



SHINING BRIGHT

at Sarah A. Reed Children's Center

Sarah A. Reed Children's Center
2445 West 34th Street
Erie, PA 16506
(814) 838-1954
www.SarahReed.org

Sarah Reed Launched Successful Inaugural Diversity Summit



Dr. Denise Johnson



Dr. Laurene Finley



Dr. William Koehler



Dr. Rhonda Matthews



Dr. Parris Baker

On July 14th, Sarah Reed employees, stakeholders, community partners, mental health professionals, and more gathered for a day of virtual learning at our **2021 Alessi Levan Keble Diversity Summit: "Celebrating Legacy through Diversity."** This free, virtual summit featured an opening address by **Dr. Denise A. Johnson**, Pennsylvania's Acting Physician General. The keynote address was delivered by **Dr. Laurene Finley**, a former faculty member at Drexel University who has received two awards by the state of Pennsylvania for her work in the field of cultural competency. The closing address was given by **Dr. Rhonda Matthews**, an associate professor of political science and women's studies at Edinboro University. The rest of the day was filled with breakout workshops on a variety of topics, such as: fostering healing and advocacy through art therapy, an interview with **Dr. William Koehler** (author of *Dragons and Disco Socks*), developing a culturally sensitive organization, using the social determinants of health to see and address inequities that negatively impact client care, using therapeutic groups to create safe spaces for clients to process racial trauma, and much more. The summit concluded with a virtual panel discussion of local clergy, moderated by **Dr. Parris Baker**, regarding the interplay and critical concept of religion, spiritual beliefs, and behavioral health care.

Resources from the summit are available online at www.sarahreed.org/diversity. Special thanks to all of our presenters and attendees for making this inaugural event a success!

"Just because you're one person does not mean you cannot make meaningful change."

~Dr. Rhonda Matthews during the closing address of the 2021 Virtual Diversity Summit

Agency Receives 2021 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Award



(L to R) Adam Bratton, executive director of The Nonprofit Partnership, congratulates Dr. Adrienne Dixon, president and CEO of Sarah A. Reed Children's Center, after a press conference on June 30th. The Children's Center won the inaugural 2021 Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Award.

The Nonprofit Partnership in Erie announced on June 22, 2021, that Sarah A. Reed Children's Center is the recipient of the inaugural **2021 Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award**. Our President and CEO, Dr. Adrienne Dixon, shared how much this award means to our agency during a press conference on June 30th.

"This award really helps to support and reinforce all the hard work done by our team to create a safe, racially conscious and socially just environment for our staff, clients and families," said Dr. Dixon.

Our commitment to DEI is evidenced through our planning, development, implementation, delivery, and evaluation of programs, services, policies, procedures, human resources, and leadership practices.

Special thanks to our friends at The Nonprofit Partnership for recognizing our commitment to DEI. We are honored to receive this very special award, especially during our **150th Anniversary** of service to our community. Thank you!

Tracey Sampson, LPC Leads the Outpatient Program

In May 2021, Tracey Sampson became the director of Sarah Reed's Outpatient Behavioral Health Services program, which operates out of the Professional Building at 1611 Peach Street in Erie. Tracey began her career at Sarah Reed in 1996 and has spent the last 25 years working with children and families at multiple programs throughout the agency. We're happy to welcome Tracey to our Outpatient team!

Can you tell us about your background and your history at Sarah Reed?

I grew up in Erie and graduated from Allegheny College with a B.S. in Psychology and a minor in Religious Studies. I was first hired as a teacher in a preschool classroom at our Partial Hospitalization Program and then went on to earn my Master's degree in Clinical Psychology at Edinboro University. I transitioned to a therapist role at Partial and later became a clinical supervisor. Although most of my time has been spent at the Partial Program, I've also worked as a therapeutic support staff, a mobile therapist, a behavioral specialist counselor in our Wraparound Program, a direct care staff member at Residential, and also as a Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) clinician in our Outpatient Program.

