**Ken Collins, CPSW**

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**RESUME**

**Professional Experience:**

**2018 - Present Executive Director**

**Hozho Center for Personal Enhancement**

**Gallup, New Mexico**

* ***Hozho Center is a private non-profit tax exempt 501 (c) (3) organization. Supervise staff and develop projects to benefit homeless individuals in McKinley County. Coordinate alcohol and substance abuse groups at the Hozho Center a community-based wellness center offering Native American Traditional Counseling, Peer Support and Mentoring Services by Certified Peer Support Workers (CPSW), Acupuncture and Acupressure Detox, Brain Injury Peer Support Groups, Sweat Lodges, AA and NA Meetings, Motherhood and Fatherhood Support Groups, and One-on-One Counseling.  Provide brain injury trauma stress addiction awareness presentations at the NCI Detox Center, Twin Lakes Chapter House and elsewhere as needed to educate people about the limbic system fight, flight or freeze response and reward center.***

* ***Hozho Center is funded annually through New Mexico Behavioral Health Office of Peer Recovery.***

* ***Hozho Center uses the strengths-based model focused on the goals, interests, experiences, and strengths of each individual.  The focus is on making positive life changes in people’s lives.  Hozho Center promotes the empowerment of individuals by providing services based on role modeling and mentoring.***

* ***​Hozho Center uses Motivational Interviewing (MI) as a non- confrontational, cognitive- behavioral intervention that is utilized to help people become aware of behaviors and issues.***

**2008 – 2018 Chairman,**

**Hozho Center for Personal Enhancement**

**Gallup, New Mexico**

* ***Drop in Center for homeless and other disadvantaged individuals on the streets of Gallup. Hozho provides a variety of services including brain injury trauma peer support groups, AA and NA Groups, Native American Traditional Counseling, Men and Women’s Sweat Lodges, Dine’ Elders support, Domestic Violence Counseling, Motherhood and Fatherhood Group, DWI Counseling***
* ***Recent Chair and re-appointed by New Mexico Governor Susanna Martinez, to the New Mexico Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC). Helped with developing 2015 and 2018 the New Mexico State Independent Living Plan (SPIL) after holding regional meetings around the state to gather testimony on the needs of people with disabilities and how the network of independent living centers in New Mexico can address these needs.***

**2017 - 2018 Manager, Next Step Program**

**Rehoboth McKinley Christian**

**Health Care Services (RMCHCS)**

**Behavioral Health Services**

**Gallup, New Mexico**

* ***Next Step provides job development and placement for individuals who have completed six months of treatment and work rehabilitation at Behavioral Health Services (BHS). These individuals have completed thirty days of work readiness training that includes 20 hours of work and 20 hours treatment at BHS. These graduates then move into the successful 120 Program for three more months of employment at worksites around Gallup to further increase their work skills and employability.***
* ***Next Step teaches participants how to conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner no matter what the circumstance***
* ***Next Step provides mindfulness education and training to participants so they know how to stay calm, cool and collected during stressful situations at any time on any worksite***
* ***Next Step educates participants to improve their long term recovery by using mindfulness-based stress reduction techniques***
* ***Next Step educates employees about drug and alcohol problems (limbic system) and how to support co-workers in recovery***

