



Winter
FOCUS 2022

Empowering
people to live meaningful and productive lives.



Our Mission

The mission of Arrowhead West, Inc. is to empower people to live meaningful and productive lives.

VISION

The vision of Arrowhead West, Inc. is to provide outstanding service that leads to making informed choices about:

- Independence
- Employment
- Community Participation
- Healthy Lifestyles

2022 Winter Focus

A publication from Arrowhead West, Inc.
Nadine Lampe, Development Manager.

Arrowhead West, Inc. is a non-profit organization serving children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Locations

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1100 East Wyatt Earp
Dodge City, KS 67801
620.227.8803

WESTERN KANSAS DIVISION

Liz Demuth
231 San Jose
Dodge City, KS 67801
620.225.4061

INFANT/TODDLER SERVICES

Erica DeAnda-Soltero
401 Edgemore
Dodge City, KS 67801
620.225.5177

CENTRAL KANSAS DIVISION

Rachel Ryan
613 North Ridge Road
Wichita, KS 67212
316.722.4554

MID KANSAS DIVISION

Justin Schwab
10315 Bluestem Blvd.
Pratt, KS 67124
620.933.2212

500 West Fowler
Medicine Lodge, KS 67104
620.886.3711

620 East Second Street
Pratt, KS 67124
620.672.1005

Find us on



DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS



Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) week recognizes the dedicated direct support workforce that is the heart and soul of community supports for people with disabilities. It is a time to show our appreciation for the commitment to empowering individuals we serve to live their most meaningful and productive lives. Our 180 DSPs put the needs of others first and do so with patience, compassion, and grace.

A special thank you for their extraordinary effort in providing services and sharing their hearts and talents with everyone. They are the foundation of all things possible for individuals in our services and continue to be a source of motivation and inspiration for everyone. Our DSPs are truly appreciated, respected, and valued. We are grateful for all they do!



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
DEDICATION

A World of OPPORTUNITY

Arrowhead West's employment programs have grown by leaps and bounds in the last 18 months. Opportunities blossomed when businesses were having a hard time finding staff. Our direct care staff took this time to show employers what our program is all about and how our clients could help them with their staffing issues. We currently have over 100 clients working in an employment program and nearly 50 businesses who provide jobs.

Arrowhead West provides different types of employment programs which include **Supported Employment** consisting of a client(s) working a job with a Job Coach's supervision. This could be an individual or a work crew. **Community Employment** clients work independently in the community with a job coach available as needed to support the individual. **Work Services** is contracted work that is done in various Arrowhead West locations. Some examples are shredding, laundry, and assembly.

In 2021, clients in our program participated in 14,867 hours of volunteer work in the communities we serve. These volunteering projects give the clients an opportunity to see what type of work they enjoy and to learn responsibility and skills that will help them in an employment setting. It also shows potential employers their abilities and opens their thought process to ways a client could help in their business. Dalton volunteered at the Dodge City Roundup concession stand during the rodeo. After an employer worked by his side, she hired him to paint a fence that she could not find a contractor to do.

Recently, Arrowhead West, Beyond Barriers and Perfect Fit sponsored Disability Mentoring Day at Boot Hill Mariah Gallery in Dodge City. It was a time for clients and transitional students from the high school to see what possibilities are available to them in the workforce and what programs can help them be successful. A panel of employers spoke and answered questions concerning what to look for in a job, how to dress for success, and what to expect in a job interview. A panel of individuals we support in Arrowhead West employment programs also spoke and answered questions about their experiences and successes in their jobs. These employees were examples of how dedicated and proud they are of their jobs.

Thank you to the nearly 50 businesses who provide jobs for the individuals we serve. You have given them the opportunity to prove what great employees they can be and helped make a difference in their lives. If you are an employer, consider our employment programs. To learn more about this program, contact our offices in Dodge City at 620.227.8803, or in Pratt/Medicine Lodge at 620.933.2212. You can also find more information at www.arrowheadwest.org/community-intergrated-employment.html.



"I enjoyed painting the fence and it was one of my favorite jobs because it was something different," said Dalton.



"We are busting at the seams with clients getting jobs and are super excited about it. We are proud to see many of our clients successfully working jobs in the community. The Community Employment staff are doing wonderful coordinating everyone's schedules and giving each client the job coaching that is needed for them to be successful," said Alicia Edwards, Program Manager.



Tadeo's Journey

Tadeo is a happy and fun boy who has been taking a journey through life learning alternative ways of communication.

Last January, Tadeo's mother, Ruth, read a flyer about a free developmental screening clinic Arrowhead West Infant-Toddler Services was hosting in Dodge City. Ruth was excited because they were new to the area and were unable to find a resource for her son that had been unable to pass a hearing test since birth.

