

Community Living Alternatives, Inc.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2025

Members present:

Ken Dwenger / President
Brook Phifer / Vice President
Buffy Fox / Secretary & Treasurer
Margaret Dominguez
Shari Janata
Scot Lichty
Linda Watkins

Members absent:

Lindsay Meredith
Janet Burgess

Staff present:

Barbara Kenyon-Mohrlang / Executive Director
Betty Piperato / Controller
Bill Peters / Residential Director / Intake Coordinator
Mary Green / Administrative Director

Staff absent:

Gregg Wilson / Day Program Director

Guest(s):

None

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Community Living Alternatives, Inc. (CLA) was called to order at 10:03 am by the Board President, Mr. Ken Dwenger. A quorum was present.

Minutes of February 4, 2025

MOTION: Ms. Shari Janata moved to approve the minutes of February 4, 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brook Phifer. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Financial Statements for December and January FY 2024-25— Ms. Betty Piperato

Ms. Betty Piperato presented a synopsis of the December 2024 and January 2025 financial statements. December had a net loss of (\$16,210.72) for the agency and a net loss of (\$15,931.54) for Day Program. January had a net gain of \$14,897.28 for the agency and a net gain of \$21,627.53 for the Day Program. For the year-to-date 2024-2025 fiscal year, the agency had a net loss of (\$12,612.94) including a net gain of \$4,372.94 for Day Program.

For the year-to-date fiscal year, the agency is doing better than budget by \$7,550.37 with the Day Program doing better than budget by \$15,064.75.

The Finance Committee met on April 4th and discussed the financial statements in more detail.

MOTION: Mr. Brook Phifer made a motion to approve the financial statements for December 2024. The motion was seconded by Ms. Margaret Dominguez. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Ms. Linda Watkins made a motion to approve the financial statements for January 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scot Lichty. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Board of Directors Fiscal Policy Revision—Ms. Betty Piperato

Ms. Betty Piperato presented the Fiscal Policy Revisions to the board.

MOTION: Ms. Margaret Dominguez made a motion to approve the Fiscal Policy revision. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scot Lichty. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Executive Director Updates—Ms. Barbara Kenyon-Mohrlang.

As of today, we are providing services to 32 people in our Residential Program. We are providing services to 23 people in our Day Program.

We are still down by one Direct Support Professional (DSP) at CLASS.

The Joint Budget Committee (JBC) approved a 4.5% retro rate increase on all Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) claims from July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 using ARPA funding. For CLA, this amounted to \$61,242.51. HCPF expects that these funds are to be used to support direct support professionals and recommended they be spent in the following ways: training, performance bonuses, emergency assistance funds, and temporary business project needs.

The State is projecting a \$1.2 billion budget shortfall for FY 2025-26 and Medicaid accounts for a third of the budget. In spite of this, the JBC found a way to increase Medicaid provider rates by 1.6% for FY 2025-26.

Concerns over the Federal budget reconciliation process that could result in major cuts to Medicaid continue. Since Colorado gets 50% of its Medicaid funding from the Federal Government, any cuts will have a major impact. The Senate released an updated budget resolution last week generally aligning with the House to advance a larger reconciliation package. The House, Energy, and Commerce Committee has been instructed to propose changes that reduce the deficit by \$880 billion for fiscal years 2025 through 2034. Medicaid and Medicare fall under the House Energy and Commerce Committee. The Senate is seeking more flexibility in its Medicaid approach than the House proposal.

The SSI Savings Penalty Elimination Act was reintroduced to the Senate. This bill would change the current asset limits on Social Security Income (SSI) from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for individuals and \$3,000 to \$20,000 for married couples. This change is long overdue and would enable people who rely on SSI to develop emergency savings and not be in constant jeopardy of losing their benefits when they go over the currently low asset limitation.

The CLA Strategic Planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 9th from 9-4 pm.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be on Monday, June 16th from 1-2 pm. The next board meeting will be on Wednesday, June 18th from 10-12 pm.

Community Relations Director

MOTION: Ms. Margaret Dominguez made a motion to approve a maximum of \$90,000 for the salary, bonuses, and benefits for the Community Relations Director position. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buffy Fox. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Policy Updates

MOTION: Ms. Shari Janata made a motion to approve the After-Hours Emergency Policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brook Phifer. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Ms. Shari Janata made a motion to approve the Benefits for PRS Policy. The motion was seconded by Ms. Linda Watkins. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Strategic Plan Updates

Highlights from the strategic plan committees were presented.

Public Comment

None

New Business/Announcement

Board Member Re-Elections

MOTION: Ms. Shari Janata made a motion to re-elect Buffy Fox as a board member. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scot Lichty. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Ms. Linda Watkins made a motion to re-elect Shari Janata as a board member. The motion was seconded by Ms. Margaret Dominguez. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: Ms. Shari Janata made a motion to re-elect Brook Phifer as a board member. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scot Lichty. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Ken Dwenger at 11:33 am.

Mary Green- Reporter

Reporter

Secretary

Date

7-20-2025