



The Canvas

RAINBOWS
bringing potential to life

November 2018

Letter from the President



Rainbows United does a direct mail Campaign twice a year – Fall and Spring. A letter should be landing in your mailbox soon. It

is one of the ways we can share the great stories about the children and families we serve.

The Fall Campaign Letter focuses on two-year-old Mathew and his parents Kayla and Alex. They, like so many of us, anticipated the birth of their baby boy with hopes and dreams. Matthew was born early but it seemed things were on track with him until certain skills did not develop, like standing, crawling and use of words. It was Matthew's doctor who recommended Rainbows to the family. Now an Occupational Therapist visits the family home regularly to work with Matthew and his parents. After the first six months of services, Matthew began progressing and continues to do so.

In the Fall Campaign letter, you will also see Jude who loves Camp Woodchuck; Marshall who is receiving services through Rainbows' Infant/Toddler Services; darling Reyna who was born with Down syndrome; and Isaac who just graduated from high school at age 18 after being connected to Rainbows since he was a baby. It is such a privilege to help children and families thrive.

I hope you will take a minute to read the Campaign mailer when you receive it. Of our \$1.2 million annual goal for fundraising, the two Campaign mailings make up \$90,000. We need everyone's support in helping us reach that goal in order to continue quality services to more than 3,200 children with special needs and their families.

Deb Voth, President



Do your holiday shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile)

Don't forget! While you're shopping Amazon for the holidays, you can also support Rainbows United! Login into Amazon Smile and choose Rainbows as your charity.

SAVE THE DATE



#GIVINGTUESDAY

#GivingTuesday is an international day of giving. Everyone, anywhere, can participate! Join us at: [RainbowsUnited.org/#GivingTuesday](https://www.rainbowsunited.org/#GivingTuesday) and share how you will give to Rainbows United on November 27.



Mathew



Jude



Marshall



Reyna



Isaac

Congratulations Deb Voth and Isaac Flickinger

Statewide InterHab awards were held Friday, October 12 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Wichita. The event was extra special since Rainbows had two winners. President Deb Voth and Rainbows' youth Isaac Flickinger were both honored.

The prestigious Mark Elmore Award for Distinguished Leadership is a tribute to personal and professional integrity and statewide contributions to progressive excellence. Many leaders across the state have been surprised when their name is called as the honoree of this award. This year was no exception as Rainbows' President Deb Voth was honored with the award.

Hale Ritchie, Board member has this to say about Deb, "Many people have worked with Deb over her 25 years at Rainbows. When staff are asked about her leadership they are quick to smile and say: She leads by example. She believes in being open and transparent. She lives by Rainbows' Guiding Principles."

In addition, the Outstanding Youth award was presented to Isaac. Isaac was recognized for meeting developmental challenges head on and becoming an adult with a bright future.



Deb Voth and Isaac Flickinger are honored at the Interhab awards luncheon.

Supports for Isaac have been in place since he was an infant. Through the help of Rainbows' early intervention services, occupational therapy, childcare, mental health therapy, specialists and advocates in the community, he has made great strides.

Isaac dreams to one-day work in a museum and according to his parents "change the world." He thrives on volunteer work and has a thirst for knowledge.

You can see the videos that share Deb and Isaac's story at RainbowsUnited.org.

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10:15+ Club honors 74 staff this year



Members of the 10:15+ Club celebrate at FlutterBye Ranch.

A highlight of every year is the 10:15+ Club event that honors Rainbows' employees who have been making a difference in the lives of children with special needs and their families for ten years or more. It's a day of surprises and celebration. This year was no exception.

"This was my first year for attending the 10:15+ Club. The day was filled with fun, connecting with others and surprises—I could tell a lot of thought was put into the day," said Leslie Stevens, Mental Health Specialist.

The group was treated to informative and entertaining cooking demonstrations, a delicious lunch and movie at FlutterBye Ranch near Leon.

10:15+ Club events are sponsored by Rainbows' Board of Directors. "This day puts into action Rainbows' Guiding Principle to "Be Positive, Celebrate Success and Recognize Achievements," said Board Chair Gail Johnson. "Rainbows is fortunate to have so many long term staff."