

A Word From the Executive Director



Dear friends, family, and staff of Third Way Center,

Happy New Year, and thank you for all your support!

It isn't about the people; it is about the right people in the right places. Our supporters, our Board of Directors, our generous donors, our incredibly dedicated staff, and these unbelievable kids who allow us into their lives are what make Third Way Center a success. As we all know, it's about the kids and our ability to meet their needs. It is about the quality of care. Hildegard taught us a long time ago that we mustn't get off track. We have to get beyond the behavior to understand what the problem is, and that they are always giving us clues. It is easy to go off in different directions, with the newest something, but the truth is- if we get the diagnosis correct, we have a better chance of knowing what to do. It's about their truth, and knowing what to do about it.

As I look over 2023, I see how much our Third Way Center team has accomplished. I see how many kids we have served, how many have jobs, graduated from high school, gone on to college, returned home, or emancipated. We are building up our workforce and getting more creative in managing our needs. We are managing new legislation that requires so much more paperwork, meetings, and oversight. We have jumped through all the hoops to get re-accredited as a quality organization- a requirement that we were doing before it was required. In addition, during this process, we were informed that our software platform was being discontinued, and we needed to find a new one and train staff within a very short time frame. And did I mention that we bought a building because we had grown out of our current admin space? We are in the process of expanding our PRTF by refurbishing the Bannock building. The program will be small and innovative. Everything seems to take more time than anticipated, but things are happening.

This year has been filled with changes, both exciting and a bit scary, planned and unplanned. Change means uncertainty, and uncertainty scares people. But then again, without change, there is no growth. We have grown, and we are continuing to grow. It is all of us together that makes it work.

So bring on 2024! We're ready and willing to take on the challenges and opportunities as they come, while continuing to protect our mission and vision to treat the most vulnerable kids and their families.