

PROGRAM UPDATES

Infant Toddler Services of Riley County 785-776-6363

SUMMER 2024

Welcome to our newsletter! This edition highlights our achievements in supporting children through our collaborative initiative with clinic-based therapy services and the success of our Down Syndrome Connection Group. We also share the upcoming Local Interagency Coordinating Council topic and invite you to join our meetings.

1.

BUILDING A STRONGER SUPPORT SYSTEM



Our new collaboration with external therapy services enhances the support network for our families. Partnering with clinic-based services significantly advances our children's development. This approach offers many benefits, including comprehensive care addressing a child's needs, better communication through streamlined information sharing, and stronger family support through a robust network for various challenges.

Collaboration and communication between clinic-based therapy and home-based services are essential. Home-based early intervention provides support in the child's natural environment, making it easier for families to integrate therapeutic strategies into daily routines. Clinic-based therapy offers specialized services that may not be possible at home.

Enhanced communication ensures everyone involved in a child's care is on the same page. This coordination allows for consistent and targeted interventions, reducing the risk of overlapping or conflicting recommendations. It also provides a complete picture of the child's progress, enabling therapists and early interventionists to adjust their approaches for maximum effectiveness.

A strong support network is crucial for families navigating early childhood development and intervention. When home-based and clinic-based providers work together, families benefit from a cohesive team that can address a broader range of needs. This collaboration leads to better outcomes for children, increased confidence, and reduced stress for parents and caregivers. Working together can better support our families and help our children reach their full potential.

ACHIEVEMENTS THIS QUARTER

We are excited to share our achievements this quarter. We have served 266 kids this year, providing support and services. In addition, we conducted 81 transition conferences to prepare children for preschool, ensuring a smooth and successful transition. We are also pleased to announce that we are fully staffed, allowing us to serve over 160 kids anytime. A significant milestone this quarter has been initiating collaborations with clinic-based therapy services in the area. This effort aims to create a stronger support system for families by integrating home-based and clinic-based services, enhancing the overall quality and effectiveness of care. Additionally, we have seen increased referrals from our community partners, reflecting the growing trust and collaboration within the community.



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DOWN SYNDROME CONNECTION GROUP

Per parent request, our staff has actively helped connect parents of children with Down syndrome to build a supportive network. This summer, our staff initiated a connection group for these families. The first meeting was a great success, offering families a valuable opportunity to connect, share experiences, and support one another. The positive feedback we received has been encouraging, and we are excited to see this parent-initiated connection group blossom. This group aims to build a supportive community where families can find understanding, resources, and encouragement as they navigate their unique journeys.



UPCOMING INITIATIVES

We constantly look for ways to improve our services and support for families. Upcoming initiatives include expanding our outreach efforts to connect with more clinic-based therapy services and ensuring that our families have access to a wide range of resources and expertise. We are also working on implementing more ways to gather and act on feedback from families to better meet their needs.

4.



LOCAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

This year, our Local Interagency Coordinating Council's topic is "Childcare Resources and Challenges in the Community." This critical issue affects many families, and we are dedicated to addressing it. We will meet virtually from 12 to 1 p.m. on September 30, November 18, February 24, and April 28. These meetings are open to everyone, and we encourage you to join us to share your insights and learn more about the resources available in our community. Meet links are available on our website, making it easy for anyone to participate.

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