

this issue

Employee Spotlight **P.2**

Updates from Council **P.3**

Upcoming Events **P.4**

Presenting the FamilyFocus

Welcome to our inaugural edition of the **FamilyFocus** newsletter, a case manager created, quarterly email communication to keep you informed about Children's Case Management at Foothills Gateway. Our newsletter will cover topics relevant to the FSSP, CHCBS, and CHRP programs, and will feature information about upcoming events, updates from the Family Support Council, and profiles on each of the Children's Case Managers, among other content. We hope you enjoy, and welcome your feedback and input on future content!



Julian and Dan enjoy a bike ride.

Tandem rides with his parents are an important part of Julian's life. As he grows and nears adulthood, these rides were becoming more challenging for his parents. The Family Support Service Program, or FSSP, was able to provide financial support so that Julian and his family could convert their existing tandem bike to an electric tandem bike. Julian's mom, Heather, shared, "the FSSP has helped us in so many ways - with regular, everyday needs our son has due to his disability, to support for his method of communication that gives him access to general education in school, to our family's ability to enjoy being outdoors together on bike rides."

Who's Who

CHILDREN'S CASE MANAGERS

Olivia Knieff, Lead

Kristine Escamilla

Genevieve Marmaduke

Jeneen Viens, FSC Liaison

Dani Murdock

DIRECTOR

Pat Carney

DATA TECHNICIAN

Colin Kenzlo



FSSP:

Specialized Services

The Family Support Council recently voted to include reimbursement within the Specialized Services category.

Reimbursement for replacement clothing, shoes, and household items, due to *disability-related wear-and-tear* is now available. Household items can be replaced only once, up to a \$500 maximum, and must be the most cost effective (least expensive) means of replacement. Families must demonstrate that the need for replacement is related to the enrolled individual's disability.

CHCBS & CHRP:

Financial Redetermination

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has made changes to the financial redetermination process to make it more efficient.

Effective May 22, 2022, if a Medicaid enrollee continues to meet financial eligibility requirements, and all information can be verified electronically *without member input*, the member will automatically be reenrolled. The member **will not** receive redetermination paperwork in the mail. If you receive redetermination paperwork in the mail for your child, you **must** respond with the information requested in the letter to prevent disruptions to enrollment. The redetermination process begins 90 days prior to the certification start date.

Spotlight On: Pat Carney

In 1995, Pat Carney was enrolled in graduate school when he began what was intended to be a part-time job at Foothills Gateway. Pat recognized that the people and culture of Foothills Gateway was a perfect fit for him, and 28 years later, he continues to “love working at Foothills Gateway because the organization is committed to doing what is right.” In his current role as the Support Service Case Management Director, Pat oversees Early Intervention, Supported Living Services, Children’s Extensive Support, the Family Support Services Program, the Children’s Habilitation and Residential Program and the Children’s Home and Community Based Services waivers and programs. Pat shares that, “in total, I get to impact the lives of almost 1,000 individuals and families in Larimer County.”

Pat participates in several local and statewide committees related to serving people with disabilities, attends multiple meetings each week, and strives to stay

ahead of the many changes that happen within the federal and state systems that impact the services provided by Foothills Gateway.

He prides himself in doing what he can to ensure that case managers have the tools and information they need to provide the best possible care to the individuals and families on their caseloads.

“Lean on your case manager if you need help . . . it’s our job to be the experts.”

Pat is a Person-Centered Thinking (PCT) trainer for Foothills Gateway, and appreciates the emphasis FGI puts on being person-centered. He shares that FGI has “a well-earned reputation for providing quality services . . . and supporting people – including employees – in the way that best meets their needs.”

Pat and his partner live in

northwest Fort Collins with their dogs, Moses and Tomas. He enjoys travelling, cooking, hiking, exercising, riding his bicycle in Old Town, and listening to live music. Although he grew up in Colorado Springs, all of Pat’s immediate family now live in the Fort Collins area, and he sees at least one of them on a weekly basis.

Pat’s coworkers appreciate his intelligence and sense of humor, and his desire for fairness and commitment to person-centeredness, particularly when circumstances are difficult. Pat acknowledges that, “sometimes the answer we need to give is ‘no,’ because of the rules we need to follow. However, case managers like to be challenged by exploring creative ways of solving a problem.” Pat appreciates that, “working within systems can be confusing,” and encourages individuals and families to “lean on your case manager if you need help understanding the process. It’s our job to be the experts.”



**Come
FLY
With Us**

sponsored by:



13th Annual
FLYING PIG
5K
Sunday, April 24th,
2022

The 13th Annual Flying Pig 5K is back in full force this year, and fully in-person, too!

