



The Canvas

Letter from the President



Deb Voth

Since we are eleven months in living through a Pandemic, I want to give you an update as to what has been happening at Rainbows regarding COVID-19. We have been fortunate to connect with several resources in our community allowing us to continue services to more than 4,000 children and their families throughout the entire time. While most staff have been working remotely since March and providing teletherapy, some have continued to provide direct care.

Sedgwick County Health Department and Sedgwick County Developmental Disability Organization have done an excellent job connecting with area providers and advocating on our behalf. We have been able to access a variety of personal protective equipment (PPE). This has been helpful in protecting our staff who are serving children either in our Early Care and Education Center or in family homes.

Through Sedgwick County government, we were awarded Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funding that allowed us to purchase additional PPE and much needed technology. While Rainbows had program management software in place for staff to access information off-site, we did not

have up-to-date or enough technology devices for them to use while working remotely. Seventy-nine percent or 103 staff made the switch to work remotely the last part of March 2020. The CARES funds through Sedgwick County have been invaluable to us. Through these funds, we have been able to purchase laptops, printers, webcams, mice, security software, secure virtual meeting platforms, and so much more. This enabled our staff to provide educational, autism, mental health and case management services as well as speech, occupational, and physical therapies. Screenings and evaluations of children birth to 3 years have also continued virtually.

In addition to staff working remotely, we have approximately 120 staff providing face-to-face services.



These staff have continued to provide direct care in individual family homes for school-age children and youth and at our

Early Child Care and Education center for children ages 2 weeks to 5 years. We have seen how critical these services are with the disruptions of the educational systems causing schools not to be able to serve children within their facilities. Families need our essential services.

Rainbows has been fortunate to form a partnership with Wichita State University's new Molecular Diagnostic Lab to increase COVID testing capacity. Four of Rainbows employees have been trained in providing the saliva test, with a turnaround time for results from WSU within 24 hours. This has made a significant difference in getting staff back to work in a timely manner when they test negative.

And now there is a vaccine! More than two hundred of our staff are eligible to receive the vaccine. Once again, Sedgwick County Health Department is getting us connected to online registration to schedule appointments for the shots.

It is often said that you should work and surround yourself with people who can make you better. We are fortunate to live in a community who cares about helping others. We are stronger for that.

Thank you.

Deb
Deb

Experience Blarney Breakfast To Go



46th Annual Blarney Breakfast To Go

St. Patrick's Day | Wednesday, March 17, 2021
6-9:30 a.m. | Old Chicago East

Drive-thru Old Chicago East.
Grab breakfast & coffee to go.
Enjoy Irish dancers, bagpipers & more.

Tickets

Adults... \$15
Child... \$5
(12 & Under)



Buy tickets at RainbowsUnited.org.
Tickets must be purchased by March 10.
No day of ticket sales.

Presented by



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Greatest Hits
103.7 KEYN



KNSS
98.7/1330
WICHITA'S #1 TALK



Website Update

Have you seen RainbowsUnited.org lately? Visitors to the site can learn about programs in Sedgwick, Butler and Sumner Counties, read about Board Members, Leadership Team and many other staff members as well as connect to fundraising events.



Daniel Drouhard and Colab migrated the site they created five years ago to its new format over the last few months, having gone live just this month. "I always enjoy working with the great folks at Rainbows," said Daniel. "Empowering their internal team with powerful, sustainable tools for maintaining the site day-to-day while greeting visitors with a fresh, new appearance was the primary goal. I know everyone on our team was honored to be a part of the project and we're proud of the results."

Beach Family Foundation

For Rainbows to continue to impact the health, development, and social inclusion of children with special needs, we need to maintain an efficient revenue cycle.



Thanks to a grant from the Beach Family Foundation, Rainbows was able to purchase new software that integrates with our current financial accounting software program, allowing Rainbows to streamline the billing process and improve workflow. Rainbows is grateful to the Beach Family Foundation for making this possible.

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