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At RiteCare of Utah, we observe transformation every day. We watch as a child learns to say “momma” for the first time. We watch as children living with autism learn to interact with family and friends. We watch the transformation of relationships between parents and children as they learn to communicate TOGETHER.

Each transformative moment we are lucky enough to witness, is the result of countless hours of therapy and intervention from both trained professionals and parents. This team approach to therapy not only makes RiteCare unique, but also makes our therapy highly successful.

Together, as a Board of Trustees, therapists, parents, donors, and students, we have created a program that is unequalled in it's approach and unparalleled in its success. RiteCare of Utah remains committed to the continuation of this success in the years to come.

Who We Serve:

**Age**
- Pre-K: 71%
- 5-6 Years: 11%
- 7-8 Years: 12%
- 9-11 Years: 6%

**Gender**
- Female: 71%
- Male: 29%

**Race**
- Black/African American: 69%
- White/Caucasian: 19%
- American Indian: 8%
- Asian: 4%
- Hispanic/Latino: 1%
- Pacific Islander: 1%
- Mixed Race: 1%
- Chose Not to Identify: 6%
For the first time since it’s beginning, RiteCare of Utah has a volunteer program. Our volunteer program offers opportunities for both students receiving their bachelor's degree in Speech and Hearing Science and for students working toward their master’s degree in Speech-Language Pathology.

Students who are working toward a Bachelor's degree have the option to observe any of our therapy sessions for which permission has been given. This opportunity provides the student with exposure to some of the best speech and reading services in the state. Often, prior to applying for a graduate program, students are required to volunteer in a speech therapy clinic in order to develop a base knowledge of the job requirements, the scope of disorders seen and an introduction to therapy techniques.

Master’s level students are obligated to volunteer hours of therapy under direct supervision of a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist. RiteCare of Utah has recently worked with a local university to be a placement for Master’s level students. These students provide the therapy to the children and families in our clinic under direct supervision of one of our therapists.

This new program has proven to be extremely beneficial to both the students and the RiteCare clinic.
At RiteCare of Utah, we are like no other program in that we use a parent-training approach to therapy. This means we make it our job to teach parents how to do our job. A common problem with speech-language and reading disorders is known as carry-over. This is a phenomenon where desired behaviors are obtained within the therapy room setting but are not seen in the home. RiteCare of Utah’s approach eliminates the need to establish carry-over because we have trained the parents how to obtain the desired behavior even when they are not in our therapy rooms. Research shows this system of therapy not only eliminates the need for carry-over but reduces the amount of time students require therapy.

This year, Ogden hosted a Make-and-Take event at a community ice rink. This program was designed to provide parents with a brief overview of typical development followed by real activities parents can do at home to facilitate speech and language development. Parents made homemade play-doh, a small book and a lunch bag puppet. The therapist then spent time teaching parents how to use the items in specific circumstances to obtain specific goals. Fifteen parent/parent groups attended our Ogden event and all reported a high level of satisfaction with the information provided.

The Salt Lake clinic continued its annual Parent Workshop Series to address the need of parents on the wait list. This important workshop is held over the span of 6 individual sessions that cover topics such as managing toddler behavior, picky eaters and learning social play. These topics are covered in addition to receptive and expressive language. This year, RiteCare of Utah brought in local experts on the topics of picky eating and managing behavior. These experts donated their time to RiteCare of Utah in order to support our mission. This well received program has become an important way to provide parents with information and ideas while they wait between 6-8 months for services.
Summer Programs

RiteCare of Utah’s summer programs have become a reliable source of essential therapy services in both Ogden and Salt Lake.

# of Children per Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Skills Group</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articulation Group</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phonology Group</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year brought another addition to summer groups. It was noted during evaluations for placement in summer groups that there were a number of students who required intervention for limited language abilities. RiteCare of Utah in Ogden placed these students in 1 of 2 language groups: Tier 1 and Tier 2. Like the other summer groups, parent attendance and interaction is paramount. The language groups served to help those kids on our wait list who have delayed or disordered language. They may have all of their speech sounds, but they are unable to use language properly at home or in the classroom. Parents were provided with language rich activities to do at home in order to help facilitate better language development. This group was small, consisting of only 6 children, however the results were outstanding. Five of the six children in the group made marked progress on goals such as: attending in a group, following directions and using vocabulary to request.

Child Performance in Summer Groups

- Social Skills Group
- Language Group
- Phonology and Articulation Group
The gratitude I feel for the RiteCare program cannot be expressed in the words of a letter. I've never met any of the donors for this program but if I could I would give a hug to each one. The gift they have given my son is priceless.

-Teresa Nielsen
Parent of RiteCare student
Summary

The stories told by the numbers we report are powerful, but don’t fully tell the story of what we do at RiteCare of Utah. Each program we offer is designed to address the issues we are faced with at RiteCare. Our ever-growing wait list has been alleviated by the addition of more summer groups. The frustration of parents who are asked to wait for 6-8 months for services they desperately need are alleviated by our parent-training program.

This year, RiteCare of Utah and it’s therapists worked diligently to generate a program that would provide the best service to the most children. We saw a 16% increase in the number of total visits and a colossal 49% increase in the number of new students who started therapy. RiteCare of Utah has continued to face it’s difficulties with a positive attitude and a fortitude to work as a team to solve any obstacles. Our phenomenal staff has continued to set the standard for speech-language and reading therapy in the state of Utah.

If I only had the ability to properly convey the vital need our society has for the services that RiteCare of Utah offers, I would broadly publicize it. Our children need these services to be readily available for them. The future of our grand nation deserves to be afforded the tools they need for personal success, thereby contributing to the overall success of our nation.

-Sherina Garcia, Parent of RiteCare student
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