

Issues and Programs 1st Quarter 2023  
January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023  
Station: **KARS-FM**

Section I – Issues

KARS-FM provides its listeners with programming that addresses issues of concern within the Northern Colorado community. The following issues were identified by this station as significant issues facing our community in the first quarter of 2023.

- **Veterans:**

According to the Census Bureau, 371,081 veterans live in Colorado and over a thousand are homeless and don't know how to receive help for the mental and physical challenges they face.

- **Animal Welfare**

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, about 53 percent of Colorado households don't have any pets and the number of shelter pet adoptions are down 8.9 percent in Colorado.

- **Poverty & Family Support**

The Census Bureau states that 17 percent of people living in Fort Collins have below-poverty-level incomes and about 9.7 percent of families are suffering from poverty. Community Food Share and the state of Colorado state, that more than 566,000 people are food insecure, 147,120 of them are children and 73,000 of these children don't have health care.

- **Public Health and Safety**

The Red Cross says that every 2 seconds, someone in the US needs blood and according to a recent blood drive, Larimer County's supply is waning.

The state of Colorado says about half the homes in the state have radon levels higher than the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's recommended action and these levels, along with air pollution from wildfires, are putting our homes and schools at risk.

The CDC states, 864,454 adults in Colorado have a disability and 3% of those disabilities are vision-related

According to Safe Kids Worldwide, every five days a child nineteen and under is killed in a collision with a train, and for every death, three more children suffer severe injuries

- **Community Involvement & Art and Culture**

According to the City of Thornton, the arts and culture sector of Colorado contributes \$15.6 billion to Colorado's Economy, provides 111,591 jobs, and generates \$27.5 billion to local businesses annually

Section II – Responsive Programming

## **Veterans:**

**Program:** Interview with Health4Heroes Co-Owner/Founder, Nicholas Dunagan, and Blue Warriors Hockey Founder/Police Officer, Adam Bunjes.

**Date:** 1/7/23 - 1/8/2023

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed the upcoming First Responder Hockey Series 1 Game and how this will benefit first responders and veterans in Colorado. Talked about how/why Health4Heroes is a great tool for veterans who are in need of help in our area. Explored the importance of fundraising events like the hockey series are for our community.

**Program:** Interview with Healing Warriors Development Manager, Janet Hatfield

**Date:** 3/18/23 - 3/19/23

**Airtime:** 6:15 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed the importance of supporting our Veterans and their families right here in Northern Colorado. Explored the resources available to our Veterans. Specifically talked about the non-narcotic forms of therapy Healing Warriors provides. Talked about the upcoming 5k Healing Warriors is hosting in May to assist Veterans and their families.

**Program:** Interview with Colorado Veterans, Ron Albers and Ed Hart.

**Date:** 3/25/23 - 3/26/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed a fundraiser for Loveland, Colorado's very first Veterans Plaza. Talked about the 50,000 veterans currently living in Northern Colorado and why it's important to honor all of our veterans past and present. Also talked about why it's important that today's generation is educated on the topic.

## **Animal Welfare:**

**Program:** Interview with Luvin Arms Animal Sanctuary's Tour Guide, Katherine Erstad.

**Date:** 1/7/22 - 1/8/2023

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed their Cocoa and Cuddles event and how this is helping animals in need right here in Northern Colorado. Talked about the importance of animal sanctuaries and how they are benefiting our community. Explored the various reasons why/how these sanctuaries help animals in need.

**Program:** Interview with the Founder of Northern Colorado Wildlife, Tallon Nightwalker.

**Date:** 1/14/23 - 1/15/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed the importance of preparing oneself to help animals in need in the state of Colorado. Talked about their free monthly Wildlife Hero Training course and how this has directly impacted how the community handles animals in distress. Explored other ways to help Northern Colorado's Wildlife. Including their Prospect Ponds Litter Clean Up in January.

**Program:** With Rocky Mountain Raptor Program's Executive Director, Carin Avila

**Date:** 2/4/23 - 2/5/23

**Airtime:** 6:15 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed Avian Influenza and how this is the cause of the current soaring egg prices in Northern Colorado. Talked about how our community can get involved and help birds in our area. Explored the various ways birds are in need in our area. Talked about their upcoming Eagle Watch and Gala/Auction to help Northern Colorado Raptors in Need.

**Program:** Interview with Luvin Arms Animal Sanctuary's Tour Guide, Katherine Erstad

**Date:** 3/11/23 - 3/12/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed their free animal tours that help animals in need in Northern Colorado. Talked about their upcoming Spring Fest where attendees can participate in helping animals in need. Explored the urgency and importance of caring for our local animals.

