



## SPRING NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025



### Chief Executive Officer– Johnnie DeLeon

As of February 3, 2025, Inspiration Field has started a new business and is now providing physical therapy to people in La Junta and the surrounding towns. The new business is set up as Global Therapy & Services. Global Therapy is located at the site of the former Global Treasurz thrift store in La Junta. Global Therapy will provide traditional physical therapy and Hydro Water Therapy. Speaking from experience, I utilized the Hydro therapy a couple of years ago for my lower back pain and experienced relief from back pain. Global Therapy will fill a void in the community as there were 4-6 months wait times for PT at the various PT locations. Global Therapy reports to our Community Supports Director, Nicole Baylor, who will oversee the operation. (Thank you Nicole for overseeing the Global Therapy renovation!!) Our Physical Therapist is Dale Horiuchi, who has treated many patients throughout the valley. Our two PTA's are Megan Hancock and Aleala Bickel. We are excited to have Dale, Aleala and Megan join the IF family and you can look forward to wonderful customer experiences with each of them. Inspiration Field will pay for taxes on Global Therapy and all income will be classified as unrelated business income. In other words, Global Therapy will NOT be exempt from various taxes, for those who thought that they may be operating under our tax exemption.

As we enter our 59th year in business, we look forward to providing core services and supports to adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Otero, Bent and Crowley counties. We are very proud of our staff and services and look to only strengthen these services with the addition of PT services. We will continue to look for other ways to diversify as Medicaid dollars continue to struggle with Federal and state funding challenges and budget cuts. Enjoy the Spring weather as the soil comes back to life!!



### Upcoming Events!

- 40th Inspiration Field Golf Classic – Title Sponsor La Junta Trading Company May 9 & 10, 2025
- 10th Annual Poker Run/5th Annual Smoke Out – Title Sponsor On The Spot Security June 21, 2025



## Director of Nursing – Niki Liddle

Due to a significant increase in illnesses this cold and flu season, we decided it was important to refresh everyone on proper handwashing practices. On 1/14/25, the nursing team led an inservice to highlight how effective handwashing can be in reducing the spread of infections.

We covered the key points of handwashing: cleaning all surfaces of your hands, including between your fingers, under your nails, and around your wrists and thumbs. We also discussed when to wash your hands—after using the bathroom, coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose, and before eating. The recommended washing time is at least 20 seconds, which is roughly the length of time it takes to sing “Happy Birthday” twice.

As part of the session, we visited each Day Program room and conducted a fun experiment showing how soap helps repel germs. By using pepper, water, and dish soap, we demonstrated how germs scatter when soap is introduced. The activity was a hit with both individuals and staff!

Since this inservice, we’ve already noticed a sharp decrease in sickness and illness rates over the past two weeks. Just a reminder: **HANDWASHING IS THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF GERMS!**

## Adult Services Director– Ryan Denahy

Inspiration Field received a recertification survey from the state for our DHSS, IRSS, SLS, and CES services. The survey resulted in three overall deficiencies for all of these program areas combined, meeting the agency standard of five or fewer deficiencies. This was a great accomplishment; three deficiencies are extremely low for all of the services provided in these program areas. I want to give a big shout out and thank you to all of the staff who work in these program areas!! Their continued hard work and dedication to the individuals in service and Inspiration Field was on full display as proven by the outcome of the survey. Thank you!! You are greatly appreciated!!

Inspiration Field held the Annual Valentine’s Ball for the individuals on February 11th. Chef Rafael flipped the dinner menu this year by cooking a wonderful “breakfast” meal that all enjoyed. DJ Corona had the dance floor hopping with his music selections that kept the dance floor full all night. It was great to see so many of the individuals dancing the night away and enjoying themselves. The evening ended with the crowning of the King and Queen. Congratulations to David and Lulu, your 2025 King and Queen. The St. Patrick’s Day Dinner and Talent Show will be held Tuesday, March 11th. This is such an awesome event where the individuals and staff are able to display their many talents by performing songs, dances, and skits. The contestants spend a lot of time and effort practicing their routine to perform in front of the judges and crowd. The overall winner of the Talent Show will receive a pizza party, along with the prestigious title of Inspiration Field Idol.