**2009 - 2017 Director, San Juan Center for Independence**

**Gallup, New Mexico**

* ***Supervise satellite office staff and provide independent living services to consumers with brain injuries and other disabilities in McKinley County. Develop program services and projects to benefit Navajo's with disabilities so they can be productive members of the community. Transitioned people with disabilities out of nursing homes in McKinley County. Conducting weekly trauma and brain injury awareness presentations at NCI Detox, NCI Treatment Center, RMCHCS Behavioral Health Center, McKinley County Detention Center, DWI Program, Gallup Indian Medical Center, Emergency Room Department to educate individuals in detox/treatment and staff about the role stress plays in triggering the limbic system fight or flight response. Played a leadership role in passage of the Vulnerable Adult Protection Act "Doris Act on the Navajo Nation. Wrote grants to Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation and New Mexico Governor's Commission on Disability to hold three focus groups to educate Navajo's with disabilities, Navajo Council Delegates and legislative leaders on passage of the "Doris Act". Legislation was passed by the Navajo Tribal Council on January 24, 2012 and was signed into law in February, 2012 by Navajo Nation President, Ben Shelly.***
* ***Elders First! Coordinator. Organized Elders First! to develop elder day services (adult day care) for frail Navajo elders at senior centers on the Navajo Nation. Wrote grants to Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation and New Mexico Governor's Commission on Disability for Elders First! to fund focus groups and develop an Elders First! DVD to help educate chapter officials about elder day services at senior centers. The DVD will be distributed to key legislative leaders in the Navajo Nation, Navajo Area Agency on Aging (NAAA), and Eastern Agency of the NAAA.*** <http://youtu.be/Coth5eeZSu0>
* ***Conducted brain injury webinars on the role the limbic system fight or flight response plays in the brain injury recovery process for the Brain Injury Association of America*** [**http://www.biausa.org/education/altermanwebinars**](http://www.biausa.org/education/altermanwebinars) ***and the Brain Injury Resource Center*** [**http://cddunm.adobeconnect.com/birc/**](http://cddunm.adobeconnect.com/birc/) ***in Albuquerque, New Mexico.***

**2004 – 2008 President, Iinah Iliih, Inc. (Precious Life)**

**Gallup, New Mexico**

* ***Organization was dedicated to the prevention of brain, spinal cord, and other disabling injuries on the Navajo Nation through culturally sensitive education, environmental modification, law enforcement and public policy development. Precious Life staff became ThinkFirst Navajo and still works with Indian Health Service programs, Navajo Health Promotion and Injury Prevention programs, Department of Highway Safety and Navajo Tribal Police teaching kids in a classroom format to influence behavior early in a child’s life, at 6-8 years old and again at 9-12 years old to reinforce the prevention message using our Voices of Injury Prevention*** ***(VIP’s),*** ***to tell their unique stories and compelling speaking styles to motivate kids, teens and DWI drivers to think first before they risk their lives and the lives of others. 1) Silversmith***
* ***Training project for Navajo’s with disabilities funded through Navajo Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS) in Window Rock, AZ. This project trained up to 24 Navajos with disabilities annually. 2) Brain injury prevention and awareness project – Helmets Save Lives – Helmets Save Lives project******is a proactive brain injury prevention project combining the organizational support of the Boys and Girls Club of Gallup, Iinah Iliih, Inc. (Precious Life), Disability Services, Inc. (DSI), Brain Injury Association of New Mexico, SafeKids New Mexico, Gallup Police Department, McKinley County Sheriff’s Office and the New Mexico State Police. This project will be partnering with local law enforcement agencies and the courts to effectively carryout the mandates of this law by using community awareness and public safety instead of legislative coercion and financial penalties. Instead of requiring violators of the law to purchase helmets for their children parents will be directed to go to the Boys and Girls Club of Gallup at 400 W. Princeton Avenue to pick up free bike helmets for their children. This will give law enforcement agencies the opportunity to raise community awareness about public safety and the prevention of brain injury and will help educate kids and the public about the consequences of not wearing protective head gear while riding bicycles, scooters, skateboards, ATV’s, etc.***

**2003 – 2008 Projects Manager, Services, Inc. (DSI)**

**Gallup, New Mexico**

* ***As Projects Manager I provided job development, community outreach and education on disability related issues and develop community-based projects and programs in the Gallup area. Developed the first Disability Awareness Day to take place in Gallup in 2004. Gallup Mayor and City Councilors were in wheelchairs all morning and attended Regional Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) training in afternoon. In 2005, City of Gallup department managers and staff were trained on the ADA during all day training session at city hall. Worked with three consumers on self-employment projects: Roger’s Disco, Lionel’s Cedar and Beadworks. Met with diverse groups of people and organizations including: business leaders, governmental officials, tribal leaders, civic and religious organizations, ethnic groups, traditional counselors and Navajo Medicine Men/Women. The work includes: identifying and prioritizing unmet needs, organizing community meetings, records keeping, distribution of meeting announcements and flyers, composing letters, developing agendas, writing and distribution of minutes of meetings, speaking to the public and private groups about ADA enforcement and disability issues and concerns, conducting research and writing business plans for self-employment projects to NM Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. People First of Gallup, Advisor that is responsible for documenting consumer participation in self-employment projects in the Gallup community and conducting bi-weekly meetings. This work also includes recording inventory and records keeping of items sold by participants. I also attend statewide meetings and trainings on disability related issues and concerns. Provided written and verbal testimony on disability related legislation over the last six years.***

