



Children's TherAplay
The Children's TherAplay Foundation, Inc.

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Exciting things from 2022.

The best part of my job at Children's TherAplay is the opportunities I have to see our mission in action. All the smiles, the laughter, not to mention the sheer grit these children demonstrate when working one on one with our skilled therapists, or with our equine team in the barn and the arena...it's impossible not to feel inspired. Seeing children who experience so many challenges in life receiving therapy which opens them up to so many possibilities reinforces a quote I have always loved, *"stop thinking in terms of limitations and start thinking in terms of possibilities."* – Terry Josephson

The children and families at Children's TherAplay are a powerful witness to hope for us all, and they are the fuel behind our commitment to look past what might limit us and explore all possibilities when it comes to meeting their unique needs.

With this commitment, in 2022 we began raising funds for the third and final phase of our capital project, a new Community Engagement Center space that will be built on the north end of our current building. The center will provide opportunities for families and the community to participate in workshops, education, and social engagement, and will also include an expanded physical therapy gym.

We are very excited about all the possibilities which will exist for Children's TherAplay to serve the whole family unit more holistically in this new space.

There is energy and excitement in striving toward what's possible. I continue to see that play out here every day through the kids we serve. Our ability to keep striving for our families is made possible because of the generous support of our incredible donors. You provide hope in ways you might never fully realize, but it lives here every day, and we thank you!



Kathy Pelletier

Executive Director



MISSION + VISION + VALUES

Our Mission

The mission of The Children's TherAplay Foundation, Inc. is to provide individualized skill development for children with disabilities and/or unique needs through physical, occupational and speech therapies using a horse as a treatment tool in a safe and caring environment.

Our Vision

The vision for The Children's TherAplay Foundation, Inc. is for all children with disabilities and/or unique needs and their families to have access to the therapies they need to thrive.

Our Values

Empowerment: We connect with others with dignity & respect while promoting each individual's growth & self-direction.

Quality: We deliver our best in all we do, acting with intention & holding ourselves accountable for the results.

Inclusivity: We foster a culture of compassion & care where everyone can feel like they belong.

Learning: We are dedicated to seeking and sharing knowledge that helps us deliver innovative care to improve outcomes.

Collaboration: We partner with caregivers, fellow team members, & the community to further our mission.



2022 IMPACT REPORT



2022 was another year of tremendous growth, and we knew it was time to start serving our kiddo families more holistically. We expanded our parent education series to offer presentations from therapists on topics of interest to our families, and we included childcare onsite for their convenience.

Our Trauma-Informed Care Specialist began serving more kiddos with adverse childhood experiences, and in June 2022 we piloted our first Trauma-Informed Care Camp in partnership with Bronchos Have Heart in Lafayette, IN.

In December 2022, we enhanced our capacity-building program, and began plans to offer Therapeutic Animal-Assisted Groundwork (TAAG) sessions, which allow 80 more children each week to access the movement of a horse in their treatment plan.

We invested in our staff by spending \$4,122 on continuing education for individual staff members and \$16,310 for all-staff trainings. These trainings included American Hippotherapy Association classes, staff retreats, and leadership trainings.



11,350

total therapy sessions provided

35%

increase in therapy sessions provided over 3 years

311

unique clients served

71

children served through Trauma-Informed Care

68

kids graduated after achieving their goals

100%

parents reporting patient satisfaction

"...we noticed Denea (pictured above) began to say 'Miss Jackie', 'Miss Joanna' or 'Miss Karina' instead of 'ride horse'. That is the core goal for Denea since autistic kids tend to focus on objects rather than people. She just amazingly opens her mind to engage with people through hippotherapy at TherAplay!"

-Jing, Denea's Mom

Diversity, Equity + Inclusion Initiatives

- Piloted our first **Trauma-Informed Care Camp**, which welcomed 40 students from diverse backgrounds to experience our environment.
- **Created a Transportation Program** to disperse gas and ride-share cards to families experiencing transportation barriers.
- **Created a more inclusive event experience** by providing access decking for individuals in wheelchairs to navigate our sand footing in the arena.
- For the second year in a row, **Our Scholarship Fund distributed \$15,000 in financial aid to families.** We awarded 100% of financial requests received.

