



Colorado State Chapter Knit Together in Sisterly Love to Promote Educational Opportunities

Charitable Corporation Connections - August 2020

Happy August and spectacular summer sunset season, Colorado Sisters!
Welcome to the August edition of our
Colorado P.E.O. Charitable Corporation (CPCC) newsletter!!

Thank you for sending this on to all your chapter sisters!

In the effort to fulfill our goal of transparency, the CPCC has been sharing this monthly newsletter. Our hope is to connect with you about what is going on in YOUR Charitable Corporation.

We have been publishing this newsletter since March but have learned that it is not reaching many of you, so we are trying a new format this month. Past issues are available upon request. . . just email us at this address:

coloradopeocharitableco@gmail.com



Our top accomplishment this month was hiring **Melissa Williams** (at left) as the new permanent House Manager of Chapter House! Her first day was August 4th and she hit the ground running. She brings a strong skill set, with passion and energy. She has a combined background in hospitality, marketing, community relations, and volunteer coordination, as well as a knowledge of the Pikes Peak region. Melissa worked at our P.E.O. Chapter House when she was a college student, and she attributes the beginning of her lifelong appreciation for working with older adults to that college job at the Chapter House. She is a welcome addition to our philanthropy and comes to us with fresh eyes, eager to learn, eager to engage with both residents and staff, and willing to suggest changes. We are thrilled to have her aboard at CH and look forward to having you all meet her.

CPCC?

That's the Marguerite Fund and the Chapter House, right?



Ten Marguerite Fund recipients received regular monthly gifts of \$500 each.

The Christmas Shower letter was approved by the CPCC Board. This will be sent to the 64 chapters having official visits this fall.

Christmas Shower rotation schedules have been changed this year to give more chapters more opportunities to give to the Christmas Shower.

The Christmas Shower account and the Marguerite Fund account are separate. We use the Shower account to send an additional gift in the winter and spring as funds allow. The shower account needs a financial boost if we plan to "match" the monthly gifts this Christmas season.

Acquired a new dumpster with bear-proof steel lid to thwart our daily visitor. (above)

Continued grounds clean up -- we have filled 3 large dumpsters with debris. Gone!

Finalizing bids for tree trimming, additional fire mitigation, water heater replacement

Implemented new employee manual and fielded questions about changes, began transition to new House Manager, held weekly staff meetings, survived a hailstorm, began insurance claim for roof damage

Purchased a carpet cleaning machine and got started - this has already paid for itself because we won't have to hire it done at \$200 per room per cleaning

Q: What does fire mitigation mean?

A: Cutting low branches and removing fire fuel sources near the buildings.



Before fire mitigation

After fire mitigation



The juniper bushes growing near the building have been removed. We still have overgrown/neglected gardens. **Anyone want to volunteer to weed and thin these?** The CPCC has gardeners who don't know a weed from a wombat. Bring mask and gloves and you are most welcome. We would be VERY grateful! Please contact Melissa and let her know your intention (719-473-7670).

What else is the CPCC Board of Directors doing? Lots!

- We continue to have monthly board meetings via zoom and work toward our strategic goals to bring viable options to you, our membership, at Convention 2021, for the future of the Chapter House (CH).
- We are operating our philanthropies (Chapter House and Marguerite Fund) in the best interests of their respective beneficiaries (residents and recipients).
- We are maintaining our fiduciary responsibilities and following our articles, bylaws and policies.
- Paperwork! We recently completed a revised Resident Policy Manual, revised Share the Care application and new Share the Care guidelines, revised job

descriptions for CH employees, and a revised CH Employee Policy Manual.

- If you are still reading, the first 5 people who respond to [Jill](#) with comments to this CCC will receive a fabulous prize in the mail. (Hint: click on the green Jill.)
- Our treasurer is ensuring that our financial statements are readable and understandable, getting control of expenses, and managing payroll at CH.
- We approved a new ad for the P.E.O. RECORD - be sure to look in the next Marketplace section of the magazine for a streamlined, less costly CH ad.
- We are doing a cost comparison survey of other Colorado Springs independent living facilities to get a clear picture of where CH services and amenities fit within the independent living options available in the area.
- We passed the Colorado Springs Fire Department fire/life safety re-inspection of the CH main building and cottage with all issues determined to have been cleared.
- Our plan to convert the first two former overnight guest rooms to rental efficiency apartments is beginning to take shape.
- For now, local chapters may not meet at the CH, either inside or outside. We are working for the safety of our residents and to minimize potential exposure at the CH to COVID-19, We hope we will be able to have people in the building soon.
- We asked our membership to donate to CPCC - click [here](#) for the form.

Stay safe and remember to wash your hands!
