

Thrive! Living Wage Coalition
Coalition Meeting Meeting
February 9, 2015

Present: Steve Krest, Chelsea Steck, Mia Carraxco-Songer, Emily Campbell, Lyn Griffith, Paul Maliszewski, Susana Jones, Steve Ruddell

5:30 Updates

1. Acct. balance about \$6700
2. Event – Chelsea, Lynn
3. TERP - Mia
4. Mo met with Julie Dryfuss, who was unable to attend but provided info for today's presentation
5. Feb 21 there will be Legislative Lowdown, 9-10 am at the Durango Public Library. Susana will submit questions about increasing min wage in CO to a living wage.

5:45 Presentation on Wage Issues for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/113/hr831/text>
<https://nfb.org/images/nfb/publications/bm/bm11/bm1110/bm111003.htm>
<http://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs39.pdf>

Also, check out You tube for “Tim’s Place”, a video about a man with a developmental disability who runs his own restaurant.

6:00 Potluck Dinner – thanks for the goodies everyone.

6:30 discussions:

Conflicts of interest – Steve Ruddell shared his knowledge about the issue: actual & perceived conflicts of interest. We are a Standard setting and certification body. We need to maintain our integrity and protect our “brand”. We had a good discussion on how this relates to receiving donations from businesses and non profits who are Thrive! certified. We also discussed promoting businesses who are not certified. We will start developing policies and procedures related to this and will need to keep the principles in mind as we make decisions.

Leadership – We discussed the need to work on engaging our constituents (low-wage workers) in our organizations and in leadership roles. We discussed possible ways to accomplish this

- reaching out to organizations which serve low-wage clients
- direct communication with people who indicated on our supporters form that they are low wage workers and want to get involved.
- Leadership training.
- “Voices” – A project of Just Economics where workers tell their stories (can be anonymous) which are recorded and put on their website.
- Peter Trigillus.
- Approaches - Come to a meeting. Share your experience. We need your expertise.
- Presentations at non-profits. Lynn will contact WRC.
- Talk to case workers.

Steve suggested a structure of the Steering committee as a certain percent of business people, low-wage workers, etc (maybe govt, faith-based).

We also need broad diversity – race, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability, class, other.

Volunteers needed:

- post posters early March. Susana Jones and Steve Krest
- Tabling – no volunteers at this time.
- get togethers for low-wage workers. No volunteers at this time. Peter?
- Publicize Coalition meetings Herald & Telegraph. Lynn
- Website Maintenance (about 1 hour weekly). Paul
- Volunteer Coordinator (about 1 hour weekly). No volunteers at this time
- Data entry (about 1 hour weekly). No volunteers at this time
- Help at Spring Event April 15
 - Moderator- Steve Krest knows moderator – he will call her. Bob Griffith volunteered
 - Panel – Mo will talk to Laura