

**SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION 2022 ANNUAL REPORT
CHILDREN'S COLORADO**

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2022, the Scottish Rite Foundation (SRF) helped 154 children achieve their full potential in communication and learning at Children's Hospital Colorado Denver Metro area through therapy, Cleft Palate Clinic, and/or camp programs and parent education. Additionally, 42 families viewed the First Steps Camp curriculum videos. The table below shows the Scottish Rite Foundation's contributions to therapy, Cleft Palate Clinic, parent education, and Talking with Technology Camp. A generous contribution from the *Rollie R. Kelley Family Foundation* supported care for children and their families at Virtual First Steps Camps in 2022. The overall average cost per child for services at Children's Hospital Colorado Metro Denver area was \$2,411, a small investment for a lifetime of communication and learning.

Program (# Children)	Scottish Rite Foundation or Rollie R. Kelley Family Foundation contribution	Average Cost per Child
Therapy, Cleft Palate Clinic, Learning, and Parent Education (136)	\$351,288	\$2,583
Talking with Technology Camp (7)*	\$32,567	\$2,487
Virtual and in-person First Steps Camp (11; 42 views**) Rollie R. Kelley Family & Scottish Rite Foundation	\$20,103.98	\$1,827.63
TOTAL (154)	\$371,391	\$2,411

*Reduced numbers due to COVID-19 restrictions. Additional cost includes supplies camp activities, honorariums, cost for siblings, trainers, staff

**not included in total count

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The department offers various programs to meet the diverse needs of children with speech, hearing, language, learning, and other communication disorders. Within these specialty areas, we offer a wide range of services for individuals with autism spectrum disorder, apraxia of speech, augmentative/alternative communication needs, cleft lip and palate, developmental delay, fluency disorder, head injury and/or stroke, feeding disorders, hearing loss or deafness, learning disabilities, and voice disorders. Services are provided in locations convenient to the families' homes at Children's Hospital Colorado's Anschutz Campus (Aurora) and community-based Network of Care sites (Broomfield, Highlands Ranch, Health Pavilion). For families in rural/outlying communities, where there is no location close to their homes, we offer speech-language and learning therapy by telepractice.

Telepractice, speech-language treatment via video in real-time, continued through 2022. Telepractice in 2021 accounted for 44% of visits and in 2022 remained comparable at 43%. Based on the data, this model of care continues to be convenient for families while also providing a safe option throughout the season of

Hanen programs (It Takes Two To Talk, TalkAbility, and More Than Words) are parent education classes targeting parents of young children who are delayed in talking or have a diagnosis of Autism. Hanen is a researched based parent education program that is not covered by insurance. In 2022, the telepractice model of care was the sole model for Hanen classes. This model continues to be successful due to the removal of barriers encountered in the past (e.g., travel, childcare, etc.); therefore, more classes are planned for 2023.

Telepractice for learning therapy was successful as the percentage increased by 137% from 2021 to 2022. Telepractice has expanded access to families beyond the metro area to include those in rural or underserved areas with limited access to learning therapy.

During 2022, evaluations for toddler-aged children (12 – 35 months) increased by 136% when compared to 2020, most likely due to the effects of limited peer exposure (e.g., playgroups, daycare) during the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to this increased volume, a new care path was initiated in 2022. The toddler care path focuses on parent education about this critical window of development during a child's life and encourages the parent/caregiver to practice language-enhancing strategies during therapy in collaboration with the clinician. Since the parent/caregiver is engaged in therapy to practice the strategies with their child, they are more likely to use learned strategies in the home environment. For the toddler care path, services are provided in-clinic and via telepractice. Providing telepractice services to toddlers within their home environment has been positive as parents learn hands-on strategies with their child's own toys and books. Clinicians also get a peek into the child's home and routine to tailor strategies specific to the family's situation.

