



## What's Happening at Strive October, 2018



Wendla Asplund, BSP  
Crystal Childers, DSP  
Michelle Coristine, DS  
Alexis Fender, DSP  
Agnes Holak, Voc  
Tori Jordan, DSP  
Tessa Lounsbury, DSP  
Lacy Lowry, DSP  
Stephanie McNutt, DSP  
Sivanah Mickels, DSP  
Layne Ready, Behavior  
Kevin Tidwell, DSP  
Diane Young, Case Mgr

### **Departmental Updates:** **Vocational/Residential...** **Submitted By: Valita Speedie** **Vocational**

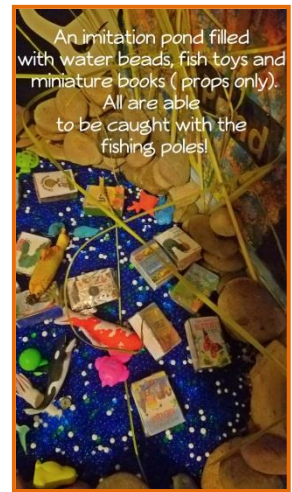
#### **Botanical Gardens**

The **Pomrenke Children's Library** is now **complete!** Come take a walk in the park!

**The Pomrenke Park!** With Bill Pomrenke's **love** for fishing as the **inspiration**, the children's library is simply a walk in the park.



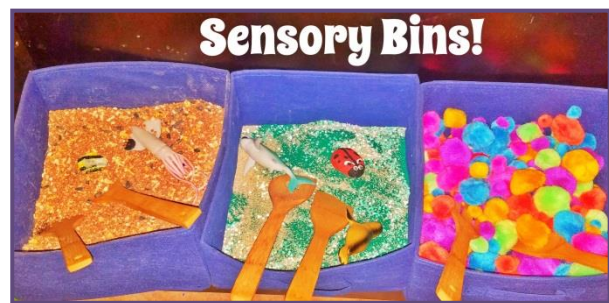
Find yourself by the **sensory pond** and **catch** yourself a **fish** or a good book. Imitation **books** are used for children use their **motor skills** and "catch" a book!



An imitation pond filled with water beads, fish toys and miniature books ( props only). All are able to be caught with the fishing poles!



A **picnic table** in the park gives you a spot to **read a book** or **play** the ice cream scoop matching games.



### **Sensory Bins!**

Children can **insect game** and touch and smell.



**identify characteristics** of an insect with the there are several sensory bins to capture sight,



We have a **variety** of **story tokens** for children to use in **creating** a **story** to tell by **using** the **picture** on the tokens. Items around the room are **labeled** with their name to **assist** children with **recognizing the word** that goes with the picture.

This library is **intended** to **show** kids that **learning** can be **fun** and, with a little imagination, they can do anything! The **Pomrenke Children's Library** will be **available** to the **public** by **mid-October**, just **look** for the **Pomrenke Children's Library sign!**

**A very special thank you to 'Fresh Coat Painting Company' for their substantial paint donations used to complete this project!**

**And, of course, to the loved ones of Bill and Jan Pomrenke ... it has been through their passion and generous donations that this lovely learning place for children even exists, a heartfelt thank you!!**

### **Woodshop**

Woodshop has **started** their **Halloween skulls** and they are **going** like **hot cakes!** The **crew** takes the skulls and **chooses multiple color patterns** and then uses a **dipping method**. We take **special color orders** or you can purchase color designs created by the crew. The **skulls** are for **purchase** at **Uniquely Yours** and the group will be going to 950 to sell for you convenience!



### **Creative Creations**

This group has gotten **Halloween spirit** and is **unique Halloween signs** **perfect** for **decorating**. **Special orders** can be **5544**. You can also **find** going to **Uniquely Yours** at



**wayyyyy** into the **creating festive** and **and wall art**. These are your office and home. **made** by **calling 970-244-** these **product** and more by 443 Main Street.



### **Mobile Crews**

As usual, these **crews** have been **busy** with the warm **season** and have spent over **83** hours for the month **maintaining** and **enhancing** not only our **Strive properties** but providing this **quality service** to our **community customers!** **Fall** season is around the corner so get on the **schedule** soon for **leaf removal** before slots are filled. To schedule your property for fall clean up please **call 970-244-5540!**

### **Performing Arts**

This group is **moving** in a **forward** direction on their **Romeo and Juliet** play. They will be **performing** the **ballroom scene**. The biggest struggle right now is **remembering** the **lines** but everyone is **working hard** on it. By the **middle** of **October**, all the props will be **finished** for this **play**. We have also been **working** on using **hand/eye coordination** on creating more **detailed objects**. We are also **working** on **small looms** and attempting to **crochet**.

### **Healthy Body Healthy Mind**

This group will be **planting** some lovely **wild flowers** to cover a portion of the land they have **adopted** at the **Botanical Gardens**. As the weather **cools** in the month of October, we are planning on **extending** our **shorter hikes to all day hikes**.

