

The Canvas

Seeing the unseen in every Rainbows' child.



Thanks to *Friends of the Heart* volunteers



Deb Voth, President

How do you build a successful special event that has raised over \$1.5 million in the past ten years, attracts over 600 guests annually, and is the most spectacular party of the year? You do it with the *Friends of the Heart* volunteers. These amazing individuals

consistently give of their time, resources, creative juices, and their strong fortitude to put on an awesome fundraiser.

Why do these generous people do this? They do it because of their passion for our mission to support children with special needs and their families. They do it because they love knowing that their hard work pays off by helping deliver high quality services to children birth to 21 years who need individualized services.

How do you thank these volunteers? You do it by showing them the more than 3,400 faces of

children who benefit from their work each year. You do it by showing them the first steps, the first wave, the first words. You do it by sharing the wonderful stories from families who gain knowledge, skills, and hope.

A volunteer is defined as a person who takes on a responsibility or task in order to promote goodness or improve quality of life. A volunteer performs this altruistic activity for no financial gain of their own. That is what the *Friends of the Heart* do. We thank them for who they are and what they mean to Rainbows.

Fashion Passion 2015 is shaping up to be even bigger and better than ever. *The Friends* love to have surprises for attendees so don't miss this opportunity to see the hard work of these dear people for yourselves. You will be amazed at what a group of strong, united band of individuals can do because of the children!

Deb Voth, President



Pauline Freund & Angela Kessler

On October 2, 2015, Rainbows United received grant funding to help provide Targeted Case Management services to families in Wichita and Sedgwick County. Bank of America's investment will allow Rainbows to continue to serve more than 3,400 children with special needs.

Infant /Toddler Services

When Brittany delivered her daughter Maryah, there were no warnings that anything would be wrong. Although she had reached full term, Maryah was born with a chromosomal mutation that no one had seen before. This mutation caused things like deafness, cleft palate, and even no growth hormone for Maryah. Through the Via Christi Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Brittany was introduced to Rainbows.

Now almost two years old, Maryah weighs fifteen pounds. Her Primary Coach and Family Services Coordinator is Allison Bruntz, Occupational Therapist who sees her weekly. Monthly, Maryah receives joint visits from a Rainbows' Physical Therapist, and a Speech Language Pathologist.

"Working with Allison is amazing," Brittany said. "We look forward to her coming every week, she is great at finding ways to help Maryah develop. She has helped us secure equipment we couldn't otherwise afford." Allison provided guidance for Maryah's family through the medical system and also recommended places to receive

support with other families.

"Allison has been our partner, helping me know where to go and what to do," Brittany said. "I don't know what I would do without her."

Through Rainbows' services, Maryah has begun making progress. She can now hold her head up when in a sitting position and bear weight on her legs with help of the splints. Brittany takes special notice in the little strides Maryah makes every week and excitedly shares them with Allison.



"They not only encourage the children but the parents as well," Brittany said. "Rainbows is a huge life changer."

Any family with a concern about their infant or toddler's development may call 316.945.7117 in Sedgwick County and 316.320.1342 in Butler County.

Breaking the mold

In 2005 I moved to Wichita and met Deb Voth through my sister, Leslye Woodard. My sister has 3 healthy boys. I have never had children. I had a career, a fast sports car and lots of shoes. Being single I was very foot loose and fancy free. Bonum vitae est.

Deb invited Leslye and myself to attend the very first Fashion Passion. Special needs children, their issues and more importantly, the challenges their parents face was all new to me. My sister suggested I become involved with Deb and Rainbows plus quit buying shoes.

In October of 2010, I met Tony Caputo after a Rainbows' Fashion Passion

Committee Meeting. Funny thing.... Fashion Passion was right around the corner and I could tell he was EXACTLY the kind of man who would want to attend and become involved. We attended our first Fashion Passion together that November. He was as committed as I was. He loved Rainbows and what they were doing for the children and their families.

Tony knows firsthand what challenges families face as his daughter became wheelchair bound at age 11. Therefore, Tony and I LOVE RAINBOWS and we are excited to be part of Fashion Passion 2015.

We are so appreciative of our friends who have become involved and have opened up their hearts and checkbooks. We hope to help continue to spread the word and increase the support.

We also hope everyone will be MOST GENEROUS on Friday night, November 20 and purchase silent auction items, fashion passes and of course bid like CRAZY on the live auction items. We look forward to a fun evening and are HONORED to be part of such an outstanding organization.

Warmest Wishes to Rainbows and to Fashion Passion 2015,

LewJene Schneider
and Tony Caputo
Fashion Passion 2015
Event Chairs



2015 Board of Directors

Chair **Meredith Olson**, *Koch Companies*
Past Chair **Gary Proffitt**, *Community Volunteer*
Vice Chair **Josh Umbehr, MD**, *AtlasMD*
Secretary **Lisa Farris**, *Community Volunteer*
Treas. **Jeff Jabara**, *Community Volunteer*

Vera Bothner, *Bothner & Bradley, Inc.*
Wayne Chambers, *High Touch Technologies*
Steve Cox, *Cox Machine*
John DeCesaro, *Fidelity Bank*
Sue Doonan, *Community Volunteer*
Dan Drake, *MoJack Distributors, LLC*
Stephanie Galichia, *Community Volunteer*
Pat Gearhart, *Bank SNB*
Janeen Hughes, *Emprise Bank*
Coleen Jennison, *Cox Communications*
Gail Johnson, *INTRUST Bank*
Pete McKernan, *Textron Aviation*
Todd Ramsey, *Apples & Arrows*
Hale Ritchie, *Community Volunteer*
Naaman Ritchie, *Blake-Clotia*
Grant Stannard, *Stannard Construction*

Rainbows United Charitable Foundation Board of Directors

Chair **Grant Stannard**, *Stannard Const.*
Vice Chair **Helen Healy**, *Community Volunteer*
Secretary **Stephanie Galichia**, *Community Volunteer*
Treasurer **Steve Cox**, *Cox Machine*
Drayton Alldritt, *Community Volunteer*
Dan Drake, *MoJack Distributors, LLC*
Hale Ritchie, *Community Volunteer*

November 20th at 6:30 p.m.
Beech Activity Center

a benefit for children
with special needs

EVENT CHAIRS
LewJene Schneider and Tony Caputo

HONORARY CHAIRS
George and Jocelyne Laham

Rainbow Show made possible
by *Maids & Images*
and *Bradley Fair* retailers.

presented by: **COX** **ACCEL CONSTRUCTION** **BRIDLE STATE** **DocuSign** **7** **Starline** **SPIRIT** **DOCUPLEX** **COLAB**

sponsored by:

RAINBOWS
bringing potential to life

RAINBOWSUNITED.ORG/fashionpassion