Introductions & Member Updates/Openings
Welcome to Colleen Hunter a new TCM with A Step Above and Colette Crist a new TCM with JCDS.

Openings:
The Sweet Life - 3 RS openings 913-825-1233
Case Management Services - TCM referrals 913-636-8098

Affiliate Award
The Affiliate of the Month Award for August was presented to Reflection of Peace, Willow Tree, Autism Enhancement and Ruby Simms, Shannon Shelton and Laura Singer with CMS for their assistance with the closure of Serene Care. Janel Bowers with Friends of JCDS was also very helpful in this transition. Others nominated for the August Award were Angela Walsh-Fisher, JCDS Employment Services and Melinda Alleyne, Independent Case Manager. CONGRATULATIONS!

Roxanne Hidaka with CMS presented Shelly May, CDDO Director, Anna McNamara, CDDO Affiliate Coordinator and Reflection of Peace with a framed photograph for their involvement in the transition/closure of Serene Care. She stated, “It takes a village.”

Guest Presenter – Lauren Ptomey and Andrew Collie, Center for Physical Activity and Weight Management, Cardiovascular Research Institute, University of Kansas Medical Center
Lauren and Andrew shared information on the Nutrition and Physical Activity Research Program for Adolescents with IDD/ASD living in the KC Metro. Adolescents and their families will get a nutrition and physical activity plan and a personal health educator they will meet with once every two weeks to help them improve their diet, increase physical activity and lose weight. The program is no-cost to the families, and they will get an iPad and some money to use towards food purchases. More information is sent in an attachment with the minutes.
The last program they did reported a 7% weight loss. This new program was the result of requests to start the program at an earlier age to develop healthy skills before becoming independent adults. They plan on opening up a 21 and over program in the future.
CDDO Updates
The CDDO Handbook has been updated and will be sent in a separate email. Shelly noted two changes:

- BASIS Request for Review/Appeal – The review is for those with a 1-5 tier that believe there has been a data error or other mistake. The request for an appeal is for a tier 0 with a loss of funding.

- CDDO Internal Administrative Review is the last page of the handbook and provides a flowchart for remedies to resolve disputes.

The BASIS team assessors have requested for scheduling, at least 3 dates/times, and to include the location with address in email response.

The next KDADS/CDDO Quarterly Business Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 24, from 9:30 to noon. It will be hosted locally by the CDDO at the Elmore Center or you may attend in person in the basement meeting room at the New England Building, 503 S. Kansas Avenue in Topeka. Please RSVP to gail.lauri@jocogov.org if you plan to attend.

A Cheer Camp and a Kansas Specialty Dog Service brochure will be distributed with meeting minutes.

State Updates/Workgroups/Policies
Joey’s Law was passed July 1, 2017. A decal, placard or notation on license/ID card may be requested for those with a cognitive disability. This is notification the individual with the identification card may need assistance with cognition when a motor vehicle is being operated or occupied by such person. This law came about because an individual with Autism (Joey) was shot and killed during a routine traffic stop. More information is attached.

Additional information on KDADS Background Check Policy and exceptions can be found at the following link. http://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/SCC-Documents/Health-Occupations-Credentialing/request-for-exception-to-prohibition--instructions-and-request-form.pdf?sfvrsn=2

The final policy on HCBS access for individuals in DCF custody is posted on KDADS under General Policies http://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/CSP/HCBS/HCBS-Policies/draft-final-policies/access-to-hcbs-waiver-services-for-individuals-in-dcf-custody.pdf?sfvrsn=0

The Next KanCare Oversight Committee Meeting is August 22 & 23. The agenda has been posted: http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2017_18/committees/ctte_jt_robert_g_bob_bethell_joint_committee_1/documents/agenda/weekly/20170828.pdf.
Miss America – September 10th - “Remove the Labels; Be Unstoppable” is the only platform promoting inclusion and acceptance for those with disabilities. Please vote for a Disability Advocate, vote for Miss Kansas Krystian Alisha Fish for the Miss America People’s Choice award. Make sure to vote Kansas: http://missamerica.org/vote/

Federal Update
CMS Long-Term Services and Supports Open Door Forum is scheduled for: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at 1:00 PM. Dial: 1-800-837-1935 & Reference Conference ID: 60583452. The topic is Home and Community-Based Services. Updates are in Settings Rule Implementation and other Key HCBS Updates.

