



The Canvas

Seeing the unseen in every Rainbows' child.



Treasure Island at Camp Woodchuck this summer



Deb Voith, President

Camp Woodchuck, a program of Rainbows United, is a full day Camp for children ages 6 to 21 years who have significant developmental challenges and runs for 9 weeks during the summer. It is now in full operation with 105 children enrolled.

In 44 days of Camp, the children and youth will perform 7 Choir performances for community businesses and participate in 32 different field trips and 8 special activities at Kids' Cove which has been renamed just for the summer as Pirates' Cove.

As you might guess, the theme is Treasure Island. Camp provides such a wonderful opportunity for these children and youth. They get to forget what they cannot do but recognize all that is possible that they can do! What a force of energy Camp Woodchuck is!

Stop by and you may hear "Ahoy, Matey!"

Deb Voith, President



The Camp Woodchuck Annual Talent Show was held Friday, July 7 at Pirate's Cove backyard. Classroom 123 performed "Going on a Bear Hunt" to the delight of family and friends attending.

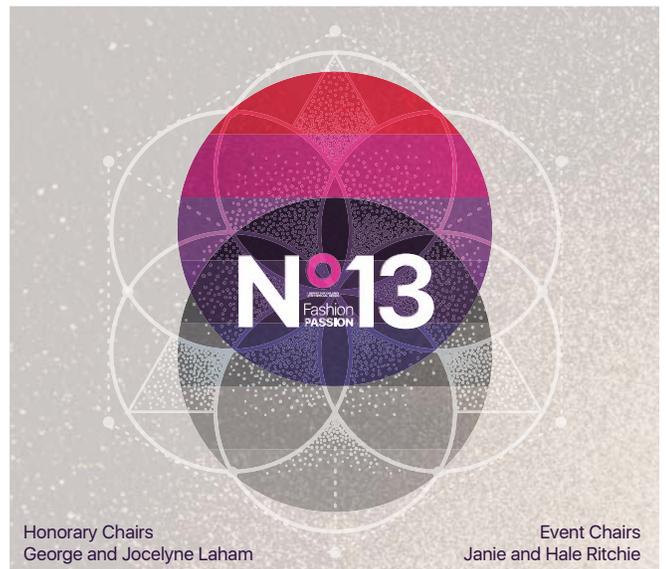
Mental Health Services begins ABC Project

On May 1, Rainbows' Mental Health Services Department started a new service with contract funding provided by the Kansas Health Foundation and United Methodist Health Ministry Fund. The Attachment Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC) Project is a home visitation service that supports parents of infants and toddlers who have experienced difficulty in their young lives.

The research on this program shows that after a family participates, their infant/toddler shows a decreased level of stress. When a young child has less stress, they have fewer negative behaviors, sleep better at night, and are more able to calm themselves when stressful situations occur. The ABC Project consists of ten sessions in the family home where the ABC

home visitor encourages caregivers to respond to their child in a way that provides predictability and nurturance.

Mental Health Specialists, Cindie Silmon, LCMFT and Leslie Stevens, LCMFT serve as the staff for the grant and are participating in the certification process through Delaware University. Infant/Toddler Services Assistant Coordinator Alexia Foster, LCSW is also participating in the certification process. The ABC grant will last through April 2020. For more information, contact Audra Kenneson, LMSW at akenneson@rui.org.



Honorary Chairs
George and Jocelyne Laham

Event Chairs
Janie and Hale Ritchie

Friday, November 17, 2017 | Textron Aviation Activity Center

Sponsorships available for a limited time.

Event sells out quickly. Secure your sponsorship online at RainbowsUnited.org/fashionpassion or call 316.558.3414.

Strategic planning survey in process

Rainbows United is going through a strategic planning process during 2017. Rainbows Board of Directors has engaged Wichita State University Community Engagement Institute to help drive the process. In July, online confidential surveys will be sent to families served by Rainbows, employees, and Board members.

In addition, members of Rainbows' Leadership Team and Board Members will be visiting one-on-one with other community partners to secure their feedback. All of this information and other research information gathered

about Rainbows will be compiled and presented to the Board at an all-day planning meeting in late September.

We look forward to reviewing the Agency's strengths and services provided as well as improvements that can be made and opportunities that could be pursued.

If you are asked to complete a survey, we thank you in advance for your participation. Anyone interested in participating should contact Deb Voth at dvoth@rui.org. Stay tuned for more information this Fall.



Saturday, August 26, 2017

Tanganyika Wildlife Park
Visit RainbowsUnited.org for more.

Breaking the Mold

Volunteers from Enterprise Rent-A-Car helped with special 45th Birthday events on Thursday, June 8.

Kristen Sellin, Talent Development Specialist for Enterprise says: "Most of our volunteers were our interns from this summer. They are a great group of students in a highly competitive internship that also makes sure to focus on giving back to the community.

I think we all learned that giving back can be fun and that just because someone is different doesn't really make them unrelatable to us.

Everyone had a great time interacting with the kids, and I know we would all go back in a heartbeat. We have talked with each other about how special the day was."

Thank you for making a difference at Rainbows.



A Rainbows' Sedgwick County Infant/Toddler Services family received a motorized toy car that was adapted for Aaron's mobility. He is a social 2 year-old who loves being around the children close to him. Born with Spinal Muscular Atrophy he had limited muscle control and tone. The way his jazzy red jeep is set up will allow him to drive his car independently.

Through a partnership with WSU engineering students from HKN Epsilon Xi the normal car controls were replaced with a tablet that controls the car.

This build was made possible by a grant from EPICS in IEEE. Thank you to the students who worked during their summer break to build Aaron's car!

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