**Program:** Interview with Northern Colorado Herpetological Society's Vice President, Kate Boyd

**Date:** 3/18/23 - 3/19/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed the rising need to help displaced exotic pets in Northern Colorado. Talked about the various animals they house at their facility and the animals that are up for adoptions. Explored why it's important for the community to help our local animals. Talked about their upcoming fundraiser to help animals in need in Northern Colorado.

### **Poverty & Family Support:**

**Program:** Interview with the Meals on Wheels Executive Director, Jeffrey Pomranka, and Communications/Development Director, Carrie Kaufman

**Date:** 1/14/23 - 1/15/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Talked about the various ways Meals on Wheels has positively impacted our community for the past 55 years. Discussed the special events they will be holding every month in 2023 to celebrate this anniversary. Explored why meal delivery is so important for those in need right here in Northern Colorado.

**Program:** with Weld County School District's Early Childhood Coordinator, Michelle Spencer,

**Date:** 1/21/23 - 1/22/23

**Airtime:** 6:15 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed new free Universal Preschool Program (UPK) in Colorado and how this is beneficial to the families in our community. Explored the creation of UPK and how it is funded through the voter-approved nicotine tax in Colorado. Talked about how many families are still wait-listed for preschool programs and how UPK will help.

**Program:** Interview with Footsteps to Faith Facilitator, Erin O'Roarke

**Date:** 2/11/23 - 2/12/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed 5 different ways community members can get help in Northern Colorado. From homelessness, clothing and food to free student supplies and sex trafficking help, we explored the following organizations: Homeward Alliance, House of Neighborly Service, United Way, Generate Hope and Thompson School District's Clothing Closet.

### **Public Health and Safety:**

**Program:** Interview with The City of Fort Collins Air Quality Specialist, Selina Lujan De Albers

**Date:** 1/21/23 - 1/22/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed why it's important to test for radon in Colorado and why our state is known to have high-levels. Talked how the health impacts of radon and how it's the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer. Explored the various ways people can test for radon and how the City of Fort Collins will be offering discounted test kits the entire month of January 2023.

**Program:** Interview with Safe Kids Worldwide's Senior Research Associate, Mark Chandler.

**Date:** 1/21/23 - 1/22/23

**Airtime:** 6:20 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed the importance of talking to Northern Colorado kids about railroad safety. Explored the following statistic: Every five days a child nineteen and under is killed in a collision with a train, and for every death, three more children suffer severe injuries — Colorado

has over 3,000 railroad crossings. Explored railroad safety and how parents can safeguard their kids.

**Program:** Interview with Consumer Hearing at Sonova Group Vice President, Martin Grieder

**Date:** 2/25/23 - 2/26/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed how 1 in 5 people in the United States suffer from hearing loss and how to spot the signs in yourself or in a loved one. Explored new technologies that are helping make hearing aids more aesthetically pleasing. Also, talked about how to prevent hearing loss.

**Program:** Interview with General Motor's Product Safety and Systems Engineer, Joe McLaine

**Date:** 3/11/23 - 3/12/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed their expanded First Responder training program for electric vehicles and why this is so important for emergency situations in Colorado. Explored the differences between electric vehicles and gas vehicles in an emergency situation and how one should handle it.

**Program:** Interview with Colorado State Patrol Trooper, Derrick Heller.

**Date:** 3/25/23 - 3/26/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed Colorado's critical blood shortage and how it more important than ever for the community to get out and donate. Explored why Colorado is having a blood shortage. Talked about how one donation can save up to 3 lives. Lastly, we talked about their partnership with Vitalant and how through their app, you can track your donation and see the impact you made.

**Community Involvement & Art and Culture:**

**Program:** Interview with the Poudre River Public Library's Communications Manager, Katie Auman.

**Date:** 1/28/23 - 1/29/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed the upcoming 2023 Book Fest in Fort Collins and why it's important to celebrate books in Northern Colorado. Talked about how this festival will bring in over 30 local and regional authors and how this is a great opportunity for families and individuals to learn more about literature.

**Program:** With the Loveland Museum's Curator of Education, Jenni Dobson

**Date:** 2/4/23 - 2/5/23

**Airtime:** 6:00 a.m.

**Length:** 15 minutes

**Description:** Discussed the importance of art in our community. Talked about their upcoming art show that will showcase 300 Northern Colorado students and how this helps inspire students to continue to pursue art and similar ventures in Colorado. Explored the various art pieces that will be at the exhibit and why they chose to include media pieces as well.