



HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL

Wisconsin's only Recovery High School

Helping teens succeed in sobriety and in life since 2005

HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

Dear Valued Friends and Supporters:

We are now in 2021, having survived 2020. Overall, it was a much more stressful year than a typical year given the COVID19 pandemic. A critical feature of a recovery school is providing personal support to young people who are struggling with survival, in the face of alcohol and drug addiction and co-occurring mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, ADHD, etc. On March 16, following public health guidelines, we stopped in-person operation and switched to remote, internet-based interaction with the students. However, as might be expected, this was less than ideal, for many reasons. The one-to-one personal interactions with staff are less than optimal via Zoom, for dealing with mental health issues. And most of our students come from low income families with food insecurity, so meals at school had been critical, as well as getting weekly food boxes to take home on Fridays.

Horizon Director Traci Goll and staff developed some ways to have one-to-one personal contact, such as going for walks with one student at a time, wearing masks and distancing. This worked during the summer and fall, but winter cold and snow made this difficult. We now have staff working with local food pantries and we deliver food directly to our students and their families on a weekly basis.

For several months, from March thru the end of June, at the request of MMSD, we expanded the student population, up to 20 (original MMSD agreement was up to 15), as the school system requested Horizon's assistance in helping some students in crisis. Unlike other summer school sessions we've run, this year we had a full complement of 15 students.



Horizon High School in the Age of COVID19 has meant a LOT of zooming. Above, HHS staff meeting. Students and staff can't wait until we can go back to in-person school operation!

January 2020 was our 15th anniversary of operation of a recovery school, and a celebration at the Madison Club in late April had to be cancelled. It would also have been our major fundraiser, so not holding it created stress on our budget (mainly staff pay and benefits). We were fortunate that our treasurer, Ken Klinzing, was able to make a timely successful application to the Payroll Protection Plan, which provided 8 weeks of staff pay and benefits. Also, three staff and about half of our students came down with COVID, with all surviving. Five of our staff have now been vaccinated.

We received news in August that we won a non-profit remodeling competition sponsored by CG Schmidt! They are remodeling a nearby space (more than double the area) and we hope to move in before May. More details are provided later in the report.

Best wishes,
John Fournelle, Board President

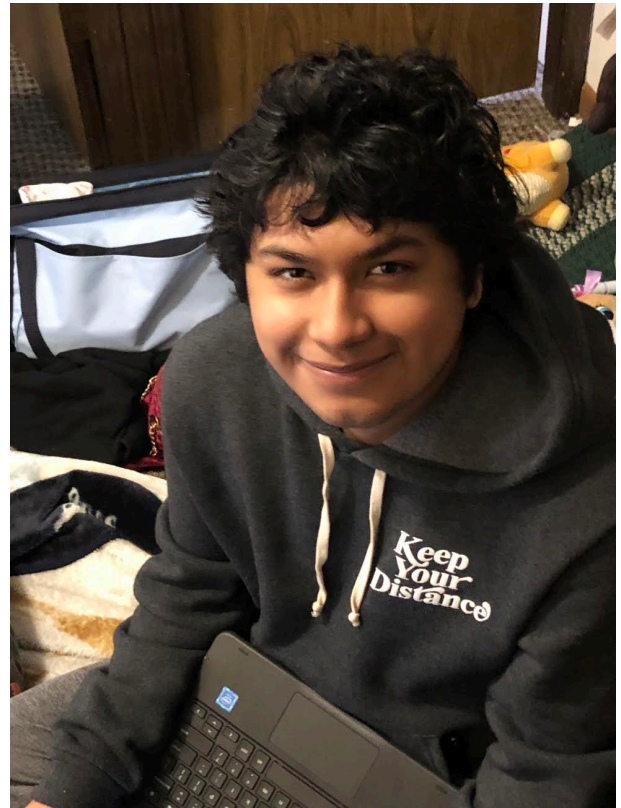
Report from the HHS Staff:

Horizon High School has had an amazing year of learning and growth by both students and staff. The pandemic has allowed us all to learn, grow and communicate better than we have ever before.

We completed the 2019-2020 school year (mid March-June online) and then started, in September, the 2020-2021 school year in a hybrid format that included both small groups in person two days a week and virtual academics via zoom the other days. However, we soon learned that with the craziness of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was just too overwhelming and unsafe, so we went back to being all virtual a month or so later. The staff worked hard to try and come up with a curriculum that was engaging for students in the virtual world.

