

# OMMIR Community Volunteer Advisory Board Meeting (2024-07-12 10:07 GMT-6) - Transcript

## Attendees

+1 970-\*\*\*-\*\*37, Amy Barcenas, Ben Nichols - CDPS, Carla Respects Nothing, Councilman Conrad Jacket, Daisy Bluestar, Daniel Steuer, Danielle SeeWalker, Germaine Miera - CDPS, Ike Barrow, Jenifer Lewis - GOVOffice, Josh, Judy Kimminau, Kirby Lewis - CDPS, LaRenda Morgan, Lynnette Grey Bull, Matt Lunn - CDPS, Melissa McGaw - CDPS, Melody Delmar - CDPS, Monycka Snowbird, Raven Payment, Rosie Small DIHFS, Trennie Burch

## Transcript

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**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I get to know I know there are new people on the call that I haven't met before. So just out of respect. I'd like to introduce myself and my language touch English a door. She didn't ask. So for those of you who are not familiar within our whole language or Customs. This is how we respectively introduce ourselves to any kinship in attendance. My Clans are red writing into water born for the salt plan Eternal grandfather is Yucca fruit struck out on a line plan and internal grandfather is better water claim. Hello to any kinship. I have or relatives on the meeting and my pronouns are she it's four months actually here since I've started here.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** As the new director for ommir to start out, please don't hesitate to ask any questions as this morning and looking forward to catching you up on what the office has been working on for now. I'll give an overview which Adrian used to do as a part of our last meeting. And it was the first introduction of myself as a new director.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** And also MMA are Community volunteer Advisory board members and general community members gave their introductions to myself. Adrian had given updates on the new mmir position We had a connection to a the US Attorney General's office. With a meeting to partner with them.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** we had a lot of community output and how the ommir can move forward. and there was some Community input on and Dating Violence that we addressed and talked about

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** so next on our agenda is that I'm gonna give some updates on our developments and first is that I had done a lot of community meetings and meeting with people in person and also virtually I was really happy to meet with Josh over at the Durango us Attorney General's office and Josh do you want to give some input and how our meeting? went

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank Thanks osh. And I think our Partnerships we move forward in the state is very important for myself as we navigate how we respond to our missing a murder indigenous relatives. And so that's a critical part of what I'm doing right now in my first year here is to work with the community find certain stakeholders in our community who we Immediately work with and talk about how we can

strategize about. The community response and so thank you Josh for that. and other important stakeholder readings we had is I met with the southern New tribe and also you out and you tribe and councilman and jacket. Do you want to give an update on how our meeting was with your tribe?

**Councilman Conrad Jacket:** Yes, thank you for coming and I was able to meet with Melanie and ensure our reservation. She attended our Sundance, which is what's very sacred to us on our mountain and I showed her. Our land fast how kind of empty is how it is to get lost there, too. so Recently, we had an incident happen with some tourists and it's very dangerous area where we live at the Southwest Colorado. A lot of people don't know that the mountain tribe in southern youth that we exist. So as a tribal councilman talking for the Ute Mountain I speak for my tribe. So it's good to have that trade tribal liaison that better state level and

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**Councilman Conrad Jacket:** Recently, we had some teenagers go missing and Melanie was able to help out too. and on my part if I could do any push and pulls too and find out who I can contact to get people found it's good to have that level with her. but those kids that they were found. and the one thing I wanted to ask is there's a task force. It's not part of you guys. It's a task force and I would really like maybe if you guys can look into that this task force has no right to post anything. I don't think they reached out to the family. I think somebody probably told him about it and they posted it because it's gonna become dangerous when they can post anything on Facebook. I had people ask me about it. And I was like, okay. I'll mentioned this one when I come to this meeting.

**Councilman Conrad Jacket:** But yeah, maybe if that task force can be more contained because they're not with you guys with a state level. Right? And I'm pretty sure guys the task that task force is on its own. I'm pretty sure they have good intentions, but they're not following the right procedures and like I said, if they could possibly post false information, too. And as we all know Facebook is good, but it's also bad too for misinformation, too. but I'm the flip side of that Melody. Thank you for coming down. It's really good to have somebody down on this level show. Also talk to young Bushwackers our young on Workforce. He talked to them about what she does and that's really good to see a native woman talk on her sideways what she's doing on that state level and I think that surprise a lot of kids and

**Councilman Conrad Jacket:** And she's also gonna attend our I are walk next Friday. And if you guys can make it be great. It just pin awareness out there. I'm one of our community members he lost Her brother and her son. And she's been up this walk in a moral for them. And for anyone who's been missing and It's good to have that awareness here right now at this time, especially in a state level. So, thank you Melanie.