Tadeo attended the screening clinic, and it was determined that he needed to be further evaluated for hearing loss. He began IFSP services with the team. Kim Peterson, Early Childhood Special Educator with Arrowhead West Infant-Toddler Services, helped access and coordinate free diagnostic testing with the Children with Special Healthcare Needs Program available to kids across the state. Tadeo was found to have mixed mild hearing loss. The clinic gave the referral to Via Christi and Tadeo was further assisted with getting hearing aids.

While Tadeo was in the process of being diagnosed and receiving hearing aids, he received Arrowhead West services for a communication delay. While ruling out permanent hearing loss as a reason for the delay, they worked with him using sign language and introduced visuals for alternative communication. Tadeo benefited from the primary coaching approach and accessed additional team members through joint visits.

"Tadeo is a perfect example that you can communicate and build meaningful relationships without the use of spoken words. He is smart, curious, and fun to be with," said Kim.

Since Tadeo received his hearing aids and the communication support developed in the process, he has been making steady progress with understanding and using words. He has graduated from the Arrowhead West Infant-Toddler Service program and is ready to learn at preschool after completing his transition to school services.

Arrowhead West Infant-Toddler Services offers free developmental screenings in our 13-county service area. Screenings include all areas of development, speech/language, motor, self-help, vision, and hearing. You may also complete a free developmental screening online at arrowheadwest.org/free-developmental-screening.html or by using the QR code below. An Arrowhead West team member will contact you about the results, offer possible resources if needed, and provide developmental activities to support your child's development.

Screenings can celebrate your child's development and determine if your child is meeting age-appropriate milestones. If you have a concern about your child, you may contact our office at 620.225.5177 in Dodge City or 620.672.1005 in Pratt for a free screening.

Scan the QR code to complete the free ASQ screening online.



Kim is modeling the word "help" in sign language as an alternative communication with Tadeo.

Making a Difference

Tera Walton, Wichita Case Management Supervisor, has a passion for her job. She strives every day to make a difference and do what is in the best interest of the individuals she serves. Tera was recently recognized by AbilityPoint as the Case Manager of the Year in Sedgwick County.

Tera has been a Case Manager with Arrowhead West for 8 years and was recently promoted to Case Management Supervisor. Case Managers are responsible for the coordination of client services, including the management of the caseload they are assigned. They work closely with the staff, family and/or legal representative, service providers, and clients.

When Tera walks into a room her clients light up with excitement. "Tera advocates for me and does a lot for me. I really like her," said Patricia Owens.

Tera received her Case Manager of the Year award at AbilityPoint's annual awards ceremony. The following kind words were spoken about her.

"Tera goes above and beyond in advocating for the individuals on her caseload. She wants to ensure they have the greatest amount of independence while also striving to keep them safe. She works effectively with teams from different organizations to ensure the seamless delivery of quality services.

Tera never over-promises or under-delivers. She communicates important information with all team members in a timely manner. She is very friendly and professional."

One of Tera's favorite success stories is helping an individual work on her independence. Her favorite place to go was Tanganyika Wildlife Park and she had the opportunity to enjoy it often with her season pass. An opportunity for a seasonal internship became available, so Tera helped her make her dreams come true. She received a job to help direct guests and educate them about the animals in the park. It was this client's dream job.

Tera is compassionate, goes beyond expectations, and takes pride in the successes of her clients. She is knowledgeable of available programs and helps put them in motion.

We are proud to have Tera and our entire Arrowhead West Team of Case Managers helping us fulfill our mission and vision in the community each and every day.



"The thing I enjoy most about my job is seeing my clients succeed. Whether it's working at a certain job in the community, living more independently, going on a vacation, even getting a cell phone for the first time, I enjoy helping them work towards their goals and follow their dreams," said Tera.



DONORS SUPPORTING OUR MISSION

June 1 to September 30, 2022

DEDICATIONS AND MEMORIALS

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Gary & Luann Horchem

Dave Burton Sr Memorial

John Jr & Jean Schartz

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Arrowhead West, Inc.

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Mark & DeKeta Schuckman

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Kristin Williams
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Terry Woodward

Arrowhead West has many reasons to be thankful for the blessings we receive. We appreciate your continued investment in our mission. The support we have received in the last 46 years has allowed us to touch thousands of lives, and we look forward to empowering people to live meaningful and productive lives for many more years.

As 2022 comes to a close, please consider Arrowhead West in your year-end giving plan. We believe the return on your investment is extraordinary for the individuals we serve.

Your continued support is a blessing for which we give thanks at the close of this year.

If you have any questions about giving options, please contact Nadine Lampe at 620.227.8803 or nlampe@arrowheadwest.org.

AWARDED GRANTS

Arrowhead West, Inc. has been awarded grants from the following organizations. We greatly appreciate their support of Arrowhead West and our mission!

