DID YOU KNOW?

That over 50% of children at SKSF’s Zach’s Place center are on the autism spectrum? In April, we celebrate National Autism Acceptance Month and Global Autism Awareness and recognize that awareness of autism is a good start, but also believe that acceptance of autism is more important. Where awareness tells us about autism as a condition, acceptance shines a light on real autistic people, living real lives. Here’s a great resource where you can learn all about autism and ways you can make a difference!

https://autismacceptance.com/

Hello Friends!

During the month of April, SKSF recognizes National Child Abuse Prevention Month (NCAPM) and the importance of working together with our families to help them thrive and prevent the mistreatment of children. By providing respite programs, advocacy, resources and assistance, it is our mission to protect child and family wellbeing and to prevent child abuse and neglect. The SKSF Child Placement staff along with other staff members placed blue pinwheels in the front yards of the SKSF Administration office & surrounding businesses to serve as a reminder of the great childhoods we want for all children.

Blue pinwheels have become the symbols of child abuse prevention.

Are you doing some Spring cleaning?

Do you have any gently used items you can donate to SKSF? We have some specific program needs for various items on our Program Wish Lists.

If you’d like to donate, please contact us at sksf@sksfcolorado.org
SKSF has a new Volunteer Coordinator - MEET LESLEE!

We are looking for donations of mulch. Per child care regulations, our Zach’s Place center needs more mulch placed in their backyard. Can you help? Either with donations or assistance with labor. Contact us if interested. Thank you!

Ent Credit Union Stetson Hills Service Center donated $250 to Special Kids Special Families! Their generosity will help our programs for individuals with disabilities.

Photo L to R: Stephanie Richardson, Assistant Manager and Ali Adkins, MSR at Ent Credit Union Stetson Hills Service Center presents a check to Kevin Porter, SKSF Executive Director.

Special Kids Special Families is honored once again to be a part of the COSILOVEYOU City Serve Day on Saturday, April 29th. We are looking forward to the many volunteers that will come out to assist in our garden preparations, bus cleaning and general overall maintenance of the Adult Services facility. Thanks to everyone that will be volunteering to help out & COSILOVEYOU for this opportunity!

The Monument Hill Foundation of The Kiwanis Club of Monument Hill granted Special Kids Special Families a $3,000 grant to support Zach’s Place center. These funds will support program activities and respite care at the center. Thank you for your generosity!

Tender Care Pediatric Services & Medical Supply in Colorado Springs donated extra supplies to SKSF’s foster care program and programs supporting individuals with disabilities. Over the past month, Tender Care has donated thousands of dollars worth of valuable medical supplies to support our programs. We appreciate their generosity and for thinking of SKSF! THANK YOU!
Our Mission: To PROMOTE, STRENGTHEN & SUPPORT Individuals with Disabilities, their Families & Caregivers

Adult program participant, Brian, was our Easter Bunny this year at Adult Services! Our clients participated in Easter egg dying, an egg hunt and fun science experiments with Peeps!

Socialization, peer involvement and friendships are encouraged at SKSF’s Adult Day Program. If you are interested in this program for your loved one with developmental disabilities, contact us.

It was DINOSAUR DAY for the Zach’s Place kiddos. They visited the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center in Woodland Park this month and learned so much about these animals and their history. The kids were amazed and it was a great opportunity to learn and have fun all at the same time!

The kids at Zach’s Place were enthralled by Lilly, pet boa of Darienne. The kids really enjoyed being able to touch her and hold her. Mrs. Darienne knows her snakes and was able to answer any and every question they had. What a very unique experience for all!

Spring Break was a fun time at Zach’s Place & we kept the kiddos very busy doing many fun activities like decorating cookies during our cookie making session, learning about indoor gardening, and making many fun craft projects to bring home!

Learn more about Zach's Place center and ways you can help the program so that more kids can enjoy future opportunities like this!

Our Adult Day Program Participants are loving the woodworking classes provided by Love Your Neighbor. Thank you for making this idea a reality and for showing some LOVE!!
Special Kids Special Families would like to acknowledge these area businesses for being CHAMPIONS for children with disabilities at Zach’s Place center!! Thank you for donating to our SKSF’s 12th Annual Night of Comedy - Boots, Buckles & Chuckles Silent Auction to help raise funds for families attending Zach’s Place child & respite center!

Colorado Railroad Museum
Ghost Town Museum
Wings Over the Rockies
Genesis MedSpa
Tri Lakes Guitar Studios
Balance Chiropractic
Scheels Colorado Springs
Denver Museum of Nature & Science
Curves
Magnum Shooting Center
Denver Art Museum
The Lodge at Flying Horse
The Club at Flying Horse
Butterfly Pavilion
Cheyenne Canon Segways

Garden of the Gods Resort/Spa
Crystal Park Cantina
Autosearch USA
Denver Zoo
Roadhouse Cinemas
Walters 303 Pizzeria
Beaches Tanning Salon
Salon 21
Safe Splash Swim School
3 Hundred Days Distilling
Little Monkey Business
Space Foundation Discovery Center
Pueblo Zoo
Buffalo Lodge Bicycle Resort
Phantom Canyon Brewing Co

SKSF IS HIRING! If you are looking for a meaningful career where you can put your talents to good use, apply with us! We have several management & direct care provider positions available with great pay & benefits.

CONTACT US:
Special Kids Special Families
1915 Aerotech Drive, Ste 100, CO Springs 80916
(719) 447-8983   sksf@sksfcolorado.org

Facebook  Twitter  YouTube  LinkedIn

Donations make a difference...
Thanks!

Click here to LEARN MORE about NIGHT OF COMEDY event for ZACH’S PLACE CENTER and ways YOU can help!
We are so excited for SKSF's 12th Annual Night of Comedy - Boots, Buckles & Chuckles fundraising event at Boot Barn Hall to benefit Zach's Place center! **SAVE THE DATE for Sat. 9/30/23!**

Help us raise funds to support low income families whose children attend the program - BECOME A SPONSOR! We are seeking businesses to partner with us! You'll receive excellent marketing benefits and each level comes with complimentary admission to the event. Sponsorship levels from $1k-$10k.

**12th Annual Night of Comedy**

**Boots, Buckles & Chuckles**

**September 30th**

**Saturday | doors open at 5:30pm**

**DON'T MISS OUT ON EARLY BIRD PRICING - Now thru 7/31/23!**

$85/person or $650/reserved table of 8
8/1 & after $95/pp or $750/reserved table of 8

- Buffet style dinner
- 1 FREE drink ticket w/cash bar
- 8 person high top table seating
- Raise the Paddle auction
- Great Silent Auction packages

*Dress is casual or country western casual*

**For event information:** SKSFcolorado.org

**WANTED**

**SPONSORS**
Levels from $1,000-$10,000 include great marketing benefits, complimentary admissions, program ads, with TV, radio, and news media coverage

**DONATIONS**
Donate items to be used in our silent auction - examples include gift cards, gift certificates, admission tickets, gift baskets, jewelry, vacation packages, overnight stays, etc

**VOLUNTEERS**
If you would like to volunteer to assist with the event, contact us at sksf@sksfcolorado.org or call 719-447-8983 x10

All proceeds from this event support ZACH’S PLACE at the Laurie Hillyard Family Center. The center is one of only two licensed daycare facilities in the state offering specialized respite care for children ages 2.5-18 with intellectual, physical and emotional disabilities.

EIN #84-1476535
a 501(c)3 organization

**WAY YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**SPONSOR**

**DONATE**

**PRINT A FLYER**

**REGISTER as a GUEST**