



# Alegria News

## From the CEO

We at Alegria hope that your summer went well. As school begins again and the temperature starts to cool, we also hope that we have no new COVID-like surprises. However, we are here and ready to work with you if any such issues do arise.

We are not anticipating any upcoming surprises from DDSD concerning the Mi Via Waiver and its requirements. I hope I do not jinx it by saying that. The latest adjustment was the added class requirements and I think all of you, with Richard's help, are getting those requirements out of the way. Those additional classes only have to be taken one time. That leaves ANE as the only class that needs to be updated annually.

Many of our providers have moved to digital documentation for their daily reports. Providers who have made the change really like it, saying that it makes this daily chore easier. We hope that all of you will consider making this easy switch. Richard is there to help you each step of the way.

Alegria, for its part, anticipates no changes in staff or other changes. We are proud of the staff we now have and hope to have them with us a very long time.

So, for the good ship Alegria its "steady as she goes" as we head into the fall, the holidays, and the end of this year.

Larry

*July 1, 1862 - President Abraham Lincoln signed the first income tax bill, levying a 3% income tax on annual incomes of \$600-\$10,000 and a 5% tax on incomes over \$10,000. Also on this day, the Bureau of Internal Revenue was established by an Act of Congress.*



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### July 2nd is World UFO Day!



World UFO Day is a day for all of those who are interested in the unknown. It is observed on July 2, the anniversary of the supposed UFO crash in Roswell, in 1947. On this day, Ufologists and curious people gather together to observe the skies in search of Unidentified Flying Objects. Those who observe this day also campaign for the government to declassify files on UFO sightings.

Some people choose to commemorate this day on June 24, when Kenneth Arnold, an aviator, reported what is known as the first UFO sighting in the United States.





## Meet Terri Jaurequi Officer Manager

Terri Jaurequi joined the Alegria Family Services team back in 2015. In addition to being bilingual, she has brought with her a wealth of knowledge and experience that has made her a central part of the services that Alegria provides. Her bubbly and friendly personality immediately puts people at ease and has made her a perfect fit.

Terri began her career with AFS as our Environmental Modification Coordinator. In this role her skills in organization and documentation became readily apparent, and it was a natural progression to Administrative Assistant.

For several years Terri had been a DD Waiver Family Living service provider for Alegria, and learned from experience the demands and rigors of the New Mexico waiver programs. This has

given her a profound understanding of what supports our providers require to care for their individuals while maintaining NM state requirements. She uses this knowledge daily in her duties, making a difficult job appear easy.

As office manager, Terri has excelled in her role. With her fluent knowledge of the Spanish language she has built strong relationships with our Spanish speaking providers, and the consulting agencies throughout New Mexico who trust Alegria to care for their clients. We are often recommend by these agencies simply because of the trust they have in Terri and the rest of the AFS team to do the best job possible.

Terri is also an avid “foodie” and traveler, who has a love of life and all the good it has to offer.

*Each quarter we will feature two Alegria staff members and discuss their histories and what brought them to Alegria. We hope you enjoy learning more about your staff!*

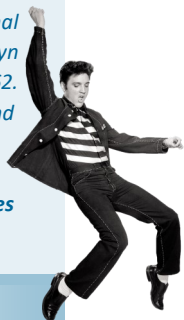
### What about August?

*The month was named in honor of Augustus Caesar, the Roman emperor and adopted son of Julius Caesar. Eventually, Augustus was shortened to simply, August.*

*There are many strange days celebrated in the month of August, but here are a few favorites. August 3rd is National Watermelon Day. August 10th is National Lazy Day. Maybe our favorite, August 16th is National Roller Coaster Day. And finally, August 28th is fancy, it's National Bow Tie Day!*

*Two of America's most iconic superstars met their early deaths in the month of August. The original blonde bombshell, actress Marilyn Monroe died on August 4th, 1962. Elvis Presley, the King of Rock and Roll, died on August 16th, 1977.*