What types of services does Sarah Reed's Outpatient Program offer for adults?

We have therapists available to assist adults with concerns related to loss, trauma, family stressors, anger management, anxiety, depression, self-esteem issues, and parenting challenges. Specific evidenced-based treatments offered include: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), and Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT).

During COVID-19, many of our services were carried out virtually via telehealth. How did telehealth impact our programs?

Throughout the pandemic, treatment for children and families continued via telehealth. The option of virtual sessions minimized disruption to treatment and provided an effective way to provide support during a global pandemic. Many services have transitioned back to face-to-face, and for now telehealth remains an option when face-to-face sessions are not possible.

What are some of the future goals of the Outpatient Program?

We are working to expand services within the community and reduce barriers to treatment by offering our services at additional locations within neighborhoods around the city. This will increase accessibility for the 1,700 children, adults and families we serve.

"If a parent is struggling to manage their child's behaviors or dealing with their own mental health concerns, we are here to help. Simply call our intake line at (814) 835-3126, and we'll connect you to the appropriate services for you and your family." ~Tracey Sampson, LPC



Tracey Sampson, LPC is the director of Outpatient Behavioral Health Services at Sarah Reed. She is also a Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) clinician and is working to become a PCIT Trainer with the agency.

Local Knights of Columbus Councils Join Forces for Backpack Project



Special thanks to our friends at all seven councils of the Knights of Columbus who came together to donate school supplies for the children at Sarah Reed:

- St. Luke Council #11229
- Erie Chapter
- St. Andrew's Council #14437
- John Mark Gannon Assembly #0943
- St. Peter Cathedral Council #15035
- JMJ Council #4071
- Sacred Heart Council #11818

Their generous contribution of backpacks, composition books, crayons, glue sticks, construction paper, markers and more are greatly appreciated and will be distributed to the children in our Residential Program and other Sarah Reed programs across Erie County.

Front row (L to R): Bob Koshinskie and Bill Smith

Second row: Pat Nenno, Lew Nordin, Dr. Ken Grugel (Knights of Columbus State Deputy of PA) and Dr. Jeffrey McGovern

Back row: Mike Case and Molly Myers (executive assistant to the CEO and special events manager at Sarah Reed)

Edinboro University Donates Little Free Library to Hamilton Campus

On June 14th, our Hamilton Campus received a Little Free Library thanks to the *Edinboro University Community Literacy Initiative!* Dr. Mary Weidner, Dr. Kathleen Dailey and their team at Edinboro University transformed a metal file cabinet into a beautiful outdoor shelter to safely keep literacy contributions for anyone in the community looking to share and take books.

Chongyuan (Lilith) Du, a Master's art student at Edinboro University, designed and painted the cabinet to highlight our agency's 150 years of community service.



Summer Programs in Full Swing at Residential and Hamilton Campuses

From June through August, we provide programming for children ages 5-18 at our Residential Treatment Program in Millcreek and at our Partial Hospitalization Program in Erie at our Hamilton Campus. Some highlights from this summer include: participating in the Sketch Book Project for the Brooklyn Library; multiple STEAM projects, such as working with robots to learn how to code and using iPads to learn graphic design; collaborating with NAMI of Erie County for an eight-week art therapy program; visits to local parks; and creating a wellness garden. *Special thanks to Stan's Garden Center East for their donation of flowers and veggies for our garden!*



Equine Therapy Makes a Difference for Children at Residential Campus

One of the exciting activities the children look forward to each week is equine-assisted psychotherapy thanks to our collaboration with Blended Spirits Ranch in Fairview, PA. These therapeutic sessions teach the children natural horsemanship and riding skills while promoting physical, mental, behavioral, and emotional growth.

Six children are currently attending the eight-week program this summer. Sarah A. Reed Children's Center has been working with **Sandy Long** and her team at Blended Spirits Ranch for 14 years.



Children from Sarah Reed's Residential Treatment Program enjoy working with the horses at **Blended Spirits Ranch** in Fairview, PA.