Advocacy Update
Jody Hanson, Community Relations Manager with JCDS reported on the latest legislative news. Her notes will be sent with the minutes.

Upcoming CDDO Meetings/Trainings – RSVP to Gail Lauri gail.lauri@jocogov.org

- 2017 BASIS Training Dates – All affiliates welcomed and encouraged to attend.
  - 10.5.17 from 10:00-11:30, Room 111 at the Elmore Center.
- October 12, 2017 - Registration is now open for the Fall I/DD Provider Summit: A Day with Derrick Dufresne. View preview here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWBZp4afQBI.

Next Johnson County Affiliates Meeting – September 14, 2017
KU Edwards Campus
Regnier Hall Room #255
Healthy Eating, Physical Activity, and Weight Loss Program

KUMC’s Center for Physical Activity and Weight Management is looking for adolescents (13–21 years) with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be in a research program on healthy eating, physical activity and weight.

Adolescents will be:

- Involved in one of three healthy eating programs
- Exercising
- Receiving an iPad to use as part of the study
- Compensated for their time
- No travel required

For more information contact

Andrew at acollie@ku.edu or 785-764-3770 or visit

http://ebl.ku.edu/adolescent-idd

Families must live within 50 miles of Kansas City or Lawrence

The program is 6 months long with an optional 12 months maintenance program and takes place in the home
Aug. Legislative report to JoCo Affiliates

State issues:

- All of the HCBS increased rates are now published in KMAP. We are hearing various reports on the success of billing the new rates as well as the 4% restoration of TCM.
- Several advocacy groups continue to explore alternatives for our system and are having continued conversations about removing our services from KanCare. This could be a big topic in the next legislative session.
- There will be a Legislative Post Audit on the KanCare program. The audit is looking at:
  - What effect did transitioning to KanCare have on the state’s Medicaid costs, the services provided, and client health outcomes?
  - How Kansas’ Medicaid and Medicare coverage compare to other states
  - If reports and notices produced by the Kansas Eligibility Enforcement System are useful and reliable.

The audit should be complete by the end of the year.

- JD Powers released a report that finds Medicaid enrollees are more satisfied than members of commercial health plans. One note of interest, Kansas was listed as the lowest performing state in terms of satisfaction among Medicaid recipients. The report is available here:
  

- Reminder that the Bob Bethell joint oversight committee is Aug. 22 and 23. The agenda is available here:
  
  http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2017_18/committees/ctte_jt_robert_g_bob_bethell_joint_committee_1/

Federal Health Care legislation

The Senate’s Health care legislation failed at the end of July. Both houses are in recess.

On August 1, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee announced that they will hold hearings after the August recess on legislation to "stabilize and strengthen the individual health insurance market".

Bipartisan efforts are underway in the House as well, with the "Problem Solvers Caucus" of around forty Representatives coming together to propose ideas on stabilizing insurance markets and tweaking pieces of the ACA that could provide relief to consumers and businesses.
Last week several Kansas providers met with Senator Moran in Manhattan. He mentioned his concern about I/DD when the Medicaid discussion was occurring and said he viewed the health insurance portion of the ACA as a separate issue from what some are trying to accomplish in block granting Medicaid to states. It was characterized as a positive conversation.
EFFICIENT BACKGROUND CHECK REQUESTS
KDADS, Health Occupations Credentialing Unit

• **Social Security Numbers** – Verifying the Social Security Number (SSN) prior to entering into the online system avoids the possibility of an error. If an individual with the same SSN already exists in the agency database the background check will not receive a result as it can’t ‘Match’ to two different records.

