

The Canvas

October 2021

RAINBOWS
bringing potential to life

Letter from the President



Early next month, Rainbows' Annual Giving Campaign letter will arrive in your mailboxes. I want to share why this Campaign is so critical to the

continuation of our services. This Annual Campaign is the foundation of our fundraising. The funds raised help support the many essential services Rainbows provides to children with special needs and their families. You will read about three different families who have been a part of life-changing experiences because of their involvement with Rainbows. Please consider giving at whatever level you can to help us carry out our Mission. Thank you in advance for your support.

Also, in November we will say goodbye to a special staff member who is retiring November 18. Forty years ago a young Speech/Language

Pathologist joined Rainbows United when it had just been in existence for nine years. That therapist was Debbie Mai. Debbie became Vice President of Programs and Services in 1990.

As Rainbows grew in size and scope, Debbie followed the principle of putting children and families first, while making decisions based on what best served Rainbow in terms of mission, viability and sustainability.

Debbie is a servant leader who has walked a steadfast path through the lives of many individuals at Rainbows United. She has provided unwavering support and guidance to Rainbows' Program Coordinators

and the staff they supervise. Debbie has helped Rainbows through some very challenging times and also celebrated the many growth opportunities she has helped shepherd.

Debbie is consistent in her approach. One can know she will be steady, calm, kind, knowledgeable, reflective, understanding and generous – no matter the circumstances. Debbie stayed at Rainbows all these years because of the children and families we serve. By being a servant leader, by leading the staff of Rainbows by her example, she has impacted the lives of countless children served by Rainbows' staff in the past and for years to come.

Thank you Debbie, for your MANY years of service!



Debbie Mai

Retirees and Qualified Charitable Distributions

Did you know if you are 70 ½ or older, you can have a check sent from your IRA directly to Rainbows United and never pay federal or state income taxes on those dollars? Using the Qualified Charitable Deduction, or QCD can benefit both you and Rainbows United. Contact your IRA administrator to ask for their process to write a check to Rainbows out of your account. It's usually an easy form, sometimes online.

For those age 72 and up, the QCD can also be used as part or all your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to

reduce your taxable income.

The key QCD provisions include: 1) You must be at least 70 ½ at the time of the gift; 2) The gift must be received by the nonprofit by December 31st; 3) The gift must be sent directly by the IRA administrator to the nonprofit; and 4) The annual QCD maximum is \$100,000.

Be sure to talk to your financial planner today about how QCD can work for your charitable giving. Rainbows is not engaged in rendering legal or tax advice. Legal counsel or advice from a certified financial planner should be sought when considering giving options.



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Early Intervention Services provided in Butler, Sedgwick and Sumner Counties

Rainbows serves nearly 2,000 children annually through Infant/Toddler Services. Many children have been helped in Butler and Sedgwick Counties for years; now Rainbows United, Inc. has added Infant/Toddler Services to children birth to age three in Sumner County.

Services begin with a free developmental evaluation. When a child qualifies for any of the mandated services they are provided in the family home at no cost to the family. Services depend on specific needs.

To connect with services:

Butler 316.320.1342

Sedgwick 316.945.7117

Sumner 316.295.7855