

ERPO Training for Educators and Medical/Mental Health Professionals Under Development

The ERPO law passed in 2023 with CFCU support expanded the number of groups legally designated to file ERPO petitions to include educators and behavioral health professionals. Along with ongoing training for law enforcement, AG Weiser's office has taken on the critical role of developing specialized training for these new groups through the Colorado ERPO Training Task Force in partnership with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP). The Task Force is designed to provide a cross-sectoral space to learn about these projects, provide feedback, and discuss and coordinate ERPO training and education efforts in our state.

CFCU currently has three representatives attending these Task Force meetings: Susie Pappas (Montview Presbyterian), Marie Schaffner, (Friend) and Alana Smart (B'nai Havurah). The two-tier approach to curriculum development was presented at the Dec. 5 meeting: general ERPO information for all the professionals and more technical when/how to file information for designated groups. These curricula are being developed by training specialists, and we will publicize training opportunities when they become available. We have promoted the importance of training for clergy and part-time counselors.