



June 4, 2021

ELDERHAUS WELCOMES NEW SOCIAL WORKER FOR CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Elderhaus Adult Day Program is pleased to welcome Deb Waldo as our new Social Worker in charge of caregiver support. Deb follows Danita Watson, who compassionately and effectively served as Social Worker at Elderhaus for nearly five years.

In addition to strong credentials and a proven record of leadership, Deb brings a wealth of knowledge and empathy to her new role. As primary caregiver for a loved one living with dementia for many years, she appreciates from personal experience the value of our weekly support groups. She has been an active participant in our Wednesday morning support group for more than two years, and looks forward to facilitating Elderhaus's two weekly support groups (Mondays 1-3 p.m. and Wednesdays 9-11 a.m.).

Deb earned her Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from CSU and the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from DU. She returned to CSU to earn a second Master's degree with principal endorsement, and served as principal of an alternative school from 1996 to 2009. Before becoming a principal, she served in Weld County, St. Vrain Valley School District, and Poudre School District as a social worker focused on helping students living with disabilities. She has facilitated support groups for students living with emotional and/or physical disabilities as well as support groups for caregivers of individuals living with emotional and/or physical disabilities.

In addition to facilitating two weekly support groups, Deb will reach out to families who apply for services at Elderhaus, attend to administrative responsibilities related to caregiver support, develop printed resources for caregivers, and occasionally supervise students doing internships in social work at Elderhaus.

Elderhaus began in 1980 as a volunteer-led organization formed to provide respite for caregivers. Elderhaus support groups are open to all members of the community, regardless of whether participants have a family member or friend enrolled at Elderhaus.

This social worker position is made possible thanks to grant funding for caregiver support from Larimer County Behavioral Health Services.

For more information about Elderhaus, contact Dr. Tim McLemore, Executive Director, 970.221.0406, tim@elderhaus.org. For more information about Elderhaus support groups, contact Elderhaus at 970.221.0406, caregivers@elderhaus.org.