

**La Plata County Thrive! Living Wage Coalition
Jan 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Ross Worley, Ashe Alawi, Kaitlin Fischer, Steve Krest, Mike Rustad, Pat Rustad, Nancy Fisher, Liz Ross, Shaila Van Sickle, Bruce Evans (Fire Chief, Upper Pine River Fire Protection District), Pam Dollar (San Juan Resource Conservation & Development Council)

5:30 – 6:00 PM Updates and Introductions

A special welcome to first time guests – Pam Dollar, Bruce Evans, Liz Ross, and Shaila Van Sickle. We are so pleased you joined us and look forward to seeing you soon and continuing to work together.

- Volunteers needed:
 - Tabling in 2017 (Mia Coordinating) Pat, Shaila, Nancy, Ross and Steve
 - TERP outreach (Kaitlin Coordinating) Ross, Nancy, Steve
 - KSUT Spring Membership Drive (the 3rd or 4th week of March) – Pat, Ross, Nancy.
- Events
 - Witness training for immigrant justice – Jan 19. 10AM & 5:30PM. UUFD 419 San Juan Drive. Pat
 - Our First 100 Days – Kick Off January 13, 7-10PM. Thrive! table. Strater Hotel. Thrive! will present workshop on “Next Steps to a Living Wage” March 15, 7-9pm, UUFD.
 - RESPOND and Standing on the Side of Love March – Jan 21
 - Green Drinks Jan 26, 5-6:30, Carvers. Last Thursday of each month. Thrive! will host in July.
 - Home Grown Food Retreat – April 8, Ignacio ELHI Center. Submit Ideas about participating to Ashe
- Community Foundation, Boone Fund grant for \$500 received. Thank you letter was in Herald.
- Meetings:
 - Interfaith Partners 1/4/17
 - Educational Program on Early Childhood Care & Education 1/6/17
 - Employer Luncheon, Ore House 1/11/17.

Presentation – Liz Ross, Director, SBDC

Liz recently became the Director of the Small Business Development Center, located on the Fort Lewis College (FLC) campus. The SBDC is part of the Small Business Administration (SBA) and is funded through the SBA, FLC and grants. It serves five counties in SW Colorado and two reservations. The SBDC provides consulting, training and resources to help businesses and entrepreneurs grow and prosper.

Liz is from Alaska and has worked for the State of Florida in providing affordable childcare. She has been consulting with Thrive! Aspiring Employers on strategies to raise their employees' wages to a living wage. She is also working with Thrive! in planning our educational event on Early Childhood Care and Education. Her doctoral studies were in finance. Liz would like to be on Thrive!'s Steering Committee to support our work for a thriving community. Coalition members at the meeting unanimously recommended Liz for the Steering Committee. Maureen will submit her nomination to the Steering Committee.

6:00 – 6:30PM Potluck Dinner and Discussion:

2016 Year End Report

2017 Road Map

6:30 – 7:30PM

Steering Committee Meeting – cancelled, did not have a quorum

TERP Committee Meeting