

WV BIRTH TO THREE RAU IV NEWSLETTER

SERVING: BOONE, CABELL, LINCOLN, LOGAN, MASON, MINGO, PUTNAM, AND WAYNE COUNTIES

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2025



Questions about your child reaching developmental milestones? Here are a few important milestones to look for. First two months:

- -Looks at your face
- -Reacts to loud sounds
- 6 Months:
- -Knows familiar people
- -Rolls from tummy to back
- 12 months:
- -Pulls to a stand
- -Plays games like pat-a-cake 18 months:
- -Points to show you something interesting
- -Tries to use a spoon If you would like to learn more about our program and services that we may be able to provide your child, please contact at us at the numbers listed.

Want to Make a **BTT Referral?** Scan the OR Code



Reminders

- 1. RAU IV Updates
- 2. Staff Directory
- 3.-4. Birth to Three Families
- 5. Co. Parenting Article
- 6.-7. Welcome to RAU IV
- 8. Motor Play Ideas
- 9. Community Resources
- 10. RAU IV Contact Information

RAU IV Contact Information

304-523-5444 (Office) 304-523-5556 (Fax) 866-982-8855 (Toll free)





For information regarding upcoming events, like and follow us on Facebook https://www.rvcds.org/wvbtt

Contact Info



Parent Partner Hanna Clendenin hclendenin@rvcds.org 304-643-7580



RAU IV Staff Directory

Fax: 523-6555

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RAU IV Director

Interim Service Coordinators



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Amanda Aliff

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Cell: 304-545-7387



Kim Handley Email: khandley@rvcds.org Cell: 304-690-0562



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Kathy Carrio Email: kcarrio@rvcds.org Cell: 304-633-4300

