

## INSIDE THE DECEMBER ISSUE

### PG. 1

How CCKC is utilizing COVID-19 Relief Grant Funds and FEMA supplies in Custer County for those in need during these trying times. Make the most of this and future newsletters to find out what supplies and programs are available, for all ages and to those in need in Custer County.

### PG. 2

An introduction into the Custer County Kids Council and who we are as a nonprofit organization in this community.

### PG. 3

Learn about the WIC Program, a nutritional assistance program for women, infants and children up to age 5. See inside this newsletter to find out more about how WIC can help your family.



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## HOW CCKC IS UTILIZING COVID-19 RELIEF GRANT FUNDS IN CUSTER COUNTY

Thanks to the COVID-19 Relief Grant from Colorado COVID-19 Relief, Custer County Kids Council was able to acquire needed supplies and resources for the community of Custer County. Examples on some of the supplies and resources we currently have available for the community includes and are currently in circulation, but are not limited to: Food-box distributions in Westcliffe and Wetmore, Meals for school families and all adults in the family, \$25 Dollar General Gift Cards for Hygiene Products, Gas and Fuel Cards, and Procuring deep freezers for our VSO to keep perishable items in stock for our families. Currently, the CCKC Coordinator, Stacy Terrill is applying for her fourth COVID-19 grant in the amount of \$25,000. This will amount to \$100,000 that CCKC will receive from the Colorado COVID-19 Relief Grant Funds for Custer County if the grant is accepted.



## FEMA INFANT/CHILD SUPPLIES AVAILABLE

As part of COVID-19 relief, FEMA has graciously donated supplies to Custer County Kids Council (CCKC) for families and caregivers in need, at no cost to the community. CCKC is excited and available to get these supplies out to Custer County families. We currently have regular and sensitive brands of baby formula, size 4 and 5 pull-ups, and adult facial masks available. If you, or if you know of any families in need of these supplies, please feel free to email us at [custercountyecc@gmail.com](mailto:custercountyecc@gmail.com).

# WHO IS CCKC??



## CUSTER COUNTY KIDS COUNCIL: WHO WE ARE

Custer County is a very remote location in Colorado and our needs differ from those in surrounding counties. Due to this remoteness, it was decided that having a local council was the only way we could ensure expanding and improving local services in meeting our greatest needs. The CCKC was organized in 2017 to promote the goal of providing a local comprehensive early childhood system so that all children and their families have equal access to quality programs and services that ensure every child in Custer County is healthy, valued, thriving, and ready to succeed in school and throughout life.

The Custer County Kids Council (CCKC) is a collaborative organization that aspires to promote the physical and mental health of Custer County children from birth through eight years of age. CCKC aspires to build community awareness of the needs of young children; foster cooperation and engagement among organizations; disseminate information and resources; provide professional development and coaching for organization staff; secure funding to facilitate collaborative projects; and advocate for needed change when necessary.

“Together, Councils **IMPROVE** the quality of learning environments to prepare young children to enter Kindergarten; **BUILD** the resources and skills of families; **ENSURE** that families have access to social, physical, and mental health services; and **DELIVER** resources to increase the effectiveness of early childhood professionals.”



## WIC PROGRAM

“We are a **COLLABORATIVE** organization that aspires to promote the **PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH** of Custer County children from birth through eight years old.”

This Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) helps supplement foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk. This federally funded program is administered in Custer County through the Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments (UAACOG) and is an excellent resource for those who need that extra assistance.

Most in Custer County may not be aware that they are eligible for this program. In fact, eligibility is higher than the guidelines for many programs like SNAP, TANF, and Colorado’s Medicaid Program. So if you qualify for those, you’re automatically eligible for WIC. However, if you don’t, that doesn’t automatically mean you don’t qualify for WIC. So, if you need the extra assistance, look into the WIC Program...you might actually qualify!

During normal UAACOG and/or County operations, the Custer County WIC office is staffed every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. This office is located at 10 Hermit Lane, #5, Silver Cliff, CO. During COVID-19, the WIC Program is still accepting new clients and are still able to assist current clients via phone calls and emails. If you have questions, comments or concerns, or need to make an appointment, please contact the Canon City WIC office at 719-275-1589.