When looking for automotive repair needs, please remember Inspiration owns and operates 5 Star Automotive Services, providing quality automotive repair services. Brandon Paugh, Automotive Mechanic, manages and oversees the shop and brings over 20 years of automotive experience and knowledge. From basic oil changes and brakes to full engine replacement, no job is too big or small. Please call to schedule an appointment for all of your automotive repair needs at (719) 363-1174.





## Community Supports Director– Nicole Baylor

February Is HEART month!!



On February 3, 2025, Global Therapy & Services had a Grand Opening. The Grand Opening was filled with community members who were eager to check out the new Physical Therapy. We had many people who brought their referrals and set up an appointment. Our Physical Therapist Manager, Dale Horiuchi, and both Physical Therapist Assistants, Aleala Bickel and Megan Hancock were no strangers to the community. The Grand Opening was celebrated with the Board of Directors and IF staff. Call Kaycee with your referral today to schedule your appointment at 719-384-8700.

### **Special Olympics**

The individuals in services end their basketball season with skill sets. Each individual shows what skills they have learned and have grown in. Up next, Powerlifting and Track and Field. Each individual shows their dedication and determination with each sport they participate in. If you would like to volunteer to help individuals learn and gain skills in sports, please contact Nicole Baylor at 719-384-8471 ext 121 or 719-469-3615.



### **We wear RED in February**

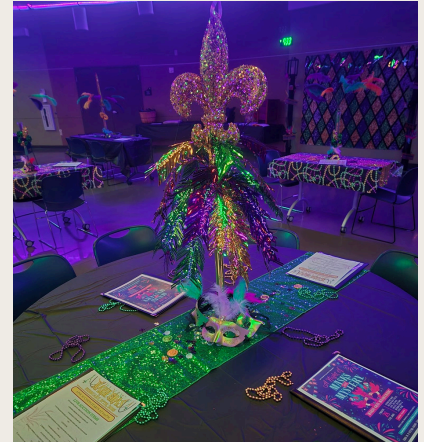
February 7th is wear RED for heart month. Staying healthy and exercising is a great way to keep your heart healthy. Getting regular check-ups is a good way to ensure that you and your doctor are aware of your heart condition at all ages of life. On February 6, IF celebrated wearing RED (since February 7th was a Friday). It was nice to see how many staff and individuals participated and showed their support for Heart Month!

# Community Relations Director– Brittany Baylor

## LOVERS STEAK NIGHT & MARDI GRAS

Sweet Inspirations Catering has had a busy month! For Valentine's Day this year, we hosted our Lovers Steak Night, which was a huge success. We received 84 reservations leading up to the event with several walk-ins, and it was a wonderful evening for couples and friends to come together and enjoy a delicious meal.

Two weeks later, the Mardi Gras team hosted a lively event during another steak night. The tables were beautifully decorated and full of festive touches to attract the crowd. The night featured live and silent auctions, fun games, and a vibrant mix of jazz, blues, brass band music, and other genres. It was a fantastic evening where community members dressed up and enjoyed great food together.



## Looking to book an Event/Catering?

PLEASE CALL 719-469-3247

To book the facility, please contact Brittany Baylor. Please note that dates are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis once the security deposit is paid, and some dates may not be available.

For catering bookings, please reach out to Rafael Robles. Quoted prices are provided, but may change based on market value.





# Chief Financial Officer – Cameron Salzbrener

Inspiration Field's Finance Team has been as busy with our duties as ever, resulting in yet another clean audit with ONE DEFICIENCY! The team worked hard to ensure our auditors had everything they requested to make this happen and I'm exceedingly proud of our collective accomplishment! Keep up the GREAT work team!



In addition to getting the job done, the team has also sponsored and coordinated several activities that included both staff members and the individuals in service.



In October, the Finance Team promoted Breast Cancer Awareness Month as we have for several years now. We asked the individuals in service to put together their best pink art to decorate the lobby and help us raise awareness. We kept the spirit up with weekly word searches and crossword puzzles that rewarded participants with prizes. We had our pink candy jar once again and the closest guess won the sweet jar of treats. We asked staff and individuals to wear their best pink outfits on Thursdays and we ended each week with popcorn and pink slushies.



