

Utah County nonprofit hopes to 'empower' families by providing them extra support

by Maren Jensen, KUTV

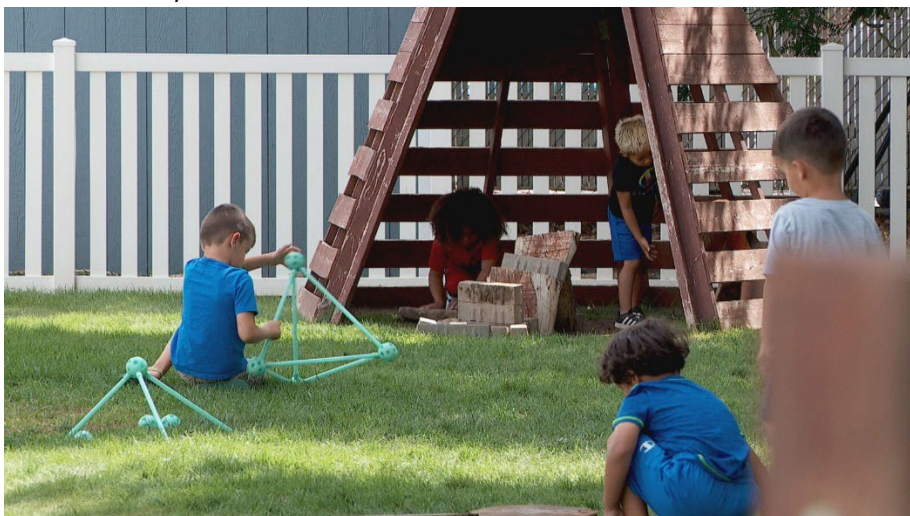
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Pay it Forward: Utah County nonprofit hopes to 'empower' families by providing them extra support (Photo: KUTV)

OREM, Utah (KUTV) — A Utah County nonprofit provides extra support to low income families or families who have children with special needs or disabilities.

"We are all about empowering families, one child at a time," said Rachelle Rutherford, CEO of Kids on the Move.



Kids on the Move has five "pillar" programs families can take advantage of.

- Early Head Start: The organization provides either home-based services or services at the center. The program supports children from birth to age 3 in their development.
- Early Intervention: Staff work with children from birth to three years old that have any type of delay or disability and provides services in the home.
- Autism Center: Children with autism receive one-on-one applied behavior analysis therapy. Program is funded through private insurance and private pay.
- Respite Care: Program for families that have a child with a disability who needs 24-7 care. Kids on the Move will care for the child while parents take a break for date nights, errands, and more.
- Child Care: Children of working parents receive care and education; also serves as on-site child care for Kids on the Move employees.

"They say it takes a village to raise a child, and we hope that Kids on the Move is that village for those families," Rutherford said.



Kids on the Move was started over 35 years ago by two moms who had children with special needs.

"When they looked for resources in the community, they realized there were not any resources," explained Rutherford.

Rutherford says 10 families participated in Kids on the Move during its beginnings. Now Kids on the Move serves about 2800 children each year.



"We are bursting at the seams," Rutherford said.

The organization plans to expand so they can help even more children learn and grow.

"That's the icing on the cake when we come back around and we see the impact and the changes that it's made," said Rutherford.

Kids on the Move relies on the community to help support a lot of its programs through volunteering, donations, and more. It also hopes the community will support them in the expansion process.



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[Mountain America Credit Union](#) donated \$500 to Kids on the Move so they can continue to help families.

If you want to help out, donate, or learn more, visit the [Kids on the Move website](#).