

January 26, 2016

To The Wyoming Department of Health

I write this letter in support of the Carbon County PMO, and the vast amount of information they provide to the community of Saratoga and the Platte Valley area.

I have been involved in several of the community information meetings hosted by the Carbon County PMO in Saratoga. These meetings have been hosted by Sally Paton and Theresa Pacheco on a monthly basis. A broad cross section of the community of Saratoga is invited and many respond. I have seen representatives of the medical community, the mental health community, the police and sheriff's departments, victims assistance, the faith communities, the chamber of commerce and business people, the school personnel and school board, the city government, and the media. It speaks well of this task force that this many people will show up at informational and networking meetings monthly.

In particular, I have been impressed with the work the PMO has done to train dispensers of alcohol in the TIPS training. The PMO is raising the awareness of the community on the amount of alcohol served at public functions, especially public functions where youth might be present. I am also impressed at the successful attempts of the PMO to train a large segment of the community in suicide awareness and prevention.

The monthly meetings referred to are rich in information sharing. In addition to the information shared by Ms Paton and Ms Pacheco which comes from the state of Wyoming, we each have the opportunity to share programs and resources we are also involved with. As an example, I am able to offer information on suicide prevention and recovery because I am a priest at the local Episcopal church. I can offer the faith based programs which are available to me from the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming. Another example, I can get information on counseling available in the county, or programs available through the school district.

The Carbon County PMO is providing an avenue for communication as we all strive to prevent the costly results of alcohol and drug abuse and the painful results of suicide.

Thankfully  
  
The Rev. Susan Dyer

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Saratoga