



HORIZON

PROJECT INC.

Providing Supports. Empowering People.

Horizon Project Impact Report

2022/2023



Horizon Commitment

Mission

Horizon Project provides supports and opportunities for personal growth, integration, and independence to adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the people who support them.



Core Values

As an employer Horizon Project is committed to providing quality services and opportunities for professional growth within a workplace that is respectful where employees can engage positively with clients, the community, and each other.

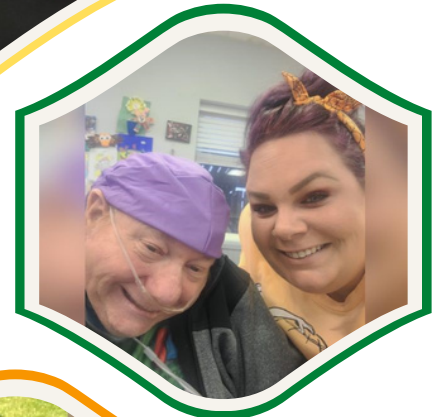


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Message from the Chief Executive

During the 2022-23 service year, Horizon Project continued its services to and supports for people experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Though the last year continued to be challenging – defined by ongoing complications even as the pandemic waned – our team members showed up every day to provide care, ensure safety and health, teach skills, entertain, and find creative ways to still have fun! In this Impact Report we share with you smiles, laughter, and progress!

Over the past year our team has worked hard to make strides on numerous fronts, all of which you can read more about in the following pages:

- Completed a capital campaign to purchase, renovate and expand our programming in Hermiston. The purchase of the services center on Main Street, coupled with the adjacent retail space, will allow us to expand our STEP Center for Independent Living. Grand opening November/December 2023.
- Completed the planning process to expand our employment and community living services to youth transitioning from high school, funded by the Higher Education Coordinating Committee. The expansion of our offerings will coincide with the opening of our expanded training space in late 2023.
- Started construction on South Hill Commons in Pendleton, a 70-unit integrated housing complex that incorporates universal designs, a community spaces and The Commons group home integrated within the site plan. Construction completion is scheduled for early 2024.
- Finished construction of the Northview Group home in Pendleton along with numerous renovations to existing group homes...further enhancing the homes of those we support.
- Completed a Board / Executive Strategic Planning Process that will guide our focus and growth over the next 3 years – focusing largely on initiatives that will enhance staff training, professional development, and program delivery.

As with all meaningful work, it takes collaboration across many fronts to fulfill our mission. We are pleased to recognize our partners in this Impact Report, and to them we are eternally grateful.

Warmest regards,

Terri H. Silvis,
Ph.D., CEO



Enhancing our Mission

Expanding Offerings to Promote Independence



HORIZON PROJECT STEP CENTER

FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Over 80 individuals participate in Horizon Project's Community Integration activities, many of which are employment-related. Offerings include recreational and socialization activities, creative arts, volunteer opportunities, life skills mentoring, career development planning, skill building, and job coaching. Supports are determined through a person-centered analysis and offered in a customized manner, helping each person fulfill their own aspirations. Horizon professionals provide resources to help individuals succeed.

Thanks to the generosity of several private foundations, in 2022-23 HPI purchased our Hermiston service office and began renovations to expand our independent living services at the STEP Center for Independent Living.

STEP stands for Steps to Empowerment Program, and services offered are critical components to ensuring that individuals experiencing IDD can gain employment and life skills, achieve personal goals, and live independently. Key components of programming at the STEP Centers are:

- Individual and group coaching on finances, goal-setting, interpersonal skills, communication, productivity, problem-solving, hygiene and attire, and punctuality.
- Employment training tailored to individuals living with IDD
- Hands on training in trade-specific skills such as cooking and nutrition



STEP CENTER for Independent Living - Activities



HORIZON PROJECT STEP CENTER

FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING



"What I love about the step center is I am able to help give the clients a sense of worth in finding activities that they enjoy whether it is just in helping them achieve their work goals or learning a new skill. I find the job very rewarding."
Angela Y. - STEP Center Program Specialist

