
ASPA BUZZ

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2009-2010 ASPA
Council

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ASPA LUNCHEON

Thursday, November 12, 2009

12:00 noon

Auditorium of the State Office Building
(north of the State Capitol Building)

2009 Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1): A Situation Update and the Public Health Response

Rachel Herlihy, MD, MPH

Deputy State Epidemiologist for Communicable Diseases in Utah
Utah Department of Health

Dr. Herlihy will discuss what happened with H1N1 this past spring in Utah, the U.S., and the World. She will also provide an update on the current situation and an overview of public health response activities and recommendations. This will cover everything from information about the vaccine to what to do if you get sick.

Please make your reservations early. The luncheon will be catered. Reservations or cancellations must be received no later than Monday, November 9th. No shows will be billed. Limited parking is available—please carpool or ride public transportation where possible.

The cost of the luncheon is \$13.00 for ASPA members, \$15.00 for nonmembers, and \$8.00 for students. Cash or checks are accepted.

Please call the Center for Public Policy & Administration, University of Utah, at 581-6493 or e-mail jrandall@cpga.utah.edu for reservations.

Mayor Joe Piccolo Receives the Arthur V. Watkins Distinguished Service Award for an Elected Official

Mayor Joe Piccolo of Price, Utah, accepted the Arthur V. Watkins Distinguished Service Award for an Elected Official at the October luncheon. This award, established in 1989 by the Utah Chapter of ASPA, honors elected officials who, through exceptional commitment, skill and integrity, have served the public with special distinction.

After recognizing and thanking his wife and others, he commented how his commitment to assisting the homeless in the Price area was one based on his belief in the human spirit. He noted that assisting someone in the midst of despair was simply the right thing to do. Giving a home to anyone living in despair gives hope to that person and shows that they are not alone, but rather that they are part of a community of people who care.



Mayor Joe Piccolo

The two projects under construction in Helper and Price will provide 51 units of housing to people currently experiencing homelessness. At one time this met the local need but the situation has changed and currently another 100 units are needed to assist homeless individuals. So, the community's work is not done and he will set out soon to find additional projects so that everyone in his area will have a safe, secure place to call home.

ASPA OCTOBER LUNCHEON

Utah's 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness

By Pauline Zvonkovic

The topic for the October luncheon was an update on the State's 10 year plan to end chronic homelessness. A panel of three experts working on the initiative each reported on the efforts underway to address this daunting challenge.

First to address the audience was Gordon Walker, Director of the Utah Division of Housing and Community Development. He has been instrumental in spearheading the state's efforts to decrease the level of homelessness. Chronically homeless persons are expensive and place a tremendous burden on society. Research has shown that 12% of homeless individuals use 56% of the services in the shelter system. These services include the cost of emergency room care, transportation by ambulance, incarceration and detox treatment. Developing housing designed to meet the needs of chronically homeless persons is actually more cost effective and produces a far better outcome. Instead of costing over \$14,000 per person per year in the shelter system, it averages \$10,000 per person per year to house and care for a person exiting chronic homelessness.



Implementation of the state's new approach started with revising the membership of the state's Homeless Coordinating Council. Elected leaders and agency decision makers now work together to ensure state programs support these efforts. This approach has had great success. The department shifted its funding priorities to support the development of new units targeted to house chronically homeless individuals. To date a number of projects have come on-line including: Sunrise Metro (100 units), Grace Mary Manor (84 units), and Palmer Court (201 units). Others

are under construction or being planned. The results of the state's efforts were presented at the annual homeless summit held October 15th in Salt Lake City.

Kerry Steadman, Salt Lake County's Homeless Coordinator, spoke of the county's efforts to support the state's plan and noted that the county adopted its own 10 year plan. He pointed out that to date the county has shown impressive results demonstrated through the Point-In-Time count. Annually, communities throughout the state count the number of homeless and chronically homeless persons on a single night in January, resulting in a Point-In-Time count of the number of homeless persons in the state. The count aims at capturing an unduplicated estimate of everyone who is homeless and is conducted throughout the nation at least every other year. Utah's latest annual count has shown that Salt Lake County has decreased the number of homeless persons by two percent over the past year and has reduced chronic homelessness by twenty-four percent during the same period.

Mr. Steadman also provided the audience with the goals of the long range planning committee formed to address the needs of homeless persons in Salt Lake County. These include providing housing, employment and stabilizing services targeted at ending the cycle of homelessness experienced by many local community members.