Currently, more than 130 speech-language pathologists and learning disabilities specialists, fifty-one audiologists, a clinical social worker, deaf educator, and family consultant provide care to children and their families through the Department of Audiology, Speech Pathology, and Learning Services at Children's Hospital Colorado Metro Denver Area. Our services are the program of choice for families seeking speech-language, learning, and hearing services outside the educational system for their child.

Our leadership team continues to be active at the state, national, and international levels to guide best practices by conducting innovative research studies and quality improvement projects, leading to standardization of care. We continue to strive toward excellence in service provision by providing state-of-the-art care guided by evidence-based practices.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Children's Hospital Colorado documents the effectiveness of treatment through validated, standardized clinical measures and parent surveys. We use our electronic health record to track outcomes for children who receive Scottish Rite Funding. These assessments are conducted based on evidence-based care and are part of the standard of care assessments, and all data are de-identified. These assessment tools in the database target social communication skills, language comprehension, expressive language, and articulation abilities. Assessments are administered upon a child's entry to therapy and in six months intervals thereafter. Pre- and post-assessment scores are entered into the database every 6-12 months, depending on the acceptable timeframe for re-administered tools.

REPORT FROM THE ENDOWED CHAIR

The Scottish Rite Foundation's gift of the *Kelley Family/Schlessman Family Scottish Rite Masons Endowed Chair in Childhood Language Disorders* in 2003 affords program improvements for services to children with language disorders throughout the state. This support enables program initiatives;

Foundation recognition; and various other functions to enhance the Foundation, RiteCare Clinic, and Treasure Chest Program viability and visibility.

The income from the endowed chair supports Jeannie O'Neil, Program Assistant to the *Kelley Family/Schlessman Family Scottish Rite Masons Chair in Childhood Language Disorders*, in coordinating Scottish Rite Foundation patient databases, Children's Hospital Colorado Appraisal Committee Meetings, and other special events, and financial tracking for Children's Hospital RiteCare program. Jeannie also initiates and designs the statewide publication, *RiteView*, a publication for and about Colorado's RiteCare and Treasure Chest programs.

Jeannie's invaluable assistance makes it possible for the Chairholder, Kristin Uhler, to devote her efforts for the Scottish Rite Foundation to program development and implementation, grant writing, and service evaluation.

In 2022, the income from the endowed chair funded, in part or total, the following:

- Salary support for Program Assistant Jeannie O'Neil
- Salary support for Chair Holder Kristin Uhler
- Coordination with Foundation Executive Secretary of the *Dwight A. Hamilton Scottish Rite Foundation Graduate Student Scholarship in Speech-Language Pathology awards*
- Publication and distribution of the *RiteView* tri-annual newsletter
- Chair Holder travels to and/or presentations at professional meetings
- Coordination of the RiteCare REDCap outcomes database
- Volunteer recognition expenses
- Development of new grant initiatives for consideration by the Board of Trustees

Per Children's Hospital Colorado Foundation, the Endowed Chair's market value on December 31, 2022, was approximately **\$3,704,305**. The anticipated 2021 annual distribution to Children's Hospital Colorado, Department of Audiology, Speech Pathology, and Learning Services will be \$188,522.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are honored to partner with the Scottish Rite Foundation in bringing therapy services and support for children with language disorders and their families throughout our state. In the years ahead, we will strive to meet the Foundation's vision that all Colorado's children will have access to speech-language and learning therapy services regardless of where they live in this great state.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin M. Uhler
Kelley Family/Schlessman Family
Scottish Rite Masons Chair in Childhood Language Disorders



Children's Hospital Colorado

www.childrenscolorado.org

CHILDREN'S COLORADO – COLORADO SPRINGS 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2022, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado (SRF) helped 20 children receive speech-language or learning therapy in Colorado Springs. The table below summarizes the number of children served, the SRF contribution for this service, and the average cost per child for these services.

