



Jim Leiker,
President & CEO

UPCOMING EVENTS

ICAN SWIM

When: July 12-16
Where: Hummer Sports Park
- Capitol Federal Natatorium,
Topeka, KS

ARTHUR CAPPER'S 156TH BIRTHDAY

When: July 14
Where: Capper Foundation,
Topeka, KS

BLARNEY BREAKFAST

When: Sept. 18, 7-10 a.m.
Where: Blind Tiger Brewery &
Restaurant, Topeka, KS

3500 SW Tenth Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66604
785.272.4060

1500 E Eighth Avenue, Suite 201
Winfield, Kansas 67156
620.221.9431

622 N Haverhill Road
El Dorado, Kansas 67042
316.320.7531

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Capper Foundation is a
tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit

As we round the halfway mark of 2021, we are actively engaged in our strategic planning and budgeting process. As we look ahead, our Capper Foundation Vision is every person is valued and enjoys access, independence and opportunities to advance their hopes and dreams. Although many staffing, healthcare and daily living needs of individuals with disabilities have been exacerbated by the pandemic, we continue to provide our quality, meaningful and life changing services. One of the biggest gifts we are given is the power to touch a life and make a positive difference. We look forward to continuing to reach out with our skills, hands and hearts and enlarge our vision of what we can and will do.

In May, we were honored to receive the 2021 Nonprofit of Distinction Award at the Greater Topeka Partnership & Go Topeka Small Business Awards Ceremony. Credit for this wonderful public recognition goes to staff, volunteers, persons served, donors and community partners. This award proves yet again that our collective team efforts are noticed and appreciated!

In June, we hosted our first ever Concert for a Child: Featuring Andy McKee, who used his remarkable talent to help us raise funds for children served. Three days later, we hosted our first iCan Bike Finale event, in partnership with local bike enthusiasts and instructors, Andy Fry and Matt Messina. This event gave participating families from the annual iCan Bike program a chance to have fun and finish strong — pedaling to the finish line along designated bike routes at Gage Park. Our next group of recreational learners joins us at iCan Swim, starting on July 12. We are privileged to be a part of helping these families' build abilities.

Capper Foundation's accomplishments and the achievements of those we serve wouldn't be possible without people like you. Thanks so much for your caring and sharing support in so many ways!

Sincerely,

Please scan the QR code
for the latest event information,
or visit www.capper.org/events



Featuring: ANDY MCKEE

In June, Capper Foundation hosted its first Concert for a Child event at the Kay McFarland Japanese Garden & Venue and Topeka Zoo Conservation Center. At the show, Andy McKee, a world-renown finger-style guitarist, shared his talent to benefit Capper's Pediatric Scholarship Assistance Fund. Following the performance was a meet and greet with both Andy and Garden Master Koji Morimoto, who designed the breathtaking landscape surrounding the venue.



Earlier this year, Andy had an opportunity to witness the vital services Capper provides when his friend Jarrod Guth (our Community Engagement Manager) took him and his family on a tour of the Topeka facility. That walkthrough inspired him to make this his first live show since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. We greatly appreciate his support for the amazing families we serve! **Visit capper.org to watch the concert video.**



Children served at Capper Foundation enjoyed feeding animals during an outing at the Topeka Zoo. Along with footage from this trip, their heartwarming stories were shared with attendees at the concert.



OUR MISSION

is to build abilities and empower people of all ages living with disabilities.



Pediatric Progress: MEET FAITH

THEN & NOW



KIM COKER

Kim discovered her passion for Physical Therapy (PT) in high school, when a knee injury gave her a firsthand appreciation for the field. She started her PT career working for hospitals in Texas, with patients of all ages. She especially enjoyed working with kids — an interest that inspired her to move to Topeka, KS, to work at Capper, where 35 years later, she is still part of our amazing Pediatrics Team!

FAST FORWARD TO NOW

Kim has served hundreds of children, providing outpatient and in-house therapy at Capper. She enjoys the opportunity to help kids unlock their potential — improving strength, range of motion, coordination and balance.

“I personally love our mission statement that includes ‘building abilities.’ That phrase sums up everything we’ve done throughout the time I’ve been here. Our goal is to help kids be as independent as they can be. That has always been my promise to the families we serve.”

The youngest of four siblings, Faith has received incredible support and acceptance from her family since before she was born. Twenty weeks into pregnancy, her parents, Anna and Adam, were told Faith would face unique physical challenges, including Bilateral Clubfoot.

“We knew from the beginning that Faith was going to be our special little one,” Anna says.

During her first year, Faith and her family struggled with her balance and mobility, and for some time she needed braces and weekly cast replacements for her clubfeet. Though she was late reaching physical milestones, she adapted through early physical and occupational therapy and was able to walk as a toddler.

Before her fourth birthday, it was discovered that Faith had 22q Deletion Syndrome, which explained some additional challenges she was facing with speech development, feeding, severe reflux and daily tasks such as dressing and utilizing fine motor skills.

ENTER CAPPER FOUNDATION

Though the COVID-19 pandemic limited access to therapy at first, Faith eventually began receiving in-person services at Capper Foundation in January of 2021. Now, she works with Speech-Language Pathologist Deborah Schloeman, Physical Therapist Cris Teter and Occupational Therapist Amy Douglas to address her unique developmental needs.

“The expertise and knowledge that the people at Capper Foundation bring to the table to help children with disabilities fill



some of those gaps and start attaining milestones is super important,” Anna explains. “It’s a big relief to give them that boost — to keep up with their siblings, have fun with their parents, play with their peers, things like that.”

In just a few months at Capper, Faith has shown great improvement in all areas of focus, building on skills and behaviors that interweave throughout each of the therapy services she receives.

“Faith is a lot of fun to work with,” Cris shares. “She brings a lot of energy and joy to the room, and we look forward to seeing her each week.”

Empowering Adults Like Bethany



At Capper Foundation, Bethany learns valuable employment skills to help with her work in the community. Through her dedication, she has gained a regular paycheck and a great sense of accomplishment and belonging as well.

In addition to cleaning around the facility, she enjoys working and chatting with Cooking Instructor Carol Hamilton in the kitchen, helping with clean up and dishes after cooking classes. She has recently started building some new and enticing abilities with Carol as well — baking delicious treats!

“I’m very glad Bethany is here,” Carol shares. “It gives her a chance to socialize and make helpful trips and travels. I’m so proud of the way she sticks with learning new things. That makes us both feel happy.”