



THE COUNTERPOINT CONNECTION

Edition
I
2020

Nurturing personal growth and supporting meaningful lives for adults with disabilities since 1976

From the Executive Director



Dave Eaton
Executive
Director

Hello Everyone. The top priority in our work supporting adults with disabilities is keeping them healthy and safe. While this pandemic is active, we have closed our downtown vocational center to reduce threats of our clients or staff contracting Covid-19 in that relatively exposed area. We continue to care for and support the 14 people living in our two group homes as well as the seven people who live in their own homes but rely on us for varying degrees of help.

Our staff are committed to the wellbeing of the folks we work for. But in times like this, we're asking more than ever of the staff: they are wearing personal protective equipment and taking all possible steps to keep the virus from infecting them or our clients. Our main priority is to keep all our clients – in the group homes or in their own

homes – from getting sick. Doing so in a time like this takes a lot of extra work, not to mention the tough decisions by staff to travel around town when most people have been asked to stay home to protect the whole community.

To acknowledge this extra work and pressure, Counterpoint's Board of Directors has temporarily raised hourly wages for our direct care staff by \$3.00/hour. It's not a lot of money, but I am grateful for our staff and proud to be associated with each of them. The board agrees, and voted unanimously to take this step. We are hoping the newly announced federal programs will help finance this decision.

Counterpoint has provided a variety of supportive services to adults with disabilities in Park County since 1976. We have faced many challenges in those 44 years. Now the Covid-19 outbreak challenges both our wellbeing and our work. We're sticking with the job and I'm confident that, working together, we'll get through this crisis and continue our mission for another 44 years.

I wish everyone the best.

Sincerely,

Dave Eaton

Executive Director

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Executive Director: Dave Eaton



An unknown community member placed this painted rock at the base of a tree in front of our Vocational Center. Thank you!

Staff

Jacobs Home

Libby Bell-Hedges, GHM
Roy Cox
Wanita Huber
Kris Kirk
Tonya Kokot
Luke Olson
Deborah Thislethwaite

Milky Way Home

Carrie Baier, GHM
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Danette Berglen
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Cathy Schwarze
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Amy Stern
Daryl Wiltshire

Supported Living

Ned Swofford
Priscilla Busch
Shelby De Dios Camberos
Vince Montpetit

Substitutes

Emelyn Albright
Kate Dietz
Barbara Williams

BRIEFS

NEW EMPLOYEES:

Welcome: Luke Olson. **Welcome Back:** Anette Dougherty & Wanita Huber.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Businesses, individuals, and organizations make monetary contributions to Counterpoint. Other entities contribute time, goods, or services. Many local businesses contribute by providing employment opportunities to our individuals.

ENDOWMENT FUND: \$94,798.92

Counterpoint, Inc. has established an endowment fund for donations.

If you would like to make a donation to this account, please indicate this below and on your donation.

2020 COUNTERPOINT MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: \$16,620.00

Counterpoint, Inc. is a private 501© (3) Nonprofit Corporation. It's mission is to nurture personal growth and support meaningful lives for adults with disabilities.

The Counterpoint Connection is published quarterly. We hope it will keep everyone associated with Counterpoint informed of its activities.

Thank you all!!!!

MEMBERSHIP Counterpoint, Inc., has been an important part of the Livingston community since 1976, providing vital services for adults with developmental disabilities. Your tax deductible contribution will help us continue to deliver these quality services. Please mail to: Counterpoint, Inc., 116 East Lewis Street, Livingston. MT 59047. **Phone Number: 406 222 2472**



Your Support is Greatly Appreciated!

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Counterpoint Supported Employment Success Stories



Danette Tinklenberg

Danette Tinklenberg has been with Counterpoint since November, 2018. She has made many new friends, she has a new home and keeps busy with lots of activities that we have here in Livingston. However, something was missing. It turned out to be the **Northern Pacific Beanery!** Danette has worked with owners Dani and John Townes since May, 2019 and really enjoys making sure that the silverware is properly rolled up in napkins for when tables, along with the general cleaning that always needs to be done. Congratulations Danette, with all of your previous restaurant work you are a wonderful addition to “the Beanery”. We know you enjoy your work there and the Beanery is equally as happy to be able to call you their employee—your smiles say it all!



Danette Tinklenberg With Dani And John Townes

Congratulations to **Cindy Brady**, who recently started her new job at **Yellowstone Sporting Goods!** Her main duty is to look for messed up/disheveled t-shirts around the store (they have up to 75 of them in various locations) and re-fold them using her “gadget” (who knew that there was something called a “folding board” for t-shirts?). Cindy’s years of clothing expertise makes this a perfect fit for Cindy! Thank you so much to business owners Erica Stone, Chris Blueher and the rest of the team for welcoming Cindy to their new business. Cindy particularly enjoyed the Open House in September when she was on hand to give out goody bags and later was in charge of getting cinnamon and caramel rolls to customers. You’ll see her each Thursday working hard to keep the clothing areas and t-shirts orderly.



Cindy Brady



Cindy Brady



Frontier Assisted Living

Josh Gierhan has been a Counterpoint client through the Montana Rehabilitation Program since June, 2018. Through this program he has tried out several different types of jobs and has discovered he really enjoys his work at **Frontier Assisted Living**. His duties are to assist the kitchen by getting leftover snack dishes and cups from the dining room into the wash tub for the kitchen staff to wash. He is very helpful with this, but even more, he has made many friends with the residents and staff and really enjoys and looks forward to being there! Thank you so much to Administrator Carissa Walsh, along with all of the staff and residents for making Josh feel so welcome. Being at Frontier is truly one of the highlights of Josh’s week!

THANKS TO OUR TERRIFIC DONORS!

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(12/1/18 - 11/30/19)

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James & Bonnie Evanson
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John & Karen Kaiser
Guardian Title
Hillman & Associates PLLC

Industrial Towel &
Cover Supply/Nick
& Stephanie Ansk
Gary & Judy Jagodzinski
Cary B. Lund
& Susan C. Witte
Dave & Carol Lutes

Napa Horizon Auto Parts/
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Fred Schellenberg
Yard Guard



John Martin Enjoys E. M. Volunteer's Company



Bruce Durden



Cory Blough



Michael Pritt & E. M. Volunteer

Eagle Mount skiing fun was had by all this winter ski season! Our thanks to all of the wonderful Eagle Mount volunteers who make these great times possible. You are some of our heroes!



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Recent financial statements and Form 990 for Counterpoint, Inc. are available to the public at our office at 116 East Lewis Street, Livingston, MT 59047. Current Form 990 information for Counterpoint, Inc. is also available online at "guidestar.org".

"This project is funded (in part) under a contract with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. The statements herein do not necessarily represent the position of the Department." In FY2019 Counterpoint's federally and state appointed funding total \$1,257,290 (84%); all other funding totaled \$237,777 (16%).

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