70%

of families served are on Indiana
Medicaid

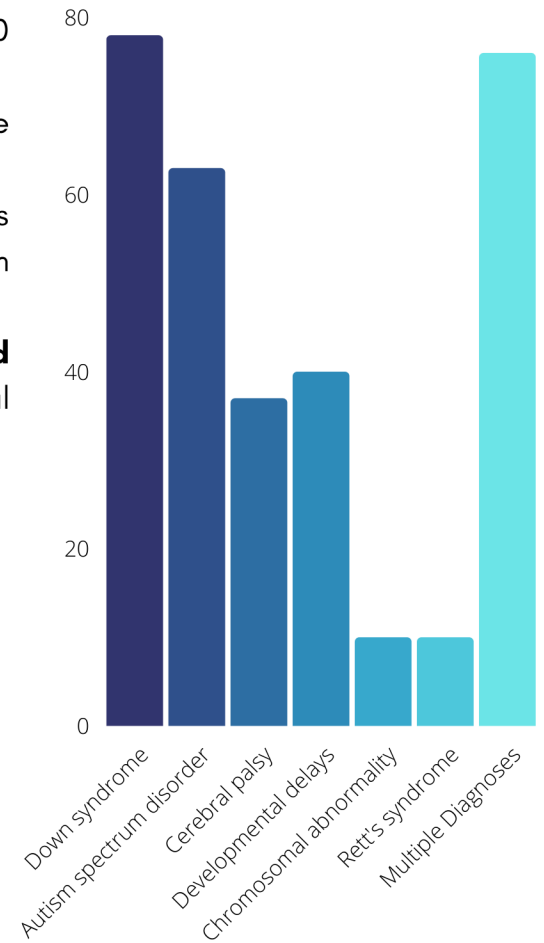


Community Outreach

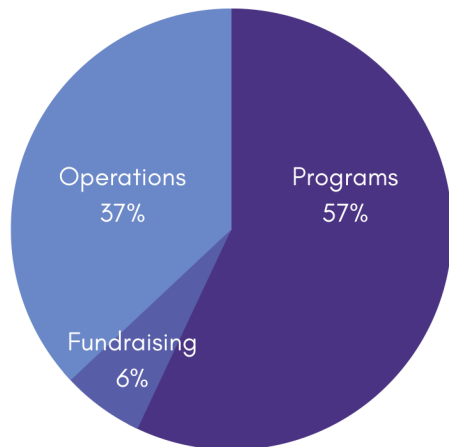
We also connected with our community. We had 81 physicians in the greater Indianapolis community refer children for therapy services. Our therapists hosted educational in-services for parents and staff on topics like caregiver mental health, service animals, communication devices, and developmental floor time.

Further, in Fall 2022 we hosted the American Hippotherapy Association Level II Clinic, which welcomed 16 therapists from across the country into our facility to sharpen their skills and learn best practices in the field. We also had a record number of active volunteers and volunteer hours logged. Community support continues to help Children's TherAplay thrive!

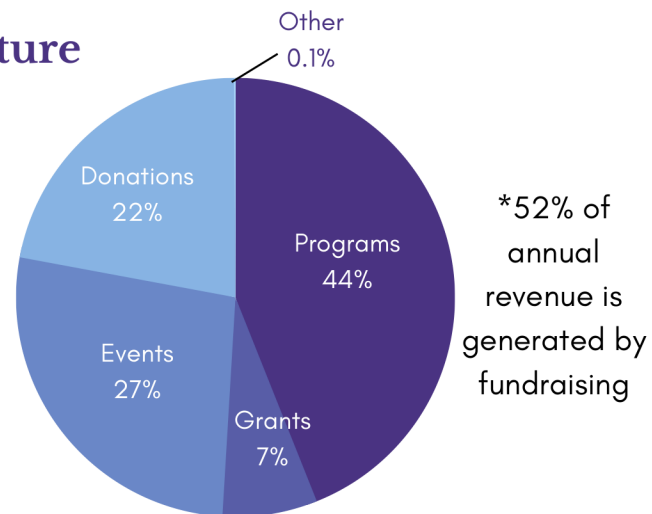
Diagnoses Served



Our Financial Picture



TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE: \$2,373,035



TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE: \$2,518,040

***52% of
annual
revenue is
generated by
fundraising**

VOLUNTEERS

183

active volunteers in 2022

4,261

volunteer hours logged in
2022

\$63,915

dollars saved by
volunteer hours

The Value of Volunteers

Children's TherAplay is driven by the generosity of our volunteers. There are many ways to get involved and give back through your time and talent.



