

PROGRAM UPDATES

Infant Toddler Services of Riley County 785-776-6363

FALL 2024

Welcome to our Fall Newsletter! In this edition, we share updates on our recent program growth and key goals for 2025, including improving communication with families through Parent Square and enhancing Medicaid billing accuracy. We also introduce our new logo and discuss an upcoming data system transition. Additionally, we highlight staff achievements, including new certifications in breastfeeding counseling and infant mental health.

1.

PROGRAM GROWTH AND PARENT SATISFACTION SOAR



This quarter, we are excited to report an increase in the number of children served, reaching 174 from July 1 to October 1, 2024, compared to 167 during the same period last year, demonstrating our growing impact in the community. Our parent survey provided valuable insights, with the majority of families expressing high satisfaction and rating our services as "Extremely Helpful." Staff members such as Mrs. Susie Higgins and Kelley Brummett received special recognition for their outstanding support, and a family new to the area shared how welcomed they felt by the program. While we celebrate these successes, we are also focusing on areas for improvement. We are actively reviewing feedback from families who rated our helpfulness lower to better understand their concerns and make necessary adjustments. We are standardizing protocols and offering staff training to ensure families receive the resources they need. Our community connection initiatives are moving forward as planned, with informational packets distributed to doctor clinics and daycare centers, and plans to expand outreach to daycare homes. Doctors have also expressed satisfaction with our quarterly updates, further strengthening our collaboration.

2.

STRENGTHENING FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY: 2024 GOALS FOR SUCCESS

We are excited about the work ahead this year, especially our focus on family engagement and advocacy. We're aiming to have 95% of our families using Parent Square to improve communication, while also empowering them to advocate for their child's developmental needs through training and partnerships with Families Together. Additionally, we're committed to improving Medicaid billing accuracy to boost revenue by 10%, and we're making sure families transitioning to preschool feel confident and supported every step of the way.



3.



NEW UNIFIED LOGO AND UPCOMING DATA SYSTEM UPGRADE

We are thrilled to introduce our new unified logo, symbolizing our commitment to delivering consistent, high-quality services across the 29 Kansas networks. Additionally, KECDS has contracted with a database design company, and we anticipate a data transition within the next year.



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TEAM EXPANDS EXPERTISE WITH NEW CERTIFICATIONS

4.

We are proud to announce that two of our staff members, Katie Ostmeier and Alex Young, have received their certification in Breastfeeding Counseling, bringing our team to a total of four Certified Lactation Counselors (CLCs). Additionally, Kelley Brummett is endorsed in Infant Mental Health, and two other staff members are currently working toward their endorsement.



TRAINING SPOTLIGHT & OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVMENT

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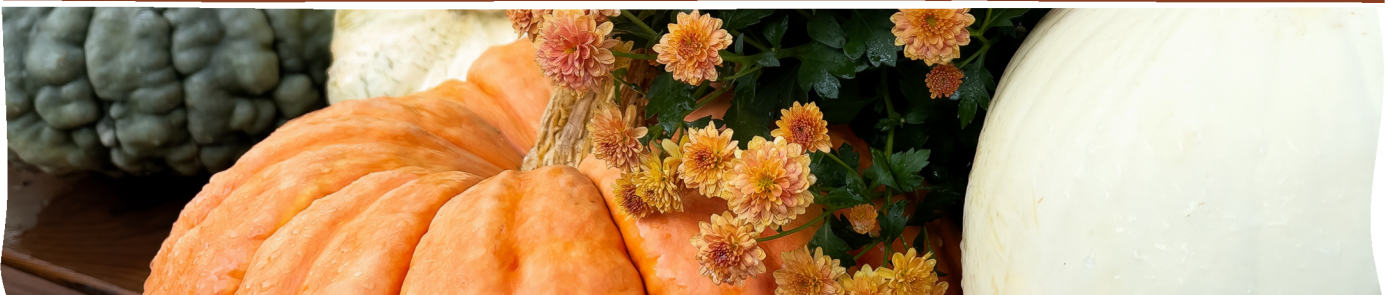
Annual Regional Infant Toddler Network Training

On October 24, 2024, our staff will participate in a professional development day alongside our partners in the Pottawatomie/Waubansee, Marshall, and Geary County networks. This year, we are excited to welcome Alisha Delgado, who will lead a specialized feeding training session. In November, we will collaborate with Maternal and Child Health, Parents as Teachers, and DCF for valuable training on maternal depression screening.

Be Part of a Collaborative Community Effort

Join us at the Greater Manhattan Interagency Coordinating Council and become part of a dedicated team supporting our community. Together, we can ensure that every child and family has the resources and support they need to thrive. This year's focus topic is Childcare Resources & Challenges in the Community. Our next meeting will be held virtually on November 18, 2024, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, featuring guest speaker Jennifer Pishney of KCCTO.

To connect virtually, visit www.infant-toddler.org and navigate to the Input & Involvement section.



www.infant-toddler.com