• **First and Last Names** – Entering the full first and last names will avoid ‘Errors.’ While the online system allow for the entry of initials or last names only, the Kansas.Gov data rules don’t actually allow those to be transmitted into the KBI system so no result is found, delaying the background check.

• **Request Only Once** – Requesting the background check just once will avoid duplicate requests that can slow down the results.

• **Allowing time for the processing to be completed** – Allowing a minimum of four days for the processing to be complete before contacting staff will assure that staff can continue processing the results that have been received. Weekends and holidays affect the turnaround time adding days to those requests. In some instances the request becomes a ‘Requires Automation’ status from the KBI. If so, HOC staff may have to wait up to one week for those results.

• **Errors, Timing Out & Backing Out** – Having materials gathered prior to beginning the online background request will avoid the system timing out. Not backing out (using the ‘back’ button) will avoid system errors. If you back out inadvertently, waiting at least 24 hours before attempting to enter the information again should avoid a system error.

• **Messages in the “View Results” Section** – After going to the Kansas Nurse Aide Registry to access results the following are the three possibilities –
  1) ‘View Results’ button does not appear beside a potential employee’s name – This indicates that the results have not yet been received for staff review.
  2) ‘View Results’ button appears and when selected the message is ‘No Match’ – This is a clearance message indicating the individual has no prohibiting offenses. This can be printed for the employee file. Staff do not call, email, fax or mail the ‘No Match’ letter.
  3) ‘View Results’ button appears with the following message – The criminal history information has been reviewed and it has been determined the named subject has convictions or adjudications on file in the state central repository. Additional information will be mailed to the requesting facility/agency. For questions email crcstaff@kdads.ks.gov.

  • This can mean that there is some sort of history, even if not prohibiting, that requires staff review.
  • This can mean that there is a prohibiting offense but staff has not yet had the opportunity to review and determine if the offense(s) is/are prohibiting to employment.
  • This can mean that there has been an arrest (for a prohibiting offense) so HOC has to wait until they receive confirmation back from the courts. If convicted, a prohibition letter is mailed.

If an individual is determined to be prohibited for employment a letter is sent to the requesting employer. If the individual is determined not prohibited then the ‘View Results’ button will generate the ‘no match’ letter. For this reason it is advised to check the results daily.

• **Subscriber Information or Payment Questions** – Kansas.gov manages the subscriber and payment information. There is a link to their office located on page one of the online background check request site.

**Coming Soon** - - **Changes to the ‘CRC Email’** - Some automatic reply information will be added to the CRC Email account to include – How to change the email address for your facility, setting up a new facility ID, View Results tips, etc. Staff receives approximately 100 emails each day through the CRC Email account so we are attempting to alleviate delayed responses by providing some auto response information for the most common questions. - - **Additions to HOC Web page** – Users will soon notice some of these same tips as well as others in an effort to assist users.
REQUEST FORM FOR EXCEPTION TO WAIVE PROHIBITION

INTRODUCTION

The attached Request Form for Exception to Prohibition is for job applicants who have been disqualified from employment due to certain aspects of the applicant’s background check. The Exception Request serves as the applicant’s appeal to have the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) review the disqualification in accordance with K.S.A. 39-2009. After review of the disqualifying offense(s) along with the contents of the waiver request, KDADS shall issue a written response either granting or denying the exception. Please remember, if this exception is granted it will not remove anything from the applicant’s background check. An exception, if granted, permits an individual to work despite the offense(s) in his/her background check.

This Exception Request and review is only applicable for applicants who are seeking employment in a center, facility, hospital, or with a provider of services that is licensed by KDADS. The definitions of a center, facility, hospital, or of an HCBS provider of services licensed by KDADS can be found in K.S.A. 39-2009. KDADS does not guarantee employment with any entity, nor is KDADS liable if an employer does not hire an applicant.

NOTE: If the applicant believes that the offense(s) and/or convictions in his/her background check are incorrect, these concerns must be addressed with the Criminal Records Unit with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI). KDADS is unable to grant a waiver solely because the applicant believes the contents of the background check need to be amended/corrected by the KBI.