Last to address the group was John Selfridge, case manager and outreach worker for The Road Home, Salt Lake City's largest homeless shelter. He has been working with homeless individuals for 12 years and is a licensed clinical social worker. He spoke of the success he has seen resulting from the "housing first approach" which houses a chronically homeless person and then provides services to that person tailored to his/her needs. He informed the audience that chronic homelessness often stems from trauma experienced by an individual early in life. Physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse has been shown to alter a person's ability to formulate appropriate responses to life situations. Poor decision-making skills can in turn lead to destructive or addictive behavior which could become more acute as they age. Thus, homelessness may not be a life style choice as many believe, but rather the result of trauma experienced early in a person's life.

The Utah Chapter of ASPA thanks our speakers for sharing their time and expertise with us.

COUNCIL CORNER

Arlene Zortman
 ASPA Council Member
 Salt Lake County Aging Services

THE WAR TO END ALL WARS – Armistice/Veterans Day

An armistice or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany, went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, or November 11, 1918. The Treaty of Versailles became the official end of the war and happened seven months later in France. World War I, as we know it now, was at that time regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

President Wilson, in November, 1919, declared November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day to honor those who died in the country’s service and to show our sympathy with peace and justice in all nations. The original celebration of Armistice Day was observed with parades, public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11 a.m.

On June 4, 1926, the United States Congress passed a resolution that the President issue a proclamation calling for the display of the flag of the United States on all government buildings on November 11. On May 13, 1938, an Act of Congress declared November 11 as a legal holiday, Armistice Day, as a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I. In 1954, following World War II, the 83rd Congress changed the word “Armistice” to “Veterans” and the day officially became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

In 1968 the Uniform Monday Holiday Bill was signed with the intent to ensure three-day weekends for federal employees by celebrating national holidays on Mondays, with Veterans Day being one of those holidays. A great number of citizens, state legislators and major veteran’s organizations wanted the patriotic and historic significance of this day returned to the original November 11. On September 20, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 returning Veterans Day to its original time frame. Since 1978, Veterans Day has been celebrated on November 11 regardless of which day of the week it falls.

The United States has since seen the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm and currently Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Iraqi Freedom (Iraq). Previous wars included: The Revolutionary War, The War of 1812, the Mexican American War, The Civil War and The Spanish American War. Veterans Day, November 11, 2009, is a time set aside to honor all of America’s past, present and future veterans for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

Tentative Schedule of ASPA Luncheon Topics for 2009-2010			
December 3	E-governance	March 4	Ricidivism
January 13	Legislative Preview	April 1	Economic Update
February 4	Transparency	May 6	Annual Awards Luncheon

The New Economy: Preparing Utah for the Future

The Utah Intergovernmental Roundtable's Annual Summit "The New Economy: Preparing Utah for the Future," will explore how the current economic crisis will impact our communities on a long term basis.

Experts in their fields – including David Wyss, Chief Economist for Standard & Poor's, Chris Nelson, Presidential Professor in University of Utah's College of Architecture + Planning, and Jeff Thredgold, Chief Economist of Zions Bank and President of Thredgold Economic Associates – will explore how the current economic crisis will impact our communities on a long term basis. The discussion will include how the changes will influence decisions on housing, community planning and transportation. In addition, growth patterns and changing demographics will be addressed. A complete list of speakers can be found at www.cppa.utah.edu/uir/.

The event will be held on November 4, 2009 at the Salt Lake City Radisson Hotel (215 West South Temple) from 8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Registration cost is \$60. Students can attend for \$30. Registration costs includes a continental breakfast and lunch. To register, please visit www.cppa.utah.edu/uir/. For more information contact Sara McCormick at 801-585-7764 or by email: sara.mccormick@cppa.utah.edu.

SPOTLIGHT – NEW ASPA COUNCIL MEMBER

GLEN GOINS is a native of New Jersey (yes, he misses the Jersey shore). He graduated from the University of Utah in Urban Planning and "cut his municipal teeth" at Salt Lake County. He has also worked for Draper and Bluffdale and is currently the Planning Manager at Logan City. His main focus has been on long-range planning and creating master plans, but he is well versed in most aspects of municipal planning and management.

Glen is married with four children (2 boys, 2 girls). He met his wife (who is from Sandy) in New Jersey where she was a nanny.

His family loves to do anything outdoors—sailing, golfing, water skiing, skiing, kayaking, soccer and camping. There is, of course, archery and "shooting" with the boys (the guy stuff), and swimming (is shopping a sport?) with the girls. He also plays guitar; used to be in a band but now his wife has banished him to the basement to play.

We welcome Glen to the ASPA Council!

