



SERVING PEOPLE  
CREATING RELATIONSHIPS  
EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES  
FULFILLING DREAMS

# FALL NEWSLETTER

2023

## RECENT EVENTS



### 12TH ANNUAL MONSTER BASH SPONSORED BY THE STATE BANK!

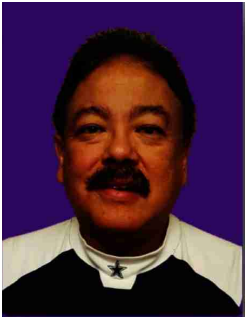
On October 28, 2023 We held the 12th Annual Monster Bash Costume and Dance Sponsored by The State Bank! We had the pleasure of having the SOFA KILLERS come down from Colorado Springs to play during the event! This year we brought FASTBAR to the event to allow for easier payment options! Please look out for the FASTBAR for future events!



#### 12th Annual Monster Bash Volunteers!

Thank you to Shaun Rains, Steve Johnson, Kidron Backes, Jason Baylor Mike Backes, Parker Bickel, Nicole Baylor, Travis Kesterson, Aimee Lamere, Jackie Modica-Aiken, Kristi Bohrer, Gregg Freidenberger, Brittany Baylor, Johnnie DeLeon, Rafael Robles, Thomas Workman, Tamara Ramsos, Ruthie Padilla, Ericka Rodriguez, Lisa Garcia, Connie Wilson, Melinda Wahl, Alex Montoya, Xander Kimsey, Betty Clanton, Tony Casturita, Steven Morales, Steven Encinas, Steven Salas, Blayne Burns, Walter Rouillard, Dale Horiuchi, Ryan Denahy, Julia Hoeppner, and anyone whom we inadvertently missed!

## Chief Executive Officer- Johnnie DeLeon



Effective November 1, 2023, Inspiration Field no longer provides any Case Management services for the individuals in service. The new Case Management Agency (CMA) is Otero County Department of Human Services (OCDHS), who will provide Case Management in Otero, Crowley and Bent counties. Inspiration Field will continue to provide 24/7 services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Otero, Bent and Crowley counties.

In 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the requirements for the Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Final Rule. It included many requirements for providers to make changes to their processes to increase person-centeredness. This rule also included a requirement for case management agencies to be “conflict free”, which means that they cannot provide services to the same person to whom they are providing case management services. Colorado was mandated to come into compliance with these rules by July 1, 2024, or risk losing federal funding, which is 50% of the budget for home and community-based services. As the new CMA, OCDHS must now provide Case Management for all HCBS waivers, which results in a single entry point for Case Management for all HCBS waivers and State General Funded Programs.

With the holidays on the horizon, it seems strange that yet another year is quickly passing by. During the holidays, Inspiration Field will continue with giving various donations and performing acts of kindness throughout the area. I encourage each of you to do something small for others during Thanksgiving/Christmas. Please look for our 10 th Annual Santa’s Workshop on November 29, from 4:00 – 6:15pm, and bring your family to the event at Inspiration Field, where everything is free, including: Picture with Santa, make a craft, decorate a cookie, write a letter to Santa, Nerf battle, tattoos, snacks.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING, MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EACH OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES!!!**

## Community Relations Director- Brittany Baylor

My team has been busy working to perfect our Early intervention Program (birth to three). Over the last year there have been a lot of changes to the process of getting information on children in our community. Referrals are being processed by Care Navigators that work directly with the Colorado Department of Early Childhood. Select Evaluation teams then work hard to determine if children are eligible for services. If determined eligible for services, that information is passed to our agency . We have seen an increase in our program over the last year with more children needing support since the COVID Pandemic. More information can be found at [https://dcfs.my.salesforce-sites.com/eicolorado/EI\\_Home?lang=en](https://dcfs.my.salesforce-sites.com/eicolorado/EI_Home?lang=en)



**Cheif Financial Officer - Cameron Salzbrenner**

## **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**



**Pictured - Tracey Ruby, Resource Specialist, Carla Hernandez, Bookkeeper, Stacy Lovato, HR Coordinator, Cameron Salzbrenner, CFO, and Erika Rodriguez, Community Supports SLS**

It's been a busy few months in the Finance Department as we closed out Fiscal Year 2023 and worked with our auditors to complete our annual financial audit. I worked with Johnnie to create our Fiscal Year 2024 Budget as we closed out the previous year. We were able to provide our auditors with everything they requested before, during their fieldwork visit here and after and so far, have only received positive comments on what they've seen. Fingers crossed for another year of no deficiencies! Our little team consisting of Carla, Tracey and Myself have continued to work diligently on the billing, payment of vendors and record keeping that is required of our agency. We also sponsored the events in October for Breast Cancer Awareness and truly appreciate the teamwork and comradery the IF team displayed each week in their best pink!

