

Annual Report 2022/23

OUR MISSION

Wyoming Guardianship Corporation, a nonprofit organization, seeks to improve quality of life for people in need, by building partnerships and providing life and financial management services to Wyoming communities.

People with mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, brain injuries, or dementia need an infrastructure of person-centered support that has been tailored to their needs. Common questions are: What living environment is best? What activities and supports are needed to thrive? What services are available?

WGC offers exemplary life and financial management services to enhance quality of life for individuals with disabilities (and their families). Whether planning for the future or for services that are needed now, WGC is ready when the family is ready, and we help maintain continuity and peace of mind for all concerned.

PHILOSOPHY & VALUES

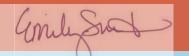
WGC uses person-centered planning as an approach in all of its programming. Person centered services are a pervasive part of WGC's culture. Our staff understand that people want to remain in their home communities.

OUR VISION

WGC envisions that the people we serve have the following opportunities:

- ⇒ A safe and appropriate place to call home
- ⇒ Financial stability
- ⇒ A network of support
- \Rightarrow The ability to have choices and personal control
- ⇒ Advocacy to protect human rights

Letter from the Director





PROGRAM SUPPORT

Trust Services Serving 153 beneficiaries

Guardian & POA Services Serving 159 individuals

Conservator Services Serving 26 individuals

Representative Payee Program Serving 323 individuals

Care Management Program Serving 26 individuals

Ombudsman Program(SAMHOP) Serving 220 individuals

Dear Board of Directors and Friends of WGC,

The past year has been one of growth and hard work at WGC. While we continue to identify gaps in services for Wyoming's most vulnerable populations, we also strive to meet unmet needs in our communities. This year we:

- ⇒ Implemented a care management program, providing "project management, for people" often at no cost, to Wyoming's most vulnerable residents.
- ⇒ Added several new staff bringing our total number of employees to 21.
- ⇒ The Charitable Trust made \$115,000 in distributions to people with disabilities in Wyoming, who were in need.

Our success in achieving our mission is a collaborative effort between our staff, Board of Directors, professionals, and organizations all over Wyoming. Without these deep relationships, we could not do the work that we do.

I remain deeply grateful to our staff and Board for continuing to do work that is meaningful, urgent, and filled with grace. We all stand profoundly changed by the events of the last 3 years, yet WGC's relevance and commitment to people with disabilities in Wyoming is unwavering. I look forward to engaging with and continuing to learn from our staff, clients, and the community at large. Please continue to be a part of our ongoing work and the path we are traveling together.

WGC Employee Spotlight

Why it's fulfilling to work at WGC



Guardian/Community Liaison

"It has been a pleasure working for WGC over many years. I enjoy working with my clients and helping them realize their goals. We've worked hard to build a network of statewide connections to benefit our clients and all of this is possible because of the wonderful coworkers we have. We have an excellent team at WGC and it's great to be part of this collaborative environment."

MOLLY JOHNSON

Office Assistant

"Working for WGC is great because I feel like I'm making a difference. Whether it is getting to know our clients through phone calls or being able to make my coworkers lives easier through my daily tasks, I am grateful I get to be here. I feel supported by the management team and I know they will be there if I have questions or concerns. It's a great feeling to love where you spend the work week!"

JODEE LUDEMANN

Accounts Manager

"The last decade has been an amazing experience! There are so many different facets to mental health and assisting individuals who need guidance with their financial needs, and I share that responsibility in the Rep Payee Program. It is an honor to partner with my coworkers in all the WGC programs as we give of our time and compassion to navigate many, often challenging, situations daily. It has been a rewarding experience.



PRO BONO SERVICES

In the last year, WGC provided services to 907 people. WGC provided \$42,618 in pro bono (charitable) services

WGC CHARITABLE TRUST FUND

The charitable trust fund provided \$115,000 in aid to Wyoming residents with disabilities in 2022-2023. These payments included:

Legal Services Medical Care Housing Costs \$23,469 \$16,961 \$15,287

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Provided training at Stetson University National Conference on Special Needs Planning on Representative Payee Best Practices and on Nonprofit Management .

Also provided training at the National PLAN Alliance Conference, WY Developmental Disabilities Conference, Wyoming 211, Wyoming Behavioral Institute, Cheyenne Regional Medical Center and Community Cares Events.

Attendance by staff at Annual Conferences including: National PLAN Alliance, Stetson University (Special Needs Planning), National Guardianship Webinar's for Funeral & Preneed Planning and Working with Challenging Families, National Alliance on Mental Illness Conference, U.S. Ombudsman Association Conference, WY Suicide Prevention Symposium and the Governor's Mental Health Summit.

LEADERSHIP

Founding Member, Alliance of Pooled Trust

Organizational Member, National PLAN Alliance

Organizational Member, National Guardianship Association

Member, BNI (Business Networking International)

Member, United States Ombudsman Association

National PLAN Alliance Board Member (Emily Smith)

Member, Vulnerable Adult Interdisciplinary Work Group (Emily Smith)

Member, Wyoming State Adult Protection Team (Emily Smith & Jessi Westling)

Member, Governors Behavioral health Advisory Council (Jessi Westling)

Member, Society for Human Resources Management (Danica Lamb)

GRANTS AND GIFTS

WGC received \$226,500 in grants from the Wyoming Department of Health to provide Guardianship and Care Management Services.

WGC received \$150,000 in grants from the Wyoming Department of Health to provide Substance Abuse and Mental Health Ombudsman Services

WGC received \$150,000 in a grant from the Wyoming Department of Family Services to provide guardianship, RPP funding and legal fees for vulnerable adults who have an open Adult Protection investigation.

WGC received a Wyoming Community Foundation grant in the amount of \$25,000 to assist in providing Representative Payee Services

KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division

Wyoming Department of Family Services, Adult Protective Services Division

Wyoming Bank and Trust Bank of Oklahoma

Bailey Stock Harmon Cottom Lopez LLP Shaina Case and John Fritz, Hathaway and Kunz

Abigail Fournier, Steiner Fournier & Zook

