

NM PRADER-WILLI SYNDROME PROJECT

OCTOBER 2020

The Season of Change!

At the end of the month the Project will be experiencing a change in staffing that we want to inform you, our wonderful clients and families, about. Hillary Shuert, the current Coordinator, will be leaving the Project at the end of the month (October 30th). The Project is excited to welcome Giovanna Bourguet to the team in the meantime and we will be working hard over the next month on sharing important case information and updates. Both Hillary and Giovanna would like to share a bit about these changes in this month's newsletter-

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for a wonderful 2 years here with the Project. Each of you have showed me what it means to be resilient, optimistic, and compassionate no matter what life throws at you. Your warm, welcoming smiles won't soon be forgotten! It is bittersweet to leave such a wonderful group of people. My family and I are expecting a new baby this November and we are looking forward to this new adventure and chapter in our life! I will be diligent in working with and preparing Giovanna this next month so that we can ensure a smooth transition. I truly believe you will all enjoy getting to know her; she exhibits a hardworking dedication to helping individuals and families. I don't think we could've found someone as kind as Giovanna to take on the Coordinator role! I hope you will warmly welcome her to your teams and families in November.

I wish each of you all the best! -Hillary

My name is Giovanna Bourguet and I will be the new PWS Project Coordinator beginning in November. Thank you for the opportunity to work with you and your families – I am grateful and excited! Let me share a little bit about my background. I attended UNM and received a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in family studies with a concentration in human development. My education and experience as a student teacher greatly increased my awareness of just how integral our families, schools, and larger communities are to each of us as we learn and grow. After I graduated, I stumbled upon ARCA and decided to see where it would take me. I started as the Family Based Services Support Department Coordinator, primarily scheduling respite for children and adults in our program based on their individualities and supports. Last year, I moved into a Program Manager position and have been working with individuals on the DDW and their teams to help promote their happiness and health in all areas of life. In my two years at ARCA, I have developed a great appreciation for this diverse and amazing community. Now, I look forward to this new role and getting to know you and your loved ones. Please do not hesitate to reach out and introduce yourself!



