

A Word From the Executive Director



Happy November, where did the time go...

Dear Third Way Center staff, friends, and family,

True Grit was a success! The combination of real-life success stories, celebrating the women of Third Way, and making money for the kids. The celebration was energizing. Third Way Center is incredibly fortunate with support from our community, our Board, and our dedicated staff. So much light, in a world with so much uncertainty.

The kids who come to Third Way Center are quite remarkable. We don't choose them, they choose us. It is true that they may not have a choice in being placed with Third Way, but they do have a choice in staying and doing the work. Trauma is both unforgiving and unforgiven- without resolution, it will continue to cause havoc. There is shame involved for both the perpetrator and the victim. As Hildegard says, "No one screws up their life on purpose." Behavior has meaning. The kids who come to Third Way Center push limits, refuse, reject, and act out, and unless they choose to trust the process, we lose them. This takes resilient staff who have the courage to find the truth, hear the truth, and tell the truth. Then the trick is - what to do about it, which is always complicated. It is an honor when a kid chooses to trust in the process. We don't always know the impact, because it plays out in their journey as they grow up and live their life.

It takes a village. The Trailblazers serve many functions throughout the agency. We are fortunate to have such dedication, expertise, and a willingness to learn new skills along the way. The kids don't fit us; we fit the kids. Third Way Center has evolved and will continue to evolve because, just like our clients, we are a work in progress!