**Matt Lunn - CDPS:** And councilman and I appreciate your comments and highlighting also the great work that Melody's been doing out in community. I continue to hear from people all over State how excited they are to meet with her. and so I think we really got lucky and found the right person for this role. So I'm really excited about that. you brought up the task force and the task force is actually been a really great partner with us through this process since we've launched our office. I know they do put out information and community and they're well connected in community and trying to get the word out on things we can certainly follow up offline with them to make sure everyone's on the same page or if there's any confusion. To make sure we clarify any of that that for anyone in the community or make sure just that Us in the task force continue to have those conversations.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Yes, we don't put any we don't.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** We don't put out any. so there's

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Yes, There's seven of us. And when we have anybody missing from the southern part of Colorado, we either have Daisy BlueStar or trennie is the one who reaches out to somebody or is affiliated with somebody with the ba or in law enforcement in that region. So none of the Flyers are developed or even put on our website or on Facebook without any type of contact with law enforcement sometimes

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**Lynnette Grey Bull:** okay.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank you. And I'm glad that you can task force number Lynnette Grable and councilman and jacket can connect and clarify any kind of miscommunication or improve that and as we all know this is new for our state and myself is new in navigating and how we work with our community. So, I'm sure that we're gonna work toward improving our systems to be more streamlined. So I appreciate the conversation and I also wanted to give some more development updates. Another piece of myself and being this office is the legislation and working on how to move forward and developing this office. And a lot of this is working with Community working with developing our Advisory Board, which I'll touch on in the agenda moving forward and

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** for transparency. I am working on an internal. Strategic planning on how I can further develop this office. So it helps me planning guide my process in looking at how I can develop this in terms of Making sure we're in line with legislation and also in line with the directors input and how I operate within the office. And so I just wanted to let you know that. When at your hand is still raised. Did you want to see anything more?

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I just want to make sure I didn't want to Be like I'm ignoring you. And so I am looking forward to doing more strategic planning internally so I can have more guidance and how I can look forward to this next year. So I just want to let everyone know for this first year. My focus is going to be on Community Development looking at Community Partners and how it can work with gic. Partners like I said in the state and networking and also some other developments that I've been working on is working a lot with

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I guess. With how we work with police and training in mmir. And so the next meeting we're going to have on that is going to be in the southwest region and I'm really excited about that with the Colorado District Attorney's office as well as well as the

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** meeting with the Navajo Nation who is developing a law enforcement training down in the southwest region so excited about that.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Okay, so next I'd like to go ahead and talk about the community volunteer Advisory Board councilman report. We're working on this with Phil Gober who is going to be helping develop this he has been involved in the past with developing this report. This is the legislative piece that will be coming directly from The Advisory board on their developments and how they've been working with our office to inform and let us know how we are working with the community. So I'm excited about that. And we are way ahead of schedule which is fine. I know a lot of people are out. But I would like to open it up to the community at this point if you have any updates or input or any.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Anything you'd like to let us know about the space less about any events that are coming up and inform everyone about any projects. You're working on regard to him and they are.

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**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I think we lost Daisy.

**Carla Respects Nothing:** My name is Carla respects nothing. I'm a Indian commission I'll wait for Daisy to start back up. But I also like to give an update.

**Daisy Bluestar:** I'm sorry. I don't know what happened. I just got logged off. But yeah, we are doing a bike run that we do we started an annual and Ike and again that is the Labor Day weekend and we do a lot of awareness education and support families who mmir. We do reach out to relatives who have lost a loved one and we were there shirts and also allow them time to speak if they choose to speak. We will have an exhibit at the end which will always do a timeline of how mmir got started in, Colorado.

**Daisy Bluestar:** So every year it's just going to add on and just educate the people, exactly what mmir and is and the resources that they can use if they do end up missing a loved one. We do a lot of collaborations with a lot of these families. So we have done search and rescue for some of these relatives and we have successfully help them find their relatives. So I just wanted to

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank you, Good go ahead and Carla.

**Carla Respects Nothing:** Good Good to see you all today. Again. My name is Carla respects nothing. I work in the homeless Outreach field here in Denver in Lakewood in the surrounding metro area. I'm not a part of the task force. Just But also I'm a Denver American Indian commissioner or the City and County of Denver. so we've been having through the commission tribal forums and trying to collaborate with the state politicians regarding anything Native American given them information sessions, which today we're going to have one down at the library.

