



Report to the
Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee
Of the
**Legislative Health and Human
Services Committee**

November 9, 2012



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Recent Name Change

On October 1, 2012
New Mexico Abilities became
Horizons of New Mexico





Introduction

The last US Census showed that, for New Mexico residents between the ages of 16 and 64, approximately 38% of the state's men with a disability and 31% of its women with a disability were employed, compared with employment rates of 80% and 71% for men and women who do not have a disability of the same age group.

New Mexico continues to follow the national rate of 75% unemployment among individuals with disabilities.



Our Mission

On behalf of the State Purchasing Council From Persons With Disabilities, Horizons of New Mexico, a central nonprofit agency, **promotes and secures employment for individuals with disabilities**; negotiates contracts; educates and trains non-profit Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRP) and individuals; promotes the program to individuals, CRPs, and government agencies; and ensures that all members operate in an ethical manner.



Authorization

The **New Mexico State Use Act**, 13-1C-1 NMSA 1978, is an outgrowth of the state's continuing efforts to expand opportunities for its citizens with disabilities.

The Act opens state service contracts, including contracts to provide services to the state, county, city and educational institutions as business owners and entrepreneurs, to persons with disabilities without their having to competitively bid for the contract - so long as the services are provided at fair market pricing.



How Do We Work?

- Horizons of New Mexico acts as **the central nonprofit agency (CNA) to carry out the work of** NM's State Use Act. For our work, Horizons adds a fully transparent 5% administrative fee to all service contracts.
- Horizons of New Mexico **identifies contracts** that are sought by the public sector and **matches them with our members' skills**.
- As the CNA, we provide **financial stability** to our members by providing payment to them within 14 days of invoices, while we wait for public payment.
- Horizons of New Mexico **membership is free** and provides members an opportunity for contracts with public agencies for their services.
- All required members pay their **NM Gross Receipts Tax (GRT)** and other taxes.



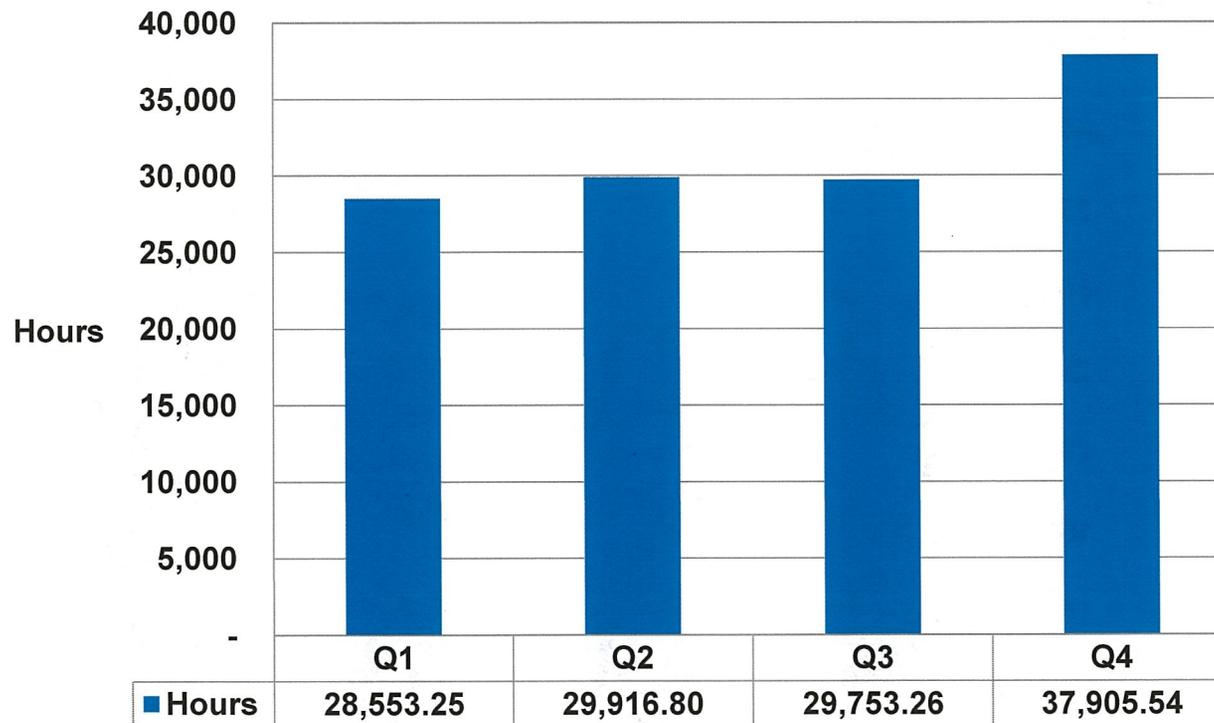
Accomplishments

- **5th year** of a central nonprofit agency (now Horizons of New Mexico)
- Membership = **110** (includes individuals with disabilities, non profits/CRPs and for profit disabled-owned companies)
- Employment for **351 individuals** with disabilities
- Meet the 75% direct labor delivered by persons with disabilities rule
- **\$ 7,421,164.16** from 90 current contracts



