
June 2020 e-newsletter

In Memoriam

On behalf of the Board of Directors, senior management, and staff at New Horizons, we would like to offer our deepest condolences to the families, friends, and caregivers of the following participants who passed away during the closure:



Robert (Robbie) Blair
William (Billy) Davis
William (Billy) Stamoulis

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Do More 24 & Giving Tuesday Fundraiser Results



Thank you for helping to #MobilizeDMV with Do More 24 this year. You along with other generous donors raised \$504 for New Horizons. Your Do More 24/Giving Tuesday gift is priceless to the execution of our mission and the participants that we serve. Thank you again.

House OKs COVID-19 Relief Plan With More Payments For People With Disabilities

by Michelle Diament | May 18, 2020 | Disability Scoop

A fresh round of stimulus checks for people with disabilities and billions for home- and community-based services are part of a \$3 trillion relief bill that faces an uncertain future.



The bill known as the Heroes Act, or H.R. 6800, passed the U.S. House of Representatives Friday by a vote of 208 to 199. The measure is unlikely to be taken up in its current form by the Republican-led Senate, but it is seen as a first step in negotiating another relief package to address the fallout from the coronavirus

pandemic.

Significantly, advocates say, this is the only major COVID-19 response from Congress so far to consider the needs of people with disabilities who have been deeply affected by the pandemic.

“The Heroes Act is the first time in the COVID-19 legislative response that the disability community is being recognized,” said Nicole Jorwic, senior director of public policy at The Arc.

The legislation includes an estimated \$10 to \$15 billion in additional federal funding to states to pay for Medicaid home- and community-based services for a full year beginning in July. The money could be used to cover services for anyone with a disability who qualifies for the program — including those currently on waiting lists — and pay for recruitment and retention of direct support professionals, among other needs.

The bill also recognizes the direct support professionals that people with disabilities rely on for day-to-day needs as essential workers so that they can access personal protective equipment, qualify for hazard pay and other extra benefits.

Sarah Meek, senior director of legislative affairs for the American Network of Community Options and Resources, or ANCOR, a national trade group representing disability service providers, called the legislation a “game changer.”

“There is really a recognition that this money for home- and community-based services providers is kind of a must-have in whatever package is next, so I’m optimistic,” she said.

Meanwhile, the measure retroactively grants \$500 cash payments to adults with disabilities who are claimed as dependents. These individuals were excluded from receiving stimulus checks in the last relief package which was approved in March.

And, the legislation includes a new round of direct cash payments of \$1,200 per person — up to a maximum of \$6,000 per family — for many Americans earning less than \$75,000 annually, with tiered amounts beyond that. People with disabilities would qualify for the automatic payments even if they are counted as a dependent or if they receive benefits like Supplemental Security Income.

There is also \$200 million in dedicated funding for disability housing in the bill as well as a change to allow siblings and grandparents to qualify for expanded paid leave if they need to take time off from work to care for an adult with a disability due to coronavirus-related closures.

Virtual Learning

New Horizons has restructured their programs to utilize



enhanced technology, enabling their DSP's to continue training and coaching participants virtually, while they remain at home.

The virtual classes are being offered Monday through Saturday using the Zoom platform.

Individuals participate in virtual services based on the schedule

that works best for them and their families. Classes include; money management, job readiness, exercise, current events and arts & crafts. There are currently 48 individuals participating in the online classes.

Yankee Candle Fundraising

Fundraising has become more vital than ever for local nonprofits. An easy way to support New Horizons is to make a purchase through our online Yankee Candle Fundraiser. The sale continues until July 8.

YANKEE CANDLE FUNDRAISING



Total retail sold to date = \$1,221.50
Total profit for New Horizons = \$427.54

[**Click Here**](#) to begin shopping and thank you for your continued support!

Grant Awards

Thanks to a \$3,800 grant from the Charles County Charitable Trust COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund, New Horizons will provide assistance to several participants residing in Charles County through virtual services. This grant will enable New Horizons to purchase tablets and laptops that will allow our Direct Support Professionals to continue remote services with participants in their homes.



Thank you to Council Chair Todd Turner, District 4, for awarding \$2,500 in funding to New Horizons through the Prince George's County Council's Special Appropriations Grant.

Expressing Gratitude



Thank you to all the players and sponsors who had pre-registered and have now decided to donate their registration fees and sponsorship dollars to New Horizons! We are very grateful.

We look forward to seeing you all at next year's tournament if not much sooner!

New Horizons - Celebrating 51 Years of Changing Lives & Building Opportunities

NOW more than ever we need your support!
Please help us continue our MISSION for the next 50 years.

**Donate
Today!**