### **Adult Services Director- Ryan Denahy**

We temporarily closed our auto shop, 5 Star Automotive Services in 2022 when our mechanic retired. In March of this year we hired a new mechanic, Cody Steward and the shop is once again open for business and taking customers. In addition to hiring Cody, we also had Becky Gallegos transfer into the role of Service Advisor at 5 Star Auto. Becky was our Transportation Manager and is now working in a combined role. Please call Becky at 719-363-1174 to schedule your vehicle for any automotive repair needs.

Our Host Home program just added a new Host Home Provider in October. We are always on the lookout for new Host Home Providers, if you are interested in becoming a Host Home Provider or want to learn more about the program, please contact me (Ryan Denahy) at 719-469-9673 or Program Supervisor, Tom Workman at 719-469-6508. Being a Host Home Provider can be a great source of additional tax free income for you!!





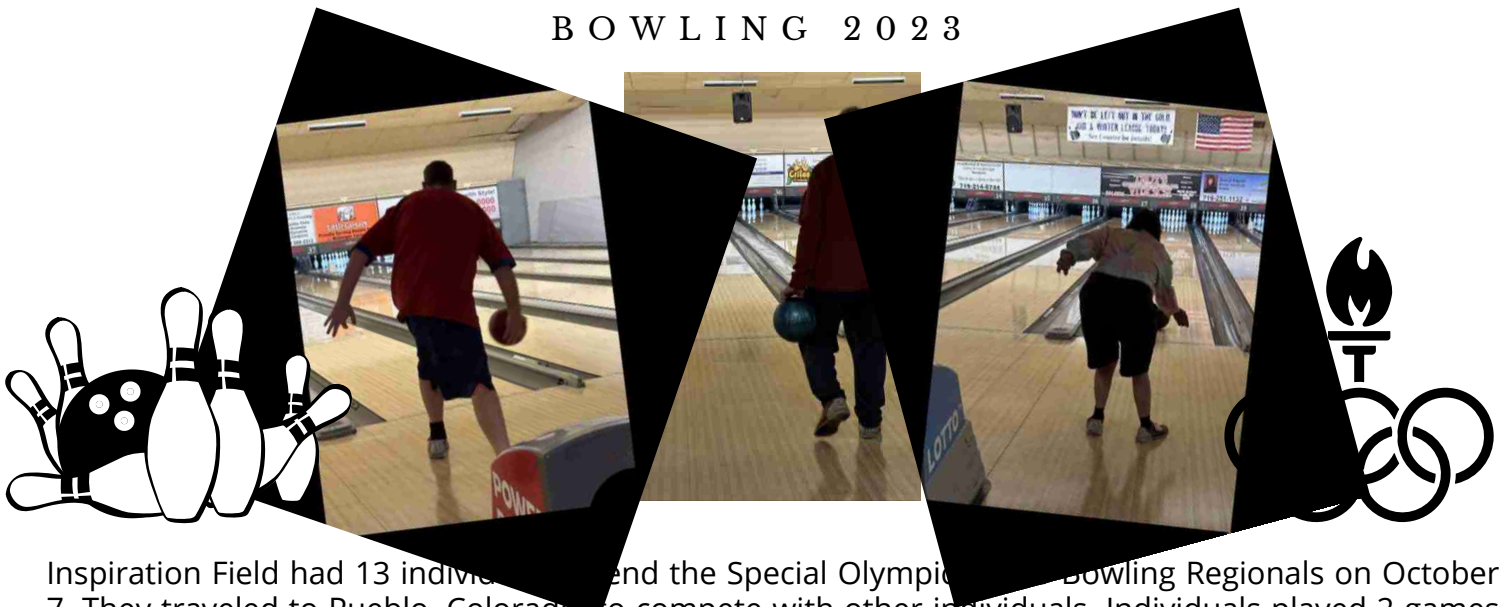
## Volunteer Work



On August 31, Comanche National Grassland invited a group of 8 individuals and 2 staff to the Purgatoire River to clear away mud deposits on the surface of the dinosaur tracks to make visibility better for their tour guides and visitors. Our individuals volunteered to gain knowledge and experience in work ethics. Later, they were invited to a Volunteer Luncheon by the Comanche National Grassland.

