



Board of Directors
June 10, 2020
Video & Telephonic Conference
Meeting Minutes

Members Attending: Terry Jost, Bob Grover, Dennis Kuntz, Susie Baird, Leslie Bjorgum, Annette Dellacroce, Jeff Dockstader, Julie Pearce

Members Excused: Ron Schaeffer, Beth Davison

Staff Present: Tatum Heath, Matt Morrill, Madeline Landgren

Call to Order

Terry Jost called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: "To approve the board meeting minutes from May 13th, 2020, with one modification, specifically to add a line at the end of the minutes stating that the board went into Executive Session."

First: Susie Baird

Second: Annette Dellacroce

The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report for May 16th through June 5th 2020

While communities open up and begin reintegrating, Horizons continues to follow guidance from both the Health Department (CDPHE), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and Health Care Policy and Finance (HCPF). More than 50% of the COVID-19 deaths in the United States occurred in congregate residential facilities like nursing homes or group homes. As a result, the requirements for social distancing, sanitation, and related transmission mitigation for the IDD population are very specific and prescribed. As part of the Public Health Order 20-20, Horizons was surveyed June 8th and 9th by the Health Department. They physically visited group homes, conducted monitoring and interviews, used the appropriate level of PPE (personal protective equipment), and followed health screening requirements. The exit for the survey will be on June 11th. For the program presentation, Madeline presented on the comprehensive Isolation Plans and related requirements for the licensed group homes.

As an agency, Horizons continues not to have any staff or individuals in services who test positive for COVID-19. Because of an excellent working relationship with the Public Health Department, Horizons received a second round of testing in both Moffat and Routt Counties. On May 22nd, 49 staff and individuals in services were tested with negative results. In Routt County, testing took place on May 27th and everyone received negative test results for COVID-19. During this second round of tests, office staff were tested as well.

The agency continues to secure personal protective equipment via Public Health, private donations, and purchases. Yet again, Marc Swanson from Steamboat Ace Hardware donated hundreds of surgical masks and protective goggles to Horizons. We have created inventories using Excel to track and update changes for prompt reports to Public Health. This picture of Madeline's office contains more than \$20,000 of PPE.



Horizons is only providing day program services via telecommunication in order to comply with social distancing requirements contained in the isolation plans. Staff created Google Classrooms to share information and stay connected with individuals remotely. This strategy has been key in supporting the folks required to remain isolated in their homes.

Case Management and Early Intervention therapists are also operating remotely due to state directives using telehealth and Zoom meetings. One of the silver linings of being forced to work remotely is the ability to increase caseloads, decrease travel expenses, and find related efficiencies. As the agency moves forward and is faced with inevitable state budget cuts, these efficiencies will be critical in finding creative solutions. The board emphasized the importance of maintaining our Early Intervention services in the wake of projected state budget cuts of 10%.

Michelle Hoza and Lindsey Garey have been finding creative ways to communicate with communities and emphasize the importance of ongoing Family Evaluations. For example, they partnered with the Bud Werner Memorial Library to put notes about evaluations in books at curbside pick-up.

The Human Rights Committee met via Zoom on Wednesday, June 3rd, and the meeting went smoothly for participants.

All offices continue to operate with essential personnel while other staff work remotely. Meetings continue to be conducted via Zoom or Google in order to follow the Safer at Home guidance and mitigate transmission within the agency.

Pam Martien-Koch from Clear Creek Behavior Services facilitated two online support sessions last Thursday for staff. Pam is an Applied Behavior Analyst and has provided the agency with functional strategies in supporting people and families in services. These strategies are especially important while many individuals in services are not able to participate in their normal social activities and day program.

In keeping with the agency goal of advancing technology, both the Transportation and Client Rights Training Modules were updated and in the process of being incorporated into the Therap Training System.

Every summer, a number of individuals in services attend Easter Seals Camp in Grand County. For the first time in its 69-year history, all camps have been cancelled due to COVID-19.

On a related note, Leslie Bjorgum informed Horizons that Special Olympics softball was cancelled this summer for all athletes.

Lynne is working on the Census for all of the individuals in services.

Horizons honored Tracy Sheldon who celebrated her 20th work anniversary with Horizons. She has been a cornerstone of the finance department and helped develop many of the internal processes that make Horizons such a great place to work.

Resource Development & Public Relations

Horizons was awarded \$26,300 from Yampa Valley Medical Center UCHealth for Moffat County Comprehensive Services specifically allocated to Rainbow House.

