

HIGHLIGHTS

State/DIDD/Alliance.

- Conflict-Free Case Management—I have been helping with an Alliance committee to respond to HCPF’s draft of Case Manager and Case Management Agency qualifications. We did receive our rural exception approval from HCPF. That only means that HCPF will request the exception from CMS on our behalf. With the current draft of the Case Management Agency qualifications, it is unlikely that any CCB will receive an exception because an alternate Case Management provider will be available in all communities.
- Colorado State Legislature—There are several important bills that we are monitoring and providing input on through Alliance.
 - Host homes—Introduced; allows HCPF to promulgate rules specifically on Host Homes. Would require an external agency (not CCB or PASA) to monitor CCB’s.
 - Alliance Bill to increase wages—JBC has voted to carry DSP Wage and Aging Caregiver Bill as a JBC Bill. The Bill will start in the house. The current version includes DSP’s, HHP’s, and managers in a 6.5% compensation increase starting in February 2019.
 - Employment Bill—SB 18-145 (Implement Employment First Recommendations) The Employment Bill is continuing forward. The training component of the Bill will only be required if it is funded.
 - Child Find—The bill that sought to move the Child Find (i.e. identification and evaluation of young children with delays) from the school districts to the CCB’s has been changed. The Bill has the governor signed it instructs the departments to do a feasibility study; the possibility is that we would see a bill to implement actual changes in future years. Though this will likely streamline the system and be more user-friendly for families, there could also be challenges to find sufficient staff to fulfill this responsibility.
- CCB Designation—Every year we are required to submit an application to continue our CCB status. This year’s application has been submitted and we should receive our approval by mid-May.

Local Community

- Now What? Growing Together Conference (formerly Family Day)—Registration is now open for the Growing Together Conference. If you haven’t received a registration link already, please let me know and we’ll get it to you.
- *Deej*—We are partnering with the Sunflower Theater in Cortez to bring DJ Savarese and his movie *Deej* to Southwest Colorado. DJ is an autistic man

who uses a type-to-text synthesizer to communicate. His movie champions inclusion of people with disabilities. The event is scheduled for June 6 from 7-9:30 at the Sunflower Theater. Hope to see you there!

- Crisis Intervention Training—Two of our program participants (including one of our illustrious board members) are panelists for the Crisis Intervention training at the end of the month and I will be facilitating the panel. This is an excellent experience for first responders, and we appreciate the opportunity to give more input and knowledge in handling crisis incidents that involve people with disabilities.

Fundraising

- VP of Marketing and Development—We are very pleased to announce that Ellen Stein will be joining us as our new VP of Marketing and Development. She has started part time on some specific projects and will transition to full time on June 11th. Ellen is currently the editorial page editor at the Durango Herald and her extensive experience includes marketing and development work at Axis Health System and KDUR and leadership at a variety of nonprofits in Durango, Silverton and Steamboat Springs.
- Morehart Murphy Subaru—Morehart Murphy gave us a \$15,000 check on April 12th from their Share the Love event. This is the largest amount they've raised for us in the five years we've been recipients of their fundraiser. They have also agree to let us use their award as a match to receive the \$5000 Moniker Foundation Grant for training development.
- T-Rex—We are once again teaming up with the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad and Durango Brewing Company to run the beer hut at the T-Rex dinosaur trains in June. The DeColores Civitans have offered to help with volunteering, but we'll still need to fill in some gaps. Laura will probably be recruiting you to cover a shift, if you're available. It's lots of fun and an easy fundraising event.

Internal CCI highlights

- Adult Services—Our Durango management team has been scrambling due to critical understaffing. The team has done an excellent job being as creative as possible, but we have been unable to keep the situation from impacting client services. To help with recruitment and retention, we raised the starting wage for Direct Support Professionals to \$12/hour (from \$10.20) and any DSP making less than \$12.50 was raised to that rate as of 4/16/18. We also have a team working on revising our initial training program, as we have received feedback from staff that their training seemed insufficient and disorganized.

Facilities

- No updates at this time.

Other

- I will be out of town for a vacation starting May 5 and returning May 29th. I'm wondering if we want to move the May meeting to the 30th and also allow the Finance Committee a little extra time to get us a draft budget. We can discuss your preference at the April meeting.

Acronym Cheat Sheet

- ACT (Accessible Communities Team) – Supporting businesses to become more accessible
- ART (Administrative Review Team) –The Executive Team and Program Directors oversight of Quality Indicators
- The Arc – advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities
- ANCOR (American Network of Community Options and Resources (for DD))
- BHO (Behavioral Health Organization)
- CCB (Community Centered Board) we are 1 of 20 in the state
- CCI (Community Connections, Inc.)
- CDLE (Colorado Department of Labor and Employment)
- CES (Children's Extensive Services)
- CHCBS (Children's Home and Community Based Services)
- CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) Federal
- CORA (Colorado Open Records Act)
- DHS or CDHS (Colorado Department of Human Services)
- DSP (Direct Support Professional) – field staff working with clients
- DVR (Department of Vocational Rehabilitation)
- EI (Early Intervention) Developmental services for kids Birth to 3
- FOT (Festival of Trees)
- HCPF (Health Care Policy and Financing) State Medicaid office
- I/DD (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities)
- IMA (Insurance Management Administrators)
- JBC (Joint Budget Committee at the Colorado legislature)
- LPC (La Plata County)
- MOU (Memorandum of Understanding)
- PASAs (Program Approved Service Agencies) Marcy's department
- PCA (Personal Care Alternative) residential services not in a host home
- RCCO (Regional Care Coordination Organization)
- Residential (a.k.a. Comprehensive – our adult 24/7 support)
- ROI (Return on Investment)
- SJBHD (San Juan Basin Health Department)
- SLS (Supported Living Services) – Services for adults living independently or with family
- TCM (Targeted Case Management)
- UW (United Way)