



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: (via Teams unless otherwise noted)**

LOIS LANDGRAF, Chair – in person  
PATRICK DAVIS, Vice Chair  
JESSIE MARTINEZ, Treasurer  
MEGAN BILLESBACH  
HEIDI BRANDON  
SARAH BRITTAIN JACK – in person  
BERNARD BYERS  
EMERALD DOYLE  
TRACI MARQUES  
GEORGE MENTZ  
DAVE PAUL  
SHARON THOMPSON – in person

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

LAURIE HUISINGH, Secretary  
JENNIFER THORNTON  
STEPHEN VARELA

**STAFF PRESENT:**

CORINNE ARELLANO, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing, Pueblo  
BRAELYN AYALA, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing, Pueblo  
COLLEEN BATCHELOR, CEO – in person  
KIEYA BELMONT, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing, Pueblo  
LINDSEY BROUGH, Speech Language Pathologist – in person  
DESTINY CHAVEZ, Intake Coordinator, Pueblo  
TINA CHAVEZ, CMA Coordinator, Prior Authorization Request  
DANIEL COWLES, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
ROBERT DAVISON, Nursing Facilities Coordinator  
LIVIA DEMOPOULOS, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
CLARE DUNNING, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
TAMARA ENGRAM, Executive Assistant – in person  
DORA FERGUSON, Information Technology Director  
SETH FULLER, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing



ALISON GERVAIS, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing, Pueblo  
HEIDI GILBERT, CMA Coordinator, Quality  
ALISHA GRESHAM, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
CHAD GUFAROTTI, Assistant Director of Development – in person  
BRANDI GRIFFITHS, Case Management Manager  
MORGAN JACOBUS, Marketing and Communications Manager  
LAUREN JAROME, CMA Coordinator, Quality  
RYAN KUYPER, Learning and Staff Development Director  
KELLY LYNG, Development Director  
VANESSA MARTIN, EI Lead  
HEATHER MEIZIS, CMA Operations and Communications Director  
GINGER McBRIDE, Lead Coordinator-Learning & Staff Development  
WENDY MORAD, Licensed Medical Professional  
CALLIE MURPHY, State General Funds Manager  
MEGAN NICHOLSON, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing, Pueblo  
SARAH NOLAN, Volunteer Respite Programs Manager  
CHARLENE NOVAK, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing, Pueblo  
SALLY NUSBAUM, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
ZULLY PARKER, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
JILLIAN RAIGER, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
KAREN RICE, Early Intervention Billing Manager  
DOMONIQUE ROSARIO, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
DIANA SALAZAR, CMA Coordinator, Quality  
RACHEL SANDEEN, Respite Programs Assistant  
METZY SHRADER, CMA Coordinator, Quality  
KITTY SILVERS, Credentialing, Authorization & Billing Specialist  
ANNIKA SQUIRES, CFS Coordinator  
GINGER STRINGER, Physician Outreach Program Specialist  
THEODORE THOMPSON III, CFS Coordinator  
CHERI ULMER, Program Support Manager  
KAREY URBANSKI, Human Resources Director  
HOLLY WARNER, CMA Coordinator, Quality  
LOUISE WHEELER, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing, Pueblo  
HEATHER WHITWORTH, CFO  
MARGRETTA WILLEMIN, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing  
DANIELLE WRIGHT, Quality Coordinator  
TIMOTHY WRIGHT, CMA Coordinator, Ongoing

**GUESTS:**

DWAN ARAGON, Human Touch Home Health Care  
RUTH ANN ARBER, Lifeline  
RICHARD BARROS, Special Kids Special Families  
ED BOWDITCH, Bowditch and Cassell Public Affairs  
TRACY BROWN, Common Roots

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MATEO FLORES, Stallar Care  
JENN PEREZ  
JENNIFER STREHLOW, New Altitude Director

## **I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:37 am by Lois Landgraf, Chair.

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

## **III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF**

The Board of Directors welcomed the new staff to The Resource Exchange.

## **IV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Ed Bowditch**

Mr. Bowditch provided updates on activities at the State Capital. Much of the current work is focused on the budget.

- Joint Budget Committee (JBC) will hopefully finalize their budget recommendations today.
- Long Bill will be introduced to the Senate on Monday.

Information pertinent to TRE:

- JBC voted to approve a supplemental appropriation to make the Early Intervention Program budget whole for this fiscal year-the remaining 3-1/2 months left in this fiscal year.
- JBC will continue to finalize their recommendations for the coming fiscal year. At this time there are no drastic cuts to programs that could affect the people that TRE supports.
- To date, the JBC has not planned to propose any reductions in provider rates, or State funded programs like Family Support and State Supported Living Services (SLS).

The information and education opportunities provided by TRE and provider agencies at their Legislative Town Halls and other events are very beneficial for the elected officials.

Mr. Bowditch and Colleen Batchelor, CEO continue to schedule time with TRE's delegation. However, it is very important that family members reach out to their elected representatives to share their stories and needs.

## **V. MISSION MOMENT AND STRATEGIC FOCUS – Social Impact Work at TRE**

Sarah Nolan, Volunteer Respite Programs Manager, introduced Mr. Stephen Feinland. Mr. Feinland shared his appreciation as a single dad for the respite programs offered. He

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added that these programs are very important. He encouraged everyone to volunteer and donate towards the respite programs.