**Carla Respects Nothing:** So when I started this group. I see that we have a lot of representation down in the southwest region down in the southern region. And lately, I've been seeing her Facebook speaking of what councilman Conrad.

**Carla Respects Nothing:** And there's no contacts for them. There's no help for the northern tribes in the Northern areas me being specifically Lakota from the Sioux tribes. So, I have a question regarding that and how are you addressing that I know you have representation here with them our Elder up in Fort Collins area, but I'm not sure what they're doing up there. And so I see that missing. Also yesterday per there's an alert for a young man.

**Carla Respects Nothing:** Through the City and County of Denver Police Department. And so I seen you all someone had turned deactivated that alert. So I reached out to the family through Facebook and they called me and they said that they still never contacted that person and that he still missing in the area down here. because I live in Arvada.

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**Carla Respects Nothing:** So they reactivated that missing report. So I'm confused on working with the police departments up this way. how is that process? I know through your office because again, Conrad had said, excuse me councilman Conrad so that's my Ask and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** thanks, Carla and just I'll get to the raised hands just in a minute with Lynnette and Rosie and we'll just give me one minute. So I just wanted to answer from our office's standpoint is that first?

**Carla Respects Nothing:** update for today. Thanks.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I did make contact with the Fort Collins area. I was invited from Christy kristinia Ayala to meet with them and her community and talk about how we can be more invested Working with them. And so after that meeting they had decided to put together their own Community task force to help address our native Northern people who are working on missing persons and you are totally right and I hear you loud and clear that we have a lot of missing relatives who have come down from our Northern tribes from

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Wind River and I don't want to call anyone out right now just out of respect for them. But we do have Northern tribes who come through Denver who have been missing and that is My role right now is to make connections and to get to know people to meet people and ensure that we have representation up north in that has already happened. The second part of that question of what you're asking is that our office is involved in helping supporting families and

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Being a resource to connect families to what they need in terms of their missing persons in terms of how do they report? Are they getting their needs met? And so I am so glad to be here to do that into your resource to families. And like I said in my first meeting and also from my work in New Mexico, I'm available to Families First of all, they're my priority. And so if they reach out to me, or call me I talk to them directly. I even talk to them yesterday and so Also out of respect for them and what they want. I don't necessarily put it out there that hey, I'm talking to this family. And so I

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I just wanted to say, just reiterate that that's the role of our office is to be connector. And if I think that Melissa McGaw CD the process and I recognize as my role, here being new is that I'm going to keep Working on streamlining on clarifying and how our office are working together from the state side with the community. And also with what Matt said that we are so thankful for the work that the task of course does and we're going to continue to see how we can streamline our messaging with their messaging and what our roles are in supporting our families so Melissa.

**Melissa McGaw - CDPS:** Yes, thank you. Melody. So to address the alert yesterday for Dimitri gold. So the alert was requested by Denver Police Department. And so when an alert we can only get issue amiibo alert if it's requested from a law enforcement agency, so he requested the alert officially we issued the alert. We have law enforcement system called ncic and we monitor missing persons through there. It's strictly through law enforcement and he was taken out of that system. So I reached out to Denver Police Department and it was determined that he was recovered due to him being taken out of the system. However, we found out shortly after that. That was a mistake on another agency's part that they mistakenly took him out of the system. So him being taken out of the system is what prompted the deactivation of the alert.

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**Melissa McGaw - CDPS:** As soon as we figured out it was a mistake on another agency's behalf. We went ahead and reactivated due to him still being missing. So that was Exactly where the K stands. I would refer that back to Denver Police Department due to them investigating his case.

**Melissa McGaw - CDPS:** Does that help answer the questions because I know it can be confusing.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Yes, and again, this is a process. We're still streamlining. And again, we're new and so you as a community member has a voice in how we can improve and unfortunately, we can't move fast enough, working from the state side and from experience working Mexico it moves, but we're not going to not respond. Right? You have me as a resource. So just continue to let us know how we can improve from your standpoint as a community member as a Advisory Board member. So Carla, I really appreciate that. does that answer your question?