For English, we started out reading the book *The 57 Bus*, then transitioned to *Poet X*. These books have all elicited great discussion and students have begun to look at themselves and others through different experiences and walks of life. Horizon is excited to again be working with Children's Theatre of Madison and Enda, CT's drama teacher, who is in recovery and has been an excellent resource to our students and staff. Each student is writing a scene that will be submitted for possible performance.

For social studies, we are working on a Civil Rights unit. All of the students studied for and passed their 100 question Civics Test using GimKit that Bob & Darby set up. The students have benefitted and enjoyed learning from this game-like learning model. We have been exploring the world of Civil Rights and comparing the 1960's movement to what is happening today. Students have been vocal and engaged in creating a more just and compassionate world through this learning process. Additionally, we are supplementing this unit by watching the series called "Eyes on the Prize". We also watched the



In the Age of COVID19, students' Chromebooks and internet access became critical tools

inauguration of President Joe Biden as a class. The students analyzed the poem "The Hill We Climb" written and performed by Amanda Gorman at the inauguration.

For math, we have a very individualized curriculum through the online program Aleks. We have students working on everything from basic math skills through Algebra II with Trigonometry. Our science curriculum is also individualized, as students are working on Biology, Marine Biology, and Equine Science through the online program Cengage.

Art has been a combination of art assignments and working together to play games that strengthen relationships and ability to see art through others' eyes. Weekly, the staff drops off art supplies for our students to utilize at home.

We are also supplementing additional classes into the student's schedules based on interests. For example, some students are studying psychology, criminal justice, construction skills, and childcare. A big component to this year's curriculum has been the emphasis on creating resumes and joining the workforce, and to learn the vital skills it takes to transition into independence after high school. About half of the Horizon students currently have jobs in the Madison area. (continued on next page)

STUDENT STATISTICS December 2020:

We generally have a census of 15-20 students. As of the end of December 2019, Horizon High School had 16 students:

Gender: 12 Females, 4 Males

Race: White – 7, Black – 3, Bi-racial- 1, Latinx -3, Asian – 1, Indian – 1 (students self-identify)

93% of our students qualify as low income by MMSD, and 88% have special education status with more required individualized services

Report from HHS Staff – continued

We are working hard with our seniors to help them transition into the next parts of their young adulthoods.

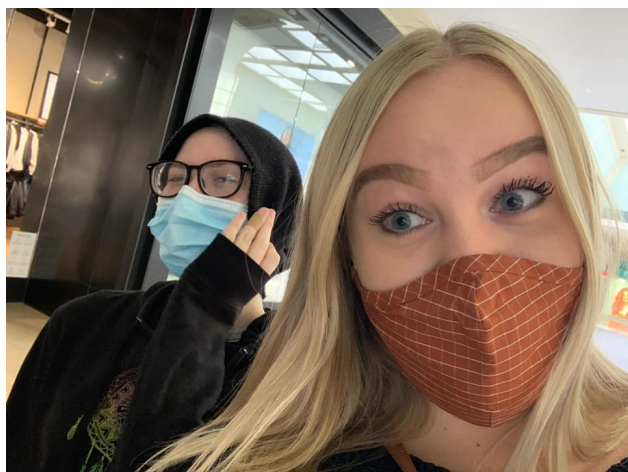
As a staff, we have become very adept at using technology platforms such as Zoom, Newsela, Cengage, APEX, ALEKS, and showing videos using technology. We work hard to connect with our students however works best for them in order to educate them to the best of our ability. Often times, this connection looks like a friendly mask to mask encounter with Traci bringing them a meal for lunch.

Food continues to be a major method of connection with our students and families throughout the pandemic and hard economic times.

We continue to deliver food to our students weekly, thanks to Thea's Kitchen and River Food Pantry! Our students who have little ones of their own are also provided diapers, wipes and formula monthly from the program Project Babies.

We are really looking forward to being able to come back to school in some capacity once the new school is finished! It is crucial for our students to have the social, in-person interactions with us and a break from their home environments. We are so excited to graduate 8 seniors in May and continue on with the rest of the students for summer school.

----- Horizon High School staff



Staff member Darby taking Horizon student to get new glasses (donated by Lisa Marie Cuda, owner of Bilancioeyewear.com)



Kim, Traci and Zach delivering food to student (and a birthday cake!). These were opportunities to keep in close touch with our students.

Staff changes:

We welcomed **Zach Lohman** as a Special Education Assistant.

We said goodbye to Special Education Assistant **Gavin Briscoe** and Special Education Assistant (from MMSD) **Valarie Yudice**. We thank them for their service with our students.