We also completed a planning process resulting in enhanced core curriculum modules, increased partnerships with local employers, greater connectivity with the Hermiston High School's Youth Transition Program, and a marketing plan to help us better connect with members of our Hispanic community. Program expansion will officially begin in late 2023, upon completion of our new training space. We are most grateful to the funders and Volunteer Advisory Committee members who supported this initiative:

Funders:

- Kuni Foundation
- Blue Mountain Community Foundation
- Roadhouse Foundation
- Collins Foundation
- MJ Murdock Trust
- Marie Lamfrom Foundation
- Anne T. Angel Fund @ Oregon Community Foundation
- Amazon Web Services Community Fund
- Ford Family Foundation
- Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission
- Baker Boyer Bank

Volunteers:

- **Nicole DePew, Coordinator** — Youth Transition Program Hermiston High School
- **Roman Olivera, Director** — Student Support Services - Blue Mountain Community College
- **Cindy Middleton,** — Family Advocate
- **Jessica Reker, Director** — Community Health & Outreach Good Shepherd Health Care System

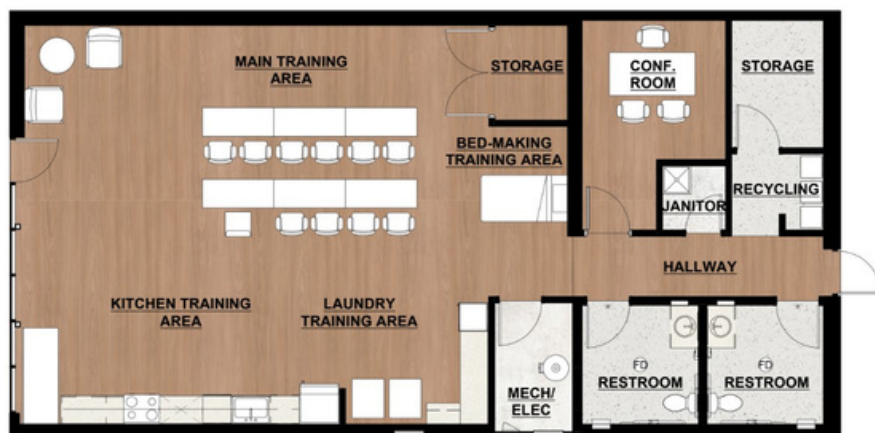


Photo of Demo'd Space and Concept of Finished Project

Behavior Supports - Positive Impacts for more healthy living

A crucial and enhanced service that Horizon Project offers individuals Professional Behavioral Services. These services are implemented by behavioral health professionals who utilize positive behavior supports to increase quality of life and decrease behaviors that need intervention. Positive behavior supports are person-centered, rights based, and proactive approaches that focus on teaching skills and modifying environments to meet the needs of the individual.

Horizon Projects Behavior Support Professional, Heather Lane, provides person-centered assessments, research, and analyses for individuals experiencing an array of developmental conditions including but not limited to autism, ADHD, cerebral palsy, learning or language disorders, anxiety, and depression.

Heather works with individuals, case managers, and direct support professionals to customize, teach, and monitor interventions associated with positive behavior support plans. These plans are crucial in supporting individuals to live happy, independent, and healthy lives.



Heather Usko-Lane
Behavior Specialist



Heather with a client

Many individuals supported by Horizon Project have benefited from professional behavior services.

These benefits include:

- Reduced anxiety—allows them to feel empowered and confident in community settings.
- Reduced depression— encourages them to engage by making new friends in the community and developing natural supports.
- Learning new skills and experiencing new challenges—builds efficacy and emotional intelligence needed to live a productive life.



Client Skill Building

Without these supports, some individuals may develop or experience an increase in the intensity, severity, frequency, or duration of challenging behavior. Thankfully, with the skills and techniques taught by Heather, staff feel confident in their abilities to deliver positive behavior support and change the life of those they support.



Heather with Staff

Expanding Integrated Housing Opportunities in Pendleton South Hill Commons



South Hill Commons, currently under construction, will provide 70 units of affordable housing and a group home for working families and individuals in Pendleton. Scheduled for completion in early 2024, the apartment complex will provide 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units to households with incomes at or below 60% of Area Median Income. South Hill Commons will create a living environment where people of all abilities are welcome and supported, using a variety of universal design approaches.