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** All right.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Not go ahead.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** I

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank All I don't know that. Timing of who raised their hand first, but I'll just go ahead and go with Lynnette.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Thank you. Melody. And good morning. Carla respects nothing to try to clarify some of your concerns that you stated which were really good to point out. So first of all, the test for is the women on task force included myself are made up of different Advocates. We all had different roles as victim Advocates or Community Advocates. my organization is not our native daughters. we are National mmiw Organization. I am also hunk papalakota from Standing Rock in I'm also Northern Arapahoe from Wind River. So a lot of my connections in a Northern Plains region really helps streamline the work that we do when we have Northern tribes have missing cases. I'm presently at Rapid City right now. I work with a lot of different human trafficking organizations and networks. So when there is somebody from the northern plain to region that is missing us

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Work with my human trafficking Advocates to either get out the information. I also work with all of the South Dakota and North Dakota Montana Minneapolis law enforcement agencies. I just talked to Rosebud law enforcement agency yesterday to follow up on the case on Tina little boy. She was missing from Rosebud and She was spotted in Denver Last Summer. She still continually missing. But anytime there is anybody missing from any type of Northern Plains any tribe. We're typically on it. Not just from a family standpoint, but also from their region where they come from what tribal Community Law Enforcement nine times out of 10. We're the ones I want to find the London the Tribal Law Enforcement of their missing Tribal member, so that's kind of like how it

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**Lynnette Grey Bull:** When it is a Northern Plains or Northern tribes that have missing persons. It's really hard to navigate. Sometimes is this person live in Denver or this little person live in Colorado and then went missing but they have Northern tribes affiliation. So there's a lot of things that happen in the backdrop that we do, 24 hours a day. We don't work eight to five PM.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Carla and...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** We work 24 hours a day every single day to work with the families work with,...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** also the community so they can reach out to you as a resource. So, thank you, Daisy.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** CBI or law enforcement to make sure that everybody is on the same page when a MIP alert goes out or on a flyer is made and put on our social media. So

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Okay, I thought I saw her hand raised. So we'll go ahead with Rosie.

**Daisy Bluestar:** I'm sorry my phone I don't know what's wrong.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** No.

**Daisy Bluestar:** I'm not in a good space with my phone this morning.

**Daisy Bluestar:** I'm Daisy BlueStar and I just wanted to get on here and just kind of talk about my position here. I'm on the southern youth reservation. So I also know my sister tribes from northern Youth and ute Mountain you and so I have a good relationship with a lot of the people and so a lot of times when people go missing on either reservation and we just started this discussion with Northern youth how do we work together to help our people out a lot of times I've gotten reports from youth Mountain even though I'm here and so they're new and lynnette's stated and...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** I hope that clarifies some of the concerns with missing persons from Northern Plains regions.

**Daisy Bluestar:** Melissa and everybody kind of we just work together to get the information. I usually leave it up to law enforcement to get the information that's really needed out there and...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Trust me. for us. It doesn't matter what tribe they're from or what area they're from we take it as an important matter and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** Melissa will also do the investigation and...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** we act most urgently of one of us. Don't do it on the team.

**Daisy Bluestar:** research on...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Somebody else jumps in and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** how that goes.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** does it so, we really have a good Network and team on the task force on if something doesn't get handles. Somebody else's is gonna do it. So anytime Carla you have any type of questions or concerns about anything feel free to reach out to us our messenger. We all have access to them to the Facebook page and we all see the messages that come through there. Please a feel free to reach out to us.

**Daisy Bluestar:** And so there is a process that we do and...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** For any of us would love to answer any questions you may have and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** that's kind of like...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** if you have anyone that,...

**Daisy Bluestar:** what my process looks like down here supporting the families comes first and...

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** in the Northern Plains region, just know that I'm usually the one that's on it.

**Daisy Bluestar:** foremost and just letting them know that something is being done and that we continuously keep in touch with them so that they understand that we're not just leaving them hanging when they're loved one is out there and we've had a lot of success. I do a lot of collaboration work with then you police department. And so anytime anybody goes missing in our area. They're really good. they've picked up a lot here. So the collaboration here we've been able to get people home ASAP, it feels like so I just wanted to also show my support from the test Point task force point of view that there's a lot of work that's being done and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank you so much, Daisy and Lynnette for your input from the task. Of course. I'm so glad you here to be a part of this conversation with the community. And so to clarify from...

**Daisy Bluestar:** has been done and will continuously be done and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** what I'm hearing is that the task force is working with the permission of the families to share photos and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** all of us are collabor. To make sure that our people are found and brought home safe.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** to share information is that Correct.

