



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 2021

Dear Valued Friends and Supporters:

Horizon High School, Wisconsin's only recovery school, made it through 2021 pretty well! We were glad to be able to welcome students back into our NEW school facility in September... though this lasted for about 3 months, when we returned to the virtual format with the rise of the most recent mutation of the coronavirus. Fortunately (knock on wood), the case impact locally here in Dane County has significantly declined, and we have gone back to a modified in-person schedule, to reduce the numbers of students and staff together in the school. See Traci Goll's report for more details.

Major items of note for Horizon in 2021 include hosting a record number of students (21!) in Spring 2021, possible only because of ZOOM; the completion of the remodeling of the space below the old Taco Bell, into one integrated educational facility, thanks to the generosity of CG Schmidt and their many partners; a 1 year grant from CUNA for hiring of an additional (part-time) counselor—a critical staffing improvement; the graduation of 9 of our students; our partnering with Second Harvest food bank enabling Horizon to have its own food bank for students and their families as well as former students in need. We also recently modernized our website, thanks to Tara Ingalls—check it out if you haven't visited it recently.

With our new facility comes (no surprise) a doubling of our monthly rent. This plus new staff expenses, sees our annual budget creeping upward, now over \$373,000. Staffing expenses are 79% of the budget. Looking at a breakdown of program expenses, ~46% of the annual budget is for academic programs, and ~35% is for the counseling aspect of Horizon's program. Administrative expenses are ~17%, and we only spend 1.5% on fundraising efforts. MMSD funds provide ~27% of our budget, and Dane County Human Services provide ~10%. The remaining 63% comes from individual donations, several small family and group foundations and occasionally a large foundation



Horizon High School celebrated 17 years of serving the youth in our community with an online presentation by Dr. Richard Davidson on “Well-being as a skill: building a kinder, wiser, more compassionate world”. We thank everyone who helped make this a successful event. It is archived at: <https://youtu.be/_NTY4bWXpYM>

(e.g., CUNA). Nancy Meyer, a member of the board of directors, is very active in looking for grant opportunities, and we have been fortunate in the past year and a half to have received several federal and state COVID-related funds.

When we started Horizon over 17 years ago, we were operating on essentially an emergency, day to day, month to month basis, to save the lives of our kids. We were not at all thinking of being around 18 years later. But here we are, thanks to you, our supporters! On March 1st, we celebrated our 17th anniversary with an online presentation by Dr. Richard Davidson, on “Well-being as a skill: Building a kinder, wiser, more compassionate world”. Susan and Richie Davidson have been supporters of Horizon since the beginning (Susan was one of the founders) and we thank them for their longstanding support.

Best wishes,

John Fournelle, Board President

P.O. Box 45045, Madison, Wisconsin 53744 • 608-442-0935 • www.horizonhs.org

Report from the HHS Staff:

Horizon High School has had an amazing year of learning and growth by both students and staff. We started the 2021-2022 school year in person in our brand new space. We are so grateful to have this beautiful space that CG Schmidt built for our Horizon family.

We were able to continue in-person until Christmas when we went to a hybrid model of education, due to a high number of students and a staff member that were sick both with Covid-19 and with other illnesses. We looked at what was going on in multiple areas and wanted to be responsible to give our students the safest way to be educated.

We have reduced the number of students together in the school at any one time, by breaking up into two separate groups. Group 1 did in person school on Mondays, Wednesdays and every other Friday; and did virtual school from home via Zoom on Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Friday. We have returned to in-person school full-time due to the decrease in coronavirus numbers in Dane County.

For academics: Students requested a class in Psychology. We are working our way through the DSM-5 and talking about mental health, how it is diagnosed, what a diagnosis means, and how do you recover or live with the diagnosis. Areas we have covered are substance abuse, alcohol and marijuana, anxiety, depression and we are starting to cover PTSD.

In English, we started out reading the book *Speak*, then transitioned to *Anya's Ghost*, *Pitch Black*, *The Wolves* and now are reading *Mexican Gothic*.

