



Board of Directors
May 11, 2016
Yampa River State Park
Hayden, Colorado

Members Attending: Bob Grover, Terry Jost, Fred Wolf, Jeff Dockstader, Tom Soos, Michael Turner, and Susie Baird (via Skype)

Members Excused: Lu Etta Loeber, Dennis Kuntz, Beth Davison, and Julie Pearce

Staff Present: Susan Mizen, Matt Morrill, Tatum Heath, and Mike Dwire

Call to Order

Bob Grover called the meeting to order.

President's Remarks

Bob referenced some of the new developments from the past month including the Navigant report, the Person Centered Thinking training on the 24th, the Denver Post article, and transparency legislation. He told the board that there is a board email address - board@horizonsnwc.org - that is being forwarded to his personal email address. He accepts responsibility for responding to any emails sent to the board. None have been received to date. Bob also thanked Matt for getting us current with our financial information.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: "To approve the minutes from April 13, 2016."

First: Terry Jost
Second: Jeff Dockstader

The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

Personnel: On April 14th and 15th, Horizons hosted a two day Person Centered Thinking training. Twenty-five people attended the training bringing us to over 80% of our direct support professionals trained.

On May 24th, Horizons will host a one day person centered thinking overview and on May 25th, there will be outcomes training for service coordinators.

Amy is pleased to announce that Jesica McMillan, a former Team Coordinator, will be our new adult Service Coordinator in Moffat County. She started on May 2nd.

Kay McGill will assume responsibility for office vehicles in Steamboat freeing Mike Dwire to devote more time to working with Tatum to implement more features of Therap. Mike and Tatum told the board that one of their first priorities will be to teach staff to track training programs on Therap.

Horizons is providing a practicum experience for two master's level students at UNC. One is placed in Grand County with Michelle Coverdale and Amy Miller. The other is placed in

Routt and Moffat counties with Natosha Clatterbaugh and Katherine Hartley. While it is additional work to support these students, it is important to increase the number of qualified Early Intervention providers in our communities. Also, a CMC student had a shorter placement with Jodi Glaisher and Katherine Hartley. That student provided a valuable service to the family she worked with which was gratifying to all of us.

Mona Entwistle, our speech provider in Routt County, is relocating this summer to Missoula, Montana. Susan will begin the search for her replacement soon.

Program: Lisa Wieland organized two respite events in Grand County with help from JoAnn Roberts and school district staff. There was an evening of bowling and an overnight respite program at Snow Mountain Ranch. Six young people attended. The feedback from parents has been very positive. Susan circulated a page with comments from parents.

A series of moves happened in April triggered by closure of a host home in Steamboat. The moves were accomplished with lots of coordination between House Coordinators, Yvonne Truelove, Wanda Taylor, Phyllis Harrelson, and Tatum. Tatum reported that the moves were successful. Jeff moved from Soda Creek to the Village Lane home. He told us that he is getting used to living in a new place.

Conflict Free CM (CFCM): Squire Patton Boggs is working hard to get the CFCM letter from the Colorado delegation in Washington DC to the Center for Medicaid Services. The wording of the letter was changed by Rep DeGette's office to be more general. A reply from CMS is requested by 5/31/16.

Recommendations from the Navigant Consultants were released. They include a rural exemption and a longer timeline for implementation which is positive from Horizons' perspective. There were four Regional Forums the week of April 25th to solicit feedback on the recommendations.

There have been no new articles in the Denver Post although the most recent Denver Post article was reprinted in the Grand Junction Sentinel under a different headline. Bruce Christensen and a small group of other CCB representatives met with the Denver Post reporter on April 20th to respond to her assertions. Bruce felt the meeting was productive.

A small group of CCB directors including Susan met with a small group of directors from Program Approved Service Agencies (PASAs) to try to find more common ground regarding the CFCM debate. The PASAs at the meeting support the rural exemption and a slightly longer timeline for implementation - just not until 2024 like in Ohio.

Alliance News: Alliance and CCBs continue to be on the defensive regarding accusations about lack of transparency. It appears that legislation will pass requiring us to be audited by the Office of State Auditors once in the next five years.

We now have a new email address: board@horizonsnwc.org that is posted on our website. Any emails sent to that email address will be forwarded to Bob's personal email account.

Alliance's annual Summit is in Breckenridge this year from June 15th-17th.

Resource Development: Pick a Dish was amazing this year. We sold more tickets, had terrific food, and spent two hours with lots of happy people. There was a meeting to debrief on May 3rd. The staff in Craig were more involved in the event this year and had many great ideas that made a difference: table tents, save the date cards, better communication with restaurants, and an apron and chef's hat on Craig's most famous bear - the Deu bear on 6th Ave. Revenue from the event was up by 50%.

Two representatives from Grand County's early childhood programs met with Susan and Katherine on April 22nd to talk about new ways to collaborate. One of the specific things that came out of it is that Horizons will write a grant for a tool to test the hearing of young children. If we receive the grant, we will share the tool with other providers.

Board news: The board subcommittee to address recruitment and retention of employees will meet at 10am on May 26th. The subcommittee is Tom, Julie and Beth.

State news: Horizons' annual CCB designation application is due May 13th. Susan will provide board members with a copy once it is complete.

Susan is struggling with the Medicaid Provider Revalidation process. It is a time consuming project that has to be done correctly to ensure there is no interruption in Medicaid payments after November 1st.

Finance Report

Matt reviewed the financials through February. He noted that trends through January continued in February. When compared to last February, Horizons has experienced 30% growth in Early Intervention, 19% growth in SLS, and 250% growth in CES.

It was noted that growth in the SLS program has slowed due to capacity and hiring issues. Susan guessed that there are 15 people on the SLS waiting list. Tatum told the board that we are in the process of enrolling three additional people, and possibly a fourth.

Matt reported that we are trending toward using all the funds in the capital budget.

Fred asked the board and staff to consider paying off our long term debt. Terry agreed that our interest on the loan of 4.5% is an expensive price to pay for liquidity. The board asked for more information about the terms and amounts of our outstanding mortgages. They also asked for more information about how our cash is invested.

Matt worked with our auditors to complete our 990s. There is a 990 for Soda Creek and one for Horizons.

Program Presentation

Mike began by giving the board an overview of how job placements happen. He described the change in 2006 that made DVR responsible for job placement and job training. The transition was easier in northwest Colorado than other parts of the state because of the strong relationship between Horizons and DVR, especially Beth Davison.

He handed out national data about the number of people with IDD who are employed - less than 25%. The data for Routt County is dramatically different. In the comprehensive program in Routt County, 75% of individuals are employed in community based jobs. Mike gave examples of successful job placements, including Jeff Dockstader. He emphasized the importance of personal relationships in locating and maintaining job placements. In the SLS program in Routt County, 58% of individuals are placed in community jobs.

Mike described the interagency group that works to promote employment for people with IDD: Horizons, DVR, the autism program, the Workforce Center, and the Center for Independence. They share ideas and leads.

The board thanked Mike for his successes.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Motion: "To adjourn the board meeting."

First: Terry Jost
Second: Jeff Dockstader

The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.