*Diana, beloved Princess of Wales died on August 31, 1997.*

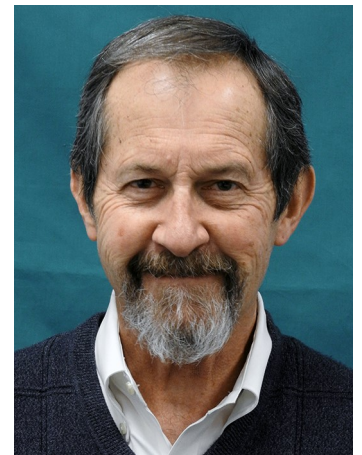


## Meet Larry Maxey Chief Executive Officer

Larry Maxey, the CEO of Alegria has been in the helping profession for over forty years. He holds masters' degrees in psychology and in special education. He has worked in both residential treatment centers and in wilderness programs for emotionally disturbed boys. He has worked with teen moms and teen dads. He has worked with individuals with disabilities in the public schools as both a school psychologist and as a special education director. More recently he worked as a case manager on the DD Waiver for several years before opening Alegria Family Service, Inc. in 2004.

It is Larry's passion to use his influence to see that individuals with disabilities and their families receive all benefits they need and to see that they receive the equal treatment they deserve.

It has been Larry's privilege and honor to serve as the CEO of Alegria Family Services, Inc. since it opened its doors in 2004.



## Additional COVID-19 Relief is coming!

Alegria is pleased to inform our providers that a second round of COVID-19 relief funding will be distributed in early October 2022. If you already receive your Mi Via Waiver payments via direct deposit, this money will appear automatically in your account on October 3rd. If you normally receive a paper check, please come by our offices on or after October 3rd, anytime during normal business hours to pick up your check. If you would like your check mailed, contact Annette Martinez and she will see that it is sent out in a timely manner.

# Recovering from Identity Theft

visit [IdentityTheft.gov](http://IdentityTheft.gov) for more information.

In September of 2017, Equifax announced a data breach that exposed the personal information of 147 million people.

At the end of 2021 and the start of 2022, appointment management business FlexBooker was hit by a vast attack that affected about three million users. Confidential data including ID information, drivers' licenses, and passwords were stolen and then offered for sale on popular hacking message boards.

Everyday hackers are working to get to your personal information. It is estimated that two-thirds of the people that use online services have had their records stolen or compromised.

### What should you do?

Regularly monitor your bank accounts for any suspicious charges. Most banks will set up alert notifications to alert you to such activity.

All 3 credit reporting agency's offer free credit monitoring and "identity theft scans" to help protect you from theft. Log in or contact them by phone and set up an account to take advantage of these free services. Also, at no charge you can place a "Fraud Alert" on your credit file that alerts creditors to take additional step to verify your identity before granting credit in your name.

Equifax  
800-685-1111  
[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

Experian  
888-397-3742  
[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

TransUnion  
800-680-7289  
[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)

## Alegria Family Services Digital Updates.



### Digital Documentation

It has long been the dream of Larry Maxey (AFS founder and CEO) that Alegria would someday be a completely digital entity. With this in mind, many of use were tasked with making this dream a reality. There have been setbacks and some resistance to change, however we persevered and have managed to create a digital documentation and storage system that is efficient and easy to use.

We now have several providers using our online digital documentation website for their daily progress notes. They are available in real time to Alegria staff and there is no need to mail or hand deliver them to the office. This has simplified our over all work flow and made things easier for our providers.

Over the last month we have been developing a similar system for our CCSI (previously called navigation) providers. These notes can now be done online and submitted directly to our staff. We are currently in beta-testing of this system and should have it available for all CCSI providers shortly.

### DDSD Training

AFS is very pleased with the progress our providers have made on the DDSD required trainings. These trainings came as a surprise to most of use working on the Mi Via waiver and our providers have stepped up to accomplish so much in such a short time. I am pleased to report that most providers are well on their way to full compliance with state requirements. Congratulations!

