



## What's Happening at Strive March 2019



### Message from the President/CEO

**Submitted by: Grant Jackson**

It's almost the end of March and **Spring is finally here!** Longer days, warmer temps and the robins are back flying around. This is a wonderful time of the year to be on the **Western Slope** of Colorado. It's also a **great time** of the year to **reclaim your personal wellness** and **set goals** for yourself to **stay positive** and **healthy**. **Get outside, breathe some fresh spring air and soak up that Vitamin D from the sun that's been eluding you all winter!**

You have all **endured** a **substantial amount** of **change** over the past two and a half months with a **new building**, a **new neighborhood** and a **new Sharon!** A little **focus** on **yourselves** is probably just what the doctor ordered and will help you **achieve** your **personal** and **professional goals** in the long run and will also have a **positive effect** on **our agency** and the **individuals we support**.

I'd like to **offer** up some **positive observations** from this **newbie's perspective**. From the **moment I started** on January 7<sup>th</sup>, it very **quickly** became **apparent** that **this place** was **filled with passionate, caring, hardworking people** that **value inclusion** and have an **immense sense of humanity**. I hear **ideas** on how to **help** make the **individuals** and families we all support **live better** and how to **help supported individuals** and **colleagues** alike **reach** their **fullest potential** on a **daily basis**. It's absolutely **incredible to see** and **hear the enthusiasm** and **excitement** around **solving real life problems** that we, as humans, experience. There is a **lot** of **thoughtful creativity** happening **throughout** this **agency**. **It is beyond inspiring!**

I've truly **enjoyed meeting those I have met over the past two months** since I started. **You have all been extremely welcoming and I am forever grateful.** I **look forward** to **meeting more** of you **over the coming months**. The only thing I **ask of you all** is that you **forgive me** in **advance** if it takes me a while to **remember everyone's name**. It is definitely a **weakness of mine!**

**Do good work and be kind!**

Grant

**Departmental Updates:**  
**Public Relations & Development...**  
**Submitted By: Doug Sorter**

### **Grants:**

- We received **grant funding** from the **Buell Foundation** after several meetings with them and follow up on the building, children services and debt structure.



Richard Batchelder, DSP  
Kelley Couchard, DSP  
Taylor Dalaba, DSP  
Sean Ducharme, Beh Line  
DJ Hicks, Relief  
Airam Nunn, DSP  
Brittany Plateroti, Relief  
Alicia Red Star, SSS  
Tirzah Washington, DSP  
Caroline Wehrmann, Beh Line  
Sue Wright, DSP



- The **City** of Grand Junction was able to **grant** us **funding** from the **Economic Impact Fund** which was perfect timing to secure other opportunities.
- We are **continuing** to **work** with the **Daniels fund** and should **know** more around **mid-March**.
- We have others in the **pipeline** and are in the process of gathering information on state funded grants.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Events:

- We are very close to the STRIVE event season to begin. First up is our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** on **April 20<sup>th</sup>** 11:00am to 12:00pm.
- Second up will be our **Derby event** on **May 4<sup>th</sup>**.
- We are currently **wooing sponsors** so if you have an interest please contact Doug.
- We have a wonderful line up for our **Garden Groove Concert series** again this year and may have a **surprise concert** in **September!!!**
- Check out our **events page** on our **web site** for more events or details at [www.strivecolorado.org](http://www.strivecolorado.org)

### Accounting...

#### **Submitted by: Chris Bergquist**

- Have **determined** next year's **medical premiums** in preparation of **open enrollment** coming in March.
- **Working on finishing closing the sale of 950 and buy of 790.**

### Host Homes...

#### **Submitted by: Michelle Sharman**

The Host Home Department **continues to grow**, with **two** people **moving into our services** from other services providers. At this time there are **3 people**, from the Grand Junction Regional Center (GJRC), **exploring host homes** through Strive and an **additional 3 people** in our services that are currently **exploring/moving** into Strive **host homes** (2 people from PCA and 1 from a group home)!

