

Jen Ancona

ABOUT

Jen Ancona is a Community Research Liaison (CRL) for a large portion of southeastern Colorado, where she serves seven counties with around 18 practices within that area. Jen also works very closely with the [High Plains Research Network \(HPRN\)](#), where she acts as a practice facilitator.

CCTSI ENGAGEMENT

Community Research Liaison



PROJECT INVOLVEMENT

She has been involved in numerous projects that address a range of issues including substance use disorder, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), hypertension, and numerous other locally relevant issues. Jen feels like her work with State Networks of Ambulatory Practices and Partners (SNOCAP) and CCTSI has extended her horizons and allowed her to see just how special the people of southeastern Colorado are.

“I’m a do-er, I’m an action person, but sometimes I have to sit back and just be. After all, we are human beings, not human do-ers.”

OUTLOOK

Jen’s motivation to serve her community began when she moved to a rural area and realized just how different life is compared to the city; she realized that these rural communities have their own priorities, needs, and even their own culture, all of which needed to be accounted for when research is conducted. This led to her current role as a CRL, where she aims to act as an advocate and keep the balance between her community and the academicians they work with. She appreciates the authenticity and the resiliency of her community and she hopes to uphold those values in her advocacy efforts. Jen has really appreciated the open lines of communication she has with the people and practices she works with, as well as the effort put forth by community members to stay engaged even in non-ideal circumstances. She believes the key to connecting with her community is to be compassionate, non-judgmental, open, and most importantly, be a true listener.

PACT

Partnership of Academicians and Communities for Translation



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