**Daisy Bluestar:** Yes, we make sure that we have permission before we submit anything but usually before we do that, we'll send it to CBI or the local law enforcement. So we try not to just jump the gun and send things out until we're all on the same page in collaborating and kind of all understand that this is the direction that we're going. but it does have to be with respects to the family members. Because a lot of times family members might be fearful. I've come into some situations where family have been victimized by people who are still in prison and have their trauma stories based off of the threats that they get here out out here even though they're

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**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank you, Daisy. And also I just want to say I appreciate you having me. And conversations with yourself about how to approach your communities and how to be in your community. So I really appreciate that. Thank you and okay, so thank you Rosie for having some patients and we'll turn the

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** mic to you.

**Rosie Small DIHFS:** Can you guys hear me? Yeah, you guys so.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Yes.

**Rosie Small DIHFS:** Yeah, it's been a while it got kind of Rocky trying to find a leader. I tried my best to come in and these meetings and stuff like that. I'm just a board member of I work at the Denver Indian Health and Family Services as a behavioral health therapist. My specialty is I work under a grant for Victim Advocacy and Victim Assistance and stuff like that. And so a lot of that's talked about in my sessions as trauma work. All those things grief and all that. nice to meet you and good to see everybody. I go to a



conference yearly and it's called the Cova conference and it's the Colorado organization of Victim Assistance and

**Rosie Small DIHFS:** I feel that it's very Non diverse and so I was requesting if anybody from every the task force or anything like that can present.

**Rosie Small DIHFS:** And make this even more aware. I think it will be such a good session of hearing what the statistics are and what it looks like in Colorado region, but then also what is all of this and just to continue awareness about how to make a report because there's a lot of people that are geared with Victim Advocacy from different agencies and some of them come from out of state too. So I mean if they listen and hear about all of this, maybe it can spread out to different states as well. In addition to what Lynnette and Daisy are doing which is super cool, that Network and stuff we need that. So they're having the Conference in October this year up in Keystone, and I think it was just be such a really really fun a really good something somebody to come out and educate.

**Rosie Small DIHFS:** Talk about this. I can but I don't know. I need to have your guys's back and making sure that I'm making I'm talking about it really good and stuff. But I think yeah, I'm denied to I'm donate from my maternal Clan is toh honey. And then my paternal plans is red house. And so yeah. another thing that I had a question because I kept seeing I like that. I like those notifications. It's sad, but I was kind of wondering what if we do find them is there some sort of follow-up, asking all these questions about how did they were taken or

**Rosie Small DIHFS:** you know what that all looked like and stuff because I think that's very important to maybe even have prevention now and things so I was just kind of wondering where that falls you guys are doing tremendous work already pre and during the missing and stuff but I kind of was interested in the post, the follow-up linking up to resources or Therapy or what's out there to help them if to get back home or something like that? and I think that's it. If not, I can always write in the comments or write back to you guys. But yeah.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank you Rosie. And I hear you loud and clear that we do need to be. Working as a community to respond and I also want to start out with that again. We're a new office and we're trying to help streamline how we can help communities and work with families and how we respond. So from our office and My Hope in the future is I do have open positions. I forgot to mention that is one thing is that have open session for Adrian's position just opened last. This past Wednesday. And also I'm going to be opening up a position for social worker and also finally a data analyst who can potentially help us look at possibly.

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**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** How we can improve working with families or what is the missing connection? And that's something that I did in New Mexico with the research team and

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** That is gonna take some time and I'm glad that we have the resources within our office to address that and so with that said I'm a one person office right now. So I don't necessarily have the capacity. However, we also have CBI who's looking at that information and I also want to mention that when missing person is resolved or it can be very delicate to answer because just on behalf of the family. We want to be respectful of how the person wants. who potentially is found. It can be very difficult to navigate if it's not in. The best way or if they're found, potentially

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** And not a good way and so we're not necessarily going to put that out there to the community and how they're found or how the cases results. So Melissa's I came on

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Problem Rosie and I think you're right on point with having the data and unfortunately again, I keep going back to this. This work is new to our state. It's new to the country. We only have one database that came out about five years ago. And so a lot of the research is really happening now and so with your community voice informing this and how we can move forward and how to navigate the research the data is so important. So I'm glad that your voicing that that shows that we need the data and the research and it's not there, but it's coming. So thank you. Okay, chief Barrow.

**Ike Barrow:** Thank in my short time here so far. We've had I think three missing persons slash runaways here, and I just want to Echo a lot what Daisy was saying? My goodness, I think our working relationship has been fantastic.

**Ike Barrow:** I'm on the phone with Daisy. I mean PDQ. after stuff starts happening and I think we are doing a really good job here in the southern youth community of really getting all this stuff and

**Ike Barrow:** CBI has been fantastic as well as soon as their after hours process is very seamless. Calling in after hours is very easy. I get a callback very very quickly and they handle things no matter what time of day it is. So I'm really encouraged that we're on the right track.

