

**La Plata County Thrive! Living Way Coalition, Meeting Agenda December 14, 2015**  
**Commons Building 701 Camino Del Rio Durango, CO**

Present: Darren White, Mia Carrasco-Songer, Maureen Maliszewski, Pat Rustad, Mike Rustad – a good showing considering the weather.

5:30 – 6:00PM Introductions and Updates

- 11/12/15 MM spoke at Million Student March at FLC
- 11/24/15 MM on conference call with other Employer Recognition programs re trademark issue
- 1/24/15 Minimum wage ballot measure meeting in Denver (see 3 attachments)
- 12/3/15 MM attended CCC meeting
- 11/11/15 & 12/9/15 MM met with local non profits exploring collaboration, organized by Celebrating Healthy Communities. Adopted name: “Better Together”.
- 12/13/15 article in Durango Herald.
- 12/16/15 MM will attend CRC workshop on Strategic Planning
- New Brochures
- 2016 Budget still being discussed by Steering Committee – set deadline
- Display ad for Thrive! in Herald 12/14/15. There will be one in the Telegraph on Thursday 12/17/15

6:00 – 6:30 Potluck Dinner

6:30 – 7:30 Planning

TERP – We need volunteers to help with 3 mailings and followup phone calls to targeted businesses in 2016. We will have fun house party gatherings to get this work done. Contact Brooke at [TERP.THRIVE@gmail.com](mailto:TERP.THRIVE@gmail.com) to get involved and help reach our goal of 50 new recognized employers in 2016 .

Know your rights workshops in collaboration with Companeros. Mo met with Danny, ED of Companeros to discuss and he likes the idea. Discussion: Would immigrants be intimidated new people? Mo will discuss this with Danny. What would we contribute: publicity, identification of bilingual curriculum, help with arranging logistics. Plan to present 3 programs in 2016. Could combine one of the workshops with Wage Theft Program (see below).

2016 Educational Event: “Wage Theft”. Collaboration with Towards Justice – Mo discussed with Nina DiDalvo, an attorney working with Towards Justice in Denver. Discussion: ACLU rep might be part of presentation. Toward Justice might be able to assist with funding, expert presenters. Nina & Mo discussed following ideas: Present a general program in April to community and perhaps local Bar Association. Apply for funding for larger program in the fall. Include workers personal stories. Have speaker, panel of experts. Possibly at Public Library. Target audiences – workers, non-profit professionals, lawyers, employers (TERP, Chamber of Commerce to help convene employers?)

Minimum Wage Ballot Measure: Mo attended 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Minimum Wage (MW) Steering Committee in Denver continues to attend meetings by phone. Steering committee wants commitment from involved orgs (including Thrive!) if they want to be coalition partner vs steering committee (see attachment). Thrive! would have a \$500 buy-in to be on steering committee. Discussed potential benefits of being on Steering Committee – help with capacity building, continuing to grow link with state networks of organizations focused on wage issues, increased potential for financial support for Thrive! The group agreed that we should have an idea of language that will be on the ballot measure before committing. Mo spoke to a member of the MW Executive committee and got background info of why they favored min wage over repeal of SB99-014. There was consideration of having a ballot measure including both but the polling they did not favor that. There will be the opportunity to pursue repeal of SB99-014 legislatively. We also discussed a proposed ballot by the Colorado Community Rights Network which promotes the right for local, community self-government. This could give communities the ability to, among other things, change the minimum wage. Darren emailed CCRN - they are in the process of submitting their ballot language.

Respectfully submitted 12/16/15. M. Maliszewski. 970-903-0957