Millcreek Township School District Donates Science Textbooks for Students

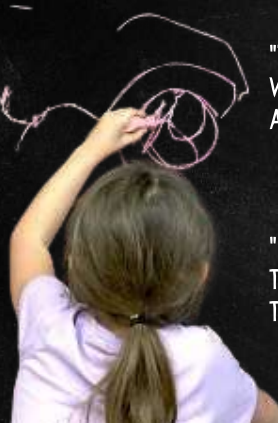


Ron Rodney, supervisor of the SBLP program, holds one of the Interactive Science: Ecology and the Environment textbooks donated by the Millcreek Township School District.

Special thanks to the **Millcreek Township School District** for donating an assortment of science textbooks in May 2021! These books are greatly appreciated by the 50 students who typically attend our Sanctuary© Based Learning Program (SBLP) at Emerson-Gridley each year.

SBLP is a partnership between Sarah A. Reed Children's Center and the Erie School District that provides educational and behavioral support to students in grades K-12 who are having difficulty in a traditional school setting. The class size is small and includes a certified clinical instructor, a behavioral counselor, and a support staff person. A therapist works with the students providing group and family therapy. SBLP helps students develop positive coping mechanisms and good problem-solving skills to enable them to be successful in their home, school and community. To learn more about our school based programs, please visit www.SarahReed.org.

What Our Students & Families Are Saying About Sarah Reed



"THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME IS COMING TO THIS SCHOOL AND MEETING NEW FRIENDS, TEACHERS, AND STAFF. WHEN I CAME HERE MY WHOLE LIFE CHANGED. I FEEL HAPPY AND SAFE. EVERYONE IS REALLY NICE, KIND, AND THE STAFF AND TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS HERE FOR ME. SCHOOL IS MY SAFE PLACE."

T.W., AGE 13 - A STUDENT AT OUR PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION PROGRAM

"MY HUSBAND AND I WERE VERY IMPRESSED BY HOW LIFE-CHANGING SARAH REED'S PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY IS. THE THERAPIST HELPED US COMMUNICATE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH OUR DAUGHTER AND REALLY HELPED BRIDGE THE GAP THAT EXISTED IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HER. SHE RESPONDED BETTER TO US WITH EVERYTHING WE ASKED OF HER."

J.R. - MOTHER WHO PARTICIPATED IN PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY

Mary Barr Receives Inaugural "Spirit of Sarah Reed Award"

We're very proud to announce that Mary Barr, associate vice president of human resources, is the recipient of our inaugural *Spirit of Sarah Reed Award*! This award honors leaders in the agency who demonstrate the same dedication, leadership, care, and integrity embodied by our foundress, Sarah Reed. Mary truly exemplifies all of these traits each day, from leading the HR team to being an active member of the Executive Council, Leadership Team, Diversity Committee and more. She has been part of the Sarah Reed family for over 30 years, and her compassion and commitment to excellence is an inspiration to us all.

IN MARY'S WORDS:

"Sarah Reed knew that it took the power of a dedicated group of people to initiate change and improve conditions in 1871. I have observed this same 'magic' taking place on our campuses, in our hallways, within schools, and in our community. The 'Spirit of Sarah Reed' is present today and visible in the efforts of staff, my colleagues and HR team members, and I am honored to be the first recipient of this award." ~Mary Barr, Associate Vice President of Human Resources and Spirit of Sarah Reed Award Winner



Congratulations, Mary!