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**Ike Barrow:** Where we're working probably on our third iteration of our sop for missing persons here in southern youth. I've collaborated with our communication Specialists with our tribe and always trying to improve continuous Improvement is the byword for in this regard I think the most frustrating Of the process is where? We lose control. of how to proceed down the investigative path most efficiently and that frustration comes from roadblocks. that appear to be thrown up from non tribal law enforcement agencies where we are trying to help them with information from

**Ike Barrow:** from contacts and our community and where we are trying to either forensically offer our help to get into computers laptops telephones and try to get that investigative process going a little bit faster. that part has been frustrating when we deal with another law enforce agency. That is not a tribal and I don't know where to go with that one except to accept for it to really get the word out amongst all of our laws and partners that they need to really be teamwork and team players with us. on this and

**Ike Barrow:** but from the community side of things it's really going fantastic. I enjoy working with Daisy. She's a fantastic person and I will tell you two Daisy that you're mo On Labor Day weekend. It's going to coincide with a Four Corners motorcycle ride and We may need to talk about that offline and kind of how we can. of work to our advantage That's all I had.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank you Chief Barrow. And I know you but I do want to introduce yourself and let everyone know who you are.

**Ike Barrow:** yes, I'm Chief Michael Barrow with the southern Ute tribe. I retired from the Houston Police Department with 28 years of service there mostly night shift and investigative roles and things like that really excited to be here with the southern new people. It's been fantastic working with them and

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Okay. Thank you.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Chief Barrow and I really appreciate that. I loved meeting you when I first got here and with also director Chris smack and I wanted to commend you I was really impressed and loved seeing that you are part of that and our event for the national missing person's Day mmir Day, I made it and I just wanted everyone to know in the call.

**Daisy Bluestar:** I just wanted to Circle back around to Rosie.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I was there and law enforcement was Chief Barrow and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** We have I don't know...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** director and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** if you've seen in the chat,...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Ike was serving hot dog the hamburgers to the community and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** but I put the task force website on there...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** That's the kind of community.

**Daisy Bluestar:** where we do have a presentation of that we could share with your community.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I love to see in this work. Is there working hand in hand with the work of Daisy...

**Daisy Bluestar:** I'm sure somebody can present their Monica Snowbird and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** who had made that connection? I talked to director and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** Raven payment are actually really on top of the data or...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** macmost weekly and so I applaud your work in seeing and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** the state of Colorado. I think there can be some sort of training and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** also voicing from law enforcement side that Community Voices and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** like I said the task force website page is in the chat.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Community Partnerships, especially with lunch. Is critical in this work?

**Daisy Bluestar:** So if you wanted to go ahead and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** And so thank you for that and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** get in there,...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I'm looking forward to in our relationship and...

00:50:00

**Daisy Bluestar:** you're more than welcome to and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** working together and...

**Daisy Bluestar:** request a training and...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** looks like Daisy's hand is raised.

**Daisy Bluestar:** I'm pretty sure amongst all of us in the task force. We'd be very happy to help you do that in a way that educates what you're asking for and also shares the data that's been collected for, Colorado.

**Daisy Bluestar:** I also in the chat What melody was talking about So she's opening up new positions and I just want to make sure that everybody's aware of these things. And so Rosie through the chat if you're interested in looking those things up there in their and we do support that also.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thanks, I appreciate the community's voices. Are there anyone else who has any events or comments or anything? You'd like to add to the discussion?

**Monycka Snowbird:** This is Monica. I just like to comment quickly on a issue that we had with a recent case of a relative that was missing. Whereas the law enforcement initially and then downtown Denver. I think it was districts sticks was refusing to take a missing person report for an unhoused person. We finally did get that squared away. And when the family did detective talk to the family. He was very respectful and then again someone cleared the nipple accidentally which then caused the media to say that this person was located when in fact that they were not

**Monycka Snowbird:** and the law enforcement also used a mugshot in addition to the photo the family provided and so we are running into these sorts of issues still that we need to get some training to the local jurisdictions on the best practices for this. Because there was a lot of misinformation and we definitely should not be using mugshots when other photos are available that really create a stigma and promote some stereotypes that we don't want going out and I see you coughing there Melissa. So I hope you're okay. But also I do want to appreciate the amount of work that she put in on that because we weren't getting anywhere with anyone.

