

New Year Looms Large

Happy New Year! 2021 is here and we can all put 2020 in the rear-view! 2020 was a very tumultuous year. Little did we know that a year that started full of possibilities ended up being the year we now know as 2020!

Here at Tri-Valley, 2020 started with a number of changes. Tri-Valley merged with New Beginnings Enterprises. With the merger, the Foundation added three new homes. Renovations were finished in Fort Scott at Fairway house. Six individuals moved in. Tim Cunningham moved to Colorado and Bill Fiscus became CEO. Planning was underway for our annual fund-raisers. The year was full of possibilities. Then, COVID emerged.

And we adapted. Some good has come out of a horrible year. The community continues to support Tri-Valley clients and staff. In early spring, several local community members donated face-masks. Staff worked with individuals in the homes and created new dishes and activities. We had a very good year for the annual truck raffle drawing. We even held three golf tournaments.

But that was last year, and this is 2021 and the Foundation is excited about the possibilities!

In 2020, we had to cancel Cruise Night. For 2021, the Foundation board has decided to hold a virtual event. Plans are underway for the event to be held in April. Be on the lookout for information as it becomes available.

Dates have been set for the three golf tournaments. Due to a scheduling conflict, the Foundation is switching up the order of the tournaments. The dates are as follows: June 12th - Prairie Ridge Golf Course in Erie; July 24th - Fredonia Golf Course; and September 12th - Woodland Hills in Fort Scott. If you are interested in sponsorships or playing in any of these tournaments, please reach out.

We are in the middle of our 21st Annual Raffle Drawing. This year's prize is a 2021 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Long Horn Edition Truck, from Shields Motor Company in Chanute. The lucky winner will have their ticket drawn on June 25th at 1:30 pm at the Foundation's home office, 521 W. 35 Ch Pkwy in Chanute. Tickets are \$50 a piece or 8 may be purchased for \$350. Your odds of winning are 1 in 3,000; which is better than the lottery! If you have already entered, thank you!

And, last but certainly not least, our annual 2021 Membership drive is underway. If you have already renewed your membership, THANK YOU! If you are interested in renewing your membership or know of someone who might be interested in joining, please contact me at either 620-431-7655 or tcampbell@tvds.org. As always, we have set amounts, but appreciate any donation. A donation form is located on the last page of this newsletter. Or just visit our website (www.tvds.org)

The reason we hold these fund-raisers and membership drives is to support the Foundation's mission. That mission is to support Tri-Valley Developmental Services as it serves individuals with intellectual/ developmental disabilities in our home counties of Allen, Bourbon, Chautauqua, Elk, Greenwood, Neosho, Wilson, and Woodson.

Thanks to the kind generosity of our Friends, the Foundation is the proud owner of 13 houses and a duplex of which 61 of our neighbors with intellectual/developmental disabilities are able to call these houses "home."

Thank you!

Tri-Valley Developmental Services Receives Donations

The spirit of the holiday season arrived in early December in the form of three donations. In early December, Tri-Valley received donations from the Knight of Columbus Councils in Fredonia and Independence. Both donations were from the Knights' annual Tootsie Roll campaigns. A huge thank you goes to the Knights for their selflessness and kindness.

Then, just before Christmas, an anonymous donor contacted staff in Chanute. They wished to make a donation to be used to give individuals in our residential program something special for the holiday season. Brenda Harrison, Director of Day Services, and Jim Jesseph, Director of Residential Services, worked together and put together "Quarantine Christmas Bags." Pictures of the bags are featured on page 2 and 3.

Thanks to the kindness of our local community, individuals served by Tri-Valley were shown the true spirit of the season, even in 2020. Thank you!

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Tri-Valley
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of Directors

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Tri-Valley Technology Improvements

Thanks to a collaboration with ANW Coop, Tri-Valley Developmental Services is setting up learning stations at sites throughout the eight county service area.

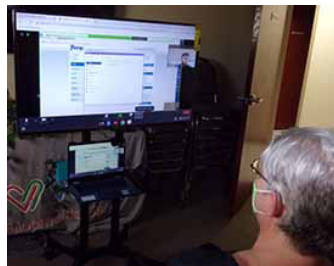
A learning station is a mobile stand with a laptop, television, external microphone, and external speakers that may be used for connecting to other sites. The stations foster independence and accessibility. It helps an individual to direct their services and to have increased contact with family and friends.

Tri-Valley has received funding for 16 stations; our goal is to have learning stations at 42 sites.

Tri-Valley Administrative staff have also received word that we

will receive 48 refurbished I-Pads from the State of Kansas. These I-Pads will go directly to the individuals served to improve communication.

Everyone is excited about these technological improvements that will directly benefit the individuals served by Tri-Valley.

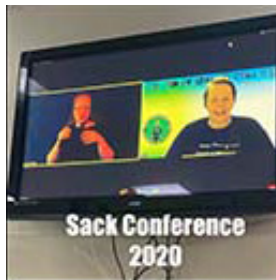


Above, Alisa Miner, Training Coordinator, and Matt Melander, Data Coordinator, demonstrate one of the new learning stations. Our goal is to put learning stations at 42 sites.

