



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

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Letter from the Executive Director



For 25 years, our community of supporters has worked together to create a unique therapeutic farm environment where therapy feels like play, dreams feel attainable, and every child who comes through our door is celebrated for exactly who they are.

At Children's TherAplay, miracles have unfolded in the quiet, powerful moments between a child and a horse. What may look like a simple horse ride is so often something extraordinary, a first step taken after months of effort, a word spoken with newfound confidence, a smile that reflects a breakthrough once thought out of reach. Each of these moments tells a story of resilience, trust, and possibility.

As we celebrate this milestone year, we are filled with deep gratitude for the children and families who invite us into their journeys, for the dedicated team who makes this work possible, and for the community whose belief in our mission has sustained and strengthened it for a quarter century.

Children's TherAplay has been on a remarkable ride, and we are deeply grateful to every person who has trusted us to turn their generosity into action, bringing hope and possibility to children with disabilities and their families. But this journey is far from over. In many ways, it is just the beginning. There is still important work ahead and many more children who need the life-changing impact of our mission. We invite you to continue alongside us as we build the next chapter, ensuring not only the strength of the next 25 years, but the enduring legacy of the work we have done so far!

Cheers to 25 years!

Kathy Pelletier
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.



2025 Impact Report

2025 was a year of new beginnings, record breaking moments, and deepened engagement. We provided physical, occupational, and speech therapy services to our highest number of kiddos and saw a rise in support from our incredible donors and volunteers.

In 2025, we also opened the doors to our new Dobbs and Towriss Family Community Engagement Center (CEC), closing out the third and final phase of our Capital Campaign. After operating during construction for months, we opened the CEC just in time for our Hoe-Down Event. The 23rd annual Hoe-Down was also an exciting moment for us as we watched the community come together and raise a record-breaking \$740,000! We are excited for the opportunities these milestones will provide to children with disabilities.

10,848
total therapy sessions provided

360
unique clients served

79
kids graduated after achieving their goals

59%
of families served are on Indiana Medicaid

"Asher (pictured below) currently attends services at TherAplay four out of five days each week. These therapies are not just helpful, they are essential. They allow Asher to gain strength, improve mobility, and work toward greater independence in all aspects of his daily life. The therapists do not just provide care, they build relationships, encourage confidence, and truly see each child for who they are." - Asher's Parents



Belonging and Access Initiatives

- In 2025, we continued our participation in the Youth Worker Well-being Project to provide our staff with **peer support groups, telemedicine benefits, and mental health services.**
- Through a grant from the Indiana Youth Institute, we offered 3 additional **mental health days** for all full-time therapy and barn staff to help prioritize employee well-being.
- Our **Transportation Program distributed \$600** in gas and ride share cards to families experiencing transportation barriers.
- For the fifth year in a row, **Our Scholarship Fund awarded 100% of financial requests received**, helping to reduce financial barriers and make therapy more accessible

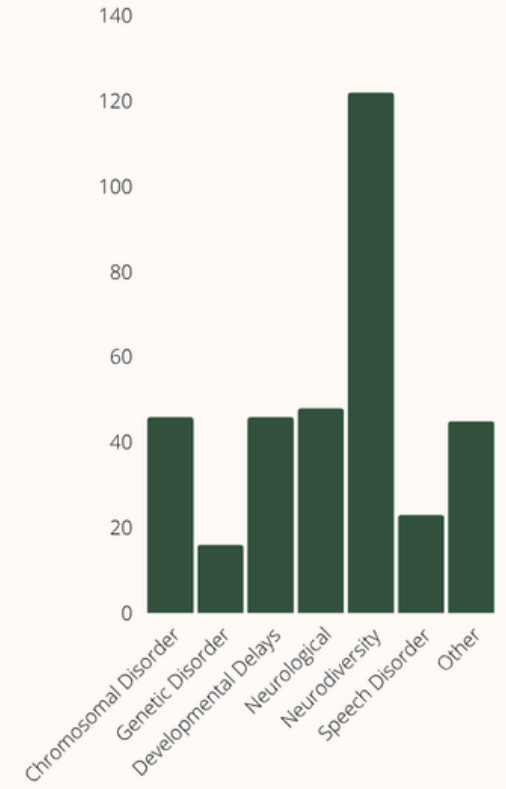
Community Outreach

We also connected with our community. In 2025, Children's TherAplay participated in over 10 community events hosted by other organizations, including Easterseals' All Abilities Day at the Indiana State Fair. We also partnered with 35 organizations and businesses to bring community resources to our families during our Horsepower event.