**Monycka Snowbird:** And so Melissa did step in and get the POI to get involved and got some of that information corrected but as a reminder our task force is a completely volunteer run group. And we are working like Lynnette said earlier 24/7 and we do Focus specifically on the state of Colorado. We don't work nationally, but we do track cases that CBI doesn't necessarily track because it doesn't meet the guidelines and all my doesn't track because it doesn't need the guidelines. But because we don't answer to State agencies, we are able to track that info for cases that are coming into Colorado or have crossed over into Colorado. It doesn't matter where those people are coming from as long as they have a tie to Colorado than we are tracking that so We just need to really kind of remember that we are all working here together.

**Monycka Snowbird:** not be tearing down the work of what people are doing on a volunteer basis because we are called to this work and I do appreciate Matt defending many of our passport members and Lynnette and Daisy also. Speaking up on behalf of what we're doing when folks are criticizing when they don't actually know what is being done and are not actually trying to be involved in this work.

00:55:00

**Monycka Snowbird:** I heard about the classroom before I help.

**Melissa McGaw - CDPS:** I'm sorry, Monica. Go ahead.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Kirby

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** thanks And again, I just want to say when I'm in community or presenting to the tribal council. I also Tell them this is a borderless issue. We've had plenty of people go missing from our Northern tribes that have said especially the Denver area who've gone missing in we've had Plenty of people who to reach out to myself and going back to I think what someone said about what our office is doing to help them we were able to and have the permission from the family to share. is that we were able to help a family get their

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Family member back to their reservation up from one of our Northern tribes. And so This goes back to the critical piece of why it is. So important to have Community Partnerships in relationships because We can't necessarily know we can't but we can connect people to resources they need and so I was able to connect them to the Rick Waters who's of an Advisory Board member at the Denver Indian Center to help this family member get back home. And so I just wanted to reiterate from the voices. I'm hearing from law enforcement from Chief Barrow from

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** CBI is that the community partnership's are very critical to doing this work in responding. And so everyone on this community call is so important and I really appreciate that and this is a space for us to connect and to talk about how we can improve our networking and resources together. And so I really appreciate that. So thank you what other comments or anything any other input anyone on the call has

**Danielle SeeWalker:** Yeah Melody. This is Danielle part of the task or say you mentioned.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** great.

**Danielle SeeWalker:** Excuse me, that just kind of piggybacking off what you said. Connecting more in the community and working together sharing resources. What can we as a task force do to better support you or be more connected to what you're working on, we are pretty integrated in terms of your position and with the task courses doing and I just want to mentioned your one woman show right now, but really we're all connected as an able to support you. So what can we do better to help you?

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Hey Danielle, I don't think I've met you yet, but I'd love to meet you in person. Thank you for that. And I think that moving forward from this conversation on the clarification of the tasks for messaging and the clarification. I know Carla had mentioned there's some. Confusion and who does what with all our organizations who respond to MMA are CBI with ommir with the task force. And so I think having more conversations or conversation and what?

01:00:00

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** We're doing and how we can work best together would be great to kind of more streamline. And again, like I said, it's my fourth month here. And so this is a strength on our side as community members and how we can best support each other and understand how we can best work together. So I think that would really help myself as I navigate this role and understand how I can strategically work. For the next year on building that our Community Partnerships. how does that sound to you?

**Danielle SeeWalker:** I'm not sure. I was clear on what the action would be. What are you proposing?

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I was saying that another meeting with our authors in the task force just to clarify. what you do and I don't know how long the task force has been in operation, but just to have more of an understanding and how you have the task versus operating and how we can be resource to each other.

**Monycka Snowbird:** I mean we've been around since prior to 2020. I believe as a task force and just for everyone on the call very brief high level. The office of mmir doesn't conduct searches there. They will be meeting with families more once Melody's able to hire folks, but as it is right now. We are working directly with families on a very regular basis and helping the maneuver the law enforcement system and how to get their midplus out quickly and accurately we're doing searches. We're tracking the data.

**Monycka Snowbird:** if you look at our Facebook or our website, we have close to a hundred folks that we are now tracking when we started this work CBI had 13 names. So the vast majority of that data came from our Grassroots folks doing the research to find out who those people were tracking homicide unsolved and solved murdered by law enforcement done John and Jane Doe's all of those different components. So That is what we are doing. We are doing the

**Monycka Snowbird:** On the groundwork passing out flyers. Sometimes we can get a flyer out faster than the middle goes out. And so if our flyer goes out prior to the nipple. It's because the family contacted us and there's a delay somewhere in law enforcement. So we don't want to add to that delay. So we're on it when we find new cases. We are referring those things to Melissa and Audrey who are again, I can never say enough how amazing they are and how much we all value that relationship or they're able to get additional information besides what we can get. So our list is constantly growing our research has never ending and like I said, we are working directly with the families on almost a constant basis. We're doing this work seven days a week multiple people from our task force are working on some level of this every single day. In a volunteer capacity and we are coordinating with other states.

