

RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_

**“RESOLUTION APPOINTING COMMUNITY ACTION OF LARAMIE COUNTY  
BOARD MEMBER”**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of Laramie County, Wyoming,  
\_\_\_\_\_, shall be and is hereby appointed a member of the Board of  
Directors of Community Action of Laramie County to perform the duties of said Board  
according to law for a five-year term which will expire June 30, 2023.

**PRESENTED, READ AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of June, 2018.

BOARD OF LARAMIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Lee, Laramie County Clerk

Reviewed and approved as to form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laramie County Attorney's Office

**OATH OF APPOINTMENT**

THE UNDERSIGNED does solemnly swear (or affirm) to honor and sustain the  
constitution of the United States, the constitution of the State of Wyoming, and to faithfully,  
honestly and impartially discharge all duties as a member of the Board of Directors of  
Community Action of Laramie County.

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
COMMUNITY ACTION OF LARAMIE COUNTY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPOINTMENT APPLICATION

Board/committee/commission: Community Action of Laramie County (CALC)

Name: Barbara J Ayers Preferred Name: BJ

Mailing Address: 4918 Powderhouse Rd Home Address: 4918 Powderhouse Rd  
Cheyenne, WY 82009 Cheyenne, WY 82009

Phone: 307-286-4111 Spouse: Jeff

Occupation: Insurance Agent Self-Employed? no

Employer/Name of business: Farmers Insurance (Since 2006) Jeff Tearsley Agency (Since 2017)

Address / Zip: 3904 Central Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82001 Phone: 307-632-2180

Year Employed: see \* Years of Laramie County Residency: 28

Fax: 307-426-4765 Email: barbara.j.tearsley@farmersagency.com Cell: 307-286-4111

Education/Degrees: HS education; some college. Insurance Licenses since 2003; Master Trainer & Certified Instructor for several suicide prevention courses.

Other community memberships: Public Health Member - Mental Health Professions Licensing Board - Board Member, Sec-Treas, and currently Vice Chair (since 2012)

Please explain your interest in serving on this Board/Committee/Commission (attach additional pages if needed):  
I believe Community Action of Laramie County has a very integral role in serving members of our community. I would like to offer my knowledge and experience and commitment of time and service to the organization.

Signature: Barbara J Ayers Date: 5-18-2018

Please return to: Laramie County Commissioner's Office  
 310 W 19<sup>th</sup> St, Room 300  
 Cheyenne, WY 82001  
 Fax: 307-633-4267  
 Email: commissioners@laramiecounty.com  
 Phone: 307-633-4260

=====For Office use Only=====

New Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_ or Reappointment: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s)

Full Term: \_\_\_\_\_ or Unexpired Term: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



**BJ Ayers**

BJ Ayers is the founder and former Executive Director of Grace For 2 Brothers Foundation. She gave years of service and leadership in raising awareness throughout Wyoming about the epidemic of suicide in this state and educating others on how it can be prevented.

Ayers founded the organization in 2010 after enduring the tragic loss of two of her sons to suicide before channeling her personal grief into helping others. She is widely respected across the country as an expert on support and recovery for suicide survivors.

One of BJ's most notable accomplishments was establishing the Walk of Grace, held annually in Cheyenne during the second week in August. From its humble beginning in 2010 with 350 walkers it has grown into a major awareness-raising event, drawing more than 2000 participants.

Her greatest achievement has been in her unwavering commitment to helping those who have experienced the loss of a loved one to suicide. Over the years, BJ has supported hundreds of families and individuals during their time of grief and worked with suicide loss groups across Wyoming.

In 2011, the Wyoming Department of Health presented BJ with the prestigious Starfish Thrower Award, which is given annually for excellence in changing the way Wyoming approaches mental health issues. In his 2013 State of the State Address, Governor Matt Mead recognized her as a leading advocate and authority on suicide prevention in Wyoming.

She is a survivor of suicide loss advocate and expert; suicide prevention trainer; prevention/postvention consultant; and frequent keynote speaker and presenter for organizations and communities across Wyoming and the surrounding region.

She continues to work in the prevention arena in a local, state and national level, in an independent capacity as a loss survivor advocate, trainer and technical advisor, with her Cheyenne-based firm, One Son Consultants, and her public-speaking venue, BJ Ayers.The Journey.

**Certifications:**

Master Trainer for the QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Institute

Master Trainer for Living Works, Emphasis on ASIST Training (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)

Certified Instructor – Mental Health First Aid

Certified Instructor – Peace Officer Standards & Training (P.O.S.T.), Wyoming

Certified Instructor – Working Minds, Suicide Prevention in the Workplace

**Achievements/Leadership:**

Recipient of the 2011 Starfish Thrower Award, Wyoming Department of Health

2013 – Recognized by Governor Matt Mead at the State of the State Address, Wyoming Legislative Session

Public Member, Mental Health Professions Licensing Board, 2012-Present

Member of Wyoming Suicide Prevention Advisory Council

Former Board Member – AFSP (American Foundation for Suicide Prevention), Wyoming Chapter

4918 Powder House Rd  
Cheyenne, WY 82000  
307-286-4111  
bj.ayers4673@gmail.com

## BJ AYERS

### LICENSE & CERTIFICATIONS

P & C License, State of Wyoming – since 2003  
Life & Health, Accident & Disability License, State of Wyoming – since 2004  
Continuing Education Hours since 2003, for current licenses

### EXPERIENCE

#### **FARMERS INSURANCE, CHEYENNE, WY**

12/2017 to Present

Agent for local Farmers agency, Jeff Teasley Agency. Responsible for day-to-day operations of agency; review of client policies; proficient in knowledge of products to include auto, home, personal lines products; commercial and life sales; community and civic service

01/2015 – 2/2018

Former Owner; Agent for local Farmers agency. Day-to-day business of insurance office, supervision of staff. Knowledge of company underwriting guidelines for property and casualty, life and health products. Supervision of employees, managerial duties.

