



Dear Friends,

Time flies and our Fall season is already here! Are you ready for cooler weather, changing colors, pumpkin everything, football and later, the Thanksgiving Holiday? Every day is really a great day to give thanks for all of our blessings!

September 1st was the start of our Fiscal Year 2022. We proudly continue to do our meaningful, life-changing work and make a positive difference in people's lives as we operate in a very challenging environment. Individuals we serve certainly face adversity, and we do as well, as a disability service provider organization. Some of our daunting obstacles include a workforce shortage, the COVID-19 Delta variant, more funding needed to provide more services and the rising cost of everything. While this is concerning to us, with your assistance we will continue to carry out our mission to build abilities and empower people of all ages living with disabilities, just as Capper Foundation has done for over 100 years!

Our Strategic Plan has Focus Areas which include Quality Services, Organizational Excellence, Brand/Marketing, Philanthropy & Advocacy. This, along with our Strategic Priorities, Objectives, Strategies and Staffing, chart our course going forward.

I want to give a special shout out of Thanks and Appreciation to those of you who stepped up and supported our CapperCAN Campaign. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! Your generosity provided funds to hire additional Speech & Occupational Therapists and pediatric therapy scholarships to serve more children who have been on the waiting list, and a Job Coach to offer employment readiness and job support for adults with disabilities. We continue to see a steady stream of intake referrals of individuals who need our services. So, we really need everyone's support of our CapperCAN Campaign. To meet these needs, I urge you to participate in making a positive, life-changing difference in the lives of children and adults with disabilities in this way.

We are better and stronger together. Your caring and sharing support is needed and will be noticed and appreciated. You will feel good about giving, and your heart will be happy and full!

Sincerely,

Jim Leiker
President, CEO

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Scan the QR code to discover open positions in Shawnee, Butler and Cowley Counties at Capper.org/Careers.



Jim Leiker,
President & CEO

UPCOMING EVENTS

DONOR APPRECIATION DINNER

When: November 18, 2021

Where: The Foundry Event Center

BLARNEY BREAKFAST

When: March 12, 2022
7 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Where: Blind Tiger Brewery & Restaurant

For more event information, visit CAPPER.ORG/EVENTS.

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

MEET EOWYN

While receiving Capper Foundation Residential Services, Eowyn enjoys reading, Lite-Brite, listening to the Carpenters and The Beatles, Frozen character decorations, the Charmed TV show and Mountain Dew. Eowyn likes to have a set routine, and she finds it helpful to have familiar faces around her providing services. She keeps herself busy recycling soda cans, helping with Meals on Wheels, and participating in Special Olympics. She also receives a paycheck for helping clean around the house she shares with two housemates.

Because of contributions from people like you, Eowyn can pursue her interests in a safe and supportive environment. Your loyal support empowers her and other adults served to maximize their potential. Thank you!



Gaining Independence: **MEET JAXON**

THEN & NOW



DANE

In 2014, 3-year-old Dane began receiving services at Capper Foundation, just one month after he received several developmental diagnoses. Before Speech and Occupational Therapies, Dane struggled to make eye contact with others, request his preferences, eat non-preferred foods and to socialize with kids his own age.

His adoptive mother, Veronica, says therapy at Capper never felt like work to Dane, which made learning easier. "The staff allowed me to use them as a sounding board and gave me advice on fulfilling his needs," she shares.

FAST FORWARD

Fall has arrived and Dane is officially a Fifth Grader, and wow is he thriving. He loves to play video games and communicate with friends online to accomplish complex tasks, such as locating an impostor among his virtual crew. Now comfortable eating non-preferred foods, he's doing well during lunchtime at school. Being more expressive has allowed him to improve his comfort level in the classroom and even approach a new boy who was struggling to make friends.

Kind as always, Veronica says Dane's forward strides have allowed his social strengths to shine: "He is still just as sweet as sweet can be."

Jaxon began receiving services from Capper Foundation when he was three. At the time, he had yet to walk or talk. He was mostly able to communicate by pointing to pictures and wasn't feeding himself or meeting milestones.

In Speech Therapy, Jaxon has made gains in his ability to express his wants and needs from a greater selection of words. At home, his parents do a great job of encouraging behaviors learned – such as dressing, undressing, swimming, touching/eating certain foods and brushing his teeth. There's an ocean of potential under the surface in Jaxon's mind and – with Capper Foundation's support and services – he is seeing more of his hidden potential.

"It really got me when he suddenly walked up to my shirt and knew every single letter on my shirt, and we had no idea that he knew any of the alphabet at all," his mother Dawn explains. "I ran back to his room and got blocks and pulled all of them out, and he knew all of them. We were like 'Wow!' ... We're just super proud of everything that Jax has accomplished over the last nine years, with the help of a great team at Capper Foundation, and we're really appreciative of everything they do."



TRANSPORTATION



Capper staff provide much-needed trips in Shawnee, Butler and Cowley Counties to adults in our Day and Residential Services Programs. These trips empower those we serve to work in the community and access activities, events and medical care. To meet these needs, we have 15 vehicles, including nine mini buses available for use.

Capper Foundation participates in a program with the Kansas Department of Transportation that provides grants for those in need of specialized transportation.

Recently, grants secured the replacement of three older vehicles with new mini buses, at our Topeka, El Dorado and Winfield locations.

How You Can Impact LIVES

- Cash donations
- Gifts of property and/or stocks
- Planned gifts through trusts and estate planning
- Memorials
- Required Minimum Distribution (RMDs) from retirement accounts

To find out more, or make a life-changing contribution, **look for the donate button at capper.org.**

