



## Rainbow Valley Resource Network

Hi Friend,

Spring is filled with signs of hope, growth and promise—the bursting forth of abundant flowers and grasses and the joyous progress expressed in our families and loved ones. This spring the Rainbow Valley Resource Network “circle of love” is connecting more and more fellow Christian Scientists raising loved ones with special needs through our programs and services. Your support has made this possible.

We are delighted to share with you just some of the good that is going on in our community!



Coaches and trainees working side-by-side setting tables



CedarS counselor Karen with RVRN camper, Sabine

### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

#### Work Experience Program

RVRN is partnering with the A/U Ranches to offer our Work Experience Program. Open to Christian Scientists with developmental special needs who are 18 years or older and interested in developing job- and life-skills in a Christian Science (CS) workplace. Trainees serve as the Lodge Crew in Valerie Lodge from June 20 – July 6. The good news is that half of our trainees from last year

### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

#### Youth Specialty Program

Camp can be for everyone! RVRN is partnering with CedarS Camps to offer an inclusive summer camp session for school-aged children (up to early 20's). This program allows children to experience all the joys of summer camp—swimming, crafts, sports, horses, nature, and more—adapted just for them. Parents can also enjoy an hour up at the Lodge with other

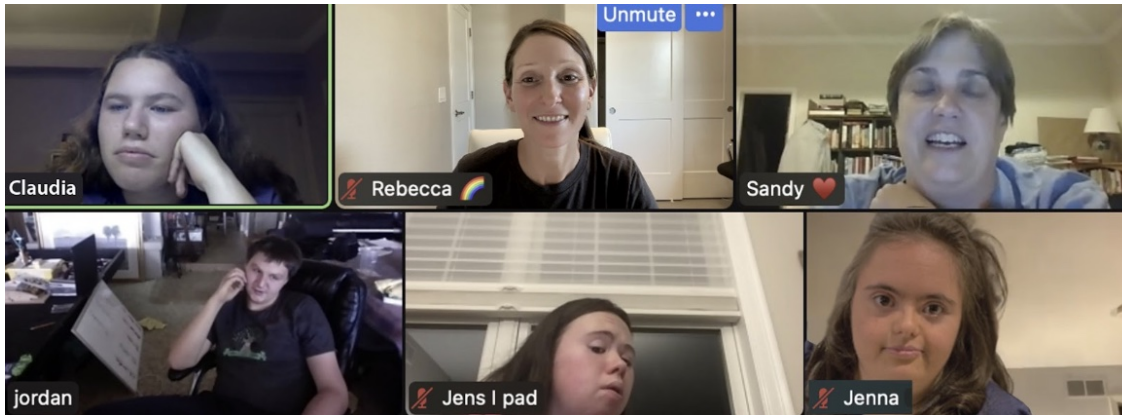
found jobs in their communities after participating in this program!

[Learn more and apply](#)

adults, while staff stay with your child.

Dates: June 11 – 17

[Learn more and register](#)



Pictured here is a group of young adults at one of our “hangouts,” learning and practicing social skills while playing the game “What’s your favorite…”

#### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

##### Peer Connect

We hear from parents and caregivers that it can be hard for RVRN loved ones to socialize and practice interpersonal skills in large groups. In response, we created our newest program—Peer Connect. Participants get to share their favorite music and activities, while making new CS friends. If you know someone who would like to participate or if you have an interest in being a Peer Connect facilitator, we'd love to hear from you!

[Learn more and apply](#)

*"We are so grateful for the support of the practitioner for our son. He has been joyfully blossoming the past few weeks in ways we have not seen before. We are SO grateful for this progress...which we know will continue! Thank you for your support!"*

*~RVRN parent*

A graphic with an orange background and a white circle containing the text "board of directors update" in orange lowercase letters. The entire graphic is enclosed in a dashed orange border.

board of  
directors  
update



New RVRN board chair, Kathy Linehan



Shelley with her son Daniel

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Board of Directors**

In addition to welcoming a new board member, our leadership model is expanding to accommodate the growing organization. In December, we chose to split my dual role and elect a new Board Chair—Kathy Linehan. I am now fully focused on my role as Executive Director, and I'm thrilled to partner with Kathy and the board as we head into the next chapter!

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Meet Shelley Coolidge**

We are delighted to welcome our newest board member, Shelley Coolidge, from Azusa, Calif. Her passion for RVRN's mission is palpable. See for yourself!

**Why did you decide to join RVRN's board?**

As a life-long Christian Scientist, as well as a parent of a young adult with special needs, I understand how important an....

[Meet the Board](#)

[Read more](#)



Todd with Art, one of the original Rainbow Valley Ranchers

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### Todd Herzer

We wish to express our deepest thanks to Todd Herzer. Todd was my predecessor and the one who guided the transition from Rainbow Valley Ranch to the Rainbow Valley Resource Network—allowing us to expand our “circle of love” across the nation. Todd went on to serve on our Board of Directors for several years. He was pivotal to our organization’s success—providing his metaphysical support, business acumen, innate empathy and good humor. Though he passed on last fall, his loving legacy lives on.

#### Amazon Smile Program?

The Amazon Smile Program was discontinued in February. Consider how you might like to support RVRN in a different way...**perhaps a recurring gift?**

[MAKE A DONATION](#)



**PROGRAM UPDATE**

**Loved One Gatherings**

Now in the third year, our online Loved One Gatherings continue this spring! In collaboration with Camp Bow-Isle this session, we're having a blast singing, playing games, and doing arts and crafts. In February the group created a LOVE acrostic – a poem in which certain letters in each line form a word or words. In March we incorporated the ideas of the Spiritual Tri-unity while making a shamrock craft. Registration for the spring session includes 25 participants.

[Learn more](#)



Peter learning commercial dishwashing skills



Peter and one of his job coaches, Claire, enjoying ice cream on a night off

**LOVED ONE'S CORNER**

**Peter Philips**

Last summer, Peter was one of six trainees in RVRN's Work Experience Program at the A/U Ranches. With the loving support of coaches provided by RVRN as well as the wraparound care with all necessary adaptations, Peter learned commercial dishwashing, table setting, and cleaning skills. He also learned interpersonal skills essential for a work environment. When he returned home, Peter got his first job working in a local restaurant. Now he has a second job as a courtesy clerk at the local grocery store. These are huge steps forward for him!

- **Favorite food:** Fruit smoothies
- **Favorite activity:** Art projects, water colors and painting
- **Favorite show:** "Murder, She Wrote"
- **Favorite animal:** His pet dog, Charlie
- **Favorite food to cook for his family:** Muffins ("people say they enjoy them")
- **Favorite RVRN program:** Family Enrichment Program at 100 Elk
- **Super Power:** Friendliness

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Did you know RVRN is referral-based? Please share our organization's information with those who might benefit from the services we offer. **Thank you for partnering with us in this amazing work!**

Lovingly with gratitude,



Julie Finnin Day  
Executive Director  
Rainbow Valley Resource Network



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