In December, Finance organized a Spirit Week to get into the holiday season. We had themed dress-up days that included Christmas Sweaters, Christmas Chaos, Mad About Plaid and Tinsel/Sparkle/Light-Up Accessories. It was a fun week and everyone certainly was in a spirit. The collective HR & Finance Team members went the extra mile and turned the entire department into a gingerbread candy land!



## Chief Financial Officer – Cameron Salzbrener

In February, Finance and HR sponsored a Valentine's Day activity with the individuals. The team organized the event, purchased the supplies, coordinated schedules and made it all happen. The individuals got the chance to decorate their own bags for valentine cards with art supplies and stickers. Care was taken to ensure everyone had a bag and then the staff throughout the agency had the opportunity to get involved and bring in valentine cards for each of them. We all had a great time helping them to decorate the bags and then delivering the valentines.



It never ceases to amaze me how awesome our team can be, both in service to the agency as well as to the individuals in service. Each person has their own drive and desire to do a great job and to help where they can to make a difference, whether it's by volunteering for one of the larger IF events or something the department does independently. THANK YOU to my team for continuing to make a difference and choosing to have a positive impact on others!



A prime example of how to go above and beyond is illustrated by our very own Resource Coordinator, Tracey Ruby. During our Annual Dinner in December, Tracey received the agency's highest honor, the Inspiration Award. Nominated by her peers and selected by the directors, Tracey embodies the characteristics that the award recognizes. It is an honor to have her on the Finance Team and we are lucky to get to work alongside her every day, CONGRATULATIONS TRACEY!



# Human Resources Director– Kirsten Bonds

## **Welcome to the vibrant season of spring!**

As we embrace the warmth and beauty of this delightful time of year, we look forward to new beginnings and exciting opportunities. The HR department continues to prioritize recruitment and retention efforts in order to provide the highest quality of service and support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Let's embrace the spirit of spring and continue to make a difference. Together, we can empower individuals and build a brighter future.



## **Volunteers needed!**

Are you passionate about making a positive impact in the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities? Join the Inspiration Field family as a volunteer and contribute to our mission of serving people, creating relationships, expanding opportunities, and fulfilling dreams. Your time, skills, and dedication can make a world of difference! Whether you have a few hours a week or can commit to a long-term role, we have various opportunities that suit your schedule and interests.

Together, we can create a more inclusive and supportive community. Be a part of something meaningful – volunteer with us today!

To get started, visit our website @ <https://www.inspirationfield.org/get-involved/become-a-volunteer#steps> or contact us at (719) 384-8741 for more information. We can't wait to welcome you to our team!

Make the most of the spring season with these activities and tips!

- Gardening: Now is the ideal time to start planning your spring garden.
- Hiking: Explore the beautiful trails around La Junta and the greater Arkansas Valley and enjoy the blooming wildflowers.
- Spring Cleaning: Give your home a fresh start by decluttering and organizing. Open the windows to let in the fresh spring air.
- Picnics: Pack a picnic basket and head to a local park. Enjoy the sunshine and the company of friends and family.







### **MAY 9, 2025-TOURNAMENT BANQUET/SOCIAL GATHERING**

AT THE INSPIRATION FIELD COMMONS AREA, 612 ADAMS AVE IN LA JUNTA CO. YOU AND A GUEST ARE INVITED TO THE GOLF BANQUET ON FRIDAY WITH COCKTAILS STARTING AT 5:15 PM. DINNER AT 6:00 PM AND LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION STARTING AT 7:00 PM. WE WILL HAVE MUSIC AND SOCIAL TIME FROM 9:00 PM TO 10:30 PM. AS WE HAVE DONE FOR SEVERAL YEARS, WE WILL NOT BE MAILING THE TICKETS TO YOU-JUST CHECK IN AT THE DOOR. SHUTTLE RIDES ARE AVAILABLE FOR LA JUNTA. WILL PROVIDE SHUTTLE TO OTHER LOCATIONS WITH PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS.