2020 in Pictures



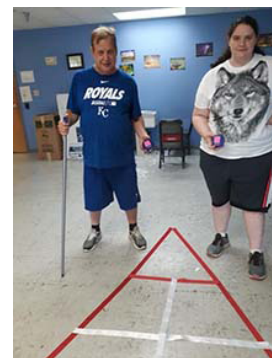
Fire Hydrant painting in Fort Scott



Left, 2020 SACK Virtual Conference attended by individuals in Chanute, Fort Scott, and Neodesha.



Rice Crispy Treats in Quarantine



Virtual Special Olympics



Picnic in Moline



Above, look what grew in the Fort Scott Greenhouse!

Below, Barrel Racing in Chanute.



Jim Jesseph puts together "Quarantine Christmas Bags"

Weeding Neodesha Service Center's landscaping



Arts & Crafts in Chanute, Fort Scott, Moline, and Neodesha

AmazonSmile

Do you shop on Amazon.com? If so, have you heard of the Amazon Smile program.

How the program works is simple. When you shop at Smile. Amazon.com, Amazon will donate to your favorite charitable organization. The Friends of Tri-Valley is listed as one of the charitable organizations you can selected from.

So, the next time, you need to buy something from Amazon, visit Smile.Amazon.com and find out more about the program.

Fall Fund-raisers for Life Enrichment Program held

Prior to the merger between New Beginnings and Tri-Valley, each agency held annual fall fund-raisers for client programs. Tri-Valley has sold holiday cards for several years with funds going to the Life Enrichment Program. Tri-Valley's Horticultural Program in Fort Scott raised and sold poinsettia plants to local organizations. New Beginnings held their own poinsettia fund-raiser with clients selling different variety of plants. 2020 was no different.

This year, Tri-Valley sold 137 sets of holiday cards. The cards were all brand new original artwork. The best selling card for 2020 was the cardinal design (pictured below).

Fort Scott grew and sold 300 poinsettia plants for 2020. The plants were sold to local organizations and groups in Fort Scott. A number of the organizations, in turn, sold the plants as fund-raisers. The plants were a double blessing; funds were raised for not only Tri-Valley's horticultural program but for some worthy community groups in the Fort Scott area.



Prior to the merger, New Beginnings held an annual poinsettia fund-raiser in which clients sold around 1,000 poinsettia plants in Chautauqua, Elk, Greenwood, and Wilson counties. For 2020, staff were concerned that the fund-raiser would not be as successful due to COVID. We are happy to report that 737 plants were sold.

Each sales person received a gift card from Walmart for their participation. The winning sales person's name was added to a trophy that is housed at the Neodesha Service Center.

Special thanks to all the staff who made these fund-raisers possible: Barbara McCord, Austin Holinger, Alene Jolly, Gail Beach, Dianne Gillespie, Ashley Blackledge, Stephanie Riley-Drake, Joe O'Rourke, Bonnie Puckett, Edith Sweet, and Derrek Floyd.

Thank you also to everyone who either purchased a set of cards or a plant. Your purchase has benefited some very deserving individuals.

Tri-Valley Celebrates Holidays

It is beyond obvious that 2020 was a year of interruptions, to say the least. The holidays, sadly, were not an exception.

Luckily, sites were able to celebrate Halloween. And, boy did they ever. Pictures from Iola, Neodesha, Moline and Fort Scott are shown on the right. Plus, Neodesha held their annual tailgate party (pictured below). And fun was had by all.

Sadly, our annual Thanksgiving dinners had to be canceled due to COVID. But that didn't stop the houses from decorating and celebrating the Christmas season.

We look forward to holding our annual holiday events in 2021.

In the meantime, everyone here at Tri-Valley wishes you and yours a Happy New Year!



Friends of Tri♥Valley

21st Annual Raffle Drawing

2021 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Long Horn Edition Truck
Tickets are \$50 each or 8 tickets for \$350



Drawing will be held on June 25, 2021 at 1:30 pm (CST) at 521 W. 35 Ch Pkwy, Chanute, KS.

For information or to enter:
Call 620-431-7655, enter online at www.tvds.org or
mail this completed form with payment to Friends of Tri-Valley, PO Box 518, Chanute, KS 66720.
All major credit cards accepted.
FTV is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization offering persons with disabilities
opportunities to achieve the quality of life they seek.
Kansas Raffle License Number: RAF000005.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Void where prohibited by law. Submission indicates acceptance of the official rules available on-line at www.tvds.org or by request- send SASE. Must be 18 to enter. All transactions take place in the FTV administration office located in Chanute, KS.

Friends of Tri♥Valley

521 W. 35 CH Pkwy, P.O. Box 518, Chanute, KS 66720

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please make checks payable to Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation.

Friends of Tri-Valley foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the needs of developmentally disabled persons served by TVDS. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

☐ I have enclosed my company's matching gift form.

☐ Please send me information about how I can make a gift to the Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation through my estate.

Give online at www.tvds.org

Yes, I wish to support the Friends of Tri-Valley with a gift:

☐ Membership

Levels: ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500

☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other: _____

☐ In Memory/Honor of: _____

☐ Other _____

☐ My gift of \$ _____ is enclosed.

☐ Please charge my gift of \$ _____

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____

If you wish, we would be happy to send a notice of your gift to someone and include your name when acknowledging donor.

Send notice of this gift to _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

☐ I/We wish to remain anonymous.

The Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation is a private, 501(c) (3) non profit organization. This agency does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability for employment or the provision of services.