**2001 - 2003 Project Director, Shiprock Elder Care Program**

**San Juan Center for Independence**

**Farmington, New Mexico**

* ***Developed grant and wrote work plan for the creation of first adult day care program in the Navajo Nation at Shiprock Senior Center in Shiprock, New Mexico. Worked with New Mexico Agency on Aging on the establishment of Sole Source Contract to establish Shiprock Elder Care Program (SECP). This model adult day care program was the first in the Navajo Nation and can be replicated throughout the Navajo Nation; however the Navajo Nation has yet to implement this program at other senior centers throughout the Navajo Nation. Hired and supervised four (4) qualified people to carry out day-to-day activities at SECP. Developed budget and wrote Personnel Policies and Procedures for staff and advisory committee, provided monthly training of staff on elders progress and needs and how to effectively use the Adult Standards of Care to delay or avoid keeping them from becoming institutionalized, developed quarterly checklist to insure that Adult Day Care Licensing terms and conditions set forth by the requirements of New Mexico’s Regulation and Licensing Department. Maintained accurate elders’ records documenting services, goals set and goals achieved. Provided monthly submissions of grant expenditures and completed and submitted monthly reports on Shiprock Elder Care Program activities that correlate with the Scope of Services achievements. Presented on Shiprock Elder Care Program at State Agency on Aging, Annual Conference, in Glorita, New Mexico. Provided a yearly audit of program to State Agency on Aging. Three years after SJCI turned the program over to the tribe the Shiprock Elder Care Program closed because of mismanagement and lack of support from tribal government and NAAA.***

**2003 - 2000 Life Skills Coach, San Juan Center for Independence**

**Farmington, New Mexico**

* ***Provided one-on-one life skills training, job development and placement activities to persons with brain injuries in San Juan County. Developed successful Self-Advocacy Conference at San Juan College for persons with brain injuries in San Juan County. Coordinated the development of adult day care services that led to the creation of the Shiprock Elder Care Program. Developed sweat lodge as alternative to traditional support group setting for brain injury survivors to gain better understanding of themselves and their brain injuries.***

**2000 – Community Organizer, Support Coalition International**

**Eugene, Oregon**

* ***Provided outreach and community organizing efforts to help broaden the understanding of human rights issues concerning people with psychiatric disabilities. Organized meetings and workshops to educate the community and state about mental health services needed in the community. Wrote agendas and minutes of meetings and other tasks as needed.***

**1999 -1996 Emergency Pager, Alvord/Taylor, Inc.**

**Eugene, Oregon**

* ***Provided one-on-one independent living skills training to persons with developmental disabilities and brain injuries at nine group homes in Eugene/Springfield, Oregon. Worked as Emergency Relief Provider where I trained staff to develop solutions to client care issues and problems. Worked on all shifts and at all locations as the primary emergency relief provider and because of the high rate of employee turnover within the agency I worked an average of 60 to 180 hours a week. Contacted the Oregon Employees Union (OEPU) to help organize workers to improve working conditions within the agency to decrease turnover. Alvord/Taylor is a unionized shop.***

**1996 - 1995 Personal Care Attendant (PCA), Keith Dressler**

**Cottage Grove, Oregon**

* ***Assisted with personal care and business startup activities for a man with MS. Assisted Keith in the development of business plan for his willow furniture business. Developed inventory control system for willow furniture business. Provided note taking at business meetings. Developed Business Plan and filled out credit applications, wrote letters to potential customers and filled out contracts for his business.***

**1995 - 1993 Vocational Specialist, Center for Neuro-Ed. Therapies, Inc.**

**(C-NET) Eugene, Oregon**

* ***Provided job development and placement, peer counseling and job coaching to persons with brain injuries in Eugene/Springfield, Oregon. Wrote weekly/monthly/quarterly progress reports on progress of program participants.***

