



# **Opening Doors** FY21 Annual Report

## **Abrazos Family Support Services**

## **Our Mission**

Improve the lives of children and adults with or at risk for developmental disabilities and their families by providing specialized services.

## **Our Vision**

Empower all children and their families to achieve their full potential and live enhanced lives.

## **Our Values**

Family Centered Services \* Accountability \* Communication \* Community \* Efficiency & Effectiveness \* Excellence

#### **Our Service Area**

Abrazos' service footprint covers the cities of Rio Rancho, Corrales, Bernalillo, Placitas, and the west-side communities of Albuquerque, Ventana Ranch, Eagle Ranch, Paradise Hills and Taylor Ranch. We cover all 3,710 square miles of Sandoval County, including the rural areas of Cuba, to the north, Corrales, to the south, and parts of the Navajo Nation and the pueblo tribes of Cochiti, Jemez, San Felipe, Santa Ana, Santo Domingo, Sandia, and Zia.

(165)

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#### Dear Friends,

"**Opening Doors**" is the theme for this year's annual report. We chose this theme for many reasons.

Opening Doors signifies, during this most challenging time of Abrazos' 42-year history, (COVID-19), we made the decision to focus on opening doors through continued growth and opportunity, even while we changed how we worked, communicated, and delivered services.

We chose to proceed with a \$1.6 million facilities' investment, necessary for developing and strengthening the services provided to individuals with developmental delays and disabilities.

It signifies our dedication to our staff that we maintain open-door policies that encourage creativity and teamwork.

It signifies our flexibility to deliver services. Even if those doors are windows on a computer screen, a backyard, or a park - anywhere we can safely provide services.

Since 1978, Abrazos has maintained opened doors, which allows us to focus on our priorities of:

- Providing quality services for our clients and their families, whether that be in-person, outdoors, or telehealth.
- Empowering our employees with trauma-informed care practices, technology, self-care, and awareness of diversity, equality, and inclusion.
- Ensuring long-term financial stability through diversification of funding and financially strategic decisions.

Together, these priorities provide a path to ensure our focus remains on providing community-based specialized services to improve the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and delays and their families.

We cannot wait to celebrate this past year's accomplishments with you and hope you will join us in the coming year as we open the doors to our new building and campus.

Warm Regards,

April Spaulding

April Spaulding, Executive Director



## **Opening Doors**

Abrazos \$1.6 million facilities investment will strengthen our mission of providing specialized services to individuals with developmental delays and disabilities.

#### This is how:

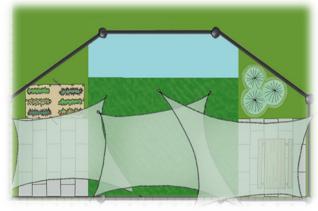
Demand for Services - Abrazos became





the first non-profit in New Mexico to become certified as a provider of ABA Therapy. This therapy is the gold standard treatment for improving the cognitive and behavioral outcomes of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. The ABA Therapy program will be located in the new building being constructed on our campus, (scheduled to be completed October 2021).

Additional Delivery Model - Adjacent to the new building will be a dedicated outdoor area in which Abrazos' specially trained professionals can provide services in a safe and inviting environment. This area will include a perimeter fence and gate for security, sun-sails for shade, and sensory/play equipment. Encouraged by the State Department of Health, this area will ensure that services can continue to be delivered during times like COVID.





**Updated Facilities** - The other current buildings on Abrazos' campus are being renovated with new stucco, roof replacement, and cooling systems to provide more modern and comfortable office space for staff.



**Employment Opportunities** - To support the new autism therapy program, Abrazos will be hiring additional staff to educate, train, and certify as Registered Behavior Technicians. These technicians will work with the individuals in the ABA program.

**Financial Security -** Abrazos will continue to strengthen its long-term financial health through diversification of funding and financially strategic decisions. This includes not only adding funding sources, but also increasing the services we provide to families in the community.



## **Support Received for Opening Doors**

The expansion and improvements made to Abrazos' campus were made possible because of the support received from these foundations and businesses:



## **Program Outcomes**

#### **Family Infant Toddler (FIT)**

Also known as the Early Intervention Program, FIT is a specialized service provided to families with children ages birth to 3 years who are experiencing a delay in development, disability or other condition that impacts development. These specialized services include developmental screening and evaluations, physical, occupational, and developmental therapies, speech-language, feeding therapy, infant mental health services and nutrition services.



