



2023 Steering Committee Letter of Intent

In addition to the questions below, please write a letter of intent (in the space below or attached separately) regarding your desire to serve in a leadership role (Steering Committee Leadership or Public Lands Delegate). Please include why you want to serve, any public service experience, and/ or any special training or experience relevant.

Name: Janet Rowland

County: Mesa

Phone: 970-250-7370

E-Mail Address: Janet.Rowland@MesaCounty.us

Expiration of Current Term: 2024

Are you term limited?: No

Committee(s): Human Services

Position(s): Chair

My background is in human services. Prior to running for office in 2004, I worked for Mesa County DHS for 10 years. After being term limited in 2013, I served as the Executive Director of CASA of Mesa County and have returned to public service beginning my current term as county commissioner in January 2021.

I have worked on several statewide boards, appointed or elected by both Democratic and Republican leaders.

- Appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to serve on the state Child Fatality Review team in 2011,
- Appointed by the Colorado Supreme Court to their hearing board for attorney discipline cases,
- Appointed by the Senate Minority Leader to the 21st Judicial District Judicial Performance Commission,
- Served as a member of the Colorado Attorney General's Meth Taskforce,
- Worked with colleagues on a statewide approach to child abuse prevention, establishing the Colorado Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America and was elected to serve as the founding board President;

While my background is in Child Welfare, I've also been active in the Adult Services and Self-Sufficiency Divisions of DHS.

- In 2010, with the aging of the baby boomers, the demand for long term care programs, and the challenge to fund those programs, I spearheaded an innovative program in Mesa County to prevent or delay the need for both residential long-term care and Medicaid eligibility.
- Last year I spearheaded a communitywide assessment of the mental health system in Mesa County for the purpose of identifying gaps and barriers to services and implementing community solutions to fill the gaps and overcome the solutions. This has resulted in the development of intensive community-based case management services for frequent users of our emergency and criminal justice systems and providing more access to recovery services. We are also preparing to launch 911 Diversion and Co-Response in 2023.

In addition to being a member of CCI's Human Services Steering Committee for nine years, and serving as chair last year, I also served on NACo's Human Services Steering Committee and was a member of NACHSDA.

I believe in working across the aisle to solve problems and have learned from experience it is the only way to solve problems and accomplish anything long term.