Horizon High School Staff:

Traci Goll - Director, 335-0387

Bob Weinswig - Lead teacher

Kim Lohman – Dual Diagnosis
Therapist and Teacher

Darby Buischer- Special Ed Assistant

Zach Lohman - Special Ed Assistant

Erin KollenBroich - Art Therapist

Coming Soon: Horizon's new larger location, down the block!

The Horizon High School Board of Directors began discussing a need to find more space as early as 2018, but with the COVID pandemic in March 2020, the tight space forced us to search for a larger facility, for safety concerns. The current location is essentially a one room school with one bathroom and one office—for ~15 students and 4.5 FTE staff. In August 2020, we were provided with grant funds from CG Schmidt to remodel the 2 water-damaged vacant suites below the nearby Taco Bell. This larger space will allow students to be broken up into smaller groups, will allow enrollment of a larger student body (up to 20 from our existing maximum of 15), and has four restrooms and several offices for our staff (and a kitchen). The new location is currently under construction with plans to move, hopefully, by early May 2021, for at least some in-person teaching and counseling. We thank CG Schmidt and the 5 subcontractors who are donating all or most of their work to Horizon!



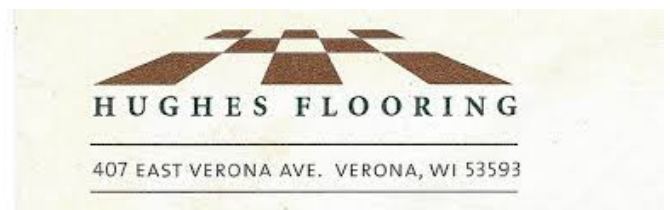
We are grateful to the support from the local business community in renovating our new larger school!

With a big shout out to the fantastic team at CG Schmidt: Sarah Dunn, Ben Delzer, Eric Schmidt, Rick Schmidt and Dan Chovanec

A Very Big THANK YOU to:



CGSCHMIDT INC



Horizon's 2020/21 Budget

Horizon High School of Madison Inc			
Budget			
2020/21 School Year			
		School Year	
		2020/2021	
Revenues			
School Districts		\$106,000	39.85%
CCS		35,000	13.16%
Donations		125,000	46.99%
PPP Loan - Forgiveness		44,400	
Total Revenues			\$266,000
Expenses			
Wages		195,000	
Employee Benefits		28,980	
Taxes - Payroll		15,470	
Rent		20,150	
Insurance		8,700	
Student Activities		3,950	
Office Supplies		2,860	
Books and Supplies		2,400	
Compliance		2,950	
Other Operating Expenses		20,910	
Total Operating Expenses			301,370
Net Income (Loss)			(\$35,370)

CCS: Comprehensive Community Services— funded by Medicaid through the State of Wisconsin and operated by Dane County Department of Human Services. CCS provides compensation for dual diagnosis support services and therapy provided by Horizon staff counselors. This is critical funding, though it only covers a fraction of our students for essential non-educational services which Horizon provides. We currently (Dec. 2020) have 2 students with CCS, though will have several more in 2021. This funding helps a lot!

Fall 2019 Combined Giving Campaign

In 2019, Horizon became a United Way of Dane County fundable organization; we were an option for pledges in the Statewide SECC campaign. In late 2019, we received pledges from 16 people totaling \$1284.50. We have not yet heard the results of the Fall 2020 campaign. We thank everyone who pledged to Horizon!



Kim and Zach show the Horizon Team Spirit!

The budget for the 2020-21 Academic Year is \$301,370. The proposed budget for a full 2020 Summer School program is \$45,000. With full enrollment of 15 students, the average cost per student is \$17,000 for the academic year with an additional cost per student of \$3000 for a full Summer School program. We must raise \$160,000 in donations to continue serving our students.

Become a Monthly Sustainer! Join a growing number of supporters in making an automatic monthly contribution by credit card via PayPal. \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$80 or \$100 — these are monthly amounts people currently are giving. Just go to www.horizonhs.org and select the maroon "Donate" button, which will take you to the proper location to sign up.



HHS Board 2020-2021
 John Fournelle, President
 Paul Moberg, Vice President
 Ken Klinzing, Treasurer
 Judi Munaker, Secretary
 J.J. Andrews
 Stan Kanter
 Brian Koenig
 Nancy Meyer
 Jacci See

THANK YOU FROM OUR STUDENTS, STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Thank you! to our corporate sponsors and to all the generous community donors who assisted us in keeping our doors open for 2020. Students at Horizon High School will be successful engaged learners and competent problem solvers who know that lifelong learning is the key to personal fulfillment and living a productive life. We never give up on our children. Horizon High School changes lives. Our small class size, individual attention and counseling transforms lives into successful futures!