Lindsay Brough, Speech Language Pathologist and Jennifer Strehlow, Director of New Altitude discussed the use of assistive technology in early intervention, including low-tech, mid-tech, and high-tech devices to support children's independence and development.

- **Low-Tech Devices:** Ms. Brough explained that low-tech assistive technology devices include items like glasses, pencil grips, and weighted blankets, which help children with motor difficulties and sensory regulation.
- **Mid-Tech Devices:** Mid-tech devices include adapted toys with switches that allow children with motor difficulties to play independently. Ms. Brough demonstrated how simple modifications can make toys accessible and more enjoyable for children.
- **High-Tech Devices:** High-tech devices include communication devices and wheelchairs. These devices can grow with the child, supporting their communication and mobility needs throughout their life.

Ms. Brough explained the toy adapting project, which teaches families how to adapt toys for children with motor difficulties, making play more accessible and enjoyable.

Ms. Nolan provided an overview of TRE's respite programs - Break Time (Birth-21 years of age), Gathering Time (18-35 years of age), Cooking Time (held at The Arc's adaptive kitchen for preteens, teens and adults), and Our Time (for siblings of kids with disabilities). All programs are funded through State General Funds, grants and donations.

Ms. Strehlow discussed the social impact of New Altitude with one of its goals focusing on decreasing unemployment among individuals with disabilities and partnering with organizations to create meaningful employment opportunities. The partnerships and collaborations with organizations like Whispering Aspen, UCCS, and RM Soap Market to support employment for individuals with disabilities were highlighted. If you know of businesses that could benefit from employing people with disabilities, please let TRE know.

Each presenter encouraged donations, volunteer support, and spreading awareness about TRE's programs that are not always funded by State and Federal dollars.

## VI. CONSENT AGENDA

One correction to the February 19, 2025 BOD Meeting Minutes was presented – Emerald Doyle was not present at the meeting.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY SARAH BRITAIN JACK, SECONDED BY HEIDI BRANDON TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE TRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES DATED FEBRUARY 19, 2025 WITH THE CORRECTION NOTED). *Motion unanimously approved.***

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## VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### a. Finance and Investment Committee (FIC)

Financial Statements through February 2025 – The group reviewed the statements with the following notes:

- Jessie Martinez, Treasurer provided a financial update, reporting higher-than-expected revenues of \$794,000 for February, including a one-time payment for training, and grants received for respite programs.
- New Altitude memberships are down. An aggressive marketing campaign is underway.
- The line of credit with Collegiate Peaks Bank (formerly Bank of San Juans) has been renewed for two years with the transfer of \$130,000 to TRE's Collegiate Peaks account. This transfer brings the balance to \$300,000 which is required.
- Audit Updates:
  - 900 Report is being worked on.
  - The Single Audit will be complete by the end of this month and filed with the IRS by the deadline of May 15, 2025.

**A MOTION WAS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE MARCH 17, 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE RESOURCE EXCHANGE. *Motion unanimously approved.***

### b. Development Committee

Kelly Lyng, Development Director reported.

Ms. Lyng discussed the Development Committee's efforts, including speaking engagements, partnerships, and celebrating TRE's one-year anniversary of serving the Pueblo community. Be sure to follow TRE on social media to keep up-to-date on all the activities.

Charlie Huebner, Olympic Paralympic Committee and past TRE Board member joined a recent meeting to discuss Advisory Councils etc. in relation to funding for TRE.

### c. 6385 Corporate Drive LLC Report

Jennifer Strehlow, Director reported.

- Ms. Strehlow introduced Amanda DeMarco as the new hire for New Altitude. Welcome Amanda.
- As Treasurer Martinez reported earlier, New Altitude has increased its marketing efforts and customer experience efforts to increase revenue and elevate businesses.
- Ms. Strehlow will send a template to TRE BOD members regarding Google reviews.

### d. Executive Committee

Lois Landgraf reported.

The Executive Committee did not have a formal meeting. Lois Landgraf, Chair informed the group that Congressman Crank's office representatives called to discuss the Medicaid

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Plan proposed cuts. A meeting regarding this issue will be scheduled soon with CEO Batchelor.

## VIII. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

*State Budget Meetings* – CEO Batchelor spent much of the past month meeting with State Department representatives, JBC staff and our elected officials on the importance of continued funding for many of TRE's programs.

*Case Management Systems Changes* – Work continues on the simplification of internal and external processes and interactions. The first step of our organizational restructuring was recently implemented by moving back to one case management department. This will eliminate the duplicative work that was being done and streamline this work and communications both internally and externally.

Children's services are also being reviewed to be certain that interactions across the board are as efficient as possible.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

None

## X. ONGOING BUSINESS

None.

## XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

## XII. SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Board of Director's meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 16, 2025, beginning at 7:30 am at The Resource Exchange, 6385 Corporate Drive, Colorado Springs and/or via Teams.**

## XIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR SESSION

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY HEIDI BRANDON, SECONDED BY GEORGE MENTZ TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING. *Motion unanimously approved.***

The regular session of the meeting adjourned at 9:20 am.

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***These meeting minutes were unanimously approved by The Resource Exchange's Board of Directors at their April 16, 2025 meeting.***

SUBMITTED BY:

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Colleen Head Batchelor, CEO

RECORDED AND TRANSCRIBED BY:

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Tamara Engram, Executive Assistant

APPROVED AS TO FORMAT:

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Laurie Huisingh, Secretary