2nd Annual Sarah's Great Giveaway Benefits Local Community



Local residents visited Sarah Reed's Outpatient Program at the Professional Building on May 8th for the *2nd Annual Sarah's Great Giveaway*. Our team of volunteers collected gently used clothing, toys, books, small household items and more, which were given out for free to children, adults and families. Since May is *Mental Health Awareness* month, we also had a table with information about local mental health services that are available. Thank you to our Sarah Reed employees: **Dr. Brittany Hayden, Jane Kukla, Dakota Cohen, Meghan Probst, Dr. Sallie Richards, and Mandy Longstreth**, and our community volunteers: **Liam Probst, Stefanie Baker, Stephany Anderson, Stephanie Casey, Dan Casey, Nicole Rupp, and John Longstreth!**

Employee Spotlight: Marcia Anderson, LPC



Marcia Anderson began her journey at Sarah Reed in 2006 when she worked as a therapeutic support staff in our BHRS program. After that, she became a refocus specialist for eight years in two local high schools before leaving Sarah Reed to work with college students on the autism spectrum and then later with adults in addiction treatment and recovery. At that point, Marcia realized the struggles her adult clients were facing are exactly what Sarah Reed works to resolve with children, so when a therapist position opened at Sarah Reed in 2019 she rejoined the team!

We are so happy to have **Marcia** advocating for the children and families in our care!

Read more about Marcia and learn how you can join our team at sarahreed.e3applicants.com.

"MY DAYS ARE FILLED WITH CLIENT THERAPY SESSIONS, FACILITATING FAMILY SESSIONS, WORKING WITH OUTSIDE AGENCIES, COLLABORATING WITH MEMBERS OF THE TREATMENT TEAM, AND SUPERVISING MASTER'S-LEVEL INTERNS. THE BEST PART OF MY JOB IS THAT EVERY DAY IS DIFFERENT!"

*Marcia Anderson, LPC
Therapist in the Residential Program*

Congratulations to Rob Freeman on His Retirement



All of us here at Sarah Reed wish a fond farewell to Rob Freeman, CPA, who successfully led our agency as the director of finance and operations for over 13 years.

Enjoy retirement, Rob! Thank you for your years of dedicated service.

Pictured (L to R): Rob Freeman, CPA, former director of finance and operations, stands alongside Dennis Walsh who retired from Sarah Reed's Partial Program in 2020.

Sarah Reed Featured in April 2021 Business Magazine



We are excited to be featured in the April 2021 edition of *Business Magazine* alongside **Gale Magyar** and her team at Sarah Reed Senior Living, as we celebrate 150 years of making a difference for individuals of all ages in our community.

To view the full article, visit www.mbabizmag.com/2021-business-magazine-issues.

150th Anniversary Technological Initiative Moves Closer Towards Goal



We are grateful for the generosity of our donors, who have contributed a grand total of \$225,450 towards our *150th Anniversary Technological Initiative* so far! This initiative is having a huge impact on our programs and providing vital educational technology to children, therapists, teachers, nurses and behavioral staff at our five campuses in Erie County. Below is an infographic showing some of the technology our donors have made possible to date, along with ways you can support this effort!



Ways to Give to the 150th Anniversary Technological Initiative:



Online at www.SarahReed.org/Donate

Call (814) 835-7602



Mail your donation to:
Sarah A. Reed Children's Center
ATTN Development Office
2445 West 34th Street
Erie, PA 16506

Thank you!

Erie Insurance Makes \$39,000 Gift to New STEAM Initiative at Residential



(L to R) **Brittany Boggs**, certified art and recreation therapist at Sarah Reed, and **Heather Kustaborder**, a former intern in the Art & Rec Therapy Department, showcase the new Tuff-Bots being used to teach coding to the kids this summer. The robots are part of our new STEAM curriculum and were made possible by a generous gift from **Erie Insurance** through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program and our donors to the 150th Anniversary Technological Initiative.

Visit our [YouTube](#) channel to see the robots in action!

We're launching a new STEAM program at Sarah Reed thanks to a major gift from Erie Insurance and our donors to the *150th Anniversary Technological Initiative*!

Erie Insurance made a generous \$39,000 contribution through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program in March 2021, and it was put to immediate use to create fun and exciting new ways to engage children in science, technology, engineering, art and math projects. Here is some of the new equipment Erie Insurance made possible for our children in the *2021 Summer Reading & Math Program* at the Residential campus:

- 18 Robots
- 3-D Printer
- 12 iPads for the Children
- ProCreate Art & Design Apps
- 2 Promethean SmartBoards
- 40 Assorted Math, Science, Coding and Art Books

Thank you to **Erie Insurance** and all of our generous donors!