Sidewalking

Sidewalking is our biggest volunteer need—we require at least 10 volunteer sidewalkers every day! Sidewalkers walk alongside the horse during a therapy session and assist the therapist by providing support and ensuring client safety.

Event Support

Individuals join planning committees or volunteer to set-up, tear-down, or run a station at any of our signature fundraising events throughout the year.

Weekend Barn Support

Individuals help on weekend mornings to assist our barn staff care for the herd. These volunteers replenish shavings, dump and fill water buckets, help with turn-out, and perform light stall work.

Special Projects

Everyone is welcome! We host groups of up to 10 people throughout the year, or pick a time with your co-workers for your team to rotate coming in to volunteer.



MEET VOLUNTEERS JACKIE & BRAD

Jackie and Brad Donaldson are a husband and wife volunteer duo that have been at Children's TherAplay for over a year. The Donaldsons are both retired and have a love for horses. Their love of horses and children is what led them to Children's TherAplay – which happened to be just down the road from them! When asked their favorite thing about volunteering at Children's TherAplay Jackie responded, "When you leave here it's such an uplifting place. You can't be sad or mad!" Thank you to Jackie and Brad for your commitment to serving Children's TherAplay!



EQUINE PROGRAM

Our Four Legged Friends

Our equine herd is an essential part of the Children's TherAplay team. Many of our horses are in their second, third, or fourth career, and providing carefully graded motor and sensory input for our kiddos gives them great purpose as a therapy horse. Each horse has a unique personality, gait, and tempo making it easy to match each kiddo to the horse who will best fit their therapy goals. Thank you to all our generous 2022 horse funders!

2022 Therapy Horse Herd & Their Funders



Beau

generously funded by:
**Sean Sample in
honor of Connor &
Scarlett Sample**



Pony Boy

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Kipper

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Lacey

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Tash

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Moe

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Music

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Willow

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Padre

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Ella

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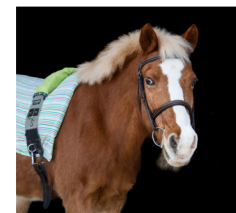
Red

generously funded by:
Leslie Ackerman



Luna

generously funded by:
Teri Kraft



Nemo

generously funded by:
Teri Kraft

MEET KIDDO LUKE

Kiddo Ambassador Luke is a fun-loving, playful, goofy kid who is always looking to make others laugh. He has a big imagination, and loves to play outdoors with his two older siblings and be with his family. Above all else? Luke is simply a kind and grateful little boy.

"No matter what Luke accomplishes or not, something I'm very proud of is just what a kind person he is," Mom said. "He will go out of his way to share with people or make people feel included. Honestly, he would give you his shirt if you needed it!"

Luke's Mom knew he would need some early intervention therapy, and began seeking out therapy options. After spending lots of hours in and out of traditional medical offices, Mom started seeking out something that might seem a bit more fun for Luke.

"As a kiddo who has been brought to therapy his whole life, he's brought to a lot of sterile, clinic settings. He was constantly going back with all different people into these small rooms, and asked to do all this hard stuff," Mom said. "I was looking for something that felt a little more like being a kid. [Children's] TherAplay felt like a great place to add something more."

Luke's Mom was familiar with horses and thought TherAplay could be a great place to fill Luke's sensory bucket. Once Luke began hippotherapy, the benefits were obvious.

"I saw the benefits of how much riding the horse tapped into his ability to grow in the clinic session," Mom said. "It really reinforced how important it was to have both hippotherapy and the clinical therapy working side by side because it helped him actually access a lot of his tools that were harder for him to access without being able to have that sensory regulation prior to going back to the clinic."

Over the next year as a Kiddo Ambassador, Mom says they have big goals in physical and speech therapy. And although Luke might face challenges, he does so with gratitude.

"I think it's just good for him and his own spirit that that's the way he sees life, is that there's so much to be grateful for," Mom said. "That's just how he looks at things."

- Erin, Luke's Mom



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