



# Let's Stay Connected



**WEBSITE** [www.panhandlehelp.org](http://www.panhandlehelp.org)



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**EMAIL** [info@pcsvcs.org](mailto:info@pcsvcs.org)



**MAIN OFFICE** 1309 SW 8th, Amarillo, TX 79101

**SERVICE CENTERS ALSO LOCATED IN:**

Borger, Childress, Clarendon, Dalhart, Dimmit, Dumas,  
Friona, Hereford, Pampa, Perryton, Shamrock, Tulia & Wellington

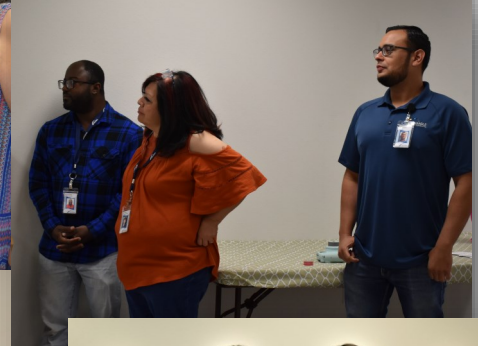
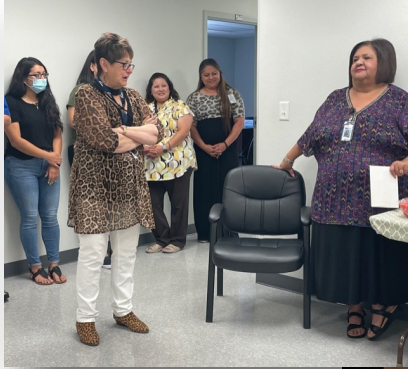
{ On Social Media find us on Facebook @panhandlecommunityservices  
Instagram @panhandlecommunityservices  
Twitter @pcs\_panhandle and on LinkedIn as Panhandle Community Services }

## Upcoming Events

- July 4th Closed for Independence Day.
- July 9th from 9 until 4 COHS abilities conference at Church of Christ of the Colonies, Amarillo
- July 12th, 8:30am—4:30pm Hereford Sr. Citizens Center, Mental Health First Aid. Rsvp required

# *Congratulations on 46 Years*

## *Celia Serrano*



The work PCS does takes special people who give of themselves every day. Our HUD department celebrated Celia Serrano on her retirement after 46 years with Panhandle Community Services. She has been a great asset and will be greatly missed. Celia is a fixture of PCS and has made quite a contribution here. She has worked in a myriad of positions and help many families gain stability in the Hereford community over the years.

The department also pulled 450 families from the waiting list this month. They issued 40 vouchers in June and will continue to pull 300 families each month until they are at capacity and leased up. On the 27th of June they will purge their waiting list. During this time they send letters to all who are currently on their waiting list to make sure they are still interested and eligible.

The HUD program has had several Land Lord Briefings for both current and new land lords. Inspectors were on hand to answer any questions landlords may have and updates were shared about the program and what being a HUD landlord entails.

**The next Landlord Briefing will take place at  
5:30pm on Tuesday, July 12th**







# Health Navigators

Our Health Insurance Navigators have canvassed our counties well representing PCS and sharing about all of our programs. The Health Navigators can help participants sign up for Medicaid and chip as well as explore insurance options from the marketplace.

Reduced rates are available based on income and family size and use tax credits to help families afford to take care of their health.



# Eitc and Ace's Update

The EITC/Aces program is once again ready to serve families that need their taxes prepared and filed. The April 15<sup>th</sup> tax deadline is only for those that owe the IRS. A tax return can be filed any time and families can claim refunds up to 4 years back.

Melissa says they would love to visit with any PCS partners and or their families about ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and how filing for the EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit) can help reduce family stress thus lowering ACEs.

For tax prep help: call or refer to Mandi Hughes- 806-342-6125

For ACEs presentations call or refer to Melissa Darsey 806-342-6135

## It's not too late!

- Claim the Child Tax Credit
- Claim your refund up to 3 years back
- Request missing stimulus payments
- Find out if recent changes effect you

**FREE Tax Help**



Call for your appointment  
806-372-2531  
or  
800-676-4727

# Family Services

We no longer have any emergency rent funds available. The ESG program has completed expended its funding! Good job team!! Most of this grant, the ESG program was not fully staffed!!!! This is NOT a renewable grant. At this time, we will not receive more funding for emergency housing.