INSTRUCTIONS

The entire Exception Request form must be completed before submission. Failure to complete the entire Exception Request form may result in a delay in your request being processed. You must provide a brief narrative explaining why you should be permitted to work despite the convictions that appear in your background check. You are also permitted to attach any of the following with the completed request form:

- Letter of Support from employers you’ve worked for since the offense/conviction;
- Documentation from the KBI regarding changes/amendments to offense(s)/conviction(s) in the applicant’s background check;
- Court documentation of expungements;
- Up to three (3) character reference letters; and
- Evidence to support completion of sentencing requirements including, but not limited to, completion of probationary restitution.
It is important that all information is submitted at the same time to avoid delays or lack of consideration to all information submitted by the applicant. An incomplete application will not be reviewed. The applicant may submit all documents to:

- Mailed to the Address below:

  Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
  Attention: Exceptions Division
  503 S. Kansas Avenue
  Topeka, KS 66603
REQUEST TO FOR EXCEPTION OF PROHIBITION

Print Name: _____________________________________ Date of Birth: _________________

Mailing Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Email Address: (optional) ____________________________ Phone number: __________________

Date of Birth: _____________________________ SSN: _______________________________

State the offense(s) and the year of conviction(s) for which you are requesting an exception to obtain employment: (Example: Offense: misdemeanor battery, Convicted: 2000)

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Please explain why you believe you should be granted an exception to obtain employment despite the conviction(s) that appear in your background check:

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Page 3 of 4
Certification

I, ________________________________, certify that the information set forth within this document is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

___________________________________________  _________________________
Signature        Date
Kansas Resident Needs Assistance with Cognition/Autism Spectrum Disorder

Policy

As of July 1, 2017, a person with a qualifying degree of autism or other qualifying need of assistance with cognition may request a decal to affix to a license plate(s) and/or a placard which may be displayed in a vehicle in which they are the driver or a passenger. The application, Certification of Cognitive Disorder for Placard and/or Decal TR-264 https://www.ksrevenue.org/pdf/tr264.pdf#search=TR-264 requires confirmation by a medical professional of a qualifying condition and the application must be submitted when first applying for a placard or a decal to affix to a license plate.

A qualifying person may choose to utilize all, some, or none of the indicators including notations on driver's licenses or Kansas non driver identification cards. If no indicator is utilized or observed, a person with autism may still be present. Likewise, the placard or license plate decal do not guarantee that the person with autism is in the vehicle.

The intent of the legislation was to offer a method for law enforcement officers to recognize that they may be approaching a vehicle where a person with a relevant need for cognition assistance is in the vehicle.

It is a class C Misdemeanor for misrepresentation to obtain the placard, decal, license, or ID card and an unclassified misdemeanor ($100-$300 fine) to misuse the devices.

The Placard – Cognitive Disorder, shall be issued to qualifying Kansas residents through their local County Treasurer's motor vehicle office. The placard shall be issued to the person who needs assistance with cognition. There is no limit to the number of Cognitive Disorder placards that may be issued to a customer. If that person is not already a Customer in the Division of Vehicles system for titles and registrations, the individual will be added as a customer. A characteristic of Cognitive Disorder shall also be added to the customer record as a prerequisite for being issued a placard. The Customer Record will be required to have the person's legal name, residency address, mailing address if applicable, County of residence, gender, and date of birth so that the identification card required by statute may be issued.

The person may choose how to display the placard, but in most cases it will likely be placed on the driver's side dash when it needs to be displayed.

