

Advisory Board
2nd Quarter Virtual Meeting Notes

1. General Updates

i. Grants

1. We did not receive the Pisgah Health grant that we had applied for in December. We will reapply in the fall.
2. We also did not receive the Dogwood Health Trust Immediate Opportunity and Needs grant. We may reapply for it if it becomes available again.
3. We are currently seeking out additional grant opportunities for:
 - a. Transportation Program
 - b. Health Meals program
 - c. General remodeling and building expenses

2. New building and transitions

i. We are currently working to prepare our new facility for use.

1. North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services application for the new site has been reviewed and approved. A site inspection may still be required at some point to affirm general safety and policy adherence standards.
2. Vaya's site change application has been submitted and should be approved soon.
3. We are also pending an inspection from the fire Marshall who has been out sick.
 - a. We were required to install a commercial smoke detection and fire alarm system (\$3,000+).
 - b. This is now in place and all requirements have been met.
4. We are hoping to transition to our new building around June 15th pending all inspections and authorizations.
5. The back building will primarily house our day program and the front building will be administrative until renovations are able to be completed.

3. COVID-19

- i. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were closed from March 17th- May 15th 2020.
- ii. We are considered an essential business but closed in the best interest of our members and their families.
 1. Many of our members have experienced regression during the break in a variety of areas, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Decline in communication skills
 - b. Decreased willingness or refusal to participate in daily and physical activities
 - c. Increased irritability and depression
 - d. Decreased social skills
 - e. Increase in inappropriate behaviors
 - f. Weight gain

- iii. We were unable to bill for the time that we were closed. However, we did receive the SBA Paycheck Protection Program Loan.
- iv. We reopened on May 18th after speaking with our families, seeing their need, and careful consideration of our program.
 - 1. We have reopened with additional precautions such as:
 - a. Additional cleaning and sanitization standards
 - b. Implementation of social distancing when possible
 - c. No outside fieldtrips are scheduled at this time
 - d. Visitors are prohibited with very few exceptions
 - e. Requiring face coverings for all staff when social distancing is not possible
 - f. Recommending and providing face coverings for members who are able to wear them.
 - i. The CDC policy states that no individual should wear a face covering if they cannot independently remove it or have difficulties breathing.
 - g. Meeting Hendersonville's suggested capacity standard- only allowing half of the fire code occupancy.
- v. At this time, about 60% of our members have returned.
- vi. We anticipate more members will return as we enter phases 2 and 3.

4. Transportation

- i. Transportation is a needed service for many of our members.
- ii. Currently, we refer our member to Apple Country Transportation, and they are able to bill Medicaid so that the service is free to our members and their families if they are able to be added to an established route.
- iii. Routes and availability are limited and not all who apply for this service are able to obtain it.
- iv. Apple Country is not currently able to transport our members due to lack of staff due to COVID layoffs.
- v. This is an additional hurdle for our families that work or have limited transportation.
- vi. Eventually, we hope to be able to offer our own transportation.