



Special Kids  
Special Families

JANUARY 2022

# The Special Times

E-Newsletter



## OUR MISSION:

To Promote, Strengthen & Support  
Individuals with Disabilities, their Families & Caregivers



We thank you for business, loyalty and support this past year. We have so many plans for 2022 - growing our Behavioral Health & Crisis Respite programs, increasing our client population to pre-COVID numbers, continuing to offer services at our Zach's Place program & offering more community based activities and parental support programs, expanding our collaborations with area businesses, growing our signature events to help raise more money to support our programs, continuing to seek grants and foundations to support our mission, introducing our new Homemaker Services to children & adults, increasing our awareness to other counties and recruiting more Foster Care families, expanding our transportation services to accommodate client needs, and growing our Volunteer program to recruit more corporate groups and individuals. And that's only the tip of the iceberg!!

**We are looking forward to the New Year and wish you peace, health and happiness!**



## Closing 2021 With A Giving Spirit



**Our Adult Services team is amazing!** The team took their time to go to client's homes and distribute Christmas gifts. Adult Program Client, Brian volunteered to be "Santa" and helped give away gifts. It made everyone full of joy! What a great experience with long lasting memories - we are so lucky to have such a caring staff who go above and beyond for our clients!



## PROGRAM NEWS: ZACH'S PLACE at the Laurie Hillyard Family Center



Zach's Place Director, Katrina Rederburg and two young helpers show off 2 of the 6 bicycle helmets donated to Zach's Place. Thanks to Faith Hunt and Jennifer Michl for this generous donation after they saw the need on the [ZACH'S PLACE WISH LIST](#).

We asked Childcare Worker, Isaiah, what motivates him to come to work everyday - *"Hanging out with the kids and getting to know them. Growing a personal relationship with them is the favorite part of my job."* Thanks Isaiah for your hard work and dedication to helping children with disabilities and special needs.

YOU are truly making a difference!



We asked Childcare Worker, Chrissy, what motivates her to come to work everyday - *"Learning different things about the kids and playing games and seeing the kids growth is the favorite part of my job."* Thanks Chrissy for your kind heart. You are an inspiration and the kids love you!

YOU are making a difference in the lives of these children!



## Grant Awards

We'd like to acknowledge our most recent grants received from generous grantors and foundations. We appreciate their consideration and support of our program. All funds will be used to support Zach's Place center caring for children with disabilities.

- Carl W. and Carrie Mae Joslyn Charitable Trust
- Hester and Edwin Giddings Foundation
- Credit Union of Colorado Foundation
- Disabling Barriers
- Community Foundation of Greater Huntsville / ERC Helping Hands Fund
- Johnson Foundation of the Rockies
- Colorado Springs Osteopathic Foundation

## COMMUNITY GIVING



Lara Stern (*left*) with Disabling Barriers presented a check for \$20,000 to SKSF Executive Director, Lukas Zakrzewski and Human Resources Manager, Cynthia Valdez. The grant will be used to support the families whose children attend Zach's Place Child Care Center.

Disabling Barriers serves the physical and mental health of children and young adults with disabilities living in Southern Colorado. We truly thank them for their support!

## VOLUNTEER

### We have several **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** in 2022!

- **We need help stuffing envelopes!** We need to send out a mailer in early Feb. 2022. Let us know if you'd like to help!
- **Join our Bowl-A-Thon fundraising committee.** This year our St. Patrick's Day themed event will be held at King Pin Lanes on Saturday 3/12/22. Our monthly committee meetings will start Jan. 2022.
- **Join our Night of Comedy fundraising committee.** Meetings will start March 2022.
- **Join our volunteer Board of Directors.** We need more board members and YOU many be the perfect fit!

Contact Sarah at 719-447-8983 x59  
or [skelso@sksfcolorado.org](mailto:skelso@sksfcolorado.org)



A new program will let you give some or all of your state income tax refund to support our mission to promote, strengthen & support individuals with disabilities, their families and caregivers. On your return or tax software, look for the prompt to Donate to a Colorado Nonprofit and use Special Kids Special Families registration #**20073010355**.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

# SAVE-THE-DATE!



## March 12th, 2022

13th Annual

# BOWL-A-THON

## Bowl for the GREEN!

LEARN MORE

Click here to

REGISTER

Click here to

SPONSOR

Thank you to our sponsors:

**BM&M Leasing II, LLC**  
(Dick Greenwood)

[Disability Services of](#)  
[Colorado](#)

[PDC Pharmacy](#)