STUDENT STATISTICS December 2021:

We generally have a census of 15-20 students. As of the end of December 2021, Horizon High School had 15 students:

Gender: 8 Females, 5 Males, 2 transgender
Race: White – 6, Black – 1, Bi-racial- 3, Hispanic -5, Indian – 1
(students self-identify)

93% of our students qualify as low income by MMSD, and we have seen a steady increase in students from low income families. And 85% of our students have special education status with more required individualized services



Horizon High School graduated its largest number of seniors in 2021! Here are seven of the nine graduates!

These books have all elicited great discussion and students have begun to look at themselves and others through different experiences and levels of society. For social studies, we are working on a American History using the Wars as a main focus. We started with what is currently going on in the world and then went back and started with a quick look at the American Revolution and then moved into The Civil War, Reconstruction, and World War 1. We are completing The Roaring Twenties and The Great Depression and are moving into World War 2. The plan is to then move onto the Korean War and Vietnam War, finishing with where we know the world today.

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 through an online program called Edgenuity. Students work at their own pace using different modalities to learn about biology, earth science and physics. Students also have a writing component every day. This area of study may look at a poem, a speech or a simple writing prompt and students must answer questions that are proposed in a paragraph format.

Other areas of study this year include daily life skills. With our new kitchen, Second Harvest and 3 of their amazing staff members have paired with us. They come weekly and cook meals with our students.

(continued on next page)

Report from HHS Staff – continued

Our students are active participants in the making of the meal and then we all sit down and eat together (socially distancing). This is an experience that is new for many of our students. Some of the meals we have made are Sliders and Milk Shakes, Chicken Marsala, Taco/Nacho plates, Chicken Pot Pies, a huge seafood boil, and Thanksgiving Dinner with a dessert contest .

About half of the Horizon students currently have jobs in the Madison area. We are collaborating intensely with our seniors, to help them transition into the next parts of their young adulthoods. We continue to work with our students to help them gain skills to be employed and active, working members of our community. We have worked on resumes, looking at different careers, attending job fairs, filling out applications, finding and obtaining housing, insurance and being an adult.

As a staff, we continue to work to expand our knowledge and work to have healthy relationship with our students. We have learned more technology and Bob has become very adept at making amazing Gim-Kits for our students to enhance their learning. We also now use a Smartboard in some capacity as a way to teach daily lessons. The staff have become adult peer specialists for Sources of Strength. This is a youth suicide prevention mental health program that focusing on youth learning to advocate for themselves using trusted adults as mentors. We continue to work with community-based programs such as CCS, CCF, DVR and many others to help our student receive the services that they need to start to heal.

We are looking forward to continuing to grow and learn with our students as we continue to evolve and learn what our new normal will be in this ever-changing world of wonder.



Happy Birthday Kim!



Quick, what did the lesson plan say about a snake in the classroom!

Horizon High School Staff: Dec'21

Traci Goll - Director, 608-335-0387

Bob Weinswig - Lead teacher

Kim Lohman – Dual Diagnosis
Therapist and Teacher

Dave Krych -- Counselor

Darby Buisker- Special Ed Assistant

Dustin Lyons - Special Ed Assistant

Erin KollenBroich - Art Therapist

Suzanne Sweetnam – Office Manager

Staff changes:

In 2021, we welcomed **Suzanne Sweetnam** as Office Manager, **Dave Krych** as a Counselor and **Dustin Lyons** as a Special Education Assistant. We also welcome Horizon alumnus **Ken Adams** to the board!

We said goodbye to Special Education Assistant **Zach Lohman** and to board member **JJ Andrews**. We thank them for their service to Horizon.

Cumulative (2017-2021) Report on HHS Students From MMSD

We would like to share with you some information that highlights the impact Horizon is having upon youth in our community who can benefit from our school. The Madison Metropolitan School District contracts with Horizon High School to serve up to 15 MMSD students at any given time. The MMSD Institutional Research & Evaluation Office provided an analysis of administrative data on the 47 unique MMSD students served from 2017 through spring of 2021.