In Fall 2025 we, once again, 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. Community support continues to help Children's TherAplay grow!

Who We Serve*

*Based on Primary Diagnoses



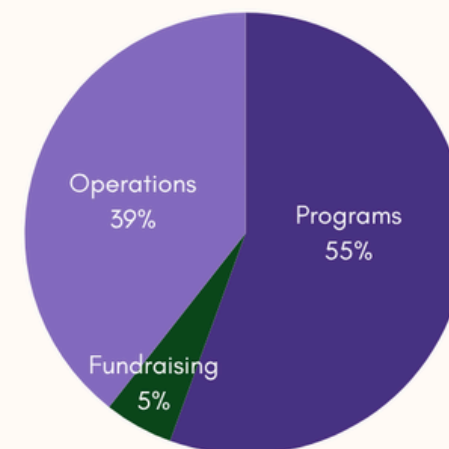
Common Diagnoses Served*

*Based on Primary and Secondary Diagnoses

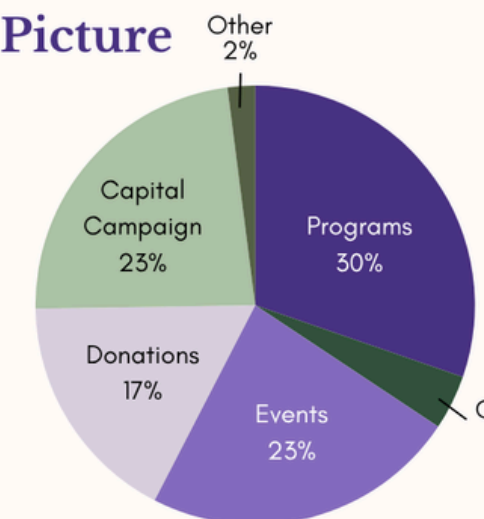
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ADHD
- Cerebral Palsy
- Delayed Milestones
- Down Syndrome
- Mixed Receptive-Expressive Language Disorder

Our Financial Picture

*Unaudited



TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE: \$2,826,646



TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE: \$3,899,359

*67% of annual revenue is generated by fundraising

VOLUNTEERS



EQUINE PROGRAM

Our Four Legged Friends



Meet Alison

Alison has been volunteering at TherAplay for over 2 years. She helps with sidewalking, TAAG, and barn support!

"Every single day I leave TherAplay, I am smiling because of all of the interactions I had. I am grateful to be able to be involved with such an impactful organization!" -Alison

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 and groups support our fundraising events throughout the year. These volunteers join planning committees, help to set-up or tear-down, and/or run a station during an event.



Pictured above: Volunteers Jacques and Suzanne at the 2025 Hoe-Down event.

Barn Support

Individuals assist our barn staff in caring for the herd. These volunteers replenish shavings, dump and fill water buckets, help with turn-out, grooming, and perform stall work.

TAAG

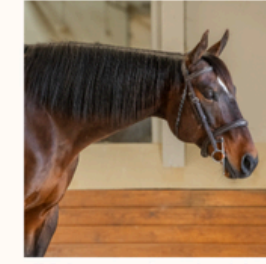
Individuals help run our Therapeutic Animal Assisted Groundwork program. These trained volunteers assist kiddo's and therapist's work on therapy goals off the horse by practicing grooming, leading, and other skills.



Barbie funded by: Hayden Haddad Bishop in honor of Lillian & Kinley



Beau funded by: NextGear Capital



Chipper funded by: The Gerald & Adele Kraft Foundation



Coco funded by: The Phil & Sharen Meyers Living Trust in honor of Ally, Livy, Luke, & Kenzy



Ella funded by: NextGear Capital



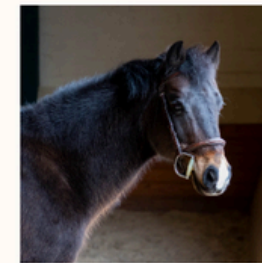
Giuseppe funded by: Tom & Kelly supporting the horses who inspire us every day



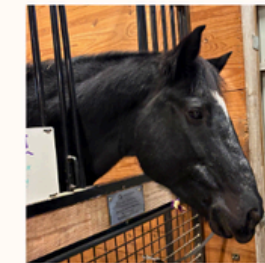
Jade funded by: Dillon, Jana, & Tim Wiley Kathy Wiley Smith The Richardson Family; & Copper Creek Canyon