The Community Foundation of South Central Kansas and Autism Speaks each assisted Arrowhead West in purchasing a wheelchair/glider swing to be used at our Pratt Day Program.

Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation recently granted 650 toothbrush kits to Arrowhead West clients. The kits are used to encourage good oral health habits.

Dodge City Women's Chamber awarded Arrowhead West funds to assist in purchasing gardening supplies for clients to use at our Day Program in Dodge City.

Walmart Foundation provided funds to our Western Kansas Division to purchase two patio swings that are used in our residential services.

The Ability Experience provided a grant to Arrowhead West from the funds they raised while bicycling across the United States raising awareness for individuals with disabilities. The funds were used to purchase six outdoor pop-up canopies to be used by clients during various events.

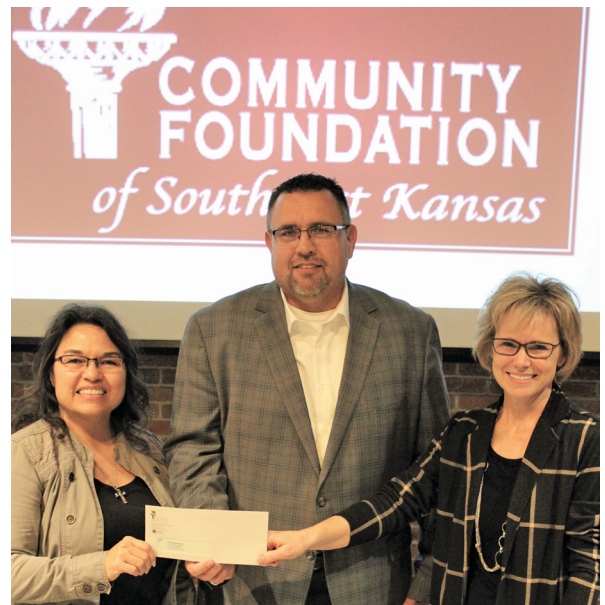
The Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas awarded funds to purchase wheelchair-accessible picnic tables and benches to be used in our new park in Dodge City when it is completed.

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund to Russell Child Development - Professional development opportunities and other resources were made possible by funding through a Building Blocks Early Childhood block grant.

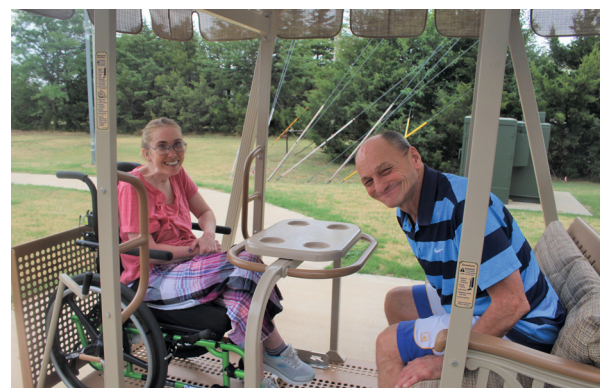
UnitedHealthcare provided funds to assist in hosting Disability Mentoring Day, a nationwide effort to promote career development for students with disabilities through hands-on career exploration.



Roger, Scott and Ronnie receiving a grant from Walmart representatives



Alicia Edwards and Nadine Lampe accepting a grant from Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas



Jodi and Tommy enjoying the glider provided by the South Central Community Foundation and Autism Speaks

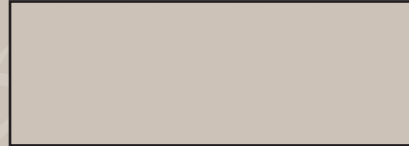
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for your Support



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This newsletter was labeled and sealed
with pride by the persons served.

Happy Holidays

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES



GLENNA WILLIAMSON

Glenna Williamson, Infant-Toddler Services Physical Therapist, celebrated 30 years of service with Arrowhead West.

“Glenna has been an essential part of our Infant Toddler Services multidisciplinary team. I am grateful for her to be able to share all her knowledge and expertise with so many colleagues, families, and their children over the years,” said Erica DeAnda-Soltero, ITS Manager.



MONICA MILLER

Monica Miller, Dodge City Trainer, was recently recognized for 25 years of service.

“It has been amazing to watch Monica grow into the instructor she has become. For most staff she is the first person they engage with during orientation, she sets the stage for what their employee life will look like. I am confident in her commitment to our mission. She sets that example in her actions, during staff orientation and classes that she teaches,” said Liz Demuth, Division Manager.



DANIELLE ROMME

Danielle Romme, Wichita Transportation Coordinator, recently celebrated 20 years of service at Arrowhead West.

“Throughout the years Danielle has become someone who clients, families, and team members trust and look to for guidance. Her focus is always on the client while advocating for them in whatever way she can,” said Rachel Ryan, Division Manager.