**Everyone** in this **group** is really **enjoying** all that **Mother Nature** has provided and they want to take full **advantage of living in Colorful Colorado**.

### **Coffee Klatch**

With the hot month of September behind us, everyone in this group is looking **forward** to October as we focus on making party treats for a **Halloween Party**. The goal of **learning proper knife techniques and responsibilities continues** and, although **everyone** has come a **long way** with proper knife **responsibilities**. We have not yet had anyone graduate to the next level in our cooking class. **It continues to be blast doing Grey Gourmet!**

We are having a **Harvest Party** on the **29<sup>th</sup>**, which **everyone** has been looking **forward** to. We are **projecting** that the **Mini Golf Course** will be **finished** by the **end of October (weather permitting)**. This has been one of the **biggest tasks** that SLS has **undertaken** and it is great to see it come together. **Many thanks to Peggy Gordon and the Woodshop for the helping us out! It is great how we all come together to help each other!**

### **Wellness**

Things are really **pulling together** in **Wellness**. During the past month **individuals** have worked on a **finger painting project** with paper **cut out fish**. Staff and individuals **celebrated Classical Music Week** with a **classical dance party** and a **musical movie day**. **Congratulations to Vanessa Mireless as the new lead staff at 508!**

### **Active Wellness**

Staff are **working** on **team building exercises** and are starting to **paint** and **design** the **new space**. They completed an **outing** to the **Art Center**. We **celebrated** the start to **Fall** with a fishing game activity and **painting**.

### **Labor Solutions**

**Successfully** made their **move** over to the **Teller Building**. This offers **more job experiences** and an **expanded workspace** for the individuals in Labor Solutions. With the **expanded space** available, **individuals** are now able to **select** the **work areas** they feel will allow them to **focus and perform their best work**.

## **Public Relations & Development...**

**Submitted By: Doug Sorter**

### **Marketing/PR:**

- We have a variety of **news releases** on the air at this time.
- Radio is running **testimonials** from STRiVE staff and DSP's about what a wonderful place it is to work on **8** different stations throughout the day.
- TV spots are running **weekly** on the new building needs, services at STRiVE and "Rollin on the River".
- Print ads have been **placed** in both the ***Daily Sentinel*** and the ***Business Times*** for the capital campaign.

### **Events:**

- **National DSP week proclamations** were presented to STRiVE from both the **Grand Junction City Council** and the **Mesa County Commissioners**. In attendance, as speakers, were **Cynthia** Ellis and **James Wright**. Both did a remarkable job at addressing the groups and explaining the **great things DSPs do** on a daily basis.
- **MBC Grand radio** did a **live remote** this month from our current building for **3 hours**. Inviting the **general public** to come and see why we are moving. This was another chance to be **broadcasting** to **8** different stations for the **3** hours. **Many** different **members** from the STRiVE community we interviewed, **Kayla** from Case Management, **Michelle** from host homes, **Robert** from the Foundation Board and **Wes** a supported individual along with several others. All of them were so clear on their **commitment** to STRiVE, the need for a new facility and the people we support.
- We conducted a **contractor appreciation** lunch for the **owners** and their **employees** at 790 Wellington, the new building. They were **very thankful**, we had the **opportunity** to **educate** them about STRiVE and how they could get **involved**. As always, several of the attendees later approached me with **success stories** that they have experienced from STRiVE.
- Attended for the first time the **Rural Philanthropy Days** in Cortez, Colorado. I was on a **panel discussion** for how to effectively follow the grant process. I was able to **meet** with and talk to many of the **larger foundations** who attended from the front range. It was beneficial in several ways, but most importantly, it prepared me for when this event takes place in our area next year.
- **Rollin on the River 3K** is **Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup>** 10:00am to 1:00pm, kids under 12 are free. **Fun for the entire family!**
- We have a **Framing the Future** fundraising benefit scheduled for **October 18<sup>th</sup>**, contact Amber Hodges for details. [ahodges@strivecolorado.org](mailto:ahodges@strivecolorado.org)

### **Grants:**

- The governing board voted to **support ballot issue 1A**. This issue, if passed, **will allow non-profits to apply for state grants**, not compete with grants the county would solicit and **remove them from the TABOR cap calculation**. I have more info on this and would be happy to answer any questions.
- We are working with many of the **front range foundations** and built solid relationships with them. We are in the process of conducting **site visits** with a few, which has already been a **successful** process.
- As we work with the different foundation on our capital needs, we have been pleasantly **surprised** by those that have not found a fit with the building, but



have become **very interested in our programs**. Not only have they become interested, they have allowed us to make **grant requests** and they have funded those requests.

- We have an **excellent grants team** and **Capital Committee** which is driving the process.

### **Presentations:**

- Our **Framing the Future** campaign has **sparked interest** in our community. This is a good thing because it has given me an opportunity to **present** our plans to our **community's service clubs**. It's great because they are **calling me** requesting a presentation. Kiwanis, Grand Junction Rotary, Grand Junction Lions Club, Junior Service League, Sunrise Rotary and others. If you know of others who need a speaker for 5 to 55 minutes, please let me know and I will contact them.