## Special Olympics

BOWLING 2023



Inspiration Field had 13 individuals attend the Special Olympics Bowling Regionals on October 7. They traveled to Pueblo, Colorado, to compete with other individuals. Individuals played 2 games and ended their day at Golden Corral. Congratulations to all of the Individuals. Nancy Eubanks 6th place, Brittany Favorite 4th place, Jimmy Gallegos 3rd place, MacKenzie Gallegos 5th place, Hanna Gruaberger 4th place, Dustin Jara 1st place, Kayla Kaminsky 2nd place, Cora Martinez 5th place, Richard Martinez 5th place, Jaymes McCutchen 2nd place, Stacy Parkhurst 3rd place, Yolanda Rael 2nd place, Kathleen Schlee 4th place, Loretta Vialpando 1st place.

Director of Nursing- Niki Liddle



Inspiration Field has started offering CPR classes to the community! This has been something our company has talked about for a long time and we have finally made this happen. Our first community classes were offered in October. We are offering basic Heartsaver CPR classes for \$40 per person. These are scheduled monthly during normal business hours. Heartsaver classes are a wonderful introduction to CPR or a great way to stay up-to-date on CPR for the general public. We are also offering BLS (basic life support) CPR classes for \$40 per person. These are scheduled quarterly on a weekend day. BLS classes are generally for healthcare providers and is a more advanced approach to CPR. If any organizations want to schedule a class for a group of people or to get enrolled in one of these already scheduled classes, you can email Niki Liddle at [Nikiliddle@inspirationfield.org](mailto:Nikiliddle@inspirationfield.org).

## Human Resources Director- Kirsten Bonds

Things are busy as usual in the Human Resources Department. We have had a really good summer and fall, hiring 35 employees over the last 5 months. They have been a great addition to the Inspiration Field team. With all of those new hires, we have also celebrated some big work anniversaries! Our CEO, Johnnie DeLeon, celebrated his 20th year with Inspiration Field in June! In August, Nikki Bjork celebrated her 24th year with the company! In October, Lisa Garcia completed her 23rd year at Inspiration Field and John Candelaria celebrated his 10th year! This well-rounded group of employees continues to work hard providing exceptional care for the individuals in service. I am thankful for all of them!

# VETERANS DAY

---

## HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

On November 8 th , just ahead of Veterans Day, I was fortunate enough to be able to honor 8 Inspiration Field employees who also bravely served our country in the military. We are so grateful for their service and for defending our rights. They boldly answered their country's call and we at Inspiration Field are proud of them on Veterans Day and always!



L to R; Zeke Vigil, US Marine Corps; Eric Kiser, US Army; Jose Diaz, US Navy; Cayle Hines, US Army; & Thomas Workman, US Army

Not Pictured: Cody Steward, US Air Force; Chris Flakes, US Army; 1 Staff Member asked not to be disclosed.



# TRUNK OR TREAT



**Inspiration Field was able to provide Candy to 894 members of the community on Halloween!** IF used Funds donated towards the Dream Fund. The Dream Fund was established by IF to provide philanthropy efforts and to give back to the community, i.e. Santa's workshop (everything is free), Chirtimas giveaways, **Trunk or Treat**, and area High Schools scholarships, etc.



**There has never been a better time to invest in dreams and the future!!!**

Funds donated go into The Dream Fund and Investing for the Future Fund.

The Dream Fund was established by IF to provide philanthropy efforts and to give back to the community, i.e. Santa's workshop (everything is free), Chirtimas giveaways, Trunk or Treat, and Area High School Scholarships, etc.

The Investing for the Future fund aims to ensure the soundness of InspirationField for future generations to utilize the property at 612 Adams Avenue. Inspiration Field is researching new and innovative practices to provide programming and maximize the multi-use facility.

All nonprofits receive a % of the fund equal to the % they raise for Colorado Gives Day. Raise 10%, get 10% of the Incentive Fund.



**Donate to Inspiration Field at [ColoradoGivesDay.org](https://ColoradoGivesDay.org)**





**There has never been a better time to invest in dreams and the future!!!**

Funds donated go into The Dream Fund and Investing for the Future Fund.

The Dream Fund was established by IF to provide philanthropy efforts and to give back to the community, i.e. Santa's workshop (everything is free), Chirtimas giveaways, Trunk or Treat, and Area High School Scholarships, etc.

The Investing for the Future fund aims to ensure the soundness of InspirationField for future generations to utilize the property at 612 Adams Avenue. Inspiration Field is researching new and innovative practices to provide programming and maximize the multi-use facility.

All nonprofits receive a % of the fund equal to the % they raise for Colorado Gives Day. Raise 10%, get 10% of the Incentive Fund.



**Donate to Inspiration Field at [ColoradoGivesDay.org](https://ColoradoGivesDay.org)**





INSPIRATION  FIELD  
612 Adams Avenue  
La Junta, CO 81050  
(719) 384-8741

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
LA JUNTA, CO  
PERMIT NO. 210

