

Spring 2016



# CARE NEWS

*A Non-profit Organization Dedicated to Improving the Lives of Children of All Abilities*

## THERAPEUTIC REC PROGRAMS SCORE BIG WITH KIDS!



CARE for Children's therapeutic recreation programs provide a non-traditional extension of therapy services that aims to give children of all abilities access to fun, recreational activities. Recently, CARE held several programs to engage children who participate in school-based therapy.

On Saturday, March 19th CARE held its 15th annual basketball mini-camp at the Bradford Family YMCA with over 50 children in attendance. The mini-camp was sponsored by the Bradford Rotary Club and the YMCA donated the use of the facility.

Kids like Nick Barker, age 9, and Sam Spicola, age 8, pictured above had a great time with CARE Speech-Language Pathologist, Kylie Atteberry.

"The basketball camp is one of CARE's most anticipated therapeutic recreation programs each year," said Ashley Carlson, CARE pediatric therapy services director. "Participants learn about the game in an inclusive environment and have fun with their friends."

Each child in attendance received a t-shirt and a basketball. Lunch was hosted at Hill Memorial United Methodist Church for campers and their families. Lunch was donated by Togi's Restaurant.

Other Winter/Spring Recreation programs included top right: The Team Trailblazer spring field hockey 6 week program with players lining up for Coach Gilligan to work on hockey skills. Middle: Brenden Stidd, age 13, is all smiles at the CARE for Children Ski Clinic at Holiday Valley. He is assisted by two volunteer instructors from the Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program. The Rotary Club of Port Allegany sponsors the annual clinic and Todd Busses donates the transportation each year. Bottom: A good time was had bowling--by all--at Good Times of Olean in February. Pictured are Jerry Button, age 10, and his brother, Zach.



# RAINBOW CORNER PRESCHOOL CELEBRATES WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

The week of April 10th through April 16th was the national celebration of the “Week of the Young Child”. CARE for Children’s Early Learning program hosted several activities to mark the occasion, and promote early learning and family engagement.

Rainbow Corner Preschool hosted a “Make It and Take It” STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program on Thursday evening for preschoolers and their families. Students participated in hands-on activities, including planting seeds and other activities focused on the environment.

Activity packets with materials for various STEM projects were prepared for students and their families to complete at home. A pizza party finished the evening. The program was made possible through CARE’s partnership with the Bradford Area School District and an Early Childhood Education Innovation Zone grant as part of Pennsylvania’s federally-funded Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant.

Students participated in several other fun and educational activities during the week. Musical guest and guitarist Jim Ronan visited Rainbow Corner to play beach songs. Members of the Bradford Kiwanis Club; Randy Durner, Reverend Stacey Fussell, and Bob Jarrett, helped preschoolers prepare English muffin pizzas for a snack.

Preschoolers also participated in the tenth annual Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child program, which focuses on the importance of early literacy development in preschoolers. CARE board members Mick Marshall and Anne Hardy visited Rainbow Corner to read *Kite Day: A Bear and Mole Story*, by Will Hillenbrand, the 2016 PA One Book selection. Each child received a copy of the book to take home and share with their family.

Other highpoints from the week included specially designed lessons centered on the week’s beach theme and included a beach day, silly sock day, favorite t-shirt day, and pajama day.



*Top: Rainbow Corner preschooler Ezra Bockmier, age 3, receives a helping hand from his parents, Erin and Jeff, while making a seed planter at the “Make It and Take It” STEM program. Bottom: Preschooler, Addison Hale, age 5, and her mom, Megan, fill an Earth Day Activity Kit. The program focused on promoting easy STEM activities for parents to do at home with their child.*

## INCLUSION IN EARLY LEARNING: TEACHING KINDNESS IN THE CLASSROOM

CARE for Children’s Early Learning Program has long been a model for inclusion. As the first inclusive program in the county over 50 years ago, Rainbow Corner Preschool has high expectations for every child who attends the program to reach his or her potential.

“At CARE we have worked hard to have not just an ‘inclusive’ program but to have a high quality program with inclusion as its foundation,” said Tina Martin, executive director.

The benefits of an inclusive early learning classroom are well documented- both for children with disabilities and typical children- including improved opportunities for development and learning; increased confidence and self-esteem with a better understanding of diversity; and a sense of belonging to a larger community.

“In addition to an established system of supports, our program wants to promote the idea that inclusion increases understanding and acceptance; that the roots of compassion are in every child and an inclusive classroom trains kids for kindness,” added Martin.

“Children are exposed to many things every day in which compassion should be the appropriate response. Sharing, love, respect, generosity and charity are all traits associated with compassion,” according to Preschool Director, Kimberly Engstrom. “Being part of a family, a good friend, a citizen, and a student are all things that should be rooted in compassion for others and the world around us.”



**Learning Knows No Bounds**

Preschool is a great training ground to reinforce lessons in compassion and kindness that are begun at home. Teaching compassion should be an ongoing process and in today’s world seems even more necessary and important.

