



The Canvas

Thanks to funds from **The GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant** presented by **Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation** and **KidsGardening** and a **Johnson's Garden Center** donation, gardens at Kids' Point were expanded for learning.

Letter from the President



Deb Voth

Birthdays are special milestones in one's life. And while others may have the same birth date as you, it is still your special day! It is a time when others can celebrate your life and acknowledge why you are important to them. We reflect on the previous year and look forward to what is ahead.

that as you have watched Rainbows over the years, you have seen an organization that has adapted to changes and community needs; has had some challenging periods in its history but has soared at other times. No matter what, we have tried to keep our focus on the children and families we serve; and we have been bolstered by our staff, Board of Directors, local and state partners and by you, our donors, who have helped us continue services to thousands of children and families every year.

have helped Rainbows grow from one service program to 11 different programs; from serving 5 children with a handful of faithful volunteers to serving more than 4,000 children and their families this past year with 300 staff members. Because of you, we continue to strive to uphold our Agency's mission "to enhance the lives of children with special needs and their families".

Rainbows celebrated its 49th birthday on June 8th. Just think that the Agency started in 1972. That is in a different century. I hope

Next year is Rainbows' 50th Birthday. We will be celebrating it throughout all of 2022! We look forward to celebrating it with all of you who

Thank you for always being there for them.

Deb

Walmart Community Grant Foundation

Rainbows was recently awarded a charitable donation of \$1,000 through the Walmart Community Grant Foundation. The funds will be used to support the programs and services Rainbows provides to more than 4,000 children each year.

the Walmart Giving program, specifically through donations to agencies that impact the health and wellness of our community," said Depperschmidt.

on making a positive impact through charitable giving.

Walmart Pharmacy Manager, Brian Depperschmidt contacted Rainbows to inform us that his store, located at 21st & Amidon, had selected our agency for the donation. "Each year, Walmart encourages its stores to support their community through

"Our team chose Rainbows because of the wonderful programs and services it provides to the children in our community." Each year, Walmart stores award local cash grants ranging from \$250 to \$5,000. These grants are designed to address the unique needs of the communities in which Walmart stores operate and the Walmart Foundation is focused



Thank you Walmart for investing in Rainbows!

Early Intervention has impact

"I will always be indebted to all the Rainbows' staff who have shared advice and assistance with me. They have encouraged Grace to meet her gross/fine motor skills, feeding abilities, attachment and bonding, social and cognitive developmental milestones, and helped me meet her needs for care such as getting her dressed and diaper changes," said Katie, Grace's mother. "The impact it has had on helping her live life to the fullest in her first 9 months is indescribable; and I pray it will one day help her develop into a loving and compassionate servant to this world."

"I never knew how hard it is to be a mother -- all the anxiety, concern and energy -- even though I could not be more blessed by this child. We had waited almost ten years for her! Rainbows' staff have provided countless hours of reassurance and encouragement.

I walk away from our sessions uplifted and look forward to them as one of the main life-giving moments of my week." Katie says Rainbows' staff have also shown compassion as she navigates raising their first child during the global pandemic and stressful events of 2020.

Katie reached out to a friend who is a physical therapist with concerns about her baby. Her friend was quick to tell her to contact Rainbows and get connected to services.

"I truly believe I am in a better spot to nurture Grace, because I have received so much loving support to be the good mother I want to be."



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Development Update

In April, Rainbows welcomed Kelsi Hinshaw to the role of Development Coordinator. Kelsi comes to Rainbows with over 12 years of fundraising, marketing and event coordination experience. Most recently, Kelsi worked with businesses and community members at the Wellington Chamber of Commerce, where she was born and raised.



"Rainbows services touch the lives of many people across Sedgwick, Butler and Sumner Counties. I feel privileged to share our mission with others who want to invest in Rainbows through special events, sponsorship opportunities or partnerships," said Kelsi.

Special Honor

Board Member Gary Proffitt was honored with the INSPIRE Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Governance by the Kansas Nonprofit Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, May 19. He has been a Board member since 2010.

Gary understands that strong relationships result in support. He has fostered strategic relationships with potential funders and been successful in securing gifts in support of Rainbows' services.



Congratulations Gary and thank you for your dedication to the children and families of Rainbows.

Pictured are: Deb Voth, Rainbows' President, Susan Proffitt, Gary Proffitt, Cindy Miles, Kansas Nonprofit Chamber Executive Director.

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