### **MAY 10, 2025- GOLF TOURNAMENT- LA JUNTA GOLF COURSE**

GOLFING SLOTS ARE FILLED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS. THERE IS A 96 PLAYER LIMIT. THERE IS A MAXIMUM 8-STROKE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN PARTNER, 40% OF COMBINED HANDICAPS. CO-ED PARTNERS' HANDICAPS MAY BE ADJUSTED. GHIN HANDICAPS ARE PREFERRED. \$400 IN CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO EACH OF THE SIX FLIGHTS.

### **THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS OR CHANGES AFTER MAY 1, 2025**

SENIOR FLIGHT- TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SENIOR FLIGHT, EACH PLAYER MUST BE 62 YEARS OR OVER, AND BOTH PLAYERS MUST PLAY IN THE SENIOR FLIGHT. SEPARATE RULES WILL ALSO BE GIVEN. (NOTE IF YOU ARE OVER 62 YEARS, YOU CAN ELECT NOT TO PLAY IN THE SENIOR FLIGHT.) THE GOLF TEAM RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE ANY CHANGES NECESSARY TO THE GOLF TOURNAMENT.

\*A TOURNAMENT ENTRY RECEIVES 18 HOLES OF GOLF, PREMIUM GIFT, TWO BANQUET TICKETS FOR A DINNER, LIGHT BREAKFAST, BBQ LUNCH AND BEVERAGES ON TOURNAMENT DAY AND ELIGIBILITY FOR A VARIETY OF AWARDS AND PRIZES.

**Senior Flights for  
62 Years & Over!**

**HAVE FUN & MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE**  
PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT  
INSPIRATIONFIELD'S  
**DREAM & INVESTING**  
**FOR OUR FUTURE FUNDS**





**JUNE 21, 2025**

**10 ANNUAL INSPIRATION FIELD**



# POKER RUN & Car Show

**8:00 AM REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST @ INSPIRATION FIELD,  
KICKSTANDS UP AT 10:00AM**

**1ST STOP - 6TH STREET TAVERN - LAS ANIMAS**

**2ND STOP - THE RAILYARD - LA JUNTA**

**3RD STOP - COLUMBINE SALOON - ORDWAY - LUNCH PROVIDED**

**4TH STOP - THE OXFORD BAR AND GRILL - FOWLER**

**5TH STOP - LEN'S TAVERN - ROCKY FORD**

**CAR SHOW- 11:00AM-3:00PM**

**VENDORS IN THE COURTYARD TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR SALE**

**SWEET INSPIRATIONS CURB SIDE MENU OPEN FOR LUNCH FROM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**HEAD BACK TO INSPIRATION FIELD 612 ADAMS AVE LA JUNTA FOR PRIZES/WINNERS,**

**LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS STAY AND ENJOY LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FOR**

**Smoke Out and enjoy some Delicious BBQ from 4:00 PM-11:00 PM**

*To Benefit Local  
Rec Programs*

**SINGLE: \$15.00 / DOUBLE \$20.00**

**CAR ENTRY - \$15.00**

**\* DOOR PRIZES AT EACH STOP \* 50/50 \***

**BIKES, CARS, TRUCKS ARE ALL WELCOME**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

**FROILAN LOPEZ - 719-468-7581, BRIANNA EISERT**

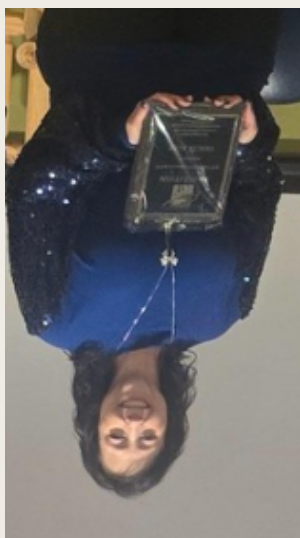
**719-468-0661 OR NINA HIGGINS 719-980-2477**

**612 ADAMS AVE., LA JUNTA CO 81050**





2024 Inspiration Field Award Winner  
-Tracey Ruby



**INSPIRATION**  **FIELD**  
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(719) 384-8741

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