## KIDS RULE at KIDS' FEST 2016

The fourth annual Kids' Fest was held on Saturday, April 30th at the Bradford Family YMCA. The free community event was geared for children birth to five and their families and over 600 children and family members were in attendance.

Kids' Fest featured kid-friendly entertainment, access to the YMCA Adventure Center, fun, and family resources including child development and safety information and items.

Over 75 organizations sponsored hands-on activities and giveaways for the children in attendance including story books, coloring and activity books, and small games and toys.

CARE hosted a STEM early learning table, where children made their own sensory bottles. Support for the activity was provided by CARE's partnership with the Bradford Area School District and an Early Childhood Education Innovation Zone grant as part of Pennsylvania's federally-funded Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant.

In addition, CARE had a safety display which featured carbon monoxide and fire safety. Over 35 carbon monoxide detectors were distributed to families during Kids' Fest.

Early learning and early intervention professionals, including CARE staff, were on hand to do developmental screenings which focused on fine and gross motor skills, speech, vision, hearing and a dental wellness evaluation. These screenings not only gave parents awareness of their children's developmental progress but also identified services and supports if needed.

Kids' Fest was hosted by the Bradford YMCA and planned and coordinated by a committee comprised of members of the McKean County Collaborative Board including CARE's Executive Director, Tina Martin and Development & Marketing Coordinator, Leslie Kallenborn.



Top left: CARE staff members, Kimberly Engstrom, preschool director, and Ann Kane, physical therapist, assist children as they assemble sensory bottles at CARE's STEM table at Kids' Fest. Top right: Dana Pence, CARE physical therapist, conducts a developmental screening. Bottom: Over 75 organizations set-up displays, many of which focused on safety initiatives, like the car seat safety display pictured.

## CARE CONDUCTS SCREENINGS & PROMOTES FAMILY ENGAGEMENT at KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

This spring CARE teachers and therapists partnered with Bradford Area School District and Port Allegany Area School District to help provide developmental screenings for children who will be starting Kindergarten in the fall.

Screenings help identify children who have fine or gross motor delays or challenges. CARE staff were able to make suggestions for summer activities and are also able to track the students' progress once they enter Kindergarten.

With CARE's partnership with the Bradford Area School District and an Early Childhood Education Innovation Zone grant as part of Pennsylvania's federally-funded Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge Grant, families were given Kindergarten Readiness Packs with activities to do over the summer to help their child prepare for school. The aim of the packs is to promote family engagement.



Alexis Close, CARE preschool teacher, and Lucas South are pictured above during Kindergarten Registration at George G. Blaisdell Elementary School. Lucas is the son of Brian and Jennifer South of Bradford.

# CARE for Children Tribute Gifts

## MEMORIALS

### In Memory of:

Sheldon 'Bernie' Abernethy  
Mark Armstrong

Charles Bonawitz  
Byron Bromley  
Alfred 'Buster' Brown

Joseph Butler  
Robert Carlson  
Mary Coy

Jame Deloe  
Sarah B. Dorn  
Karen Franco

Donald Girard

Zach Gueller  
James Gulnac  
Florence Henry

Donna Mary Herberger  
Blanche Jay  
Larry Johnson  
Virginia Kenemuth  
Robert Kirk

Sue Ann Klussman  
Greta Larsen

John Lindquist  
Jean Mongillo  
Hank Morrison  
Judy Norcross  
Phyllis Platko  
Pat Roff  
Anthony Ross  
Bonnie Semmel  
Valerian Sicheri  
Connie Smith

Audrey Stidd  
Orin Swain Jr.  
JoAnne VanDyke  
Rollin Eugene Ward  
Suzie Witherell  
Garnett Wood

February 1st through April 30th, 2016

### Given by:

Todd and Sharon Bridge; Tina Martin and Lisa Martin  
Lara Ericson and Marlene Ericson; Mike Martin and  
Debbie Curtin; Tina Martin and Max  
Roger and Pat Schweikart  
Bill and Linda Sayers  
John and Cindy Calcagno; CARE for Children Board of  
Directors and Staff; Jeff and Val Coast; John and Judy  
Freaney; Karen Gelston; Mick and Michele Marshall;  
Mary C. Martin; Mike Martin and Debbie Curtin;  
Sue Martin and Dawn Pezzimenti; Tina Martin and  
Max; Joan Mongillo; Carol Pecora; Raymond and Mary  
Saunders; Pete and Kathy Taylor; Tom and Linda Wable  
Mick and Michele Marshall  
Bill and Linda Sayers; Michael Schweinberg  
Craig, Kimberly and Elias Engstrom; Mick and Michele  
Marshall; Tina Martin  
Michael Schweinberg  
Joan Raabe  
Marlene Ericson; Margie Rounsville & Family; Bill and  
Linda Sayers; Don and Cheryl Wiley & Family  
Jim and Helen Carroll; Marlene Ericson; Bill and Linda  
Sayers; Ed and Dee Sayers; Kathy Hannon Symington  
Lewis and Luanne Keller & Family  
Tina, Val, Leslie, Tiffany and the Staff at CARE  
Jay and Judy Gorton; Bruce 'Duke' and Terry Smith &  
Family  
Tina Martin  
Bill and Linda Sayers  
Mike and Patty Gamble  
Margie Rounsville & Family  
CARE for Children Board of Directors and Staff;  
William and Pauline Higie & Family; Tina Martin;  
David and Marcia Rimer  
Tina Martin and Max  
Todd and Sharon Bridge; George and Mary Gigliotti;  
Herbert and Lois Schueltz  
Bill and Debbie Taylor  
Sandy Edel and Joe Bennardi  
Greg and Cherie Booth; Ed and Dee Sayers  
Tina Martin and Max  
Todd and Sharon Bridge  
Craig, Kimberly and Elias Engstrom  
Marlene Ericson & Family; Joan Mansour  
Nate, Ashley and Ryan Carlson  
Dr. Steve and Flora Cohen  
Mike, Barb, Michael and Shannon McGarry;  
Lou and Mary Kay Sokoly  
Bill and Barb Black  
CARE for Children  
Todd and Sharon Bridge  
Francis and Gloria Puller  
CARE for Children Staff  
Greg and Cherie Booth