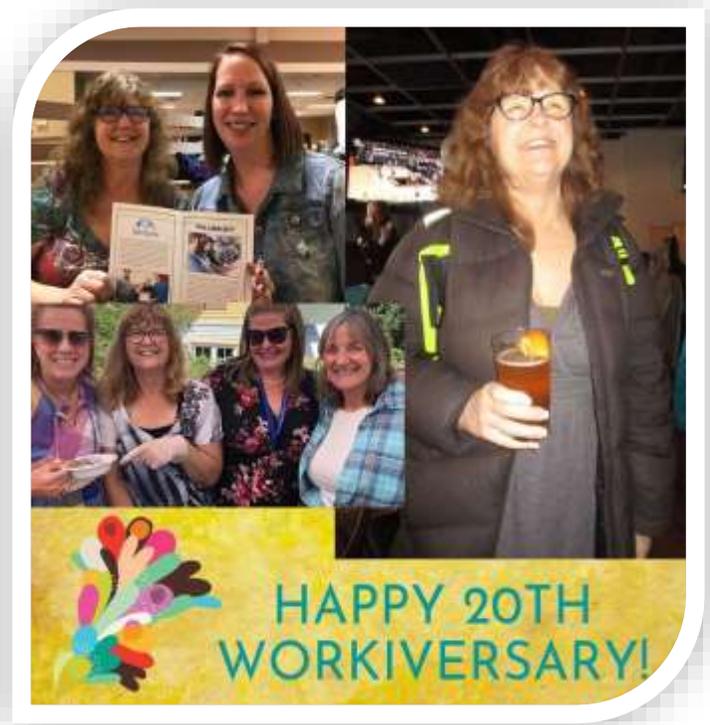
Meeker HRC awarded \$5,000 for Early Intervention, Family Support, and general operating.

The Moffat County Youth United Way & Key Club awarded \$2,000 for Moffat Family Support for youth.

The C.R.A.I.G. Group and The Colorado Trust awarded \$2,000 for items to help Moffat County kids and families adjust to new routines and experiences as a result of COVID-19.

The Energy Outreach Colorado Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Program Bill Assistance program awarded \$1,225 to assist with gas and electric utilities at Rainbow House.

Horizons submitted a grant request to Rocky Mountain Health Foundation for \$15,000 for Moffat County Comprehensive Services.



Horizons submitted a grant request to the Grand Foundation for \$5,000 for Grand County Family Support.

The new website is up and running with fillable forms for job applicants, questions, and EI referrals. A pop-up for up-to-date COVID-19 policies was recently added. On social media, Horizons has 1,316 followers on Facebook and 434 followers on Instagram, and we are now on LinkedIn.

State News

Alliance hosts a Summit meeting annually for CCB's, providers, and advocacy groups across the state of Colorado. This year, the Summit will be a virtual one, with half day breakout sessions, key-note speakers, and peer groups. Horizons will participate June 16-18 via Zoom.

Legislators are back in session and there is a lot of uncertainty about the future of the state budget. COVID-19 has had a significant impact on state revenue. Combine that with the complicated ways in which Gallagher and Tabor limit the ways in which tax revenue can be used for state programming and you have a perfect storm. Legislators such as Senator Bob Rankin of the Joint Budget Committee are having to make tough decisions. Projected GF revenues for both 2019-20 and 2020-21 dropped \$4.3 billion, about 16 percent, from September 2019 to May 2020, under budget forecasts. The latest information states that the Medicaid reimbursement rates for IDD waivers will only be cut by 1%. During a meeting with the Alliance GRACE committee that handles government relations, they described this cut as miraculous. To put this into context, here are budgets for some of the other departments:

- Corrections - \$959.5 million all funds, \$850.7 million GF, a 4.6% GF decrease
- Education (state share only) - \$5.6 billion all funds, \$3.96 billion GF, a 10.1% decrease
- Human Services - \$2.27 billion all funds, \$968 million GF, a 4.4% decrease
- Public Health - \$582.2 million all funds, \$40.2 million GF, a 34.3% decrease
- Public Safety - \$505.8 million all funds, \$153 million GF, a 10.7% decrease
- Local Affairs - \$336.5 million all funds, \$39.8 million GF, an 18.4% decrease

While the End the Wait Campaign ended in the wake of these cuts, the advocacy of families and providers clearly had a significant impact on the decisions surrounding the financial stability of IDD services.

The state continues to move forward with the restructured Community Centered Board and Case Management rate structure. Lindsey, Matt, and Tatum are working together to incorporate the new rate structure and ensure that the organization is capturing dollars and complying with the new requirements.

Finance Report

Matt presented financials through March of the fiscal year. The impact of COVID began halfway through March so the impact is not yet fully realized, especially in terms of securing personal protective equipment which currently exceeds \$20,000. As of March, Horizons is running about a \$20,000 surplus which is surprisingly good compared to a \$5,000 deficit this time last year. Cash on hand is down compared to last year due to paying off the loan. Revenue is up about 4.5% from last year as a result of increased day program revenue and new

enrollments in the residential program. The period of the Paycheck Protection Program was officially extended from two to six months so there are no concerns in using all these funds.

Motion: "To approve the Finance Report as presented."

First: Dennis Kuntz

Second: Jeff Dockstader

The motion passed unanimously.

Program Presentation

Madeline Landgren presented on the Infection Control Surveys conducted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment this past week. The Isolation Plans required by the Health Department were some of the few across the state that did not require modifications. The survey exit is scheduled for Thursday, June 11th.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Motion: "To adjourn the meeting."

First: Bob Grover

Second: Jeff Dockstader

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.