**We appreciate the  
generosity of these  
businesses for supporting  
this event & our  
organization's mission!**



Special Kids  
Special Families

13th Annual

# BOWL-A-THON

## Bowl for the GREEN!

All proceeds from this event support SKSF programming  
for adults with disabilities, their families and caregivers

**\$30 / person**  
**\$15 / child** (age 15 & under)

*includes 2 games of bowling,  
reserved lane, shoe rental  
& participation in contest  
prizes & drawing.*

#### EVENT THEME

*St. Patrick's Day so be  
sure to "don" your green!*



**Saturday**  
**March 12th, 2022**  
**2:30 - 5:00 PM**

**KING PIN LANES**  
3410 N. Academy Blvd  
Colorado Springs

**CONTEST PRIZES**  
**GOODIE BAG**  
**DRAWING**

#### Special Kids Special Families

1915 Aerotech Drive, Suite 100  
Colorado Springs, CO 80916  
(719) 447-8983 x42 | [sksf@sksfcolorado.org](mailto:sksf@sksfcolorado.org)

501(c)3 organization  
EIN #84-1476535

#### Ways YOU can make a difference!

- Become a "Bowl with a Buddy" sponsor for \$250 (other levels available from \$250 - \$3,000)
- Form your team & bowl
- Pledge/donate to a team
- Donate a gift to our drawing
- Volunteer or help spread the word! Hang flyer, share on social media, tell a friend

**[SKSFcolorado.org/event/bowlathon](https://sksfcolorado.org/event/bowlathon)**

SKSF's Bowl-A-Thon is an annual tradition that many look forward to every year! In 2022, we are resuming our annual BOWL FOR THE GREEN St. Patrick's Day Bowl-A-Thon on Saturday, March 12, 2022 at King Pin Lanes.

This annual tradition is celebrated every year where teams don their favorite St. Patrick's Day outfits, wear their green and bowl to support a good cause helping raise funds for programs for adults with disabilities and their families. We will hold a DRAWING for some great prizes offered by area businesses. We will also be awarding CONTEST PRIZES throughout the event. A goodie bag will also be given to every registered bowler.

**Help us SPREAD THE WORD! [Please print out the flyer](#) & post at your place of business  
OR share with a friend or family member. Thank you for your help!**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Dan Fraiser**

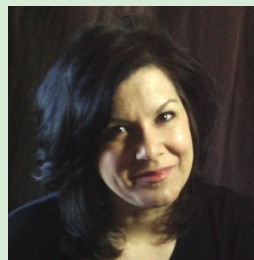
We'd like to recognize our new Board President. Dan is a Colorado native hailing from Fort Morgan. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration/Finance from Colorado State University. He graduated honors with his MBA from Regis University. He

currently is the Vice President of Commercial Lending with Adams Bank & Trust and is involved with several boards and organizations including Beth Haven, Christian Business Men's Coalition, and the Better Business Bureau. WELCOME DAN as new Board President!



**Bijili Purushothaman**

Bijili is now our Board Treasurer. Congratulations on her new assignment.



**Patty Brookes**

Patty is our newest Board Member. She has been elected to be Board Secretary. We welcome Patty to our team!

**Would YOU like to be a volunteer Board Member?**

**We have openings! Contact Sarah at 719-447-8983 x59 or [skelso@sksfcolorado.org](mailto:skelso@sksfcolorado.org).**

## CONTACT US:

### Special Kids Special Families

1915 Aerotech Drive, Suite 100  
Colorado Springs, CO 80916  
(719) 447-8983

[sksf@sksfcolorado.org](mailto:sksf@sksfcolorado.org) | [www.SKSFcolorado.org](http://www.SKSFcolorado.org)



## Special Kids Special Families is **HIRING!**

### [Visit our website to apply](#)

- ♦ Program Director Assistant (Zach's Place)
- ♦ Director of Operations
- ♦ Director of Programs
- ♦ Adult Mentors / Direct Care Providers
- ♦ Childcare Workers
- ♦ Residential Services Home Supervisor
- ♦ Crisis Respite Care Providers
- ♦ Host Home Providers
- ♦ Foster Care Families



## OFFERED MONTHLY

### FOSTER CARE INFO MEETING

Interested in fostering? Come to our FREE info meeting to answer your questions. **NEXT MEETING: Thurs 1/20** To register & more information visit:

<http://sksfcolorado.org/foster-care-orientation/>



NOW AVAILABLE!

### QMAP CLASSES

Offered monthly for support staff and HHPs caring for IDD. Open to public. **NEXT CLASS:**

**3/18/2022**

<http://sksfcolorado.org/event/qmap-training/>