Universal Design concepts include:

- Stepped building placement to allow for ramped access between all buildings and outdoor spaces
- On-grade access between indoor and outdoor common areas
- Generously designed ramp widths, integrated with switchbacks and stopping points for resting and socializing
- Provision of wider doors throughout all units, to accommodate those with walkers, wheelchairs or other mobility equipment
- A greater-than-required number of accessible units and accessible amenities throughout the development.



Horizon Project will work with other service providers to ensure that several units will support independent living for individuals experiencing intellectual and developmental disabilities, and Community Action Program of East Central Oregon (CAPECO) will offer onsite support services to families, including many of our community's unhoused families.

Onsite amenities will include a central community building with onsite management and meeting spaces, a playground, and a small, covered picnic area. In addition to many sustainable practices and products integrated within the design and construction, a solar array on the SW residential building that will supply house power to common spaces, reducing overall electric power needs from the local energy grid.

Horizon Project is thankful for our many partners who have come together to make South Hill Commons a reality:



By the Numbers

141

Enrollment in Horizon:

- 58 people living in Residential Group Homes.
- 12 people receiving Supported Living services.
- 71 people enrolled in Community Integration programs:
 - 48 enjoying Community Living/Day Support activities.
 - 12 learning new skills through Employment Path.
 - 11 receiving coaching supports on the job.

209

HPI Team Members:

of Horizon Project Employees (fully staffed)

178

HPI Direct Support Team

The number of DSPs and Managers providing hands-on support to individuals enrolled in Horizon Project programs (fully staffed)

85%

Program Revenue:

Percentage of Horizon Project Revenues derived from public contracts for services.

80%

Wages and Benefits:

Percentage of Horizon Project direct operating expenses paid out for wages, paid time off, and benefits.

7%

Occupancy Expenses:

Includes space cost and utilities for Group Homes, Offices, and Community Integration Support Centers.

5%

Program Expenses:

Includes program supplies, fleet maintenance, and transportation.

8%

Administration:

Includes administrative supplies, professional services, insurance and technology services.

"I work for Horizon Project because I want to make a difference in someone else's life. To be a part of something bigger than myself, to learn and educate myself and my community that even though people live with disabilities they are just the same as someone who doesn't. That we all deserve to be treated equal with love and respect, nothing less."

- Ashley Blackburn - DSP2 -

History of Success

L. B. worked at Red Lion hotel in Pendleton for 3 years as a housekeeper. He was ready to make a change from this job, and Horizon was able to assist him in getting a dishwasher position at Shari's Restaurant. He has worked at Shari's since July 9th, 2021.

This July he will celebrate his 2 year anniversary with them! Logan loves his job and his coworkers

“

“Never ignore someone with a disability, you don’t realize how much they can inspire you.”

”



L.B. started Blue Mountain Community College in the fall 2022 for diesel mechanics assistant and he graduated in Spring 2023. He is excited to begin life's next adventure. We are so proud of him!



“

“You are not disabled by the disabilities you have; you are able by the abilities you have.”

Oscar Pistorius

”

Working at HPI...

By Rylee Etchamendy - HPI's STEP Program Center & Office Intern



"I love working at HPI! The clients bequeaths a sense of fulfillment that I doubt many kids of my age find in their jobs."

"Interacting with the clients, though, is by far my favorite part. They all have different personalities, some are sassy, some are stubborn, and some are super sweet right off the bat."



"My coworkers are another part of why I love my job. They give all of themselves to what they do and the people they care for. And they themselves are some of the funniest, kindest, and weirdest people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing."

"The pride I feel whenever someone asks me about what I do and I get to explain the wonderful impact of the Horizon Project Inc. is immense. I truly love working here, with my entire being."



HPI's Memories 2022/2023

First and foremost, Horizon Project's mission is to help others live their best life – in a safe place, with supports and assistance, and full – full of joy, opportunities, friends and adventures. This is the IMPACT that Horizon Project strives for. Here we share the memories of those we support, who had incredible adventures over the past year. Enjoy!



L.B. working while pursuing a degree from BMCC's diesel mechanic apprentice program. Celebrated by going deep sea fishing in Ilwaco, WA.



