



## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Date: 12/12/16

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### CHILD WELFARE DIVISION OF COUNTY'S HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT MOVES INTO THE CHASE BUILDING IN DOWNTOWN GREELEY

WELD COUNTY, CO – Boxes are packed tight with books, a few family photos and maybe a house plant or two, but they aren't being shipped somewhere for the holidays. Rather, these boxes, along with 138 county employees, are headed from 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 7<sup>th</sup> St in Greeley as the Weld County Department of Human Services Child Welfare Division and the legal staff move into their new offices, which will provide more space for employees, closer proximity to the court house and added convenience for clients.



"Relocating this division closer to the courts will provide for greater efficiencies and positively impact employees, clients and downtown Greeley," said Commissioner Steve Moreno, who coordinates the Human Services Department this year.

Weld County purchased the Chase Tower at 804-822 7<sup>th</sup> St., where the Child Welfare Division will now be housed, at auction in January of 2015 for \$5.5 million.

"The purchase of downtown Greeley space has actually been part of the county's long-range capital development process," said Commissioner Chair Mike Freeman. "The county has always looked at consolidating appropriate services near the court house. This move makes that goal a reality."

The employees of the Child Welfare Division are ready for the move. "My team is excited about being closer to the court house as well as the downtown area in general," said Human Services Director Judy Griego. "The space in the building has been renovated to address the needs of both the families and children being served as well as the child welfare staff serving them."

While the reception area for the division will be held in the south entrance of the main tower (south of the bank entrance), the office space is actually housed in the building's annex to the east of the tower. "Clients will be able to enter the reception area to check in. This space also houses multiple conference rooms and interview rooms that allow for privacy when discussing cases," said Griego.

To celebrate the move to downtown Greeley, the county, along with the Greeley Chamber and the Greeley Downtown Development Authority, is hosting an Open House on Friday, December 16 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The ribbon cutting and brief remarks will start at 4:15 to be followed by tours of the new space. The public is welcome to attend.

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