

Caseworker Resiliency

Colorado's Response – HB 17-1283

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Caseworker Resiliency - The Stakeholders

- 1) The Media
- 2) Child Welfare Administrators
- 3) Child Welfare Advocacy Groups
- 4) Lawmakers

The Media

- The Denver Post / Channel 9 (NBC Affiliate)
 - **FAILED TO DEATH** (70 press hits 2012-2015)
- CBS and Fox Followup
- Westword
 - Caseworker and Lawmaker Profiles
- Commercial and Public Radio

THE DENVER POST FAILED TO DEATH

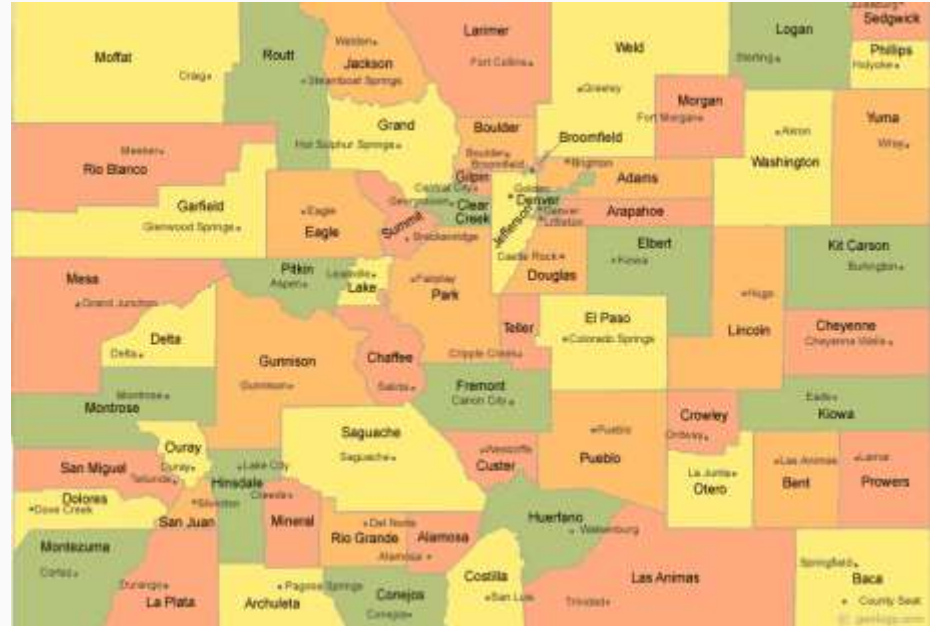


Caseworker Resiliency - Administrators

Colorado -

State Supervised County Administered

- 64 Counties (64 Flavors)
- Big 10 and Everyone Else



Alliance of Child Welfare Workers

Focus Group Study

90% of workers admit to having been threatened or felt physically at risk while on the job; of this, **10% of workers described having been held at gunpoint or knifepoint**

60% of rural workforce indicate they feel limited in resources for families or his/herself

100% of workers identify their greatest support system as being their peers

90% of workers acknowledge experiencing short or long term anxiety and physiological impact as a direct result of the job

100% of workers want improved support from counties in accessing mental health services

So What's Working ?

- Governor and Legislature Commit \$\$\$
- New Transparency Measures Increase
- New Statewide Hotline
- Child Protection Ombudsman made Independent
- Over 100 Caseworkers Added
- Caseworker Resilience Task Force (HB 17-1283)

The Media



Resiliency Taskforce – Buy in

- Gather data from
- All counties (Large, Mid-Size, Small/Rural)
- National Sources (NCWWI; CWLA, CW Info gateway)
- Other professionals (Law Enforcement; CAC)
- Research and Literature
- **OUTPUTS:** State wide Database and Report to Legislature

House Bill 1283

- Lining Up Qualitative and Quantitative Research
- Examines what is working in other similar professions
- Bringing together Frontline Workers with Administrators, Professionals, and elected Officials