

# *Center for People With Disabilities*



[www.cpwd.org](http://www.cpwd.org)



Celebrating...

**40  
Years!**

...of service  
and  
commitment

Boulder  
Longmont  
Broomfield  
North Metro

**2016 Annual Report**



# History of CPWD

The Center for People With Disabilities (CPWD) is a cross-disability, nonresidential, nonprofit agency that was founded in 1977 by Judy Dixon and former Boulder County Commissioner, Homer Page.

CPWD's first focus was to help people with disabilities gain employment. Back in the '70s and '80s, we didn't have computers and the assistive technology and equipment of today. A wheelchair, a ramp, maybe a lift; canes and walking sticks instead of service animals. There were no computers, screen readers or talking technology. Visually impaired people learned braille or depended on others to read for them.

It was a time when people with severe disabilities were regularly institutionalized, or lived with their families who adapted to take care of them. People with disabilities had little access to education, appropriate healthcare, training and jobs.

But the social climate was changing. On the heels of the civil rights movement, people with disabilities stood up for their rights in the form of protest and public awareness. Even so, It wasn't until 1990 that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law.

Over the ensuing years, protests over access and rights have continued to draw attention to the discrimination of people with disabilities in the workforce and in society, and in the 27 years since the ADA, big strides have been made to enable people with disabilities to live independently.

Centers for Independent Living continue to work to bring the tenets of Independent Living philosophy to the lives of people with disabilities: Equal Access, Respect, and Self-Determination.



# CPWD Today

Today, CPWD helps people with disabilities gain access to crucial and otherwise unavailable services that assist them in overcoming barriers and challenges to independent living, gainful employment and fulfilling lives. Without support and independence, many people with disabilities experience isolation, depression and other physical and mental challenges.

CPWD's goal is an integrated community that equally welcomes all members. People with disabilities are a powerful and significant part of our community. CPWD exists so that people with disabilities may live independently. We believe that there is nothing more disabling than pity.



## Core Services

Our vision, mission, programs and activities today are founded on **5 Core Services:**

1. **Independent Living Skills Training:** Provides support, instruction and assistance to teach everyday skills needed for independence.
2. **Advocacy:** Individual advocacy assists people in receiving benefits promotes self-advocacy for rights. Systems advocacy seeks to change local, state and federal policies that impact the lives of people with disabilities.
3. **Peer Support:** Groups and outreach activities connect people with disabilities to create community, inspiration, encouragement and support.
4. **Information & Referral:** Provides information about rights, services, equipment, accessibility, referral and other disability related topics to anyone, with or without a disability.
5. **Transitions:** Assists people in transitioning from nursing homes back into their own home and community; helps youth with disabilities transition into adulthood and independent living.

# Programs

## Independent Living Program

Teaching people skills to live independently

## Home Health\*

Providing skilled and unskilled nursing services to maintain independence

## Transitions\*

Transitioning people out of nursing homes to their own home

## Beyond Vision\*

Providing education, training, peer groups, and assistive tech to people who are visually impaired

## Employment Services

Prepare and train people to successfully seek and secure professional, paying jobs

## Individual Advocacy\*

Inform, educate and empower people to self-advocate for rights and independence, and to be assertive in the face of discrimination or misunderstanding

## Systems Advocacy

Educating leaders, groups and decision-makers who impact funding and policies; creating public awareness

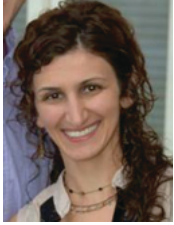
## Peer Support Groups\*

People with disabilities sharing with other people with disabilities to cultivate inspiration, community, encouragement and strength.

\*services offered in Spanish



# Leadership



Maria Stepanyan, Executive Director

As CPWD's new Executive Director, Maria is enthusiastic about strengthening and growing programs for people with disabilities, deepening connections with collaborators and funders in our community, and ensuring the fiscal stability and long-term sustainability of CPWD.

*"I am honored to serve as the Executive Director of an organization that is committed to building an inclusive and diverse community. I believe in the strength of our dedicated team of employees and board, and look forward to advancing our programs to ensure equal access and opportunities for people with disabilities."*

## Board of Directors



\*Tony Adams  
Board President  
Financial Consultant



\*Nancy Phares-Zook  
Board Vice President  
Retired Professional Research Assistant



Ruth Arnold  
Board Treasurer  
CEO, Colorado Recovery



\*Deborah Conley  
Board Secretary  
Researcher



\*Dale Gaar  
Board Member  
Attorney



\*Ben McGuire  
Board Member  
Entrepreneur, Investor, Mentor



\*Indicates a board member with a disability

# Success Stories



**Amanda** doesn't let her diagnosis of Pervasive Developmental Disorder impact the way others perceive her. With assistance from CPWD and her confidence and independence, Amanda set her vision and drive on doing something she loves. She is now successfully employed working with animals as a kennel tech, and loves it! She is a success in her life, and a model for shattering misconceptions about Autism.



