



**Board of Directors
Yampa River State Park & Zoom
Meeting Minutes
November 9th, 2022**

Members Attending: Terry Jost, Annette DellaCroce, Ron Schaeffer, Jeff Dockstader, Leslie Bjorgum, Beth Davison

Members Excused: Dennis Kuntz, Julie Pearce

Staff Present: Tatum Heath, Madeline Landgren, Erik Petersen

Call to Order

Terry Jost called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: "To approve the board meeting minutes from October 12th, 2022."

First: Annette DellaCroce

Second: Leslie Bjorgum

The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report for October 13th through November 7th 2022:

Program & Personnel

The second week of October was national Case Management week, so Horizons honored all the incredible case managers who support and advocate for people in services. While much of case management at the state level has evolved into paperwork and processing, Horizons' case managers continue to embody the critical elements of case management, especially as it relates to advocating for individual rights and supporting folks to live self-directed lives of their choosing. Thank you for all that you do!

Thanks to ongoing community outreach and education by the Early Intervention team, Horizons is seeing an increase in referrals for services. This means that families are noticing possible delays and seeking support.

On a similar note, Michelle Hoza is participating in a pilot program for coordinators to be able to write service plans with no internet access. The goal is to avoid duplicating work efforts by writing plans at family



homes and then having to re-enter them into the state system later. Also, the Early Intervention Instagram page ran a campaign during the month of October featuring activities for 0-4 year olds and increased the following by 6%.

Last week, Lindsey Garey attended an all-day Case Management meeting. On Thursday, 11/08, Tatum and Lindsey will attend a meeting about the Case Management Redesign Myers and Stauffer Time Study with other executives across the state. This study was designed to reassess essential case management functions and commensurate reimbursement rates.

The CDC and CDPHE have updated the operating guidance acknowledging that smaller community-based settings like group homes should not be lumped into the same requirements as large nursing homes. As a result, universal masking is no longer required, regardless of vaccination status. Masks will only be required in the specific circumstances. 1) If someone has known contact with someone who is confirmed positive for covid-19. Masking will be required for 10 days following date of known exposure. 2) If a location has a confirmed positive case then all clients at that location need to wear masks when outside of their room and all staff need to wear an N95 until outbreak testing is complete or a confirmed outbreak is closed. 3) If you are unvaccinated for influenza you will need to continue wearing a surgical mask now through March 2023.

Also, weekly surveillance testing is no longer required, regardless of vaccination status. Testing will only be required in the following circumstances. 1) If someone is sick they need to seek testing and treatment from their doctor. 2) If someone has known contact with someone who is confirmed positive for covid-19, then they need to get a PCR test on day 5. 3) If a location has a confirmed positive case then all clients and staff at that location must participate in outbreak testing until cleared by CDPHE.

Similarly, daily symptom screening for staff and individuals is no longer required. However, that does not change the agency policy that employees should not come to work if they are sick.

Individuals who are positive for covid-19 will be cared for with full PPE (gown, gloves, eye protection, and N95). Isolation duration will be determined on a case by case basis but will be between 5-10 days and dependent on symptom onset and severity of symptoms.

All of that being said, Horizons is still required to use EPA approved disinfectants for all cleaning but do not need to follow formal tracking of cleaning for high touch surfaces, continue to provide hand hygiene supplies in resident care and communal areas, and stay up to date on N95 fit testing for employees. Needless to say, this decreases the administrative burden for all staff, and Horizons is grateful to be moving forward.

Mike Dwire has been part of the Horizons' family since 1995. After 27 years he is retiring. Mike has done everything from job coaching to computer support during his tenure. His easy-

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
MIKE'S RETIREMENT!

Stop by Carl's Tavern Friday
Nov 11th anytime between 4-7
to wish Mike luck on his next
adventure!

going demeanor and natural rapport with people in services have always set him apart. This Friday, join Horizons in honoring Mike with drinks and appetizers at Carl's Tavern 4-7 pm. All are welcome.

There was a Special Olympic Bowling tournament held in Craig on 10/17. As always, this was a favorite for people in services.

Every year, Horizons supports people in services with their right to vote by providing unbiased and nonpartisan information.

Horizons has a new hire in Routt County and two new hires in Moffat

County. Word of mouth and existing employee referrals seem to be the most effective recruiting tool.

The direct support professional of the month for October was Susan Nayden. Susan began working at Horizons in 1987. For the vast majority of that time, she worked at Maple Street and is a wealth of knowledge when it comes to client care. A colleague said, "Susan is so sweet and wonderful to everyone she works with. After so many years she has a deep knowledge of all the guys and provides some of the best care because of it!"

Last week, Horizons hosted auditors for the annual audit. This was the first year since the advent of the pandemic that they came in person. The process went very smoothly. There are few outstanding items that require follow-up, so the audit exit will be conducted in January.

Resource Development and Public Relations

Rocky Mountain Health Foundation sent follow-up questions for Horizons' 2022 grant application.

A bi-annual report was submitted to Moffat County United Way for the Moffat Adult Program.

Tatum and Elizabeth met with Sheila Henderson to discuss the Brown Ranch applications that Horizons submitted for a potential day program site, offices, and a variety of living opportunities for staff and people in services.

Jesica McMillan and Elizabeth attended the Moffat County United Way quarterly meeting and presented information on Host Home opportunities.

Tatum, Jes, Elizabeth, and Madeline met with UC Health on 11/03 to host a site visit with representatives managing the UCHealth grant received in the amount of \$21,000. It was a great opportunity to talk about current successes and the ongoing hiring crisis.

State News

Tatum and Lindsey continue to have conversations with state officials regarding Case Management redesign and the individual dynamics of northwest Colorado. There is not any new information about this transition other than identifying where internal policies and procedures will need to be modified. Horizons should know by April 2023 who received the RFP to become the new case management agency administering all Medicaid waivers in Northwest Colorado.

Financials

Erik Petersen presented the financials through July, 2022. Due to the timing of the audit, the board will review the recommended budget from the Finance Committee in December.

Motion: "To approve the financials as presented"

First: Leslie Bjorgum

Second: Annette DellaCroce

The motion passed unanimously

Program Presentation

Calvin Logan, the auditor for Horizons, provided a brief overview of the audit process to the board. A formal audit exit will be presented to the board in January. In addition, Madeline Landgren presented on the increase in the number of Host Homes and Family Caregiver models developed this past year, for both existing clients and new enrolments.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Motion: "To adjourn the meeting."

First: Ron Schaeffer

Second: Leslie Bjorgum

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.