



NEW LOOK,
SAME GREAT
INFO!

August 2025

Toll Free: 800-555-3994
Phone: 785-456-9915
Fax: 785-456-9923
Text: 844-617-9689

The Access

Director's Note...



Erica Christie,
Executive Director

Woo-Hoo! It's been a summer! In July, 3Rivers celebrated our 1-year anniversary of serving Leavenworth County. Last year they were added to our service area increasing our area of responsibility by 468 square miles and over 86,000 residents. We are up for the challenge and increasing our consumer base in the county every quarter.

Our next hurdle is how do we prepare our consumers and staff for the increased Medicaid eligibility requirements in 2027? My approach is 3 fold: increase our work with other providers, determine the best way to communicate with our consumers (text, email, website, etc.), and more staff training. We will also be providing our legislators with consumer impact stories to show how these changes affect Kansans.

This newsletter is funded in part through the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents do not necessarily represent the official views of ACL or HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the U.S. Government.

AuthentiCare App Instructions for HCBS Consumers

The State of Kansas requires HCBS consumers to have their workers clock in and out using either the AuthentiCare app on their smartphone or by calling the automated system on the consumer's landline phone at 1 (800) 903-4676. ***It is not a choice anymore.***

This only applies to people on Medicaid Waiver programs, HOME consumers will continue using paper timesheets.

For help setting up the AuthentiCare app, please have your worker call the office at (785) 456-8573.

The app is available on both Android and Apple.

Missed Clock-ins or Clock-outs

If your worker missed a clock-in or clock-out please call (785) 456-9915 and press "3" when prompted to reach the voicemail box for missed clock-ins or clock-outs and provide:

- Your name
- Your worker's name
- The date of the missed clock in/out
- The clock-in time
- The clock-out time
- The activity codes for work that was done

Reminders

DID YOU OR YOUR WORKER MOVE?

Please contact 3Rivers at 785-456-9915 or email Kennetha at kennethac@threeriversinc.org to update your home address, phone number, and email address.



Community Resources

✓ “Get Alarmed” Kansas Free Smoke Alarm Program SMOKE ALARMS FOR KANSANS WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

Download the order form at [GetAlarmedKS.org](https://getalarmedks.org) or call 785-291-3586.

To qualify for the program you must-

- A. Be a Kansas resident over the age of four.
- B. Have a listed certifying health care professional sign your order form.
- C. NOT live in an institutional facility (nursing home, hospital, etc.).

Once approved, the alarms will be delivered and installed by a participating fire department or OSFM representative who can ensure the alarms are set-up properly and the individual knows how to use them.

✓ 211 Kansas

Connects Kansas citizens to resources and services in their area. Can assist in finding resources (transportation, shelter) for an emergency preparedness plan.

High School Students!!!

Save the date

Disability Mentoring Day

October 15, 2025 K-State Union Manhattan, KS

10AM to 2PM

October 29, 2025 Atchison Event Center Atchison, KS

10AM to 2PM

Lunch provided

Call 3Rivers for more info

Peer Support Opportunity

Long-COVID Peer Support Group

Have you been diagnosed with or think you may have Long-COVID?

A Long-COVID Peer Support Group brings together people via Zoom to share, learn and connect. Mark your calendar for the **first Wednesday of each month, 4:00pm-5:00pm**. This group is co-facilitated by 3Rivers, Independent Connection, and Independence, Inc. For details about joining, call us today.

Call 3Rivers: 785-456-9915!



Two people sitting talking in a group (stock).

Join Us

Diamond Art Class

Join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month starting in May from 4PM-6PM at our Wamego office.

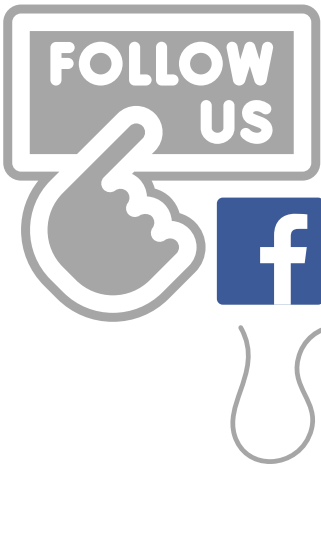
Please bring your own diamond art.