**Monycka Snowbird:** To see if relatives, there may be reported missing out of South Dakota, but they're known to be here in Colorado. So we're tracking that and getting that information out. So whereas Melody does the high level stuff,...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Yes, thank you, Monica, and...

**Monycka Snowbird:** ...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I also want to mention that.

**Monycka Snowbird:** we joke that if things have to be handled by an agency with letters in...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thank you for letting me borrow your Ribbon skirt.

**Monycka Snowbird:** that's Melody.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** I still need to get that back to...

**Monycka Snowbird:** Where is if it's someone dealing with families and will...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** So she also does that she'll lend you ribbon skirt...

**Monycka Snowbird:** searching and actual compiling of data?

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** if you need.

**Monycka Snowbird:** That's us. And...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Okay, go ahead Lynnette.

**Monycka Snowbird:** then a lot of other stuff.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Thank I didn't mention earlier and I know this was a statement that stemmed from. councilman jacket and I did ask specifically what was

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** What was he referencing to when it came to our messaging? I'm sorry. I take offense When anybody says that the task force messaging is someone wants to hone in on it or get a little bit more grasp on it. I don't think there's anything wrong with our messaging we talk with families. We talk with law enforcement. We do all of our checks and balances before any type of flyer is even developed and create it and put it in our social media or website. So, I'm really want to kind of pinpoint. what is wrong with the messaging that we have? Because there's no problems with our messaging.

01:05:00

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Right and I saw that councilman and jacket had to leave the meeting for another meeting and he also left his contact information. So it sounds like this is a conversation you can have with him and I can't answer for him. So I would encourage that.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** You also said that you wanted to address our messaging so that's why I was wondering was there something that was put on social media that was a concern to anyone because any of us are happy to address any type of post that was out there most of our posts if you guys follow the pages all just Flyers of the families or an active missing or mippo alert. So again, if there's any thing that needs to be addressed what our messaging any of us are happy to have that conversation.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Yes, and that's something that Danielle had asked his how an action I am item with our office with the test courses to understand or learn more about especially for myself how we can move forward how we work together not necessarily the message, but how we work together because from the call, it sounds like there's some confusion and what the task force does and what our office does CBI does and so I think that's more of a understanding or clarification and to the community and what our offices do So we can also have that conversation moving forward. I'll email you Lynnette after this and also Danielle and everyone from the task force and how we can meet together and talk about what we all do and how we can put that out to the public in let them know this is what we do.

**Lynnette Grey Bull:** Thank you.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Absolutely.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Any other updates from the community?

**Melissa McGaw - CDPS:** I just wanted to let you guys know we're having our annual missing in Colorado event on August 3rd. It's gonna be from 10 to 3:00 at the Lowry Conference Center with this event entails. We hold it every year. it's specifically for victs of missing persons. Anyone that has any family or friends or loved ones that are missing it's various resources for these people. We're going to have law enforcement there as well as name is the national Miss United identified person website. We also have representatives

from neck Mack some other people that will be there to discuss what more we can do for their families. There's also going to be a luncheon specifically for the families of missing persons that only they will be able to attend

**Melissa McGaw - CDPS:** and we just have various Partners there the task force always joins as well. So I just wanted to throw that out there to the community if of anyone that would be interested in attending to I'd be happy to get the flyer out there and I can attach it in the chat as well.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Thanks Melissa. And I also know that I can't councilman and jacket had mentioned that they're having a walk next Friday at five o'clock at the Mountain Ute tribe. And I think there's another The bike ride. When was that?

**Daisy Bluestar:** It's Sunday September 1st for Labor Day weekend. And I don't know...

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Okay. Thank you.

**Daisy Bluestar:** if Chief Barrow's still on here, but we will have a meeting. So we'll include you in that next meeting. Just FYI.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** anything else I think we're about to wrap up early. So I'm glad to give some time back to y'all.

**Danielle SeeWalker:** Thank you, everyone.

**Melody Delmar - CDPS:** Okay. Thank you.

Meeting ended after 01:09:56 🙌