Across the four school years in the report, Horizon served from 16 to 23 MMSD students each year. The average days enrolled during a school year was 135, ranging from 108 days to 202 days. These data suggest that the average MMSD student attended for over half the school year; the exception was in 2020-21 where the average was 202 days (the entire year). It is not clear how this is calculated since a school year is 180 days, and the calculated maximum days enrolled exceeded this in all years. Perhaps summer school was counted? The reported attendance rate was 96% of days while enrolled. The average GPA earned was 2.70. Horizon students earned 6.84 credits in average year they were enrolled.

Students had many prior suspensions before HHS (569), and very few (8) during and after enrollment at Horizon. All of the 'during or after HHS enrollment' were of students during the 2018-19 school year.

Of 52 students who should have graduated high school with their age cohort by the time of the report, 16 (31%) were "direct graduates" of HHS; 16 (31%) went on to graduate after they attended Horizon, for a total graduation rate of 62%.



Horizon students and staff volunteer every Thanksgiving for the Berbee Derby. Thank you Berbee for your support of Horizon with Technology grants!

MMSD Data Summary 2017-2021	Total	Percent
Average days enrolled during a school year	135	
Attendance rate		96%
Average GPA	2.70	
Average credits earned	6.84	
Suspensions before HHS	569	
Suspensions during and after HHS	8	
Graduation in cohort year*:		
Direct from HHS	16	31%
Subsequent to HHS	16	31%
Not a Graduate	20	38%
*N=52		
Asian		3%
Black		17%
Hispanic/Latino		25%
Multiracial		17%
White		39%
Female		64%
Male		36%
Percent Low Income		52%
Percent English Language Learner		25%
Documented Disability		71%

4 years of data are above. Most recent data for current student population are on page 2

According to MMSD records, 20 (38%) did not graduate. (These data go back to students who attended HHS in 2014-15 or later.)

Based on all MMSD students with an enrollment at Horizon, 61% were students of color and 39% were white. Nearly two-thirds (64%) were females. The data indicate that 52% were low income--attenuated by only 25% low income in 2020-21 cohort (which Horizon staff report is a significant undercounting error). A quarter of the students (25%) were "English Language Learners" whose home language was not English.

Finally, 71% had a documented disability as measured by existence of an individual education plan--IEP. These data document the difficult educational history and complex socio-demographic background of the Horizon student body. As students in a recovery high school, these students also have experienced significant substance use disorders or are at high risk of SUDs, and have a high prevalence of co-occurring mental health issues. Given this background, the eventual 62% rate of high school graduation is an indicator of success of the Horizon High School program.

Horizon's 2021/22 Budget

Horizon High School of Madison, Inc		
Budget		
2021/22 School Year (June '21-June'22)		
	2021/2022	
Revenue		
School Districts	\$98,410	
CCS	\$38,000	
Donations	\$89,290	
Grants	\$55,650	
Covid funds	\$88,700	
Total Revenue		\$370,050
Expenses		
Wages	\$235,900	
Employee Benefits	\$39,700	
Taxes-Payroll	\$18,000	
Rent	\$30,000	
Insurance	\$8,700	
Student Activities	\$6,300	
School bus	\$4,500	
Cleaning	\$3,840	
Maintenance & repairs	\$3,200	
Internet: Zoom, website	\$3,100	
Office Supplies & Copier	\$2,600	
Books & Instructional supplies	\$1,800	
Computer	\$1,400	
Compliance	\$800	
Fundraising (printing, postage)	\$1,100	
Other Operating Expenses	\$12,400	
Total Operating Expenses		\$373,340
Net Income (Loss)		(\$3,290)

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. 2021) have 6 students with CCS. This funding helps a lot!

- Staff salaries, payroll taxes and benefits are 79% of our budget.
- Dividing our expenses between “programmatic” (our mission) and “non-programmatic (administration + fundraising):
 - Total Programmatic = 81.3% of our budget, divided between
 - Counseling = 35.1% of budget and
 - Academic = 46.2% of budget
 - Total Non-programmatic= 18.7% of our budget, divided between
 - Administrative = 17.2% and
 - Fundraising= 1.5%

The budget for the 2021-22 Academic Year is \$373,340. The proposed budget for a full Summer School program is \$45,000. With full enrollment of 15 students, the average cost per student is ~\$19,000 for the academic year with an additional cost per student of \$3000 for a full Summer School program. Your donation is critical to helping Horizon continue to serve our young people in need.