**1992 - 1993 Employ. Services Coordinator, Disability Resource Center**

**Las Cruces, New Mexico**

* ***Coordinated and developed community-based supported employment program for persons with brain injuries in Dona Ana, Sierra and Luna Counties. This project included developing classroom and on-the-job training in the areas of: independent living skills training, social and interpersonal skills building, communication and listening skills, peer counseling, time and medication management, extended job development and placement. Wrote monthly and quarterly progress reports to agencies involved in program.***

**1992 -1990 Advocate/Counselor, Uhlhorn Apartments**

**Eugene, Oregon**

* ***Provided independent living skills training, peer counseling, money management training, public transportation training, job skills training, memory skills training and support to 19 people with brain injuries living at the apartments.*** [**http://www.sheltercare.org/2016/03/uhlhorn-beginnings/**](http://www.sheltercare.org/2016/03/uhlhorn-beginnings/)

**1988 - 1986 VISTA Volunteer, Community In-Home Co-op**

**Eugene, Oregon**

* ***Position responsible for establishing Uhlhorn Apartments and Disabilities Advisory Coalition in Eugene, Oregon. Worked with Bill Uhlhorn at Eugene Emergency Housing to develop apartments, program and services. Organized and conducted community meetings to identified resources and community leaders to develop program and services.***

**1986 – 1983 Personal Care Attendant, Client/Employed Provider**

**Eugene, Oregon**

* ***Provided one-on-one consumer directed independent living services to a variety of people with disabilities in Lane County and Eugene, Oregon.***

**1982 Editor, Palestine Press Service**

**East Jerusalem,** **Palestine**

* ***Lived in Ramallah under Israeli occupation from 1982-83. Traveled to Jerusalem where I translated stories from newspapers throughout the west bank and Jerusalem that were disseminated to embassies throughout Israel.***

**1978 - 1981 Executive Director*,* Upper Willamette Economic**

**Development Corporation**

**Oakridge, Oregon.**

* ***After the closure of the Chicago-based Edward Hines Lumber Company in Westfir, Oregon in August 1977, where 458 workers were unexpectedly laid off - I helped organize the Westfir Workers Association (WWA) to purchase the Edward Hines Lumber Company operation. This worker-owned cooperative was modeled after the highly successful plywood cooperatives throughout the Northwest and became my rehabilitation after my brain injury. Negotiations for purchasing the Edard Hines mill properties fell through after Hines sold their holdings another firm (themselves). This effort was highlighted in the award winning documentary – Company Town. Lane County funded a feasibility study on diversification of the local economy that focused on the formation of a local economic development corporation which enabled me to get the cognitive therapy I needed. The Upper Willamette Economic Development Corporation was created to take over where the WWA left off and I became its Executive Director from 1978 to 1981. I supervised a total of 12 staff members until the corporation was dissolved after the mill operation was sold and reopened under a new company. Conducting business and managing UWEDC staff provided me with the structure and cognitive therapy I needed during those early years of my brain injury recovery process.***

**\* December 31, 1976 at 3 AM - received brain injury after crashing headfirst into the side of a parked car by Summit Lake, Oregon.**

***Recent Presentations:***

***2016, Southwest Conference on Disability - What's Going on Between My Ears - After Brain Injury***

***2015, Southwest Conference on Disability - The Biology of Brain Injury - Controlling the Fight or Flight Response***

***2015, Native American Traumatic Brain Injury Summit - Controlling the Fight or Flight Response for Native Americans with Brain Injuries”***

***2014, Southwest Conference on Disability - Poster Board Presentation - Creating a Quality of Life for People with Brain Injuries Using Neuroplasticity, Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction and Mindfulness Therapy.***

***2014, Southwest Conference on Disability - The Uhlhorn Apartments Model for Independence***

***2013, Southwest Conference on Disability, Albuquerque, New Mexico - Brain Injury Recovery Using: Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT Tapping) Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and Mindfulness Meditation Training***

***2012, Southwest Conference on Disability, Albuquerque, New Mexico - Accessing Life after Brain Injury - Public Service, Political Action & Community Organizing***

