialist, a contracted Community Engagement Coordinator, and a contracted Data Scientist.
 - b. \$184,536 for Participant Enrichment Services.
 - c. I spoke with the new and former JBC Analysts, Scott Thompspon and Alfredo Kemm, on 10.17.2024. They feel that JBC will look favorably upon our requests and that we are acting responsibly with our expansion and state resources and not see this as a delay of expansion.

4. I will request a Budget amendment for office space if the final lease numbers are received from the broker in time, by January 2025.
 5. Amanda Gall spoke with Jarrett Hughes, Deputy Director of Policy and Research, Governor's Office, who will be supporting the OPG and expansion via the Judicial Department's budget increases within the Governor's Budget.
- d. UGCOPPA.
1. Amanda Gall met with Disability Rights Law Colorado Public Policy Liaison, Jack Johnson, who seems open to amendments or not running UGCOPPA at all. Ms. Gall and I have a meeting with Mr. Johnson on 10.31.2024.
 2. There is mixed messaging on whether the Arc of Colorado or Disability Rights Law Colorado is running the bill and who will be accepting amendments.
 3. The CBA will be in a neutral position.
- e. Human Resources Update
- i. New Staff Introductions
 1. Katie Donohue – 2nd JD guardian
 2. Michelle Trejo – CMHI guardian
 - ii. Continue with interviews for one 2nd JD guardian position.
 - iii. Staffing & Culture Leader position posted on 10.08.2024.
 1. Employer's Council HR Manager is handling the recruitment and screening. As of 10.14.2024, we received 37 resumes. The closing date is 10.31.2024.
 - iv. I completed Performance Evaluations
- f. Legal Administration – SA Murphy continues to assist with day-to-day legal matters, policy review, and mental health motions to intervene, etc.
- g. Former Chair Deb Bennett-Woods, Research Assistant Grant Yoder and I are continuing with publishing our article based on the 2023 Report to the Legislature and met on 10.01.2024. Our next meeting is scheduled for 11.14.2024 where we will have an updated final draft and a final list of publications to submit.
- h. Attorney General's Office Update

1. On 08.20.2024 we received the AG's Office memorandum regarding the office's duties on protecting a client's ALF's residency when drug use is suspected. SA Murphy has reviewed and provided several questions to the AG's Office in response. We are awaiting a Checklist from the AG's Office that has been presented as a tool to assist the guardians and SA Murphy – we received the checklist on 11.15.2024.
 2. I requested the FY2023-2024 AG Usage Report for request for budgeting purposes. I should receive the Usage Reports ongoing. I received and reviewed the Report and will address some questions with the AG's Office. AG Finke addressed my questions on 06.18.024 and he will make some corrections to the billing. I further addressed some timekeeping and ongoing oversight issues on 08.20.2024 and 10.04.2024. Board orientation on 10.04.2024 was incomplete and Mr. Finke is following up.
- i. Office of Administrative Services for Independent Agencies (ASIA).
1. I met with the Executive Director, Melissa Jamieson, on 10.08.2024. ASIA has scheduled monthly Board meetings and she is updating the Board every other week. The ED has had several meetings with SCAO and other agencies as needed. It seems the goal is to set up ASIA as soon as possible as SCAO services are not available.
- j. On 08.30.2024, SA Murphy and I met with Chief Justice Monica Marquez and her Chief Counsel, Andrew Rottman. It was a great opportunity to share about the OPG. I shared all aspects of the OPG, and the Chief Justice inquired about the lack of resources and offered to reach out to the Judicial Department and the Attorney General's Office to assist in collaboration with our office.
1. The Chair and I met with Chief Justice's Chief Counsel, AG Finke, SCAO Steve Vasconcellos, SCAO Acting Deputy HR Director Danielle Becwar on 10.02.2024. Mr. Vasconcellos agreed that SCAO could assist COPG more and Ms. Becwar agreed to meet with me to discuss OPG's need.
 2. Janelle Cantu and I met with Ms. Becwar on 10.15.2024 and discussed our HR, Payroll and Benefits needs considering the needs that we are currently receiving through Employer's Council. Ms. Becwar will review with Mr. Vasconcellos and get back to me by 10.18.2024.

- k. 2024 COPG Annual Report to the Legislature.
 - 1. Grant Yoder, Research Assistant, began working on the 2024 COPG Annual Report to the Legislature. We are using the same format as before, with the reporting period of 10.01.2023 – 09.30.2024. We are adding 5 case studies to show how OPG impacted and improved by COPG.
 - 2. You can review last year’s report on our website https://colorado-opg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/COPG_2023-Annual-Report_Final.pdf

II. **Colorado OPG Pilot Program Commission and Operating Policies Updates.** Please note that Commission and Operating Policies are available on the OPG website: <https://colorado-opg.org/opg-in-depth/>