Shannon Baldwin Email: sbaldwin@rvcds.org Office: 304-523-5444

Administrative Assistant



Shelly Crisp Email: scrisp@rvcds.org Office: 304-523-5444

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Data Entry Specialists

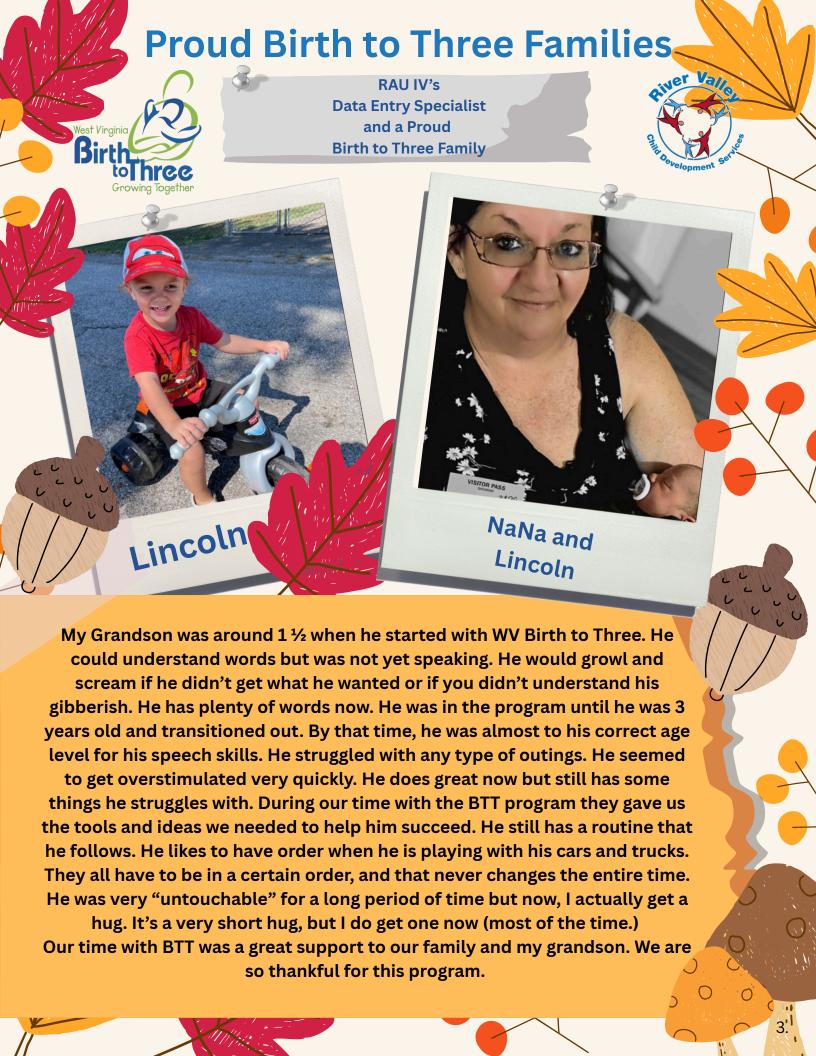
Rhelda Furnari



Paula Thompson Email: rau4data@rvcds.org Office: 304-523-5444

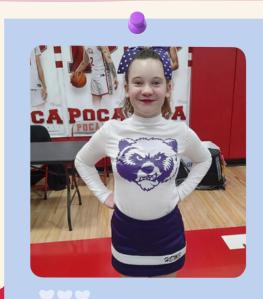


Noah Woodrum Email: rau4data@rvcds.org Office: 304-523-5444





and a Proud **Birth to Three Family**



Kennedy



Kennedy's time with BTT



West Virginia

ving Together

Mom and Kennedy

My youngest daughter, Kennedy, had the benefit of BTT services when she was around 3 months old. She was 3 weeks premature and weighed only 4lb 10oz at birth. Although she was very healthy and growing at her own slow pace, we started to notice that she was falling behind on meeting some of her milestones, as compared to her two older sisters. She was having trouble making eye contact, tracking things with her eyes, and falling behind on gross motor skills. We mentioned it to our pediatrician, and they referred us to BTT. We absolutely loved our experience! Everyone was so kind and patient as they explained everything they could help us with. We loved the convenience of having them come to the house. She was always so excited to see them. When I got a job at a daycare center and was able to bring her there with me, they were able to come to the childcare center as well to show the teachers how they could help support her development, just like they did with me at home. They always kept me updated on the things they worked on with her. She was able to catch up in no time, exiting the program at 16 months old. Now that I work for BTT, I feel it helps me relate to families a little more because I know how they might be feeling, and some of the questions they might have, since I was there once myself. Kennedy's PT is still working with BTT and I've even gotten the pleasure of

having her on several of the teams I have worked with! Kennedy is now 12 years old and is a cheerleader for her middle school team.

CO-PARENTING - BEING ON THE SAME PAGE IS IMPORTANT

Birth LoThree
Growing Together

Most of our young children have more than one person who acts in the role of parent. We often hear the term "co-parenting" when families divorce or separate. However, it is really more about the process of partnering around parenting. Whether it is Mom, Dad, Grandma, an Aunt, a babysitter, or even a foster family in the mix, consistency across caregivers is essential for our little ones. When expectations are the same in those different "homes" it will help you to grow healthy, confident and productive little people! What are some things to consider when you are sharing the all important job of raising children together?

Open communication is key between all caregivers. Children are having to adjust between different places and expectations. Work with all the people caring for your child to decide how you will all co-parent them. A meeting between the caregivers to decide on the big stuff helps to keep the best interest of your child in the forefront of everyone's mind.

·What are the basic rules? Examples:

- o When is bedtime?
- o What time do we eat meals what foods does the child eat, how much and how are they fed?
 - o What are the child's chores?
 - o How much tv/game time is allowed?
 - o How are we going to potty train?

·What are consequences when a child pushes the boundaries? When it becomes necessary to discipline a child the adults who are sharing the responsibility of caring for them must be on the same page. Limits and consequences must be the same across caregivers.

- o Discuss all perspectives on discipline
- o Agree on what strategies might be used when and stick to it!

·Have one another's back! Don't let the child manipulate or play caregivers against one another. No means no and help the little one understand that this is not ok and the decision stands. This also goes to reason that all caregivers should be supporting the decisions of you as their parent!

Ultimately you are guiding this process for your child.

·Have it all written down. Whether it is a paper calendar, or an app, keep track of where kids are and who they are with, including who is going to get them there. Also, all the decisions about the shared expectations – write them down and share with everyone!

Effective communication can take many forms but use the same one consistently. Texts, instant messaging, an electronic or paper notebook – whatever you choose, make sure that it goes back and forth between "homes" and ensure that everyone knows what they need to be sharing with the other caregivers. This should include important care activities (i.e., how many bottles today, when they were last fed, how long was their nap) and a way of sharing pictures and those sweet stories of what happens during the day.

Handle disagreements with maturity – When there are adults trying to agree on what's best, there will be disagreements! Keep baby in mind and be respectful of the idea's others have. Come to an agreement everyone can live with and support. It's important for the child to see their adults in a unified front. Don't throw their other folks under the bus – that frustration will impact the child's feelings about the other person.

