

HIGHLIGHTS

State—HCPF/DHS/Alliance.

- Department of Health Care Policy and Financing—
 1. Rural Community Centered Boards—HCPF is seeking feedback from CMS (the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) on whether they can amend the current Waivers (our programs) to allow them to allocate new enrollments based on population and allow Community Centered Boards to fill vacated enrollments from the local waiting list. This would do wonders for the current problem of enrollments migrating from the rural areas to the metro area.
 2. Conflict-Free Case Management—HCPF anticipates that the new rules for Case Management Agency and Case Manager qualifications will go into effect August 30th. This means that as of that date, new case management entities will be able to start going through the process of becoming official. There is some question about whether this also means that people in services might be forced to choose non-CCB providers if one is available. HCPF is also checking with CMS about this issue. I have a plan to start moving us into compliance starting in the next fiscal year (2019-2020) and I will share this with the Board during Executive Session.
 3. Combined Waiver planning—HCPF is still planning to combine the SLS and DD (Residential) Waivers. However, that was supposed to begin in 2015 and we would be fully transitioning to the new combined Waiver as of July 1, 2019. I would say the timeline has shifted at this point. At one point, the discussion had leaned toward pulling apart residential services into several component services that would be billed on a 15 minute basis, which for obvious reasons caused some consternation. The current idea is to keep residential services as a daily service. However and whenever this occurs, it is definitely something that we need to consider in our long range planning.
- Colorado state legislature—We survived one of the most interesting legislative sessions of all times. If we ever had a question that having balanced chambers (a different party in the majority of each chamber) is to the benefit of disability service providers, this year's triumvirate definitely proved it! I will include a couple of legislative summaries from Alliance on the Board Google Drive if you are interested in more details. The biggest impact will be SB19-238, which is a targeted rate increase for personal care and homemaker services. This will be a direct pass-through for DSP wages, which is wonderful from that aspect. But

- because very few of our employees ONLY provide those two services, the implementation is going to be complicated at best and a nightmare at worst.
- CCB Designation and Contract—Our CCB designation has been received and by the time we meet, our 2019-2020 contracts will be in the mail. We did receive clarification that host homes will not have to have the \$1 million crime insurance policy, and our premium increase for this coverage will be less than \$500, so it's not a significant impact. I included a copy on the Google Drive, though you are not required to read the whole thing.

Local Community

- Community Speaking engagements—We're still trying to get out there! I have an engagement at a PEO meeting with Elizabeth the day before our retreat and will be presenting at the Ability Summit (see below) the next week. If you have groups or hear of opportunities to talk, I have some exciting topics I can pull out such as the history of disabilities (depressing) or inclusion (motivating!) I have some seriously abstruse topics I can pull out as well—such as the Medicaid Waiver and CDASS session I'm doing at the Summit. To each her own. Ellen is also participating in a video shoot for A'round in Durango, which highlights different businesses and nonprofits in the Durango area. And of course Richard joined Jeff Newman and another client at the Crisis Intervention Team training, which I heard went very well.
- Ability Summit—Confirmed for June 4th at the Student Union Building at Fort Lewis College. I forwarded the flyer and will add it to the Google Drive. There is still time (barely) to register and attend. The Summit is always really engaging and informative. You can also just come for part of the day. I highly recommend it!
- City of Durango—In response to the cuts and rule changes with the City of Durango funding, we (Ellen and I) have been working with Lynn at United Way to collect some information on the impacts to the local nonprofits and get the impacted agencies together on a message and approach that will hopefully build some bridges with the City that have apparently been burned by the actions and attitudes of some other community members and nonprofit leaders.

Fundraising

- Fundraising Committee—Ellen is still working on building the fundraising committee and has been consulting with a previous colleague of Janice who has excelled in fundraising. If you know of anyone who you consider a community “influencer,” we should connect with them to gauge their interest. Contact Ellen (or me) with any ideas.
- United Way—We are nearing the end of our United Way application process (which we do every two years). Thanks to Melissa Yoakum for hosting the Cortez site visit, Richard and Alexandra and Matt Payne for helping with the Durango site visit and Ellen Stein and Deb Ewing will be handling the Pagosa Springs site visit next week. I expect we will hear about the award this summer.

- Moniker Foundation—Although we didn't get funded by Moniker this year, we are hosting a site visit with our grant representative Drew Rees the day after the Board retreat. This is a great chance to strengthen our relationship with the Foundation and investigate how to get funded again next year. If anyone would like to join us, we are meeting at my office at 1 p.m. on the 30th.

Internal CCI highlights

- Provider Transition Plan (PTP)—As part of the new Federal Settings Rule for Home and Community Based Services, all providers have to prove that our settings meet the new rules. This includes every host home setting. Julie and Matt and I have been ensuring that all our procedures, processes and practices meet the new rules. We are waiting to hear back whether they like our new rental agreement for residents in host home settings.
- Advanced Directives—Elizabeth is helping us support people in our services to develop advanced directives and be prepared in case of medical emergencies. She and her Case Management team will be focusing on completing these in June.

Facilities

- Pine Street—Laura is working on getting two more bids to remodel the bathroom at Pine Street before the end of the fiscal year.
- Holly House—The roof is leaking. We still have funding from First United Methodist Church to do some facilities updates that are needed.
- Animas House—We received an appraisal on the Animas House and have approached the host home who was interested in purchasing the property to see what she'd like to offer. We can talk more about this in executive session.

Other

On May 3rd, I graduated from the OMNI Leadership Practicum, which was a very positive experience. I will continue my coaching through this program through July.

Acronym Cheat Sheet

- 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)
- JBC (Joint Budget Committee at the Colorado legislature)
- MOU (Memorandum of Understanding)
- PASAs (Program Approved Service Agencies) Marcy’s department
- PCA (Personal Care Alternative) residential services not in a host home
- RAE (Regional Accountable Entity) Medicaid Care Management organization
- Residential (a.k.a. Comprehensive – our adult 24/7 support)
- ROI (Return on Investment)
- SJBPHD (San Juan Basin Public Health)
- SLS (Supported Living Services) – Services for adults living independently or with family
- TCM (Targeted Case Management)