**Scott** is deaf, and a single dad raising a young daughter. He worked with CPWD Employment Specialists to find a better-paying job and fill out applications for Child Care Assistance. Through his own determination and with the help of CPWD, Scott landed a new job as a shipping clerk, that better meets his needs for income and hours so he can support his daughter.

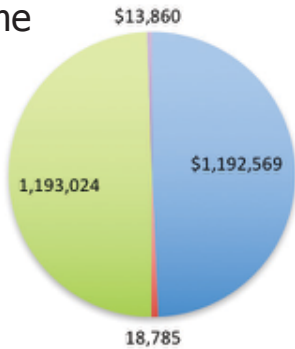


**David** lost his vision. He and his wife could no longer manage their country home and moved to a retirement community. With help from CWD and our Low-Vision Support Groups, David accessed and was trained in screen-reading software, received a video magnifier, learned about accessibility on his phone, and learned how to properly use a cane. David says he feels supported by peers, and has hope for a happy and meaningful life.

# Financials and Supporters

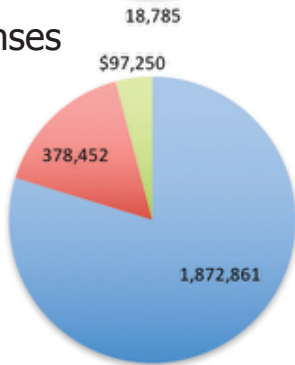
Our last fiscal year reported \$2,418,238 in income and \$2,348,899 in expenses. Please contact us for complete financials, or access them at [www.cpwd.org](http://www.cpwd.org)

## Income



- Grants
- Donations
- Program Fees
- Other Income

## Expenses

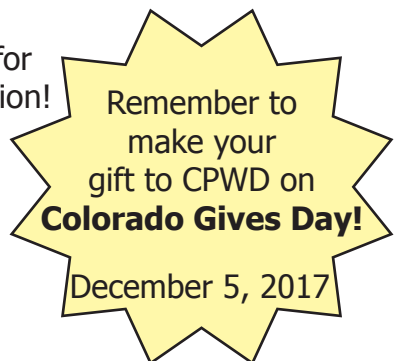


- Program Services
- G & A
- Fundraising

## Giving Thanks!

Thank you to all of our consumers and caregivers, donors and supporters, foundations and other funding entities, for your generosity and support of our mission!

Adams County  
Boulder County  
Broomfield Community Foundation  
City of Boulder  
City of Broomfield  
City of Longmont  
City of Thornton  
City of Westminster  
Lynn and Helen Clark Fund  
Office of Independent Living Services  
Rose Community Foundation

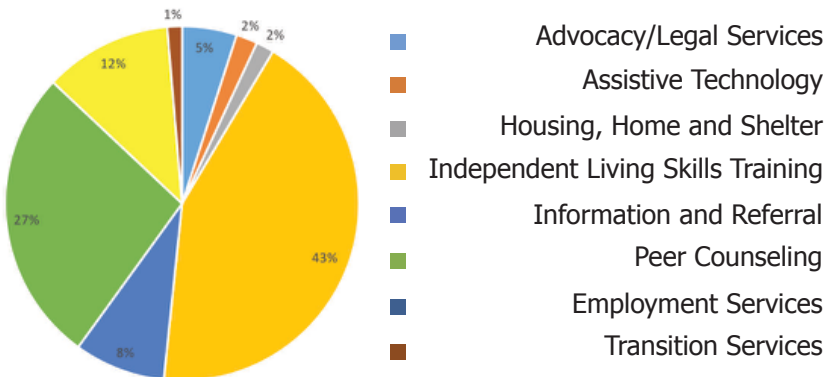


# CPWD by the Numbers

## A Snapshot of FY 2015-2016 Service Numbers

Service Hours with Consumers	20,437
Information and Referral Calls	916
Seniors Attending Low-Vision Peer Support Groups	606
Intake Consumers Receiving Services	536
Number of Goals Identified and Started	576
Number of Goals Accomplished	130
Average Age of Consumer	70
Number of Cities Served	49
Consumers in Independent Living Program	26
Number of Counties Served	17
Number of Job Placements	5
People Transitioned From Nursing Home	3

### By Service



### By County

