THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO

A BRIEF HISTORY

"To have a clearer picture of where you are going, you need a better understanding of where you have been."

Nurse Quote

THE EARLY DAYS

Early 1960's-County nurses invited to CO Dept of Health (DOH) meetings annually for a "County Nurse Meeting"

1966-County nurses invited to be on the planning committee for the annual meeting

- ➤ 2 DOH and 3 County nurses made up the committee
- From the committee, one county nurse was appointed as chairperson to preside over the county nurses' meeting

WHEELS SET IN MOTION

1976-County nurses explored the idea of working with Colorado Nurses Association (CNA) 1977-Wheels set in motion to become a CO County Nurses Organization 1977-78-Norma Rogers of Elbert County was elected as the first president of the Colorado County Nurses Association (CCNA)

CCNA ACTIVITIES

1978-79-CCNA slide show produced 1978-80-CCNA's newsletters published 1980-81-CBS news program, "Sunday Morning" featured PHNs in Colorado 1981-82-CCNA became actively involved in pending legislation Mae Swartz left her position in Summit County to assume full-time her other job as Mayor of Fairplay 1982-83-Award established by CCNA to recognize outstanding commitment by a rural PHN CNA and CCNA co-sponsored the first legislative event/ coffee at the State Capitol

NURSING SERVICES

1983-84-CCNA researched the mandatory need for public health nursing services Rep. Scott Mclinnis sponsored the legislation 1984-85-Legislative committee began focusing efforts on mandating Colorado public health nursing services 1986-87-Senate Bill No. 28 was passed by the Legislature to provide public health nursing service in areas not served by county and district/regional health departments 1988—CCNA Legislative committee met with the Joint **Budget Committee at the Capitol** 1989-CCNA Scholarship established 1990-"Agency of the Year" award established

CCNA, INC.

November 25, 1991-Incorporation as Colorado Counties Nurses Association Principal office located in Craig, CO

The objective of membership in CCNA, Inc. is to give all county nurses in Colorado the opportunity to develop the unity and strength necessary to insure their own well being while simultaneously providing them an additional resource for improving themselves professionally.

CCNA ACTIVITIES IN 1990'S

1992-CCNA annual meeting held in Creede, CO. Reform and restructuring was happening at the State Health Department Charlie Hebler-Brown was the first contracted lobbyist 1992-93-Kindra Mulch was President of the association Monitoring of legislative concerns ongoing Reviewing role and mission of CCNA 1994-Hinsdale County Nursing Service formed 1995-Changes in CCNA dues structure 1996-CCNA Executive Board met with CDPHE to discuss organizational changes at the State

PHN DISTRIBUTION-1997

PHN's Statewide 600



County Nursing Services 150

Organized Health Departments
CDPHE
Higher Education
450

Organizational Membership

CCNA 125 CPHA 100-250

SHALL WE CREATE A SINGLE, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING ORGANIZATION FOR ALL PHNS IN COLORADO?

FROM THERE TO HERE AND FROM HERE TO WHERE

Early in 1997-CCNA discussed extending categories of membership

Summer, 1997-Survey to all PHNs

1998-A team of facilitators were formed to conduct focus groups throughout the State
Summer 1998-Meetings conducted throughout the State with the goal to present feedback at the October 1998 CPHA conference to nurse attendees

NEXT STEPS

- Develop a Speaker's Bureau to market the concept
- Presentations to organized health departments
- Survey ALL PHNs about the formation of a single organization
- Determine processes for dues
- > Determine what services members would want
- > Determine participation, Who should belong?
- What organizations should we be affiliated with?

THE COMMITTEE OF FIVE



Nancy Finnegan, Deb Crook, Joyce Thompson, Ellen Parri, and Angel Perez
Taking the organization into the future

Four interim committees:
Executive
Membership
Technology/data
Celebration

LIFE GETS IN THE WAY

Illnesses
Births
Hospitalizations
Life stuff









"YES"-A NEW ASSOCIATION

March 2, 2000 meeting in Denver, the membership of CCNA unanimously voted to become the Public Health Nurses Association of Colorado, adopting by-laws, setting up committees, and planning executive meetings to implement the change.

President-Sarah Schipper, Eagle County
President-elect-Jackie Brown, Prowers County
Treasurer-Deb Crook, Summit County
Secretary-Peg Mewes, Montrose County

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Happy BD PHNAC! March, 2014