HHS Board January 2022
 John Fournelle, President
 Paul Moberg, Vice President
 Ken Klinzing, Treasurer
 Judi Munaker, Secretary
 Ken Adams
 Stan Kanter
 Brian Koenig
 Nancy Meyer
 Jacci See

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 green “Donate” button, which will take you to the proper location to sign up.



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

Thank you! to all the generous supporters who assisted us in keeping our doors open in 2021. 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 in 2021. We received generous support from many individual donors and organizations and foundations during calendar year 2021: WI Department of Public Instruction (COVID relief), Madison Community Foundation (COVID relief), CUNA Mutual Foundation, Stan Kanter, JPK Krogstad Charitable Trust, Cremer Foundation, Kanter Family Fund, Thomas P and Patricia A. O'Donnell Foundation, Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation, Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation, Keller Family Charitable Trust, Technology Educational Foundation, Madison South Rotary Foundation, Deb Houden, Susan Davidson, Karen Sprecher, Joe and Kay Tisserand, Sinsinawa Dominicans Leadership Council, CESA #6 (COVID relief), Kathleen Johnson, John Fournelle and Judith Munaker, Colony Brands Foundation, Inc, Rick and Judy Fetherston, Linda Granato, Gussel Foundation, Katherine Johnson-Becklin, Laura J Graham Charitable Fund, Nancy Meyer, Edward Oppenheimer and Susan Munaker Oppenheimer, Phil and Nancy Schaecher, Thomas Kurtz, John Blaha, Teri Edman, Paul Blair, Sherry and Brian Buisker, George Cutlip, Destree Design Architects Inc, First Weber Group Foundation, James Iliff, Paul Moberg, Oregon Mental Health Services, Rubins for Kids, Middleton Community Church, Gregory and Amy Rogers, Rogers Memorial Hospital, Inc, Bert and Lesley Slinde, John Aeschlimann, Amy and Randy Heidel, Brian and Sherry Koenig, Linda Matusewic, Sandra Wolens and Michael Feldman, Judith Kay Bodden, Justine Coburn, Culvers, Eric and Jane Schulenburg, Anna Becker, CPU Solutions, Inc, Ilene Hagman, Peggy and Jerry Hendrickson, Jill Kammer, John and Andrea Kenny, Paul McMahan, Gerald Mowris, James Otterson, Stephanie Ramer, Patricia Reisinger, Roger Ripp, Jeffrey Schafer, Arlene Silveira, Lisa Steinkamp, Jennifer Sterling, Kevin Thompson, Jeanne Williams, John and Jill Wozniczka, Jonathan Seymour, Tessa Maher - Transformation Center, Michael R. Christopher, Susan and Robert Elias, Jeanette and Mike Froehle, Bonnie Gilbertson, Susanne Gilbertson, Marlys Goll, Thomas and Joanne Marshall, Marina Moskowitz, Patricia Nicholson, Lois Karn, and Douglas and Mary Poole.

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

- CG Schmidt and especially Rick and Eric Schmidt, Sarah Dunn, Ben Delzer and Boyd Sansone—and their construction partners --for our new school remodelling.
- Tara Ingalls of Tingalls Graphic Design for redesigning our webpage and for helping make the 17th Anniversary celebration a success.
- Second Harvest Food Bank for helping create a Horizon HS Food Bank and Brian Squire, Kylie Jacobsen and Jordyn Crane helping teach our students cooking skills.
- Sheldon Rampton for helping migrate our donor database from Excel to a real relational database.

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, Lynne Pope, Deb Houden, Polly Haag Kraemer, Nicole Moser, Vicki Seymour, Lisa Steinkamp, Cheryl and Tom Rasmussen, Peg Rolfs, and Bradley J Goll. Thank you all!

Horizon High School of Madison, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and all contributions are fully tax deductible. Our EIN: 20-1240272

P.O. Box 45045, Madison, Wisconsin 53744 • 608-442-0935 • www.horizonhs.org

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_\$5000 _\$1000 _\$500 _\$250 _\$100 _\$50 _\$25 __other

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