***2011, Southwest Conference on Disability Finding Happiness and Joy After Brain Injury at 61***

***2006, New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Albuquerque, New Mexico - Providing Services to People with Brain Injuries***

***Accomplishments:***

***1994-1997 - Certified Facility Administrator, National Association of Residential Care Facilities.***

***1995 - Evaluated Specialized Living Centers funded by Medicaid - The Dignity Project - Providing Community-based Services for People with Brain Injuries in Oregon. Senior and Disabled Division, Department of Human Services, Salem, Oregon***

***1995 - Pitcher, Eugene Giants, Men’s Senior Baseball League, Eugene, Oregon - State Champions***

***1976: Pitcher, Bend Bachelors Baseball Team, Bend Oregon - State Champions***

***1975: Pitcher, Santiago Baseball Organization, Santiago, Dominican Republic - All Star Team.***

***1970-75 - Pitcher, Minor League System - Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Organization - 1972 Midwest League Champions, Danville Warriors Baseball Team, Danville, IL.***

***Past Presentations:***

***November 9-11, 1994: National Brain Injury Conference, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, US Department of Education, Chicago, IL - "Life After Brain Injury: Answers I Can Live With", "Identification Factors For Institutionalization", "How I Fill My Life With Love and Enjoyment After Brain Injury".***

***June 22-24, 1993: Matrix Research Institute, Portland, Oregon - "Structured Peer Training for Supported Employment for Job Coaches and Job Developers".***

***January 13-14, 1993: University of North Texas, Center for Continuing Education and Conference Management, Denton, Texas - "Principles of Job Placement".***

***October 26-28, 1992: Thirteenth Annual Regional VI Conference on Independent Living, Project HIRE, Tulsa Oklahoma - "Independent Living: The Quality Movement".***

***June 11-12, 1992: University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon - "Supported Employment Options for Head Injury Survivors".***

***May 28-30, 1992: South Dakota Head Injury Foundation Annual Conference, Pierre, South Dakota - "The Uhlhorn Model".***

***May 23, 1992: Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury Center, Denver, Colorado - 'Doing What Works So People Get What They need".***

***May 1-2, 1992: JMA Foundation/National Brain Injury Research Group Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland - “Community Empowerment: VISTA Volunteers and Title XIX Waivers".***

***March 26-29, 1992: Fifteenth Annual Brain Trauma Conference - "COMA TO COMMUNITY" - Santa Clara Medical Center, San Jose, California - "Community Empowerment: Utilizing ACTION Personnel and Title XIX Waivers".***

***February 19, 1992: Testimony to the Sub-committee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations, Committee on Government Operations, House of representatives, Washington, DC - Congressional Investigation of Brain injury rehabilitation industry that resulted in closure of rehabilitation centers around the US owned by New Medico and other corrupt rehabilitation programs for fraud and abuse of people with brain injuries.***

***December 11-14, 1991: National Head Injury Foundation 10th Annual Symposium, Los Angeles, California - "Building Community-based Systems: Utilizing ACTION Personnel and TITLE XIX Waivers".***

***May 3, 1991: South Dakota Head Injury Foundation Annual meeting, Pierre, South Dakota - "Developing Home and Community-based Services for People with Head Injuries ".***

***November 28, 1991: New Mexico Head Injury Foundation, Albuquerque, New Mexico - Keynote Speaker - "Establishing Services to Meet the Needs of Persons with Head Injuries through VISTA, HUD and Oregon Trust Fund legislation using traffic fines".***

***June 20, 1991: Rehabilitation Research and Training on Integration of Persons with Traumatic Brain Injuries, Continuing Education Seminar, State University of New York, Buffalo, "The Uhlhorn Apartments Model" - "Evaluating Models".***

**Education:**

**1969 - Oakridge Senior High School, Oakridge, Oregon.**

**1970 - Clackamas Community College, Oregon City, Oregon**

**Certifications:**

**2017 New Mexico Certified Peer Support Worker (CPSW)**

**Publications:**

<http://www.educationviews.org/ken-collins-reflections-recovery-head-injury/>

***References Available on Request***