TEMAP (The Texas Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program) is still taking applications across our 26 counties. PLEASE Spread the Word!

We will have a new program starting 7/1/2022 which will help Veterans and meet gaps they may be experiencing. The assistance will help with rent, insurance, car repairs, funeral expenses and more. We also hope to expand VASH into the outer counties.

Career Coach is BACK!!! Excitement is almost tangible!!!



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## Hygiene Closet



We launched Hygiene Closets in Amarillo and in Dumas along with Superior HealthPlan. Closets are open one day a month and provide necessities that families are unable to buy with food stamps like soap, shampoo, toilet paper, paper towels, feminine products and more. The Dumas closet is open the second Wednesday of the month and the Amarillo closet is open on the last Tuesday of the month from 1:30 until 3:30.



## Donation Opportunity

We are in need of items for our new hygiene closet. items must be new, unused and full sized bottled or products. **Needed items include:**

soap	tooth Paste
shampoo	tooth Brushes
toilet paper	laundry soap
paper towels	household cleaners
feminine hygiene products	

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Sherri Thomas was a previous employee of PCS and is back again. She is a teacher at Caprock High School has a son who is a Junior at Palo Duro High and a son who is currently attending New Mexico University, in Albuquerque. Sherri is our new Career Coach and will be making connections with local businesses and organizations to connect our clients for employment. Sherri is married to Damien, served in the US Navy for two years and is on the board of directors for Youth Success Initiative. She is passionate about making a difference. Welcome back Sherri.



# RSVP

is having Mental Health First Aid Training for Seniors across the Panhandle.



**TUESDAY, JULY 12TH**

**8:30AM - 4:30PM**

**Hereford Senior Center**

**426 RANGER ST., HEREFORD TX**

*Lunch will be provided*

**Make a difference in a person's life!  
Make your community healthier and safer!  
Become a Mental Health First Aid provider.**

**This training gives you the skills needed to reach  
out and provide initial help and support to  
someone who may be struggling or  
experiencing a crisis.**

**Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to  
identify, understand and respond to signs of  
mental illness.**

Presented in partnership with:  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP),  
Panhandle Community Services  
and

Texas Panhandle Centers  
Behavioral & Developmental Health

**Reservations are required**

**Seating is limited**

**Call or email today**

**806-342-6163**

**[annette.lusk@pcsvcs.org](mailto:annette.lusk@pcsvcs.org)**

**to save your spot**





# Utility Assistance Program



Utility Blitz in Borger



Cassie and Oscar in Tulia



Vickie with her son at a Sod Poodles Game

The Community Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP) recently paid close to two million dollars in lump sum payments for utility bills. This was no short order for staff as they reviewed over 1,800 cases within a week and a half to generate the payments! We will have new information about upcoming funding and availability after July 15th.

We are also proud to announce we have water assistance available in select cities. Applications are available online or at each PCS service center.

Shout out to the new CEAP Assistant Cindy Grimaldo.

Cindy comes to PCS from Opportunity School. She has two adult girls and an 11 year old boy along with five grandchildren. Her middle daughter is expecting twins and is due in September. Cindy has two yorkies and says her favorite thing is family time.

Welcome Cindy!

## Transportation

Updates include:

The last of vehicles ordered will be here in July (nine total)

We have hired one dispatcher and are in the process of interviewing for another.





LIHWAP Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program

# Water Assistance

**Now available in Select Cities Including:**

Borger, Bovina, Canyon, Claude, Dumas, Farwell, Fritch, Groom,  
Hart, Hereford, Mclean, Sanford, Shamrock, Silverton, Skellytown,  
Stinnett, Sunray, Tulia, Wheeler, & White Deer

**APPLY TODAY ON [PANHANDLEHELP.ORG](https://panhandlehelp.org)**

OR pick up an application at the nearest PCS Service Center

**806-372-2531 / 800-676-4727**

**Must be a residential account, past due or in disconnect status, and 150% of Poverty.**

**150% Federal Poverty Chart (Annually) / Number in Household and Income Limits**

1 (\$20,385) 2 (\$27,465) 3 (\$34,545) 4 (\$41,625) 5 (\$48,705) 6 (\$55,785) 7 (\$62,865) 8 (\$69,945)