



2015 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), signed to be effective as of January 1, 2015, is by and between Ralston House (RH), a Colorado non-profit corporation, and the undersigned individuals, agencies and jurisdictions operating in the First Judicial District. The parties agree as follows:

1. Each party agrees to support the concept and philosophy of RH as a neutral, child- friendly agency promoting a comprehensive multidisciplinary team response to allegations of child abuse and/or neglect.
2. Each party agrees to follow the RH protocols concerning forensic interviews, medical examinations and victim advocacy services, when using RH.
3. Each party agrees that all efforts will be made to interview and meet with children, adolescents and their non-offending caregivers at RH.
4. Each party agrees that efforts will be made to coordinate each step of the investigative process to minimize the number and length of interviews to which the child is subjected, thus reducing the potential trauma to the child.
5. Each party agrees to share resources with RH during child abuse and/or neglect investigation, but shall maintain separate entities at all times. This applies only to investigative agencies, which are law enforcement, district attorney's office and social services.
6. RH's team response to allegations of child abuse or neglect includes, but is not limited to: technical assistance for forensic interviews and recording of such interviews, forensic medical examinations, court school/preparation, non-offending parent support groups, case reviews, resource library for professionals, professional consultation, training, education, victim assistance services, follow-up services and referral to mental health services.
7. All parties will be invited and encouraged to attend trainings and/or therapist peer review meetings sponsored by RH, as appropriate.
8. All parties may and are encouraged to participate and/or present cases at the Multidisciplinary Case Review Team meeting, facilitated by RH.
9. Each party agrees to follow the Jefferson County Child Abuse Investigation Policy and Procedure Manual.
10. Each party agrees that suspected offenders are not allowed at RH. (One exception to this policy is when a suspected offender is a juvenile and is being interviewed as a possible victim or witness to abuse. In such cases, no other children can be in the facility when the interview is taking place.)
11. Each party agrees within the bounds allowed by law to maintain the confidentiality of all records and information gathered on all child abuse cases.



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12. Each party agrees that no children, adolescents and/or their non-offending caregivers will be charged for any services they receive at RH.
13. Each party agrees to authorize RH to use DVD or audiotape equipment in connection with providing investigative services under this MOU. This applies only to investigative agencies, which are law enforcement, district attorney's office and social services.
14. Each party can request general statistical information about cases seen at RH not related to a specific individual case and will be able to obtain information about specific individual cases if they are directly involved in that investigation and release of this information does not violate appropriate confidentiality laws.
15. Each party agrees that, on occasion, exceptions to these guidelines may be necessary in order to serve the "best interests of the child."
16. It is understood that each party will work within its departmental mandates and policies. Nothing contained in this MOU supersedes the statutes, rules and regulations governing each party.
17. Mental health therapists are also responsible for meeting the requirements of the RH/Therapist MOU.
18. Each party shall continue to be responsible for cases arising from its jurisdiction. The employees of each party shall remain the employees of their respective agencies. Each agency shall be responsible for workers' compensation insurance, salaries, including overtime, and benefits for its employees. Negligent acts of an agency's employee or employees are the sole responsibility of that agency, and none of the agencies waive the benefits or obligations of the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act §24-10-101, et seq.
19. This MOU states the conditions under which individuals, agencies and jurisdictions in the First Judicial District may utilize the resources of RH during the investigation of allegations of child abuse and/or neglect. Nothing in this MOU requires agencies and jurisdictions in the First Judicial District to use RH.
20. This MOU may be signed in counterparts, and each counterpart shall be an MOU between RH and the signatory.
21. This MOU shall remain in effect until amended in writing or terminated by either party.



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Arvada Police
Chief Don A. Wick

Date signed: 2/4/15


Edgewater Police

Chief John Hough

Date signed: 2-4-15

Gilpin County Human Services

Director Elizabeth Donovan

Date signed: _____

Jefferson County Attorney's Office

Attorney Jennifer Mullenbach

Date signed: _____

Jefferson County Human Services

Director Lynn Johnson

Date signed: _____

Lakeside Police

Chief Robert Gordanier

Date signed: _____

Littleton Police

Chief Doug Stephens

Date signed: _____


Ralston House

Executive Director Donald Moseley

Date signed: 2/5/15

Gilpin County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Bruce W. Hartman

Date signed: _____


Golden Police

Chief Bill Kilpatrick

Date signed: 2-4-15


District Attorney, First Judicial District

Pete Weir

Date signed: 2-4-2015


Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Jeff Shrader

Date signed: 2/4/15


Lakewood Police

Chief Kevin Paletta

Date signed: 2/4/15

Morrison Police

Chief Rudy Sandoval

Date signed: _____



Step the Abuse
Start the Healing

Mark Toth
Mountain View Police
Chief Mark Toth
Date signed: 02/04/15

Dan Brennan
Wheat Ridge Police
Chief Dan Brennan
Date signed: 02/04/2015

Alecia Wehr
Front Range Forensic Nursing
Alecia Wehr
Date signed: _____

Lee Birk
Westminster Police
Chief Lee Birk
Date signed: 2-4-15

Greg Bohlen
Colorado School of Mines Dept. of Public Safety
Chief Greg Bohlen
Date signed: _____

Jennifer McConnell
PeakOne Forensic Nursing
Jennifer McConnell
Date signed: 2/17/15