**We have had a lot of growth and continue to work hard on strengthening our structure and procedures to continue to be able to support and grow our program!**

### Vocational....

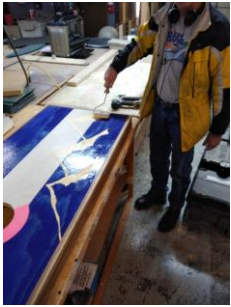
#### **Submitted by : Jeff Green**

#### **Wellness & Active Wellness**

Individuals and staff used the **new Craft Room** to make **special Valentines** to share and also **attended** the **ART Center**. Individuals chose **movies** and **music** about love and romance for **Valentine's Day** as well. **Colorado Canyons** has started doing their **hands on therapy training** with staff, **which is an exciting move forward for the health and wellness of individuals.**

## Uniquely Yours

The store is undergoing **multiple changes** to **refresh** and make **updates**. **New products** are also **being made** throughout **different programs** in Strive. Uniquely Yours **individuals** are currently **working** on **picture frames, herb pots with seeds, handmade cards, and bird houses**.



**Woodshop** - has been **busy** these past **months** with **assisting** with the **move** to STRIVE's **new location** as well as **creating** a **new design** for the **corn hole sets** using a **wash technique** with **stain** and **paint**. This particular **corn hole set** is a **special order** for a **silent auction** for **Naomi's Hope Foundation**. The organization raises money for **Breast Cancer awareness** and **research**.

With **Spring fever** in the air the **shop** also **created** a **new design** for an **outdoor bench** and completed a **special order** for a **Magic Box**. Please **visit Uniquely Yours** to **place an order** and check out the **products** our **wood workers** are **creating!** For **special orders** please contact **Ed Madaris** at **244-5541**.



**Creative Creations** - remains **creative** as well as **productive** with an **increased interest** in **individuals** wanting to **work** while **expressing their artistic abilities**. The program has a **few new artisans** now **working** with the group. The group has been busy **creating new wall art signs**. With providing **new techniques** to the program and more **completion by the artisans**, the staff have **made stencil** and **image transfer designs** for the **artisans** to **complete all the steps** in the process, while still **practicing and learning free hand techniques**.



**Grounds Crew** - continues to **grow with interest** from **individuals** that want to work and do their part to **help** the **environment**. For the combined months of **January** and **February** the **group recycled 89 pounds of #1 PET plastic bottles** also known as soda bottles. **FUN FACT** about **PET #1 plastic**: it takes **19- 20oz bottles** to **make a pound**. **One pound of PET #1 plastic** yields enough fiber to make and **adults X-Large t-shirt**. If you take the amount of plastic **Grounds Crew** recycled and saved from the landfill you could make **89 T-shirts!**

**Mobile Crew** - has been on their **toes keeping** up with the Grand Junction **weather!** One day they are **removing lawn debris** from the continuing falling trees limbs and then the next day they are **removing snow** from walkways and driveways! The team also **assisted** with **moving items** out of **950** and **helping** get the **grounds ready** for the **open house of 790!**

### **Early Intervention...**

**Submitted by: Nancy Ketchum**

- Currently serving **183** children – **143 eligible, 38 at intake**
- EI is **working** with **Family Health West** to better **serve our families**. Through a contract, they are **training staff** to provide **services using the Early Intervention philosophy**. They will be able to **provide** us with **OT's, PT's and SLP's** who will go into the homes to **work with families**. We believe, with this **partnership**, we will greatly **improve services and outcomes** for the **families** we work with.

### **Sensory Playroom:**

In the new building, we are **fortunate** to **have a sensory playroom** where we will be able to do **EI intakes** as well as do **assessments** of young children. Many of the **activities** in this room were **created** by an EI Team Member, **Kailey Lewis**. These **creative and fun activities** will be enjoyed by many **children** and **we thank Kailey for her fantastic work!** Come by and visit if you get a chance.

### **Success Story:**

**Mary**, our SLP, shared that she **asked** a family **about** their **breakfast routine**. Mom **shared** that her **son** would **ask for cereal** so she would **get him cereal, pour milk on it and get him his spoon**. Mary **suggested**, as a strategy, to **encourage him to use his words**, mom should **only give him what he asked for**. Mom **tried** this only **giving** him the **cereal** that he **requested**. **Right away, he also asked for milk and spoon**. This has **now** become **routine** for him and he will always **request** these **3 things for breakfast**.