The Cognitive Disorder placard will be a horizontal placard but the same size as disabled type placards but with information on both sides. Side one will be the side that should be displayed outwardly when appropriate:
NOTICE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
THE DRIVER/PASSENGER IN THIS VEHICLE
HAS A COGNITIVE DISORDER.
OUR INTENT IS TO COMPLY WITH YOUR COMMANDS.
PLEASE SPEAK WITH A CLEAR SOFT VOICE.
YOUR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING WILL BE APPRECIATED.
THANK YOU

The person needing assistance with cognition may also request a decal or decals that may be affixed to a Kansas license plate of a type identified below. These license plates may be on vehicle(s) owned by the person in need of assistance with cognition or may be for plates registered to vehicles owned by family members or others responsible for the transportation of the person in need of assistance with cognition. There is no limitation to the number of license plates for family members or caretakers that the person with the cognitive disorder characteristic may be associated with however only one (1) Customer with a Cognitive Disorder characteristic may be associated per license plate. If the individual who needs assistance with cognition is not already a Customer in the Division of Vehicles system for titles and registrations the individual will be added as a customer. The customer record will be required to have the person’s legal name, residency address, mailing address if applicable, County of residence, gender, and date of birth so that the identification card required by statute may be issued. A characteristic of Cognitive Disorder shall also be added to the customer record as a prerequisite for being issued a decal of a plate. This customer record, for the person who needs assistance with cognition, will be associated with the license
plate, which is identified by the customer or caretaker for that association, through the vehicle registration system. An identification card will be issued that identifies the person in need of cognition, their date of birth, gender plus the license plate number and plate type to which the notation for the person in need of assistance with cognition has been recorded.

The Cognitive Disorder decal is one inch square and looks like this:

![Cognitive Disorder Decal](image)

The decals are not individually numbered. Although both Cognitive Disorder Auto/Truck and Cognitive Disorder Motorcycle decals are available, when product development was complete they ended up the same size and therefore may be used issued for any plate type as long as the county has decals available. (Note. This is because, systematically, unnumbered decal stock doesn't decrement from the inventory system and so issuance is only dependent upon the actual stock being available at the county location.)

Staff of the County Treasurer's office will provide the decal(s) to the applicant or their caretaker but shall not affix the decal directly to any license plate. Affixing the decal to the license plate is the responsibility and choice of the applicant or their caretaker. Applicants or their caretakers should be advised that when they choose to affix a decal to the license plate, it should be placed in the lower left corner of the license plate on the left side of the bolt hole.

![Affixed Decal](image)

There is no stated penalty for not affixing the decal to the plate.
CERTIFICATION OF COGNITIVE DISORDER
FOR PLACARD AND/OR DECAL

Application for placard, decal and ID card must be made at YOUR County Department of Revenue
Division of Vehicles
www.ksrevenue.org

The application for this identification is voluntary. The items issued are to assist the applicant with identification to law enforcement that the applicant might be in need of assistance with cognition during interaction with law enforcement while driving or riding in a vehicle.

Neither the decal for the plate or the placard are intended to be used to allow parking at any Disabled parking spot.

Name of Individual __________________________ Sex: □ Male □ Female

Physical Address _____________________________ City __________ KS ZIP ________

Mailing Address _____________________________ City __________ KS ZIP ________

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____________________ Phone Number: (____) ________

Applicant’s Signature __________________________ Date __________

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE APPLICATION(S):

☐ 1. COGNITIVE DISORDER PLACARD APPLICATION
   ☐ Check here only if applying for (lost, stolen) replacement placard. * No Licensed Professional’s Statement needed for replacement placard.

   * If Replacement Placard, Current Cognitive Disorder Card Number ____________________

☐ 2. COGNITIVE DISORDER DECAL

HEALING ARTS LICENSED PROFESSIONAL’S STATEMENT

I, the undersigned licensed professional, certify that (Individual’s Name) ____________________________ needs assistance with cognition, including, but not limited to, persons with autism spectrum disorder, as per Kansas 2017 SB 74.

Licensed Professional’s Signature* (Rubber stamp not acceptable) Medical Title Date

* The following are the only professionals that can sign this form: Dr. of Medicine (MD), Dr. of Osteopathy (DO), Dr. of Chiropractic (DC), Dr. of Podiatric (DPM), Licensed Optometrist (OD), licensed physician assistant (PA), advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) registered under KSA 65-1131, Christian Science practitioner listed in The Christian Science Journal or a person clinically licensed by the Kansas behavioral sciences regulatory board certifying that such person needs assistance with cognition.