#### **GRACE FOR 2 BROTHERS FOUNDATION, CHEYENNE, WY**

11/2009 - Founder

Executive Director (2009-2017)

Grassroots organization and a non-profit 501 (c)(3) public charity. Extensive awareness, outreach and education and training for suicide prevention in our community and state. Extensive experience in event coordination and planning; fundraising and event logistics; public speaking; training and education for organizations.

#### **PREVENTION MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION OF WYOMING, CHEYENNE, WYOMING**

7/2012 – 3/2015

Suicide Prevention Training Coordinator and Survivor of Suicide Loss Coordinator.

Responsible for: survivor initiatives; development of a statewide survivor network and expansion of survivor resources; certified trainer; also, responsible for team-oriented approach to comprehensive suicide prevention plan for state of Wyoming.

**FARMERS INSURANCE, DISTRICT OFFICE, CHEYENNE, WYOMING**

11/2006 – 6/2013

District Trainer for southern Wyoming District, to include agents and their staff; training for new reserve agents and newly appointed career agents. Assist District Manager as consulting specialist for personal lines/commercial lines and life issues for agents and staff. Consultant position as Commercial trainer Jan-May, 2013.

**CAPCO INSURANCE, CHEYENNE, WYOMING**

2/2003 – 12/2006

Agency Operations Manager

Responsible for daily operations and management of three locations for independent insurance agency, to include sales and customer service; analyze loss reports and company reports from independent carriers; development of annual budgets; marketing, training of staff, and responsible for supervision of up to 12 employees.

**DYNACARE LABORATORIES/LAB CORP, CHEYENNE, WYOMING**

5/1996 – 12/2002

Human Resources Director/Billing Manager

Responsible for new employee orientation; employee benefits; training, to include OSHA Compliance; Medicare Compliance Auditor for off-site locations owned by Dynacare. Indirect supervision and direction for 125 employees, and off-site laboratories. Duties as Billing Manager included all phases of medical coding and Billing. Worked with Laboratory Manager to analyze annual budgets, and develop comprehensive employee benefits plans.

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**EDUCATION**

High School Diploma, Brush High School, Brush, Colorado

Attended Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne, Wyoming.  
Emphasis in Journalism

Master Trainer for the QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Institute

Master Trainer for Living Works, Emphasis on ASIST Training (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)

Certified Instructor – Mental Health First Aid

Certified Instructor – Peace Officer Standards & Training (POST), Wyoming

Certified Instructor – Working Minds, Suicide Prevention in the Workplace

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**ACHIEVEMENTS**

Keynote Speaker, Bridging the Divide Suicide Prevention Conference  
Public Speaking & Presentations for Suicide Prevention –  
Conferences/Trainings/Local & Regional Organizations  
Recipient of the 2011 Starfish Thrower Award, Wyoming Department of  
Health  
2013 – Recognized by Governor Matt Mead at the State of the State  
Address, Wyoming Legislative Session

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**LEADERSHIP**

Public Member; Mental Health Professions Licensing Board, 2012-Present.  
Currently serve as Secretary of Board  
Member – American Association of Suicidology  
Member of Wyoming Suicide Prevention Advisory Council (WYSPAC)  
Former Board Member – AFSP (American Foundation for Suicide  
Prevention), Wyoming Chapter

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**REFERENCES**

**RICK WILCOX, DISTRICT MANAGER, FARMERS INSURANCE**

1712 Capitol Ave  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
307-634-6891  
[rwilcox@farmersagent.com](mailto:rwilcox@farmersagent.com)

**DENISE PAZUR, EMPATHOS RESOURCES**

529 Ontario Ave  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
920-457-4033  
[dpazur@empathosresources.com](mailto:dpazur@empathosresources.com)

**SALLY SPENCER-THOMAS, FORMER CEO AND COFOUNDER – CARSON J SPENCER FOUNDATION**

1385 South Colorado Blvd, Suite A-316  
Denver, CO 80222  
720-244-6535  
[sallyspencerthomas@gmail.com](mailto:sallyspencerthomas@gmail.com)

**LISA AMMONS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – COMMUNITY ACTION OF LARAMIE COUNTY**

211 W. 19<sup>th</sup> St  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
307-631-6596  
[lisa@calc.net](mailto:lisa@calc.net)

**KEITH HOTLE, CEO – PREVENTION MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION OF WYOMING**

Prevention Management Organization of Wyoming  
Cheyenne, Wyoming  
307-262-2798  
[khotle@pmowyo.org](mailto:khotle@pmowyo.org)