

A Message from the President / CEO

In resisting the temptation to give in to the current economic crisis facing our nation and our communities, CHAC has persevered through the commendable and creative ideas, innovation and the rapid response of our Board, management team, people with disabilities and staff members. From their efforts in the past year, our programs are more stream-lined without sacrificing quality. We have reduced operational costs by \$600,000 in shifts. Our strategic fund raising and future response to county and state funding challenges so that the children, teens and adults with disabilities will be able to march ahead as they pursue their goals for future developmental, educational, personal health and employment success. Here are just a few highlights of our efforts to impact community outcome targets in the past year:



Under **Building Strong Children, Youth, Adults** children with disabilities, complex medical issues and typically developing children to gain Early Montessori School Readiness, Early Literacy and yoga! wide services through the **Whole Child Project**.

and Families: 90 infants and special needs were mingled with Intervention, pediatric therapy,

Over 150 families were connected to community- PIKES PEAK Learning, in-depth financial literacy, money management, academic tutorial, career development, life planning strategies, and “digital world” proficiency” embodied **Transition Services** for high school teens with disabilities! The program seamlessly blended education with real-world career activities for 302 students.



Under Helping to Empower People to be Self-Sufficient: 225 participants through the assistance of **Projects with Industry** and **Community Employment Services** found employment or better jobs. The impact on lives led to improved mental health, a strengthened economy and the ability of families to thrive.

To live peacefully and affordably within neighborhoods that are safe and accessible generally appeals to all of us. Because of the **Community Living Program**, this desire has been fulfilled for 57 adult participants. Another 100 continue to be readied for this transition through Culinary Arts and Life Skills Training. This stability lends itself to long-term employment and well-being. We also dedicated the first, “green” group home in Florida (built by Eslinger Homes) for eight adults with significant disabilities. And then there is our working Organic Farm, over 20 skill training areas, immersion in community theatre and the arts, vital transportation services, personal wellness programming...and more...

I offer my heartfelt appreciation to you, those we serve, all of our appreciated, hard-working staff members, Board, committee members and volunteers who make it possible for our doorway to opportunity and fulfillment to remain wide and open. Those who step through it will continue to gain better lives and futures, as a result.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy J. Connell".

Peggy J. Connell
President / CEO