Our Impact 540 Children Served (613 prior to COVID)

#### **Respite Services**



## **Our Impact** 27 Children Served (79 prior to COVID)

Abrazos' Respite Program is a flexible family support service that provides short-term, temporary care to people with disabilities or children who are at risk of a developmental delay. This service allows families to take a break from the daily routine of care giving. Respite care providers assist the individual in activities of daily living, promote the individuals' health and safety, as well as maintain a clean and safe environment. These services occur in the individual's home, the respite care provider's home, or a community setting of the family's choice, such as a

park or museum. COVID-19 impacted respite care in a number of ways. Providing safe and healthy services was Abrazos' priority, but for many families and providers, the challenges of maneuvering through multiple public health mandates became overwhelming and many paused their respite care during the pandemic.

#### **Program Outcomes**

#### **Family Living**

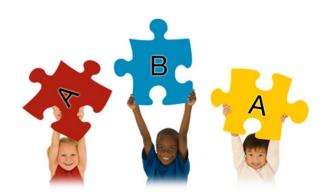


The Family Living Program launched at Abrazos in 2019. This program is a home-based service that provides 24-hour / 7-day-a-week care to enable adult individuals to remain living in their family home or a surrogate home. The Family Living Program promotes independence, community inclusion, and an enhanced quality of living.

> Our Impact 4 Adults Served (4 prior to COVID)

#### **ABA** Therapy

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapy is known as the gold-standard treatment therapy for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. This therapy is proven to significantly improve the cognitive and behavioral skills of individuals diagnosed



with autism. Abrazos became fully credentialed with the state of New Mexico as an ABA Therapy Medicaid provider in July 2020 and with Presbyterian Health Plan and Western Sky Community Care in 2021. Abrazos projects providing ABA Therapy to 60 individuals in the first full-year of providing services and increasing to 125 individuals by year five.

## **B4-3** Network









B4-3 (acronym for before the age of 3) is a collaboration among Abrazos and three other nonprofit Early Intervention agencies (Alta Mira, LifeROOTS, NAPPR) serving the counties of Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia. This past year, this collaborative provided additional case management support services to families whose children are at risk of adverse childhood experiences that could negatively impact their development and long-term health. This program was solely funded by the United Way of Central New Mexico.

## Hands-on Learning with



Abrazos is fortunate to have INTEL of Rio Rancho as a partner in our early education programs. In 2020 they donated STEM kits to give to our clients to support and develop their cognitive skills in science, technology, engineering, and math.

intel

#### An Eye for Autism

For the second year in a row, Abrazos had the pleasure of working with local professional fishing lure eye designer, Matthew Pelletier, in an event created by him and named the Creative Concept Contest. Fishing lures and fishing ties were created and submitted to a contest in recognition of autism awareness. Many of the designs were then raffled off



with the proceeds benefiting Abrazos' new autism therapy program. This year's contest raised nearly \$4,000. Our sincere thanks to Matt for his many months of spearheading this event.

## Leadership at Abrazos

The Board of Directors govern the mission, monitor and strengthen programs, ensure effective planning and financial resources, and work directly with the executive director. All Board members serve as volunteers and dedicate their time and expertise to ensure Abrazos' success.



David England, President Intel (retired)



Veronica Torres, Vice President Wells Fargo



Ken Tager, Treasurer Resnick & Louis, PC



Jill Brame, Secretary Southwest Aeronautics, Math & Science Academy



Paula Benavidez-Chip Intel



Paul Chip Intel



Bryson Frazier City of Galveston



Melissa Romine UNM Health Sciences



Kristina Gutierrez-Barela, MD

### **Abrazos' Staff**

#### Administration:

April Spaulding, Executive Director Erika Aceto-Tode, Respite & Family Living Manager Liza Bales, Administration Manager Amy Berman, Development Director Kathleen Coates, Financial Manager Katharine Harmeyer, ABA Manager Randi Malach, Program Director Rebecca Miera, Data Entry Specialist Bob Powers, Facilities Process Specialist Anne Saladino, Administrative Assistant

Early Intervention Specialists: Annie O'Brien Erika Summers Jackie Troncoso Hillary Velazquez

#### **Developmental Specialists:**

Lindsey Atencio Kalyn Kollie Sofia Lucero-Sena Airth McCourt Victoria Reyes Beth Sims Terri Lara Abrazos recognizes the dedication and hard work of our employees who tirelessly gave their all to the children and families we serve!