J.W. and A.E. had a booth at the Downtown Hermiston art fest- and sold their own art and won an award (honorable mention)



L.S. attending the Pow Wow at Wildhorse



C. B. attending Seahawk's game in Seattle



Friends together enjoying shopping sprees.



C. U. Starting a new job at Walmart



Boys night out at Hockey in Tri Cities the weiner dog races.

M.S. Dude Ranch retreat in Arizona



A. H. selling her artwork at the local farmers market



HPI's Memories 2022/2023

"Everybody can be great because everybody can serve." ~ Martin Luther King Jr. ~



"Staff help me." - M.S.



"We learn stuff." - C.M.

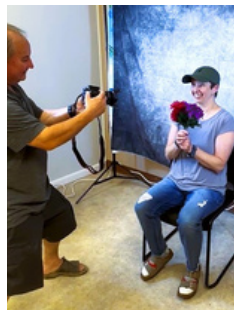


"I like the staff. They're all really nice." - J.B.



"Horizon people care about us." - M.B.

"I like going on fun outings with my friends" - K.S.



Horizon Partners

Horizon Project Impacts are increased by the generosity of others who give of their time and resources. Horizon Project offers special recognition to the following donors and volunteers who have played a key role in supporting our Mission over the past few years.



Leadership

As a nonprofit service agency, Horizon Project depends on the generosity of volunteers who serve on our Board of Directors. Comprised of people from the worlds of education, business, and social services, these individuals give of their experience, time and wisdom to ensure that Horizon Project remains a relevant community partner and employer.

This group of volunteers are mobilized by their commitment to the people of Horizon. Many Board members have family or friends who receive services in other parts of the state while others are driven by their commitment to equality and education for everyone in our society. The quiet leadership of Horizon's Board of Directors has been long-standing, with many serving for over a decade.

Thank you to our Board of Directors for their commitment to people experiencing I/DD in our communities.

“

"I volunteer on the Horizon's board, because I am passionate about supporting people in the correct ways, and believe the people we serve bring more value to our lives and communities! I think Horizon's Project does this beautifully!
Thanks!"

Crystal Hedden - Volunteer

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- **Kent Perkes, President** — Local Business Owner/Executive
- **Nora Kramer, Vice President** — Retired Nonprofit Executive and Educator
- **Lora Linn, At Large Member** – Finance / Banking Professional
- **Jim Stanton, Immediate Past President** – Retired Business Executive
- **Mike Swinnerton, At Large Member** — Insurance Professional/Business Owner
- **Crystal Mathwich, At Large Member** — Special Education Professional/Business Owner
- **Ty Woolsey, At Large Member** – Facilities and Public Administration Professional

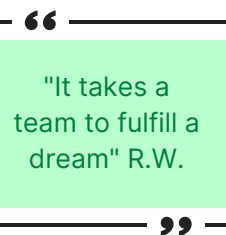
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"I am inspired by the devoted level of care for enhancing individuals independent living and how the relationship connections are built between team members and individuals housed through Horizon. By becoming a board member, I can personally be part of the process by ensuring the staff has the necessary support and resources to grow and meet demanding needs."

Lora Linn - AVP | Baker Boyer

”

Contact us



Need our services?

To find out if you or a family member qualify for supports through Horizon Project, start by contacting the Umatilla County Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP).

Want to be part of our team?

Apply online at
www.horizonprojectinc.org

Milton-Freewater

(541) 938-5658
608 N. Russell
Milton-Freewater,
OR 97862

Pendleton

(541) 278-4544
223 SW Court
Pendleton,
OR 97801

Hermiston

(541) 567-8374
408 E. Main St.
Hermiston,
OR 97838

Do you want to support us?

To support the Horizon Project Mission is to donate directly to the Client Assistance Fund. Donations to this fund are used 100% to support individuals as needs arise. Donations are accepted through our website at www.horizonprojectinc.org or can be mailed to:



Horizon Project, Inc.
608 N. Russell Street
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

You can support us as well following us in our social media and sharing about us.

 Horizon Project, Inc.

 @horizonprojectinc

 Horizon Project, Inc.

 Horizon Project, Inc.