Printed / Typed Name of Licensed Professional __________________________ Phone No. __________________________

May be signed by a Healing Arts Professional licensed in any state.

Printed: __________________________ Address __________________________ City __________ State __________ Zip __________

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS

TR-264 (07/2017)
INSTRUCTIONS

- Individual needing assistance with cognition shall be a Kansas resident.

- Application shall be signed by the individual, representative or vehicle owner.

- The Cognitive Disorder Identification Card shall be carried at all times by the person to whom it is assigned when traveling in a vehicle where the placard is to be used or when a decal has been assigned to the registration.

- Application for a Cognitive Disorder placard and/or decal must be made at your local county treasurer's motor vehicle office.

- Individual may select one of the following options:
  1. Decal or
  2. Both placard & decal

- The placard shall be displayed on the visor or placed on dash of the vehicle.

- Upon death on the individual, the placard and the personal Cognitive Disorder identification card shall be returned to the local county treasurer's office.

- The healing arts licensed professional's name must be printed/typed in the space provided. The licensed professional must sign the application. It can NOT be rubber stamped or initialed. A healing arts licensed professional is a: Dr. of Medicine (MD), Dr. of Osteopathy (DO), Dr. of Chiropractic (DC), Dr. of Podiatric (DPM), Licensed Optometrist (OD), licensed physician assistant (PA), advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) registered under KSA 65-1131, Christian Science practitioner listed in The Christian Science Journal or a person clinically licensed by the Kansas behavioral sciences regulatory board certifying that such person needs assistance with cognition can certify the form. A RN or LPN, cannot certify/sign this form.

- The Cognitive Disorder identification card shall be available upon request by law enforcement.

PENALTY

Any person who utilizes any placard or identification card issued to another person pursuant to this section, shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than $100 nor more than $300.
KanCare All MCO HCBS Training

Description: This will be an all MCO collaborative session providing training for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) providers. In addition to the training each MCO will be available in a breakout sessions all day.

Some topics that will be covered:
- New State Policies
- Authorizations
- Claims Billing and Management
- Member Safety and Wellness
- Reconsiderations
- Appeals and Grievances
- Upcoming changes to the provider enrollment and credentialing process

The morning and afternoon sessions, where available, are identical. Please select the time that works best for you.

Register here → https://www.kmap-state-ks.us/Public/Workshop%20Schedule/Workshop%20Schedule.asp

KanCare All MCO Training – Wichita, KS
Date: Wednesday, September 13th, 2017
Training Site: Doubletree by Hilton Wichita Airport,
2098 Eisenhower Airport Parkway, Wichita, KS 67209
Capacity: 75 participants (pre-registration for one of the following times is required)
- Option 1: Morning Session 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Option 2: Afternoon Session 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

KanCare All MCO Training – Olathe, KS
Date: Wednesday, September 20th, 2017
Training Site: Ball Conference Center
21350 W. 153rd Street, Olathe, KS 66061
Capacity: 75 participants (pre-registration for one of the following times is required)
- Option 1: Morning Session 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- Option 2: Afternoon Session 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

KanCare All MCO Training – Hays, KS
Date: Wednesday, September 27th, 2017
Training Site: Rose Garden Banquet Hall
2350 E. 8th Hwy 40, Hays, KS 67601
Capacity: 75 participants (pre-registration for the session is required)
- Afternoon Session 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For questions or assistance, please feel free to contact one of your MCO representatives who will be happy to assist you.

Thank you in advance for your attendance, we look forward to your participation.
We are honored to announce our first ever special needs cheerleading team for the 2017-2018 season. Since our inception in 1999, KC Cheer has been dedicated to creating an inclusive environment for everyone who walks through our doors. This has been a dream of ours since then, and we are excited to finally have the qualified personnel and community interest to add this team to the KC Cheer family. We are looking for boys and girls ages 4 and up to be part of the Firecrackers!

There are no tuition fees for the special athlete program, which will be run by educated, certified professionals, listed below.

This is an opportunity for your athlete to compete in a division alongside their peers at all-star competitions. Athletes will perform an all-star routine choreographed with stunting, tumbling and dance.
The season runs from August to March, and the team will practice once a week for one hour.