We thank the community and our generous sponsors who helped to support our school this year. We received generous support from many individual donors and organizations including major donor support from Stan Kanter, JKP Krogstad Charitable Trust, SP Kanter Family Fund, Otto Bremer Trust, Cremer Foundation, Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation, William Van Haren, Madison South Rotary Foundation, Network for Good (and everyone who gave for Traci's birthday and appeals), John Fournelle and Judi Munaker, Rubin for Kids, CUNA Foundation, Katherine Johnson-Becklin, Mary and Colm Keenan, Technology Educational Foundation, Tim St Clair, Bright Funds, Linda Granato, Kids Fund, Sauk Trails Optimist Club, Kathleen Johnson, John Blaha, Paul Blair, Colony Brands Fnd, Inc., Susan and Richard Davidson, Deb Houden & Associates LLC, Gates and Fulwiler Family Fund, Gussel Foundation, Robert Keller, Laura J Graham Charitable Fund, Nancy Meyer, Schaecher Revocable Trust, Tom Kurtz, Middleton Community Church, Paul Moberg, Teri Edman, Colleen Bero-Lehmann, Brian and Sherry Buisker, Shelly Dutch, Dorothy Grossi, James Krogstad, Mr and Mrs Lin, Ellyn Mohs, Michelle Ogilvie, Oregon Mental Health Services, Henry Rattunde, Jacci and Ted See, Sinsinawa Dominicans-Leadership Council, Jean Wallace-Baker, Jill DeLisle, John Aeschlimann, George & Patricia Cutlip, Ed Borbely, First Weber Foundation, Philip Plourd, Joe and Kay Tisserand, America Family Insurance Dreams Foundation, Evans Newman Donor Fund, Ilene Hagman, Linda Matuszewic, Ross Michaels, Eric and Jane Schulenburg, Deborah Anderson, Judith Kay Bodden, Timothy Crummy, Susan Elias, George & Patricia Silverwood, Nifty Lynn Dio, Jonathan Seymour, Anna Becker, Eric Berg, Kathleen Doherty, Mary & Brian Blanchard, Mike & Jeanette Froehle, Ken Hehlberg, Randy and Amy Heidel, Jesse Ishikawa, John and Andrea Kenny, Brian and Sherry Koenig, Paul McMahan, Maureen McMahan, Ken Mehlberg, Nancy Mohs, Gerald Mowris, James Otterson, Marjorie Passman, Stephanie Ramer, Arlene Silveira, Lisa Steinkamp, WIA Insurance, Kathryn Wilkin, Jeanne Williams, Cheryl Wittke, Mary Levin, Val Murphy, Janet Blimling, Xue Liu, Jatinder Cheema, Susanne Gilbertson, Casey and Patty Newman, Pamela Noyd, Roger and Kristen Ripp, Michelle Ripp, Angela Wyse Reeser, Janice Lehmann, Kenneth Bradbury, Susan Elias, Lois and Mathew Karn, Patricia Nicholson, Douglas Poole, Michelle Reddington, Laura Nachazel, Nichole Stapleton, Susan Robertson and 6 anonymous United Way Annual Combined Fund donors.

And we thank these folks in the community have been so supportive in their own ways over the past year.

- Tara Ingalls of Tingalls Graphic Design for designing and printing an excellent brochure for Horizon High School
- Barbara Rubin and Rubin for Kids, providing emergency funds for homeless students and students suffering food insecurity
- Kim Schachte and Lerdahl Company for providing great furniture for the new school location
- Kristen Snell Ripp for providing excellent "second hand" books from MCPSD
- Thea's Kitchen and River Food Bank for making it possible to keep our students supplied with nutritious food

Horizon High School has been blessed by the following families that donated holiday gifts to each of our students: Joe Tisserand, Kay Tisserand, Sarah Dunn, Monica Dunn, Laurie Fitschen Graham, Kim Krigbaum, Kimberly Payne Carrigan, Angie Powers, Delight Oelerich, Kelsey Stetzenbach, Tena Wild, Pegeen Arnold, Chris Hamacher, Susan L Foster, Lynne Schwarm Pope, Kristen Snell Ripp, Michelle Ripp, Linda Granato, Sherry Buisker, Carrie Kirkpatrick, Cindy Lafarga, Deb Houden and Bradley J Goll. Thank you all!