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## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Community Options, Incorporated (COI) is a private, non-profit agency that provides services and supports to citizens of Region 10 who have intellectual/developmental disabilities. COI is governed by a local, volunteer board of directors and provides and/or purchases services for residents of Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel counties. COI maintains designation with the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing as a Community Centered Board.

### **HISTORY & FIGURES:**

The Community Centered Board system was created by state statute in 1964 as a means to combine state, federal, and local resources in order to develop community-based, locally governed services for persons who had previously been served primarily in large, state-run institutions. Community Options, Inc. was officially incorporated in June of 1972 as the Uncompahgre Basin Mental Retardation Council. The name was changed to Community Options in May 1986. The agency actually began in the Sunshine School building in Delta in 1967. Since that time, we have grown from a very small organization staffed primarily by volunteers to one that provides services and supports to nearly 300 individuals and their families. The agency employs approximately 140 persons and utilizes another 50 independent contractors. The annual budget is over \$8 million, with the bulk of that funding coming from the state and federal governments (primarily Medicaid). Support from local city and county governments and local support of fund-raising activities are also extremely important. We also work very hard to access and maximize other funding sources, foundations, and grants.

In response to federal requirements related to conflict free case management, Colorado embarked on a process of Case Management Redesign that culminated in March, 2024 when COI relinquished responsibility for providing Case Management along with the Family Support Services Program, State Supported Living Services, and Organized Health Care Delivery System functions. Responsibility for those services transitioned to the two new Case Management Agencies in our area, Montrose County Human Services and Rocky Mountain Health Plans.

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

To positively impact people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through an array of quality services designed to help them achieve their personal goals.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND VALUES:**

**Everyone is unique and deserves respect.**

**Everyone has something to contribute.**

**Everyone needs meaningful relationships.**

**Everyone deserves the dignity of making choices.**

**Life is meant to be enjoyed!**

## **PROGRAMS, SERVICES, & SUPPORTS:**

**Early Intervention:** COI is a Certified Early Intervention Service Broker, and this program serves children from birth to 3 years of age who are at risk for or are demonstrating developmental delays. Developmental Interventionists and therapists work with the parents and their child to develop activities and learning techniques that can be used in the home and community environments to enhance the child's development. This service is provided in the home and/or in community settings as needed for each child, and currently serves approximately 125 children and their families.

COI also holds the contract with the Colorado Department of Early Childhood to coordinate Early Intervention Evaluations which determine a child's needs and eligibility for these services. Our Service Coordinators assist each family in coordinating their child's services. This includes the development of an Individualized Family Support Plan, monitoring to see that the needs identified in the plan are being addressed, information and referral, and assistance in resolving conflicts. Service Coordinators also assist in transitions to school programs and other community resources.

**Children's Extensive Support Waiver:** This program provides specific targeted and cost-effective services and supports to assist a child with developmental disabilities and extensive medical and/or behavioral issues to remain in the family home; support the long-term stability of the family setting; and prevent out-of-home placement. CES services and supports supplement natural supports and generic community resources.

**Supported Living Services:** We offer a wide variety of services within our Supported Living program including day habilitation; supported employment; professional services; transportation; mentorship; respite; medical, dental & hearing services; behavioral counseling; and assistive technology. We currently provide services to approximately 75 adults through this program.

**Adult Day Program Services:** COI offers an array of services including vocational training, paid work, and job placement in the community with on-going support. We also offer retirement-oriented activities for seniors and non-vocationally based community participation services for persons for whom employment is not the goal. The primary focus of these services is to provide meaningful, productive employment and/or activities for adults with developmental disabilities. Approximately 150 people currently receive these services coordinated out of our Park Place and Aspen Crest facilities.

**Adult Residential Services:** We offer a broad array of residential settings including apartments, host homes, family care giver settings, and group homes that can provide support and supervision levels appropriate to each person's needs. Our range of services varies from meeting the needs of people who only require a moderate level of staff support, to providing for the needs of people who are totally dependent upon others for their daily care. Nursing services and medical oversight and coordination are also provided as necessary and appropriate. We currently provide these services to approximately 80 people.

**Transportation:** Transportation is provided to and from most adult day programs and in the residential and Supported Living Services programs as needed. These services are provided to approximately 100 individuals.

Community Options, Inc. is proud of its reputation and history of providing quality services and supports to citizens of Region 10 for over fifty years. For further information please feel free to call us at 249-1412, stop by the Tom Turner Administration Building at 936 North Park Ave. in Montrose, or visit our website at [www.communityoptionsinc.org](http://www.communityoptionsinc.org).

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