Family Service Coordinators: Emily Bihn Kim Griffin Breana Martinez Regina Quintana Lynnae Rael Maria Renteria-Jaramillo Jamie Stepetic

As a New Mexico Family Friendly Business, Abrazos has received the highest recognition -Platinum Distinguished Leader Award



#### **Our Sincere Thanks to Our Individual Supporters**

Erika Aceto-Tode Mike Alesio Amazon Smile Liza Bales Blaine Benner Blackbaud Giving Fund Joshua Butler Mandy Cedeno Andrew Curwick Christopher Donlon **David England** Chad Fleer **Bryson Frazier** Good Coin Foundation Collin Hall Matthew & Kathryn Hein Annie Huerta James Jimenez Robert Kiffmeyer Bryan Lawson Bill & Lorraine Lowan Doug Manley Emily Martinez Microsoft Donation Center Mike Musky Carlos & Rebecca Molinar James & Harriet Neal Anne Nokes William Owens PayPal Giving Fund Pelletier Construction, Inc. James Potocnik Sean Reilly **Rio Rancho Rotary Foundation Elizabeth Sims** Bryon Smigielski Shaun Snyder Erika Summers Seth Thompson Jacqueline Trujillo Dan Unser Dave Vollmer Keenan Wind

Michael & William Adams Arielle Alexander Josiah Anderson Ball Co. Amy Berman Jill Brame Mari Spaulding Bynon Ashley Chavez Jason Darling **Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital** ERGO Grip Tucker Ford Erick Fredrickson Kimberly Griffin Katharine Harmeyer Jacob Holmstrom Hulk Man Bait Co. Christopher Keburis Anne La Lopa **Brady Lewis** Sofia Lucero-Sena Joseph Marozzi Scott & Robin Mayberry Rebecca Miera Adam Milner Robert Mooney Neighborhood in Rio Rancho/NIRR Chapel OK Fly Co Jess Padilla Corey Pease **Raymond Piper** Regina Quintana Maria Renteria-Jaramillo Doreen Rivera-Ulibarri Brian Skinner Matthew Smith April Spaulding Tom Swisstack & Lisa Grover Jackie Troncoso Lisa Trujillo Hillary Velasquez **Russell Wells** Robert Wozniak

Laura Alberto Shannon Almanza Lindsey Atencio Carla & Victor Barbiero Emily Bihn Jake Bucki David Casile Jacob Cheney Guy Davenport Michael Eitzen Jason Espedal Christopher Fosbenner Joseph Getty Michelle Griffin Davi Harp HP Service Center Don Hurst Robin Laverow Kelman Teresa Lara Leonard Lopez Randi Malach Breana Martinez Airth McCourt Blake Millett Michael Milone Cameron Muransky Jason Nelson Johnathan Opell Ouade Pariseau Matthew Pelletier David & Claudia Leigh Plante Valerie Rael Mark Riffe Susan Schmoldt Arthur Slader **Smiths Inspiring Donations** Tyler Stephens Kenneth Tager Angel Trujillo Jeremy Tyson Raymond & Katrina Vigil **Cheryl Williams** Susan Wright Davis Zink

#### **Agency Financials**

The below graphs represent the Income & Expenses for Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021). Abrazos is proud to report that administrative expenses were 7% of the budget, below the national industry average of 15-25%.



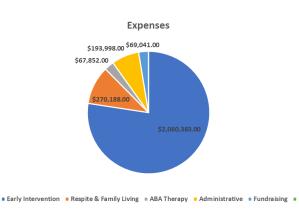
Agency Income	
Medicaid & Medicaid Waiver	\$1,249,656.
State General Funds	\$1,268,554.
Contributions & Fundraising	<u>\$ 357,518.</u>
TOTAL	\$2,875,728.

Agency Income



Medicaid & Medicaid Waiver State General Funds Contributions & Fundraising

Agency Expense	es
Early Intervention	\$2,060,383.
Respite & Family Living	\$ 270,188.
ABA Therapy	\$ 67,852.
Administrative	\$ 193,998.
Fundraising	<u>\$ 69,041.</u>
TOTAL	\$2,661,442.



\*Note, financials had not yet been audited at the time of this publication.