Hours Worked

FY12

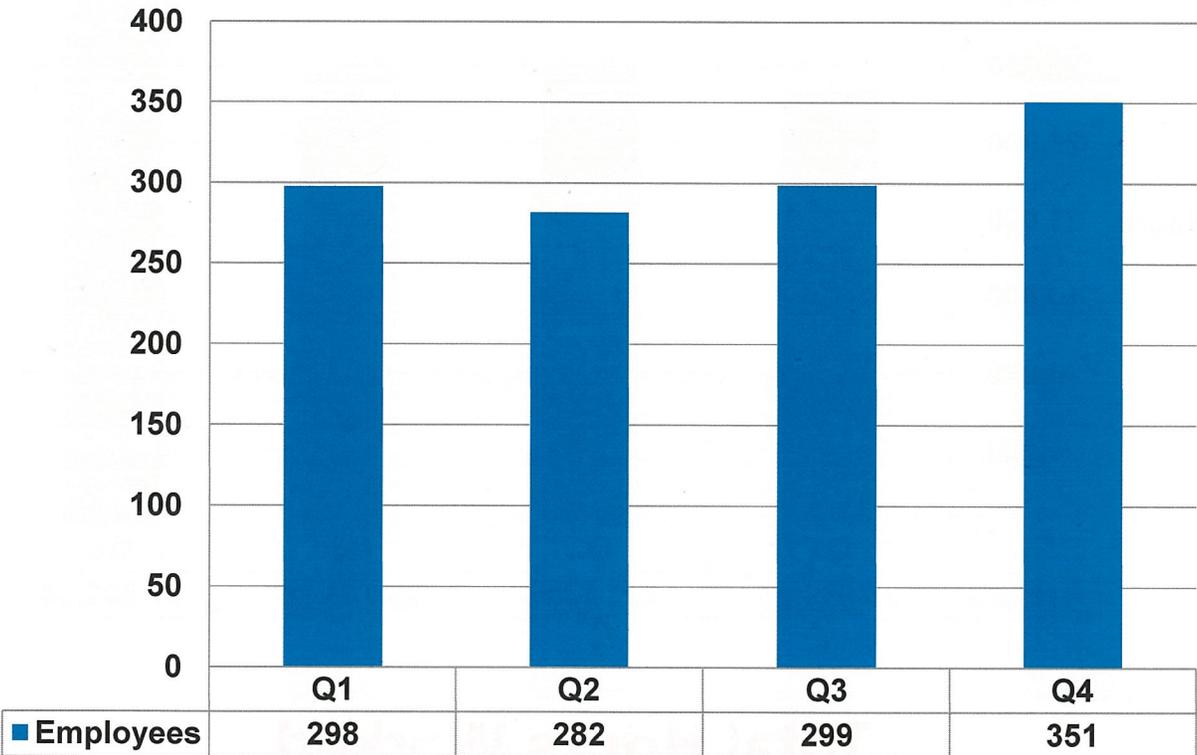


Total Hours Worked
126,128.85



Total Employees with Disabilities

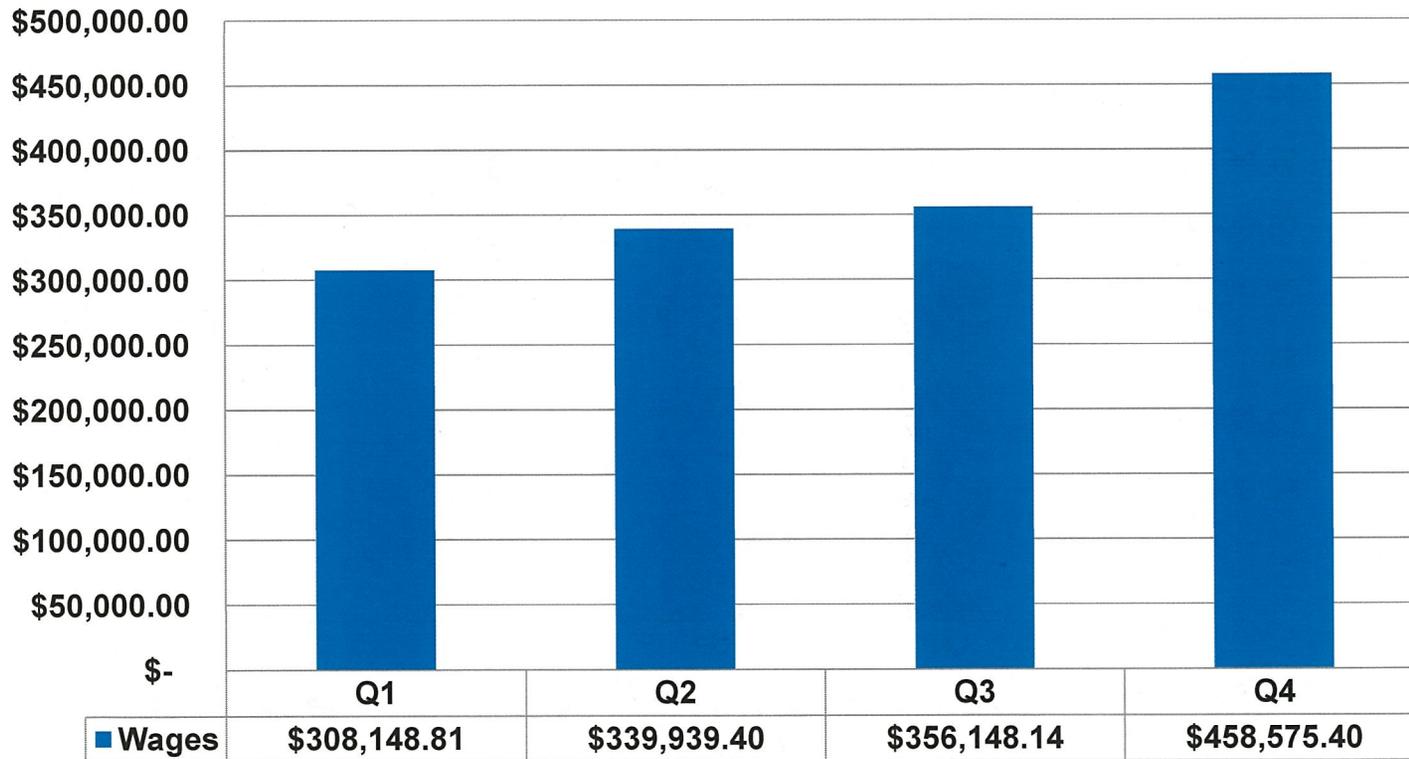
FY12





Wages

FY12

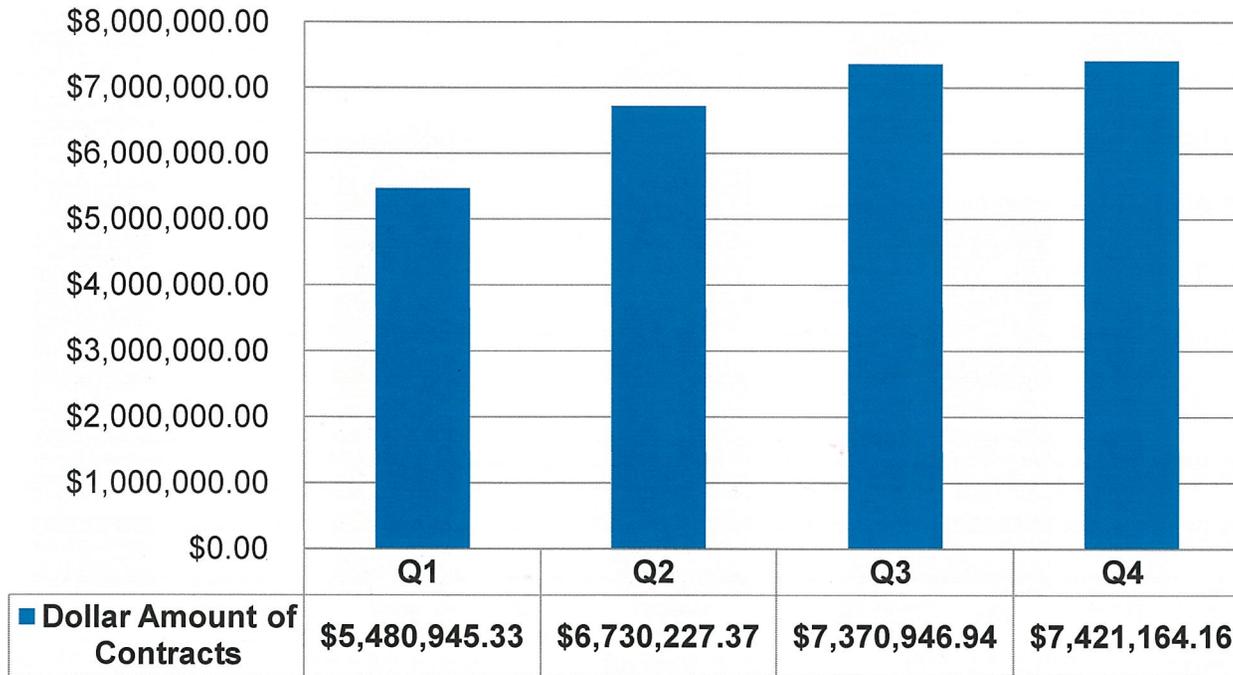


Total Wages Earned

\$1,462,811.75



Dollar Amount of Total Contracts FY12



Ending Total
\$7,421,164.16



Dollar Amount of Total Contracts FY12

	Contracts Value	Dollar Amt Change	% Change
Q1	\$5,480,945.33	-	-
Q2	\$6,730,227.37	\$1,249,282.04	19%
Q3	\$7,370,946.94	\$640,719.57	9%
Q4	\$7,421,164.16	\$50,217.22	1%

Total FY Change

\$1,940,218.83

(35.4%)



Purchasing Entities

State

Dept. of Game & Fish
Children, Youth & Families Dept.
Dept. of Cultural Affairs
Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Dept. of Health
Human Services Dept.
Dept. of Homeland Security
Economic Development/Spaceport
Education Retirement Board
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept.
Dept. of Environment
Dept. of Veteran's Services
General Services Dept.
Dept. of Transportation
Public Education Dept.
Dept. of Workforce Solutions
Board of Examiners for Architects

Office of African American Affairs
District Attorney Office
State Engineer's Office
Corrections Dept.
PERA
Worker's Compensation Administration
Dept. of Information Technology

Counties

Bernalillo County

Municipalities

City of Albuquerque
Town of Edgewood