Hamot Health Foundation Donates New AED Machine to Sarah Reed

The nurses at the Leslie Medical Center on the main campus of Sarah Reed's Residential Treatment Program were thrilled to receive a brand new AED machine from our friends at the Hamot Health Foundation on March 23rd!

The new AED machine is much more compact and easy to use, and the Hamot Health Foundation also donated a cabinet to store it in. **Robert Fisher**, emergency preparedness coordinator at UPMC Hamot, conducted a training session for the nurses on how to use the new machine.

Special thanks to **Robert Fisher**, **Jaimee Black**, vice president of operations, and everyone at the Hamot Health Foundation for helping to make this contribution possible!



(L to R) **Gary Bukowski, MA, CFRE**, associate vice president of development at Sarah Reed, **Jaimee Black**, vice president of operations at the Hamot Health Foundation, **Robert Fisher**, emergency preparedness coordinator at UPMC Hamot, and **Jennifer Zietz, RN**, director of nursing at Sarah Reed. Pictured at right is **Robert Fisher**, conducting an AED training session for the nurses at Residential.

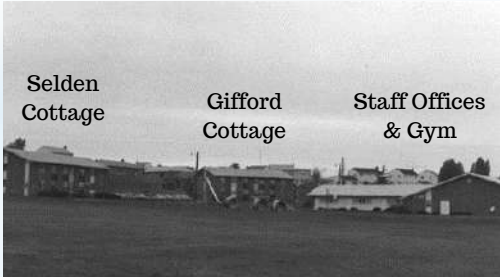




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Celebrating 150 Years!

Did You Know...



Sarah Reed's Residential Treatment Facility first opened in Millcreek Township in 1963. The original residence halls (Selden and Gifford) are pictured above and are still in use. Our agency has added an additional three residence halls over the years, and this campus currently houses 62 children.

Follow Us On:



If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter or you prefer to get our e-mail edition, please contact Stephenie Bojc in the Development Office at (814) 835-7604 or SBojc@sarahreed.org. Thank you!

Did You Miss Erie Gives Day? You Can Still Make an Impact!

There are lots of ways you can support Sarah A. Reed Children's Center and make a difference during our **150th Anniversary** year. Visit sarahreed.org/ways-to-give to learn more, or contact Gary Bukowski, MA, CFRE at (814) 835-7602 or via e-mail at GBukowski@sarahreed.org.



Hot Cider Hustle Event Benefits Sarah Reed on Oct 10

Join us on October 10th for the Hot Cider Hustle, Erie's newest half-marathon/5K event. Proceeds benefit Sarah Reed, plus you get cider and a caramel apple when you cross the finish line! Register at hotciderhustle.com/erie. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Molly Myers at (814) 835-7606 or MMyers@SarahReed.org.



Charity Golf Tournament Set for September 23rd

Our friends at B&L Wholesale Supply are gearing up for their **24th Annual B&L Charity Golf Tournament**, which will be held on September 23, 2021, at Whispering Woods Golf Club in Erie, PA. B&L Wholesale Supply Company has raised over \$700,000 for the children at Sarah Reed since their charity event began in 1996! We are so grateful for their generosity each year and the difference they are making for our children, adults and families at Sarah Reed.

If you would like more information about this year's event, please contact Molly Myers at (814) 835-7606 or e-mail MMyers@SarahReed.org.

*Pictured (L to R): **Jim Mando**, former president and CEO of Sarah Reed, accepts a check for \$40,205 from the 23rd Annual B&L Charity Golf Tournament in 2019. **Brian Mack** (center), area sales manager for B&L Wholesale Supply, and **Mark Manczka** (right), Erie branch manager at B&L Wholesale Supply Company, presented the donation.*



Photo from our 2019 B&L Charity Golf Tournament Fundraiser!