Express gratitude, always! Say thank you and remember that you have an amazing group of people coming together to love your little one. Being a parent involves countless decisions and is exhausting! Having a group of caregivers to have your back and your baby's can make all the difference.

References

Boy's Town (n.d.). Co-Parenting: two different households, one parenting approach. Retrieved from: https://www.parenting.org/article/Pages/co-parenting-two-different-households-one-parenting-approach.aspx

Daughtry, T (n.d.). How to raise children between two homes. Retrieved from https://www.imom.com/how-to-taise-children-between-two-homes/ Kinsner, K. (August 14, 2019). Coparenting: are you on the same page? Retrieved from https://www.zerotothree.org/resource/coparenting-are-you-on-the-same-page/ Parlakian, R. (August 19, 2019). Copareting tips when you're no longer together. Retrieved from https://www.zerotothree.org/resource/coparenting-tips-when-youre-no-longer-

Smolarski, A. (January 27, 2024). Two homes, two sets of rules. Retrieved from https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/cooperative-co-parenting-for-secure-kids/202401/two

WELCOME TO RAU IV



Email: sbaldwin@rvcds.org
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Fax: 304-523-5556
Serving: Boone, Cabell, Lincoln,
Logan, Mason, Mingo, Putnam and
Wayne Counties

MEET RAU IV Birth Toping Together SHANNON BALDWIN

HELLO, BIRTH TO THREE COMMUNITY! MY NAME IS SHANNON BALDWIN, AND I'M THRILLED TO SERVE AS THE NEW DIRECTOR OF RAU IV!

A LITTLE ABOUT ME: I'M A PROUD GRADUATE OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY WHERE I EARNED MY **BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS** AND A MASTER'S DEGREE IN PRESCHOOL SPECIAL **EDUCATION. FOR THE PAST 18 YEARS, I'VE WORKED** FOR RIVER VALLEY CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AT LINK CCR&R, SPENDING 15 OF THOSE YEARS AS A BEHAVIORAL CONSULTANT AND THE LAST 3 YEARS AS THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM SUPERVISOR, I ALSO HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING AS A BIRTH TO THREE PRACTITIONER FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS, SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AS A DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST, THOSE **EXPERIENCES ARE WHERE I TRULY DISCOVERED MY** HEART FOR THIS WORK AND WHY I'M SO EXCITED TO **FOCUS MY CAREER ON SUPPORTING FAMILIES DURING** THESE EARLY, IMPORTANT YEARS.

FUN FACTS ABOUT ME

MY FAVORTIVE COLOR IS NAVY BLUE.

MY HUSBAND AND I FIRST MET IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. WE WENT TO A 6TH GRADE DANCE TOGETHER AND IT ONLY TOOK HIM 33 YEARS TO ASK ME OUT ON A SECOND DATE.

MY SON IS 17 AND STARTING HIS SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL....CUE THE PROUD MOM TEARS!

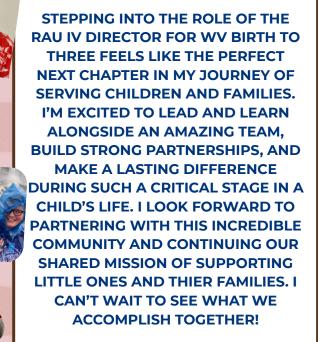
WE HAVE THE SWEETEST PUP NAMED PICKLES WHO THINKS EVERYONE HE MEETS IS HIS BEST FRIEND.

I HAVE NEVER MET A DONUT I DIDN'T LIKE, AND COFFEE IS MY LOVE LANGUAGE...GIVE ME BOTH AND I'M CONVINCED I COULD RULE THE WORLD!

I ENJOY TRAVELING WITH MY FAMILY, BINGEING SHOWS ON NETFLIX, AND WORKING PUZZLES OF ANY KIND (JIGSAW, SUDOKU, BRAIN TEASERS...I WANT THEM ALL!)

MY PERFECT DAY? A COUNTRY DRIVE WITH THE WINDOWS DOWN, DOLLY PARTON ON THE SPEAKERS, AND COWS IN MY SIGHTS!

AND FINALLY...I HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR GOOD PUNS AND DAD JOKES, SO PREPARE YOURSELVES!