## HONORARIUMS

### In Honor of Greg Booth

In Gratitude for His Leadership and in  
Celebration of His Retirement  
Given By:  
Mike Anderson;  
Tom and Patsy Arrowsmith; Tatiana Ball;  
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Staff; Jean Benoit Comard;  
Bunny Comilla; Devries SLAM;  
Doug and Sarie DuPont; Peggy Errera;  
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Sabastian Nakath; Marty Ours;  
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Bob and Kathy Roberts;  
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Marijan Petrak; Grins Sergejs;  
John and Christy Sullivan; Jon Sweeney;  
Ron and Kathy Symington;  
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Jorge Ortiz; Shalom Tito; Robert Troha;  
Brent and Christine Tyler;  
Clementine van Gaalen;  
Tim and Kim VanHorn;  
Robert Vecchio;  
Todd and Shannon Yonker

### In Honor of Brady Haney

For his Birthday  
Given by:  
Kenneth and Sharon DuBois;  
Loretta Gabriel;  
Glenn and Bonnie McDonald

### In Honor of Preston Taylor

For his 4th Birthday  
Given By:  
David and Lorraine Minor;  
William and Margaret Morgart;  
Bill and Kendra Pantuso;  
Eric and Jennifer Taylor

Meet Conrad...



**CARE for Children services help children develop their capabilities, and with your support, CARE is able to ensure that children know their possibilities. Children like Conrad...**

I want to support CARE for Children's Annual Fund. Please count my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

NAME/ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

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PLEASE DESIGNATE MY GIFT TO:

- CARE Programs & Services
- Ashley Booth Griffin CARE for Children Center Playground Project
- Area of Greatest Need or \_\_\_\_\_

**TRIBUTE GIFT OPTIONS:**

- In Memory of
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- In Celebration of

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*Please send acknowledgement card to the following:*

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Donor name should appear in CARE listings and publications as follows:

*\*Gifts/pledges made by June 30, 2016 will be included in the 2015-2016 Honor Roll of Donors. Gifts/pledges made after that date will be included in the 2016-2017 Honor Roll of Donors.*

- Please contact me to discuss additional giving opportunities.

*CARE for Children is a 501(c)(3) organization. The official registration and financial information of CARE for Children may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

**MAKE YOUR GIFT WITH A CHECK:**

Payable to **CARE for Children**  
(Remit to P.O. Box 616, Bradford, PA 16701)

**MAKE YOUR GIFT BY CREDIT CARD:**

Online at [www.careforchildren.info](http://www.careforchildren.info)  
or by calling CARE at (814) 362-4621

**PLEASE INVOICE ME:**

- Monthly (12 payments)
- Quarterly (4 payments)
- Semiannual (2 payments)
- One-time payment

**MATCHING GIFT:**

- I work for a matching gift company.  
My matching gift form is enclosed.
- Please keep my donation anonymous.



**Giving Levels:**

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- Bronze \$2,500-\$4,999
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- Platinum \$10,000 and up

*All Children Should Know Their Possibilities*

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## Services & Programs

Physical Therapy  
Occupational Therapy  
Speech-Language Pathology  
Early Intervention Services  
Social Work/Family Support  
Rainbow Corner Preschool  
Developmental Screenings  
Child Safety & Injury Prevention  
Therapeutic Recreation & Respite  
Adaptive Equipment Clinics  
Pediatric Equipment Loan  
Resource & Adaptive Toy Library  
Disability Awareness  
Child Safety & Injury Prevention

Executive Director:  
Tina M. Martin



*CARE 'Fore' Children  
Golf Tournament*

## **SAVE-THE-DATE**

*The 23rd Annual  
**CARE 'fore' Children Golf Tournament**  
Sunday, August 7th, 2016  
at Pine Acres Country Club  
4 Person Scramble  
8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start*