If you need access to a computer and a quiet place to complete your trainings, please remember that our Communications Officer, Richard, can schedule a time with you to be at our offices to take your trainings. The normal days for this are Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please go to our website and look over the brief descriptions of each required trainings. You will find that some trainings take much longer than others, so please plan your time accordingly. Many providers have already taken advantage of this, perhaps you can too.

[NM Training Requirements | Alegria](#)  
[alegriafamily.com](http://alegriafamily.com)

### September...

*September's name is really quite inaccurate these days. It was originally the seventh month of the ancient Roman calendar, and as such was named Septem, which translates into "the seventh month". It wasn't until 451 BC that the months of January and February were added to the calendar, making September the ninth month.*

**Sept 5 - Labor Day** is an annual celebration of the achievements of American workers. The holiday is rooted in the late nineteenth century, when labor activists pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America's strength, prosperity, and well-being

**Sept 16 - Mexican Independence Day** celebrates Mexico's Independence from Spain. Like the U.S. Independence Day, this day is celebrated in Mexico with parades, fiestas, fireworks, and picnics.

**Sept 22 - The Autumnal equinox** signals the official beginning of Fall. It is the point where there are exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness at the equator. If you live anywhere else, however, you will see a little bit more or a little bit less than 12 hours of daylight.

**Sept 29 - Confucius Day** Try your luck. Get a Fortune Cookie.



please be good to me

## Alegria Family Services is on Facebook.



Goodbye summer. It's been fun!

*"How much of the year is spring and fall! How little can be called summer! The grass is no sooner grown than it begins to wither."*

– Henry David Thoreau

*"...and all at once, summer collapsed into fall."*

– Oscar Wilde

*"August slipped away like a bottle of wine." — Taylor Swift*

*"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall."*

– F. Scott Fitzgerald

*"Autumn seemed to arrive suddenly that year. The morning of the first September was crisp and golden as an apple."*

– J.K. Rowling



Did you know that Alegria Family Services has had a Facebook page since 2015? You can share information about what is happening in New Mexico that directly affects you and the individuals you and AFS serve. Our goal with our Facebook presence is to provide an open and interactive platform for our providers to connect with each other both on a professional and personal level.

Serving our individuals on the Mi Via waiver is rewarding, but can often be challenging. Using social media like Facebook can provide unique insight into tools and services that other providers have found to be helpful. If you have discovered services in New Mexico that could benefit other individuals on the waiver, please share your experiences, positive and negative. You may unknowingly help someone else in a similar situation. Remember, we are all in this together.

As many providers have experienced, the Mi Via waiver is evolving and can change without notice. We at Alegria Family Services strive to

keep you informed as these changes occur, and we also encourage our friends on Facebook to share information on these changes.

We also welcome you to post your family photos, Special Olympics outings, birthday wishes, and more. Please share your favorite recipes, sayings, pet photos, vacation photos, and thoughts. We would love to see you and hear from you.

As with any social media, please use the Alegria page respectfully at all times. Due to the political climate in America these days, we would like to avoid discussions about politics. Of course foul language and inappropriate photos are not welcome. We want to make our page a safe and supportive environment. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.



## Alegria Family Services 2nd Drawing Winners!

In our first quarterly newsletter of the year, Alegria announced that we would be holding a drawing each quarter with prizes to be awarded for the providers whose documentation has been most accurate and timely.

The Rules are simple:

- 1) Have your documentation in to Alegria by the 5th of each month.
- 2) Be accurate and complete with all documentation. Avoid repetition
- 3) Be current with DDSD required trainings.

As we end this 3rd quarter of the year, Alegria would like to thank all of our providers for doing such good work on their documentation and training. There can only be 3 winners however, and this quarter there were 3 who stood out. So our winner are....

- 1st Cloteal Hall - \$100 gift card
- 2nd Ted Romero - \$50 gift card
- 3rd Frances Martinez - \$25 gift card

Congratulations to all our winners. Be watching for our next newsletter for more drawing opportunities and announcements.

## National Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.



You can find past issues of our newsletter at:  
<https://www.alegriafamily.com/news-letter-archive>

