

Process Paper

The Capper Foundation has broken barriers allowing life changing opportunities for children, families and communities with disabilities. The organization started as the Capper Fund, in 1920, using the money from Arthur Capper's top desk drawer to pay for the surgeries and transportation of the children with polio. In 1934, the Capper Fund switched to the Capper Foundation for Crippled Children. Today, the Capper Foundation not only helps children, but adults as well. Also, they not only help people with polio, they help people with all disabilities.

We chose our topic because we thought more people should know about what Arthur Capper did to help children; he paid for their expenses from his personal money because he cared about having the children to be as healthy as possible. We also thought that it is an extraordinary local topic, since the capper foundation still provides services in Topeka today.

To do our research, we conducted an interview with Edie Smith, the Vice President of development and marketing at the Capper Foundation, and she provided a lot of very valuable information. We were also very lucky to find a book of Arthur Capper's addresses and messages when he was governor. This book had a lot of speeches that he gave but the one that was the most valuable was the one titled "A Vision for the Young In Kansas".

We decided to do a group website because we thought it would be the best way to display our information. We found a lot of pictures that we could use, and we were able to put an audio clip of our interview with Edie Smith.

The Capper Fund and the Capper Foundation have helped children diagnosed with polio and other disabilities since 1920, and continue to help children and adults today. In 1920, the Capper Fund not only impacted the children and families that had polio, but influenced other

civic groups to help the children as well. Arthur Capper had passed away in 1951, but he still wasn't done impacting the citizens of Topeka's lives, he left assets to purchase a campus at 3500 SW 10th Avenue. This was very important because the Capper Foundation is still located and providing services there too.

The Capper Foundation has provided opportunities for people with disabilities. Some wouldn't have been able to break these barriers in their life without the help of physical therapy, speech therapy, and other services provided by the Capper Foundation. The Capper Foundation is a very important part of our community, helping the disabled to become the best version of themselves.