WELCOME TO

RAU IV



Email: kcarrico@rvcds.org Office: 304-523-5444

> Cell: 304-633-4300 Fax: 304-523-5556



Meet RAU 4's Interim Service

Birth Kathy Carrico

Hello! My name is Kathy Carrico, and I am from South Point, OH. I am a graduate of Marshall University with degrees in Communication Disorders and Early Childhood Special Education.

I am the proud pet parent of two rescue dogs and have volunteered as a foster parent for animal rescues, as well as the Huntington Cabell Wayne Animal Shelter. Though I am currently taking a break from fostering, I still volunteer when possible.

I am a huge fan of auto racing. I used to live in Charlotte, NC within 3 miles of the Charlotte Motor Speedway. I loved when race events were in town and got to meet visitors from all over. I love to travel, and my top bucket list destination is the Australia Zoo, home of the Crocodile Hunter.

My career has always focused on working with young children and families. I believe parents are a child's first and best teacher. I love being part of a program that provides families with the tools needed to help their child be the best they can be.

Fun Facts About Me

My favorite color is blue My favorite food is hot dogs from The Shakery

My favorite drink is lemonade I love to read and go to the movies My favorite book is "A Court of Silver Flames" by Sarah J. Maas

I have two senior rescue dogs- Tyson and Bella

I like to listen to music. My favorite artist right now is Queen

Spring is my favorite season

I love to spend time with my family anytime, but family dinners and the holidays are my favorite

I am a Philadelphia Eagles fan

What Being an ISC Means to Me

I'm truly looking forward to getting to know the families I'll be working with. Building those relationships is such an important part of supporting children in meaningful ways. I'm excited to learn how I can best support each child's unique journey in development. I love getting to know families and hearing their stories. We're all similar, but different, and can all learn from each other. It's such a privilege to be able to help little ones grow and develop into the best version they can be. Watching children discover the world around them, whether it's through play, curiosity, or connection, is incredibly rewarding. I am looking forward to helping families access the services and supports they need.



PLAY TIME FUN

Helping develop your

child's motor skills





Family Fun Ideas





COLLECT ACORNS & FALL LEAVES



PICK PEACHES & APPLES



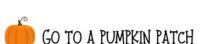


BAKE PUMPKIN PIE

GO ON A HAY RIDE



MAKE FALL & HALLOWEEN CRAFTS



DRINK APPLE CIDER



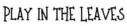
ROAST PUMPKIN SEEDS



CARVE PUMPKINS



MAKE PUMPKIN RECIPES





DECORATE THE HOUSE IN FALL OR HALLOWEEN DECOR



omrefreshed.com





Gross Motor Fall Tree Activity For Toddlers







COMMUNITYRESOUR



Family Support Center

Jacquie Clevenger- 304-307-2309 jacquie_clevenger@boonefsc.com

Family Resource Network

DarynAnn Washington - 304-539-9518

pwc@regionalfrn.org

Cornerstones Parents as Teachers

Cheyanne Booth - 304-369-5283 cheyannecooper@cfiwv.org

Putnam County

<u>Family Support Center</u> Steve Legg or Amber Nunn -304-936-1048 sputnamfsc@gmail.com

Family Resource Network

DarynAnn Washington - 304-539-9518 pwc@regionalfrn.org

Healthy Families Mountain State

Tammy Rogers - 304-857-0020 ext. 300 tammy@teamwv.org

Logan County

Family Support Center

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acopley@stepbystepwv.org

Family Resource Network

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Healthy Families

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Cabell County

Family Support Centers

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Family Support Center Amber Payton - 304-855-5402

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Healthy Families Mountain State

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Mason County

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Family Resource Network

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Healthy Families Mountain State

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Mingo County

Family Support Center

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<u>Family Resource Network</u>

Amy Dearfield Hannah -

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ABLE Families Parents as Teachers

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Wayne County

Family Support Center

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Family Resource Network

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Healthy Families

Mountain State

Paula Newsome -

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RAU IV Data Entry Email:

rau4data@rvcds.org

- Accepting all data submissions related to intake and ongoing services
- Accepting new referrals, requests for records and referral status updates

RAU IV Parent Partner

Email: hclendenin@rvcds.org

- Phone by calling the office number
- Cell by calling 304-634-7580
- For information on Birth to Three Family Events
- For any community resources and community events

RAU IV Administrative Assistant

Email: scrisp@rvcds.org

 Contact by calling our office number to make a referral by the phone, help with scheduling an appointment, or needing general BTT info

For more information or to refer a child who may need help with their development call 304-523-5444 or email rau4data@rvcds.org.