CLINIC AND PARENT MEETING: JULY 11

Please join us on July 11 from 4 to 5 p.m. to learn about this great opportunity for your athlete. Athletes will participate in a clinic with mentors while parents meet with staff about important details, such as uniform cost and competition schedule.

REGISTER YOUR ATHLETE

1. Visit the “register for class” (http://www.kccheer.com/big-jackrabbit-grid/) section under the “classes” tab of the website

2. Create an account

3. Click on classes “Firecrackers” to register your athlete

Registration is FREE, and signs you up for team practices.

SPECIAL ATHLETE PROGRAM DIRECTORS

**Christy Hill** is so excited to be a part of the launch of KC Cheer’s special needs team. She has worked with special needs children for many years and says she is “thrilled for this opportunity!” Christy earned her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Ottawa University and her Masters degree in Special Education from the University of Kansas. She currently works as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher in the Blue Valley School District.
about ksdS

KSDS began as Kansas Specialty Dog Service and was incorporated as a 501(c)3 non-profit in January 1990 with the desire to fill the gap in assistance dog placements in the Midwest. KSDS was the first organization in the nation to train both Guide Dogs and Service Dogs at the same facility.

While the cost of training a KSDS Assistance Dog is estimated at over $25,000, KSDS places each dog FREE of charge. KSDS is able to place these highly trained dogs for free thanks to donations from individuals, corporations, organizations and foundations.

KSDS is proud to be an accredited member of Assistance Dogs International (ADI) a coalition of assistance dog organizations that lead the industry in setting the standards of ethics and training for placing Assistance Dogs.

If I could wish for three things that could help me with my disability, Aladdin, my service dog, would be the first. He helps me with walking, bracing, and retrieving. ‘It’s a whole new world’ with Aladdin in my life!!!
–Joleen

contact ksdS

We look forward to hearing from you!

KSDS, INC
ASSISTANCE DOGS
124 W. 7th Street
Washington, KS 66968
P: (785) 325-2256
F: (785) 325-2258
www.ksds.org  |  ksds@ksds.org
KSDS Service Dogs are specially trained to provide assistance to people with physical disabilities, from individuals who use wheelchairs for mobility to those requiring a steady four-legged partner to balance them as they walk.

Some of the skills KSDS Service Dogs are trained to do include retrieving dropped or selected items, assisting in dressing and undressing, pulling wheelchairs, bracing for balance or transfers, turning lights on and opening and closing a variety of doors.

KSDS trains Service Dogs specifically for the individual. All dogs placed are in top condition, having passed numerous physical exams. KSDS only trains specially selected black and yellow Labrador Retrievers and Golden Retrievers that have been carefully bred for optimum health and temperament. The goal for a KSDS Service Dog is to be able to assist a person for eight to ten years.

Each of my KSDS Service Dogs have opened new worlds to me, helping me remain independent when otherwise I wouldn’t.

–Nancy

To receive a KSDS Service Dog, a person must go through a multi-phase application process. The initial application requests basic information, as well as medical and professional references. Video, phone, and personal interviews are utilized to determine an applicant’s qualifications.

Additionally, there is a non-refundable $25 application fee. KSDS will review each application individually with consideration given for the applicant’s need for canine assistance, mobility, and ability to maintain the dog’s health and training. Upon acceptance into the program, KSDS will notify the applicant when a dog is available and schedule admission into a class.

Due to the high demand for our specially trained dogs, there is at least a two year waiting period for KSDS Service Dogs.

We would be happy to visit with you further about how a KSDS Service Dog may benefit you. If you would like to receive the application packet, or for questions concerning the application process, please contact Client Services at KSDS.

KSDS Team covers all aspects of their new KSDS Service Dogs attend the 13 week KSDS camp.

All recipients of Assistance Dogs and certificates demonstrate their dogs before.

Family is well trained as legal guardians.

Follow-up is re-certify every recipient to.

Graduates still own dog for one year.