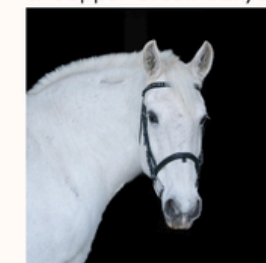
Janey Ray 2025 Horse of the Year (In loving memory 2009-2025)



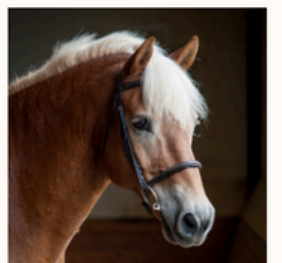
Kipper funded by: Mary, Ray, Kevin & Bridget Kennedy Mike & Anne Kennedy, Tom & Debbie Shine, Steve & Heather Douglas



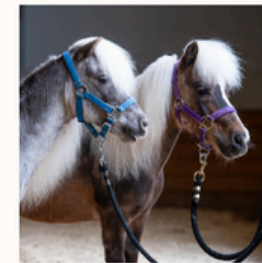
Kira funded by: Hank & Jayma Meyers in honor of Rylee & Coen Bauer



Luna funded by: Copper Creek Canyon & Mudsock Fest



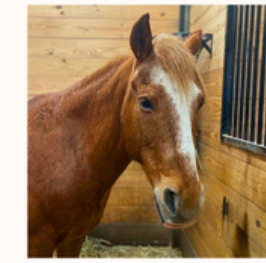
Moe (retired) funded by: Hank & Jayma Meyers



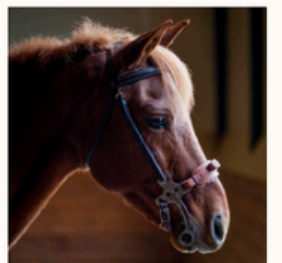
Peanut & Banana funded by: Ilene & Karl Smith Michael & Karen Schankerman



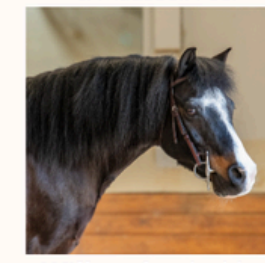
Pony Boy (retired) funded by: Barb Bixler in honor of Evelyn & Isadora Dock; & Mudsock Fest



Prince funded by: The Tom & Mary Catterson Fund



Red (retired) funded by: Leslie Ackerman



Willow funded by: SOL Foundation



Zella funded by: The Phil & Sharen Meyers Living Trust in honor of Ally, Livy, Luke, & Kenzy

168

Active volunteers

23

Volunteer Groups

76

New Volunteers

5,211

Volunteer hours logged

MEET KIDDO HANNAH ➔



Kiddo Hannah is a happy, determined five-year-old who loves singing and dancing (especially to her favorite artists, Taylor Swift and Laurie Berkner)! She also enjoys helping her parents and being a big sister!

"She loves people and music," Mom said. "She loves interacting with people in general, whether it be here, with her friends at school, or her brother and sister."

Hannah has Down Syndrome, a speech delay, and some lower muscle tone (hypotonia). She started First Steps and Early Intervention at 6 weeks old for physical therapy (PT), followed by occupational therapy (OT) at 5 months, and speech therapy at about a year. Hannah joined TherAplay shortly after turning two, and has been working with PT Nikee ever since!

Mom said, "I work in the medical field and do not take that continuity for granted. She's seen Nikee almost every week for about 4 years."

Currently in PT, Hannah is working on overall strength and stability, which both horse-based and gym-based therapies have helped with tremendously. She is also practicing walking up stairs independently and is doing great! Hannah also began OT at TherAplay about a year ago and works on fine motor skills and playing games. Getting ready to start Kindergarten, Hannah is practicing back-and-forth game play as well as fluency of writing.

"Hannah could walk at 18 months, but jumping was hard. At TherAplay, we learned to jump, run, and are working on riding a bike," Mom exclaimed. "We've had all of those milestones at TherAplay!"

Hannah's time at TherAplay has allowed her to do various activities along with her peers! She can keep up with friends at the playground, play games, and write her letters at school. Hannah is even in a typical dance class that she loves, where she learns ballet and jazz!

"I think the amazing thing about TherAplay is that she loves coming here, so she gets a lot out of it. It's not like I'm taking her to a doctor's appointment where she's worried about it. She absolutely looks forward to coming here every week," Mom explained.

- Emily, Hannah's Mom



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