Light snacks provided!



A colorful diamond art activity (stock).

Call us for more info: 785-456-9915!



3Rivers shares updates, news, and information from the disability community on Facebook. Be sure to like & follow us!

New Staff Spotlights

➤ Rickee Smith, I&R Specialist, Atchison Office.

I am a native of Atchison and am the oldest of 9 with 7 Sisters. I enjoy photography, hair styling, and bake in my free time for fun and as a business.

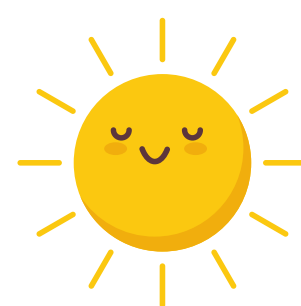
I love being creative, like painting and decorating cakes or even helping plan a good party! I am excited to join 3Rivers.



Summer Tips

Remember these safety tips for warmer weather-

1. Stay Hydrated: Drink 8 or more glasses of water per day to stay healthy and hydrated.
2. Stay Cool: Stay in the A/C, indoors, go swimming etc.
3. Know the side effects of medications: Some medications have side affects such as drowsiness or sun sensitivity.
4. Wear light, loose fitting clothing: Wear breathable clothing and light colors that reflect the sun.
5. Know the weather forecast: Plan your days accordingly depending on the weather.
6. Have Emergency Contacts: Have a list of people to call in case of an emergency.



Source: <https://www.help4seniors.org>



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Donation Ceremony

Thank you for your continued support of the 3Rivers mission!

Back to School Resources

Back to school planning means checking school supply lists and buying needed supplies, investigating move in nights and meet the teacher events. Also, getting ready for your annual Individual Education Plan (IEP) meeting.

A variety of IEP planning resources are available to help families prepare:

- Kansas State Dept of Education offers a Transition in the Individual Education Program Resources & Glossary
<https://www.ksde.gov>
- Families Together has a variety of Guides available:
www.familiestogetherinc.org
- The Disability Rights Center of Kansas special education resources:
<https://www.drckansas.org>

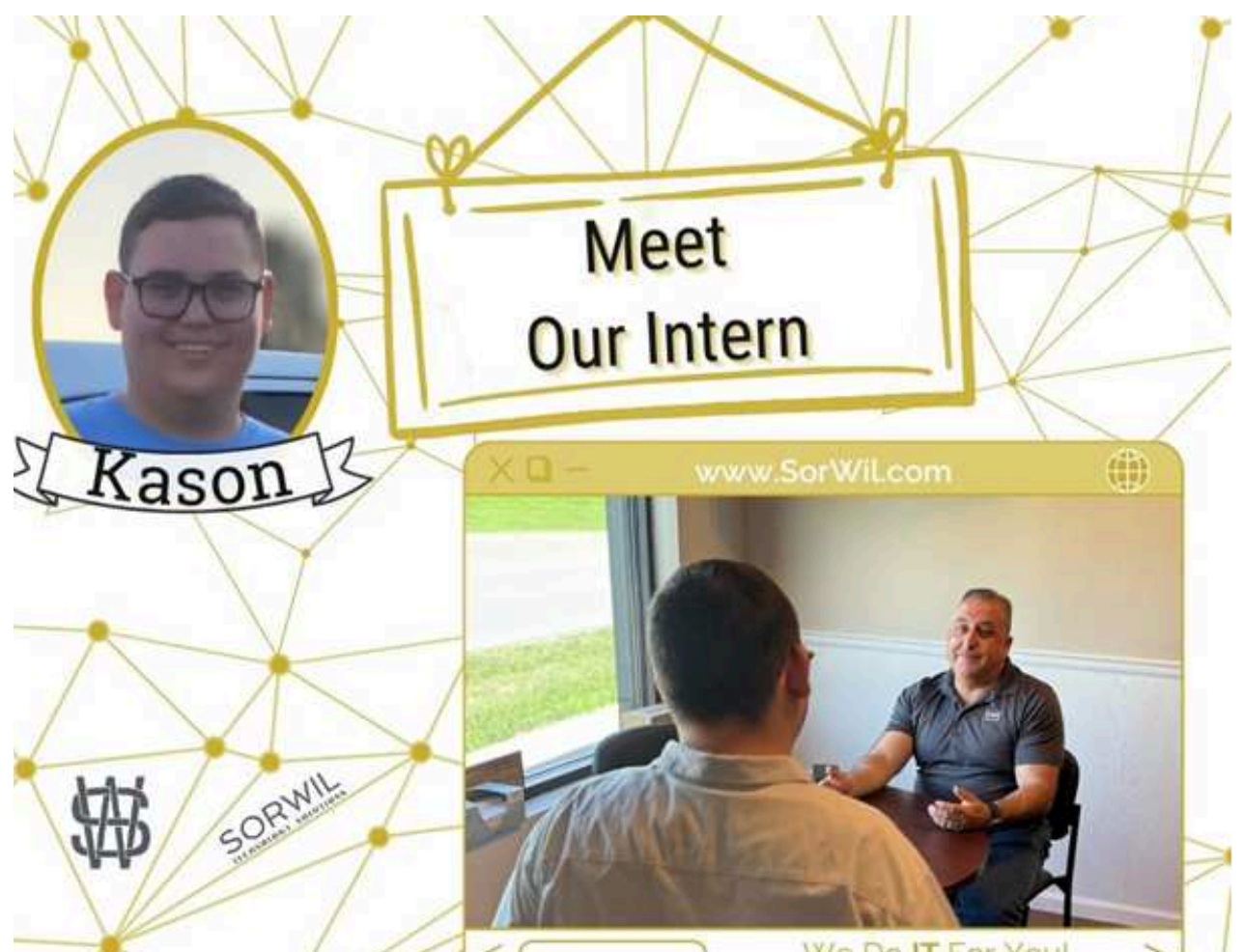
The IEP process is a collaboration, being ready with your ideas and notes will help ensure that accommodations meet your needs.