### **Early Intervention...**

**Submitted by: Nancy Ketchum**

#### **Early Intervention:**

EI is currently serving **150** children. Even though we are short providers the entire **EI Team is doing their best** to fill the gap. Our provider's currently have very heavy schedules, and have to juggle appointments to accommodate everyone, but they are doing the best they can to meet the needs of the families we serve.

We continue to try and hire an Occupational Therapist and a Developmental Interventionist. Unfortunately, inquiries have been low and **competition** for similar positions in Mesa County is **high**. We are now offering **Telehealth** to our families for Occupational Therapy. Although not appropriate for every family, it appears **ideal** for some. There may be more **flexibility** on scheduling as well as it requires active participation by the family.

#### **Success Story:**

**Meagan Duncan** our Speech Language Pathologist Assistant (SLPA) is currently working with a child who has **limited words** to communicate with his family. His mom wishes she could hold a conversation with him that she could understand. Meagan, with input from Mary Johnson SLP, has given the family **several strategies** that are helping him to **communicate** more appropriately. The Z-vibe, oral-motor, fine-motor exercises, artic cards, 100 words list, etc, are helping him to **develop** his receptive vocabulary and expressive vocabularies. Strategies are also working to **improve his oral tone** for more accurate articulation. He is now **combining 2 and 3 words** to form longer utterances and he is becoming more intelligible. **The family and providers were very excited recently when this child was able to clearly and proudly pronounce his name!**

### **MDS Resource Coordination...**

**Submitted by: Kayla Purdy**

- The next **People First** will be a **Halloween party** on **10/29/2018** from **5:00-6:30** at the Arc. There will also be a **voter registration station** there as well.
- We have **two** new **case managers** joining our team! **Ashley Merino**, graduated from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Ashley comes from **Gateway Residential Services** where she provides **direct care and therapeutic living** for at-risk teenage girls as well as being their point of contact. Ashley feels



like the most **important part** of employment is the **opportunity to serve the community**, and is very **passionate about it!** **Diane Young** has a bachelors in **Applied Psych/Human Services**. She has over **12 years' experience** in the field, **ranging from children to the elderly**. She has done Case Management in previous positions. Diane's hobbies and interests include **hiking and riding** on the **motorcycle** with her husband. She likes to travel and she also has 3 dogs and 2 cats! A fun fact about Diane is that she loves Young Living Essential Oils! **She loves helping people and it's a passion of hers!** She also has 5 adorable grandsons!

- Our intake teams keep working hard on enrollments! We have had **two successful enrollments** onto the DD-Comprehensive Waiver, **one successful enrollment** onto the CES waiver, and **one successful enrollment** onto the SLS Waiver. Keep up the good work team!

NAME	WAIVER	NEW ENROLLMENT	TRANSFER	CHANGE IN SERVICE	SERVICES REQUESTED	PROVIDER SELECTED
Case 1	DDW	11SEP2018				Strive
Case 2	CES	19SEP2018				Ariel
Case 3	DDW	21SEP2018				Strive
Case 4	SLSW	14SEP2018				ABLE

**Monthly Placement Summary:**  
**Submitted by: Samantha Knight**

**Vocational RFP's**

**Nine** new Vocational RFP's were sent out by Case Management, **seven** were sent to all **Service Providers** in the area. **Two** new Vocational RFP was sent by Case Management **only** to Strive. Of the **nine, five** have chosen to **tour Strive Vocational sites** and are in the process of deciding if Strive is right for them. **One** has chosen another service provider. The **three remaining** are in **process of being contacted** by Strive Vocational Supervisors.

**Residential RFP's**

**Five** Residential RFP's were sent to **all Service Providers** in the area by Case Management. **Two** are **exploring Strive** and deciding if we are right for them. **Two have not yet chosen** a Service Provider and Strive is waiting for communication from each party. **One** has chosen another service provider.



<b>OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES</b>	
<b>1</b>	Desiree Aydt,
<b>2-4</b>	Michael Barnhill, Matthew Hiler, Skyler Johnson, Dan Lawrie, Nancy Ketchum, Lani Mackey, Daniel Smith
<b>5</b>	Anna Johnson, Terrie Koch, Tanya Workman
<b>6-9</b>	Jennifer Bopp, Cynthia Ellis, Marcia Jeppesen, Ed Madaris, Cassie Williams,
<b>11</b>	Peggy Gordon
<b>20</b>	Kelli Lupo
<b>39</b>	Sandy Cooper



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
		Cheri McLaughlin				Cathy Swiger
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
	Jonna Heinz		Jennifer Bopp, Peggy Maurer		Christina Crua	Robert Dauk
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
Terrie Koch	Heather Wicks	Peggy Gordon		Ruby Roane, Khristina Kukus		
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
	Chris Bergquist	Nancy Ketchum				