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## Talent Competition to Bring National Spotlight

**Lynchburg, VA** – Horizon’s Got Talent is back and better than ever! The talent show, a benefit for Horizon Behavioral Health, will be held on Friday, March 24, 2017, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at 3410 Old Forest Road in Lynchburg. This year, the show’s top winner will receive a \$400 cash prize, a recording session at MG Productions, and a full scholarship to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual World Championships of Performing Arts, presented by WorldStars International, Inc., in Long Beach, California. Second and third place winners will also receive partial scholarships along with a cash prize. Performing at the World Championships of Performing Arts gives our contestants opportunity to compete against artists from more than 52 countries, for more than \$400,000 in cash prizes.

A panel of celebrity judges will determine the Horizon’s Got Talent winner:

- Jack “DJ Ed” Edma, Producer & CEO, MG Productions
- Danner Evans, News Anchor, WSET ABC 13 News
- Kim Jennings, Capture It Events
- Scott Murphy, VP, WorldStars International, Inc.
- Tonya Rivers, Winner, 2016 Horizon’s Got Talent

More than 200 guests will enjoy the friendly competition between eight talented acts, along with dinner, drinks and a silent auction that includes a baseball signed by the legendary Hank “Hammer” Aaron. A special thanks to event sponsors, which include WorldStar, Inc.; MG Productions; Centra; Digital Benefit Advisors; F. Read Hopkins Pediatric Associates; Christian & Barton; FCS, Inc.; Genoa Healthcare; Gentry Commercial Real Estate; and Gentry-Locke Attorneys.

All proceeds from this event go toward services for clients of Horizon Behavioral Health. On average, about 20% of Horizon’s clients are uninsured. The money collected during this event will help to fill the funding gap. Last year, Horizon served nearly 16,000 adults, children and families in Lynchburg and the counties of Appomattox, Amherst, Bedford and Campbell.

The media are welcome to attend the show.

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*Horizon Opportunities, Inc., is a nonprofit organization that supports Horizon Behavioral Health and its mission to provide accessible, evidenced-based and consumer-centered behavioral health in Central Virginia. It also supports initiatives that reduce the stigma of mental health, substance use and intellectual disability, and encourages individuals to seek early prevention/treatment.*

*Horizon Behavioral Health has been the primary public behavioral healthcare provider in the Region 2000 area for more than 47 years. In the last year, Horizon provided services to approximately 16,000 adults and children, addressing problems with mental health, substance use and intellectual disabilities.*