### **MDS Resource Coordination...**

**Submitted by: Kayla Purdy**

- Going into the month of January, the Case Management Department had **received HCPF approval** for **4 emergency enrollments** by into the HCBS-DD Waiver, of which **3** individuals were **successfully enrolled** during the month and **1** individual **declined**.
- This month the Case Management Department wants to **recognize Cassie Krafka** for all of her **hard work and dedication** to the **individuals** she serves. Cassie continues to go **above and beyond** and is a great **asset to** our department. We will greatly **miss her** as she will be **leaving** MDS the end of **this month**. **We wish her the best of luck with all of her future endeavors**.
- We have a **People First Learning Activity** on **March 18<sup>th</sup>** from **5-6:30pm**. We will talk about **interviewing tips and tricks** and how to **dress** for an **interview**. We also **raised \$130** through the **Parenting Conference** that took place in January.
- **Follow-up and negations** were **completed** on the **14 Level 7 requests** submitted to HCPF in the **months of November and December** for **individuals** residing in STRIVE **skilled group homes** who require **extensive services** to manage their **daily care**; of those requests, **9 were approved** for Level 7 and **5**

were approved for Level 6. Additionally, HCPF approved the Level 7 daily rate for day habitation services for those same individuals approved for Level 7 as well as for individuals who were previously approved but only for residential habitation services.

- In January, there were 7 SIS's completed for the month. February we had 1 SIS completed. We continue to work on getting more individuals enrolled into services.
- 4 new enrollments occurred in the month of February - *Thanks to the hard work of our intake team!*

NAME	WAIVER	NEW ENROLLMENT	TRANSFER	CHANGE IN SERVICE	SERVICES REQUESTED	PROVIDER SELECTED
Case #1	HCBS-SLS	12FEB2019				ABLE
Case #2	HCBS-DD	13FEB2019				Ariel
Case #3	HCBS-DD	26FEB2019				Strive
Case #4	HCBS-SLS	26FEB2019				Ariel

## ANGELA'S CORNER

### EASTER FUN TIME

The Easter Bunny is coming. Should tell Easter bunny what you want in the Easter basket. Here are ideas:

- Get hats and other stuff.
- Shoes for kids or little shopping carts or little strollers and put stuff in it.

Send ideas with the staff. Let staff know if I can help you with your baskets.



This is a story about a girl.



### WORK ON YOUR COPING SKILLS

- Listen to MP3 or CD.
- Write stuff down.
- Talk to people like if you need help.
- Make cards.

- Play game.
- Do a home workbook.
- Play with staff.
- Help people out.
- Have good day.
- Then, ask for help. Won't get down.



COPING TOOLS: What Helps Me

a **PROM** to remember

### BE FUN AT THE PROM ON 4-20-19.

Check in 6:30PM at Double Tree Hotel. Then, dance is 7PM to 10PM. Got signs for them, or ask for help if you need.

Then the other part of the story is:

Your Grandma and Grandpa are coming down.  
We are going to have fun.  
She can go by herself with them.  
Can wait for them. Meet my team.  
Have fun. Good Luck all of us.  
This is the end.

Angela.





MARCH ANNIVERSARIES	
<b>1</b>	Tracy Brown, Sany Padilla
<b>2-4</b>	Sharon Francis, Barbara Metsker, Vaneissa Roberts, Hattie Motter-Shore
<b>5</b>	Christina Cruz, Cassie Krafka
<b>6-9</b>	Doug Sorter, Ed Wieland



DAY	STAFF
3/5	Ed Madaris
3/6	Stephanie Sheely
3/7	Mickey Burns, Brenda Hahn
3/8	Kat Goodwin
3/10	Brandy Gebbie
3/13	Yvonne Renova
3/14	Shana Green, Shanalyn Hibberd
3/18	Patti Buzzell
3/19	Kaylee Deem, Adrian Moratto, Shawna Oakes
3/21	Tessa Binam, Joe O'Connor
3/22	Ruby Gutierrez
3/25	Michelle Sharman
3/27	Sharon Francis
3/29	Logan Mason
3/31	Angie Eustice, Doug Sorter, Tanya Workman