Universities/Schools

University of New Mexico



Service Members

People with disabilities have a commitment to their employer and pride in their work. Work changes people's lives and gives them self worth, friends, a purpose and stability.

Tresco, Inc. has been providing maintenance services for 12 interstate rest areas in Dept. of Transportation's District 1 (SW) since 1990 and providing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.



To illustrate the value of this contract and the potential of the State Use Law to change people's lives and offer a great service to our public partners, we would like to highlight the tenure of these employees with disabilities.

Ernie McComb	7/95 to present	17.5 years
Steve Holdeman	12/95 to present	17.0 years
Gerry Garcia	5/97 to present	15.5 years
Lino Chavez	5/97 to present	15.5 years
Eric Kimball	7/97 to present	15.5 years
Lisa Barnett	8/97 to present	15.0 years

Ron Edwards: A Horizon Success Story

Ron Edwards was born in Queens, NY in 1954. After graduating high school and owning his own furniture repair business, Ron enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. After being Honorably Discharged in 1985, Ron became a homeless service disabled veteran. It was from this deeply humbling experience that Ron draws upon in his commitment and compassion to the every growing number of homeless Veterans.

With his service disability, Ron qualified and became a member of NM Abilities on January 6, 2009. His first two contracts came in November and December of 2010. One contract was for \$6,348 with Human Services Department, Working Disabled Program for marketing support, and the next month for \$1,850 with the Dept. of Workforce Solutions again for marketing support. His next contract was in FY 12 for \$2,115 for additional marketing support work with Human Services Department, Working Disabled Program.

This fiscal year (FY 13), Ron has completed two contracts for the Department of Game & Fish – one for \$8,627 for the 2012 Outdoor Expo banners and another one for \$1,365 for educational booklets. Additionally, Ron has 4 additional quotes for Game & Fish projects whose contract value potential totals \$17,380. And at Horizons of NM we'll do everything we can to see that he does get all 4 projects.

Today, Ron and his wife Kathryn are co-owners of Focus Advertising Specialties Ltd. Co. and are also respectively President/CEO and Vice-President/Treasurer of The Focus Group Ltd., of which Focus Publishing is a division, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Ron Edwards doesn't want a handout. Like every American, he wants to contribute - contribute his talents to his family, to his work, to his state, and to his country.





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