Call 3Rivers for help navigating these resources.

Youth Employment

Kason Barger, Lansing, Ks, is in the 3Rivers Pre-ETS program and is currently on his third week at SorWil Technology Solutions. Kason is learning job skills in information technology.

www.threeriversinc.org



The WORK Program Works for Geary County Resident

In July 2025, Helen celebrated her one-year anniversary of independence! She is learning and growing every day as an employee and an employer. With the assistance 3Rivers, Helen enrolled in the Work Opportunities Reward Kansans (WORK) program in July of 2024. The program is designed to assist individuals with disabilities who wish to live and work in their communities. As part of Kansas' Working Healthy initiative, the program provides in-home and on the job supports for people with disabilities.

During her first year on the WORK program, Helen made tremendous strides in hiring/training her in-home workers and managing her payroll hours.

Helen worked closely with Ashely and Molly, 3Rivers Independent Living Specialists, to learn how to set boundaries holding herself and her workers accountable while also advocating for herself.

Through the support of 3Rivers Helen plans to become more engaged in her community, take control of her health, and manage her resources.



What is the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law in 1990. The ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in many areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and many public and private places that are open to the general public. The purpose of the law is to make sure that **people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else**. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in public accommodations, employment, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications.

More info at <https://adata.org/>.

Three Rivers Inc.
504 Miller Drive
P.O. Box 408
Wamego, KS 66547-0408

Upcoming Holiday Hours...

Our offices will be closed September 1, 2025 for Labor Day.

Alternate Formats Available

3Rivers is Connected In Your Community...

Wamego - Main Office
504 Miller Drive
P.O. Box 408
Wamego, KS 66547
P: 785-456-9915
F: 785-456-9923

Atchison Office
625 Commercial St., Suite 7
Atchison, KS 66002
P: 785-456-9915
F: 913-674-0417

Clay Center Office
820 Spellman Circle
Clay Center, KS 67432
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 132
Clifton, KS 66937
P: 785-777-2499

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
11400 158th Road
P.O. Box 174
Mayetta, KS 66509
P: 785-966-8344
F: 785-966-8388

Junction City Office
122 Grant Ave.
Junction City, KS 66441
P: 785-456-9915
F: 785-390-0216