We can't wait to soak up the sun, music food, and community, with all of you and any little ones (piglets) you may bring.

Be sure to sign up to run or volunteer now using this link:

<https://www.foothillsgateway.org/event/flying-pig-5k-2022/>

Registration closes at 8 PM on Friday, April 22, 2022. There will be no walk-up registration.

FSSP: Updates from Council

The Family Support Council plays an important role in how the Family Support Services Program is implemented at Foothills Gateway. Council meets quarterly, in March, June, September and December, to discuss and plan FSSP activities and trainings, vote on procedure changes, and monitor the implementation of the program. Meetings last 90 minutes and are currently held virtually. The FSC is composed of family members of individuals with developmental disabilities, and interested community members. Individuals with disabilities are also welcome to join. Council is looking for new members! If you are interested in joining, please contact FSC Liaison, Jeneen Viens, at jeneenv@foothillsgateway.org or 970-821-6887.

- Council is planning a pool party for some time in August – stay tuned for details!
- Council approved the addition of reimbursements in the Specialized Services category! Details can be found on page 2!
- FSSP has expanded it's capacity, and now serves 250 individuals (up from 230), including those enrolled in Medicaid waiver programs who were previously ineligible.

FSSP Reimbursement Tips and Payment Dates

- Questions about the FSSP Portal? A training video is now available [here!](#)
- FSSP funds can be used to pre-pay for services! Talk to your case manager for more information!
- If you would like a vendor to be paid directly, please specify this when you submit the invoice!

Upcoming Payment Dates

April 15, 2022 · April 29, 2022

May 13, 2022 · May 27, 2022

June 10, 2022 · June 24, 2022 · June 30, 2022

REMEMBER: FISCAL YEAR END IS JUNE 30



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are seeking volunteers for a variety of needs at this year's Flying Pig 5k! To sign up, click the link below:

[Flying Pig 5K - Foothills Gateway](#)

DO YOU HAVE AN EVENT TO SHARE?

Please contact your case manager with events taking place in July, August, or September!

IDEAS FOR FUTURE CONTENT?

Share your feedback, ideas, or comments with your case manager!

Upcoming Events

Foothills Gateway Events

- **13th Annual Flying Pig 5K · April 24, 2022 8:30 AM · Spring Canyon Park**

Fundraiser to benefit the Family Support Council at Foothills Gateway. Preregistration required!
[Flying Pig 5K - Foothills Gateway](#)

- **Parent Support Group with Emily Daniels, LCSW**

April 28, 2022 7:00 PM · Finding Support: How to Tap into Local Resources and Services
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84969554119?pwd=bDNmUklPUFJKbjNYSmZzMElidVRvQT09>

May 26, 2022 7:00 PM · School Success: Communication and Support Strategies
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81146948338?pwd=V1RsZ0dCenhM2p1WnJNak54a3dsQT09>

June 28, 2022 7:00 PM · Expect the Unexpected: Dealing with Challenging Situations and Behaviors
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89773761527?pwd=K202bmJwWlV0eGZQUVRkTUJHaEJmZz09>

- **Fiscal Year End · June 30, 2022**

Deadline for submitting any outstanding receipts for FSSP reimbursement from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Community Events

- **Roots & Branches Playdates · The Willow Collective**

Thursdays 10:00-11:00 AM beginning April 14, 2022; for families with young children
[The Willow Collective | Infant Mental Health | United States \(willowcollectivefoco.com\)](#)

- **Summer Classes and Camps · The Recreator**

Registration opens April 14, 2022
[The Recreator \(Recreation Program Guide\) - City of Fort Collins \(fcgov.com\)](#)

- **Mosaic Compass · Webinars and Family Connection Group**

Webinars are held the third Tuesday of each month (April 19, May 17, June 21)

Family Connection Groups are held the fourth Tuesday of each month (April 26, May 24, June 28)

Sign up for email information [Mosaic in Northern Colorado \(list-manage.com\)](#)

- **Annual Meeting · The Arc of Larimer County · April 21, 2022 6:30-8 PM**

Virtual meeting; more information and registration
[The Arc of Larimer County's Virtual Annual Meeting - The Arc](#)

- **Foothills Service League Taste of Loveland · FNBO Building at The Ranch**

Fundraiser to benefit Foothills Gateway, May 12, 2022 6:00-9:00 PM
[Foothills Taste of Loveland — Foothills Service League](#)

- **C.A.S.T. for Kids · Horsetooth Reservoir · June 4, 2022**

An unforgettable morning of boating and fishing for kids ages 6-18 with disabilities
[C.A.S.T. for Kids - Horsetooth Reservoir | CAST for Kids Foundation](#)