- a. **Trainings and Projects – Ongoing.** A list can be provided quarterly.
- b. Internal trainings/Policies/Procedures – in review with Josh Murphy.
- c. Ms. Villegas is a Physician Assistant with Longevity Health Plan, a specialized Medicare Advantage health plan serving people living in skilled nursing facilities.
 - 1. Last session on 06.24.2024 – Trauma Informed Care.
 - 2. Upcoming session on 11.13.2024 – Death and Dying.
- ii. Internal trainings/Procedures – In review with DD Cantu and SA Murphy.
 - 1. Next policy to review: Tiered client visitation system.
- iii. Finalizing Telecommute/Remote Work Policy/Agreement with the assistance of Employer’s Council. SA Murphy and I finalized the policy and sent it back to Employer’s Council to review on 08.20.2024. SA Murphy met with Employer’s Council on 09.05.2024 about rolling it out appropriately. We are waiting on Employer’s Council for their final review of the policy.

d. Intake Eligibility, Prioritization and Referral Process.

- i. Update on number of registered users, referrals, accepted cases, etc. as of **10.11.2024**
 - 1. 74 Active guardianships

2. 0 referrals pending in court proceedings
3. 0 Complete
4. 3 Partial referrals
5. 4 Registered
6. 27 clients passed away since COPG appointment
7. 1 Terminated – Successor Guardian
8. 33 Hold status (now includes OBH/CHMI-Ft. Logan/Pueblo referrals that are non-OBH/Momentum contract referrals)
9. The OBH/Momentum dedicated caseload for one guardian is full and all 12 guardianships are active
10. 7th Judicial District
 - a. Accepted – 1 Montrose
 - b. Declined Not incapacitated – 1 Delta
 - c. Declined No OPG Capacity – 1 Montrose
 - d. Withdrawn – 2 Montrose
11. Declined referrals – pre-Hold status
 1. 141 Denver declined referrals (some declined were prior to establishing the Hold status)
 - a. 9 - Family available to serve
 - b. 62 - Expired/Incomplete information
 - c. 12 – Not appropriate referral
 - d. 5 - Not adult
 - e. 2 – Not Indigent
 - f. 4 - Withdrawn by Ft. Logan
 - g. 11 - No OPG Capacity
 - h. 4 - Withdrawn Death
 - i. 11 - Withdrawn, not incapacitated
 - j. 21 - Withdrawn, other Guardian Available non- Family member
 2. Texas inquiry - 1
 3. Nebraska referral - 1
 4. Alaska inquiries – 2
 5. Colorado inquiries – 20
12. 119 streamlined referrals (Non-Denver County) – Declined
 1. Adams County – 8
 2. Alamosa County - 1
 3. Arapahoe County – 21
 4. Baca – 1

5. Boulder County – 8
6. Broomfield County – 1
7. Crowley - 1
8. “Denver County” – 2
9. El Paso County – 25
10. Fremont - 1
11. Garfield County – 1
12. Gunnison County – 1
13. Huerfano County - 3
14. Jefferson County – 11
15. Lake County - 1
16. La Plata County – 2
17. Larimer County - 6
18. Las Animas County - 2
19. Mesa County – 1
20. Montrose County – 3 *
21. Otero County – 3
22. Pueblo County – 9
23. Weld County – 7

*Montrose County: Two referrals were declined prior to April 2023. 1 referral was declined in May 2023 due to the AIP residing in Otero County

- III. **Stakeholder Outreach – Ongoing.** A list can be provided if requested.
 - a. I am presenting as part of a panel at the Colorado Elder Justice Summit at CU Anschutz Medical Campus on 11.06.2024. **See Attachment 1.**
 - b. I am presenting to the Adams County Adult Protective Services monthly meeting on 11.01.2024.

COLORADO ELDER JUSTICE SUMMIT

Building an Elder Justice Care Network

Wednesday, November 6 | 8am-5pm

CU Anschutz Medical Campus
Krugman Conference Room | Research 2

What to Expect

- Improve communication and coordination between community agencies and the health care system to provide improved care for vulnerable and older adults
- Network and get to know attendees
- Improve understanding of the roles, responsibilities, and, importantly, the limitations of the various agencies involved in this care
- Light breakfast and lunch included

Featuring M.T Connolly & Colorado AG Phil Weiser



M.T Connolly

MT Connolly, author of the Elder Justice Act, The Measure of our Age, and MacArthur Genius grant recipient will present the opening and closing address. Ms. Connolly brings decades of experience in elder justice.



Phil Weiser



Learn More!

Target Audience

This summit will be focused on identifying gaps and building up the elder justice community in Colorado. We hope that those who have expertise in this area will join us including:

- Professionals who work with victims of elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation including APS, law enforcement, victims advocates, social work, civil attorneys
- Healthcare professionals who are interested in improving the care for elder abuse victims
- Systems leaders from healthcare, protective services, law enforcement, civil law, etc.
- Policy and philanthropy leaders who want to learn more about this important and growing issue!

Questions? Contact VESPA: vespa@cuanschutz.edu