Program	Number Served	SRF Contribution	Average Cost Per Child
Individual speech-language and learning therapy	20	\$51,660.00	\$2,583.00
Total	20	\$51,660.00	\$2,583.00

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

As of the spring of 2022, Children's Colorado had two primary networks of care (NOC) locations in Colorado Springs where speech and language, learning, occupational and physical therapy, and audiology services were offered: Children's Colorado Printers Park, Children's Colorado Briargate NOC, as well as outpatient swallow disorder clinic services at Children's Hospital Colorado (across the street from the Briargate NOC).

However, in the summer of 2022, we transitioned all therapies to a new single location in Colorado Springs just a few miles from Children's Hospital Colorado Springs. On August 30th, we celebrated the grand opening of Children's Colorado Therapy Care at Telstar!! This new and AMAZING facility not only offers all therapies and audiology services but now provides patient access to pediatric mental health and developmental pediatric clinics, which was not something readily available to Colorado Springs families. This has also been an exciting transition for our therapists as many of them had worked at specific NOCs in the past and did not know team members at the other local locations. This merge has created the opportunity for therapists to work closely together within their disciplines and continue to collaborate with other disciplines all under the same roof!

During this transition to Telstar, our Colorado Springs speech therapy team was also able to welcome 2 new team members to support the ongoing growth of this community, and patient access needs that Colorado Springs families require. Both new clinicians come with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the areas of feeding and autism.

The Audiology, Speech-Language, and Learning Department of Children's Colorado in Colorado Springs currently employs 18 speech-language pathologists, 2 learning specialists, and a team of pediatric audiologists. The number of children seen for speech, language, learning, feeding, and audiology services by Children's Colorado in Colorado Springs continues to grow, with an increased number of visits and children served each year. Treatment with a speech therapist continues to be available in a variety of specialty areas, including (but not limited to): augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), resonance and voice disorders, feeding and swallowing disorders, deaf and hard of hearing programs, bilingual speech, and language therapy (with two bilingual team members who speak Spanish and Korean, as well as team members who are fluent in American Sign Language), social skills, language and reading, and early language development. Since mid-2020, our SLP team continues to utilize telepractice to be able to provide patient care access to families who live a great distance from our clinics or are unable to attend treatment in person due to illness, weather-related issues, or other barriers. Many models of general speech/language and feeding therapy can be completed within this virtual model of care (depending on the patient, their needs, and their access to technology at home).

Children's Colorado continues to offer a variety of evaluations and specialty clinics that are not available elsewhere in southern Colorado. Our program works closely with physicians and specialists to provide well-rounded developmental care in our specialty clinics, including Autism and Developmental Disorders Clinic, Cleft Lip, and Palate Clinic, Inducible laryngeal Obstruction Clinic, Swallow Disorders Clinic, Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluations of the Swallow Clinic, and Hearing Clinic.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Children's Colorado in Colorado Springs ensures that the treatments offered result in desired outcomes by completing a variety of baseline assessments with 6-month progress reports and re-assessment. In 2022, speech therapists continued the implementation of baseline measurements for new patients receiving speech/language intervention. Parent feedback is obtained through patient satisfaction surveys completed by the National Research Corporation. Department leaders are also regularly round with parents and caregivers to receive feedback and do periodic chart audits and observations of treatment sessions to ensure consistent high-quality care. Evidenced-based outcome measures are also completed in a variety of specialty areas, including feeding, augmentative and alternative communication, and social skills.

LEADERSHIP

Children's Colorado in Colorado Springs is proud to continue to provide mentorship, observation, and internship opportunities to graduate students, which allows us to take part in training the next generation of therapists. With the continued "loosening" of COVID precautions in 2022, our Colorado Springs speech therapists were able to begin offering in-person clinical observation opportunities to graduate/undergraduate students to be able to observe assessment/treatment sessions with speech therapists for a day. Colorado Springs speech therapists also provided internship placements for at least 2 graduate students in 2022. These students were able to observe and provide supervised treatment via in-person and telepractice models of care, whilst being provided the same high quality of experience and support by our supervising clinicians for 12 weeks. We plan to continue to provide opportunities for graduate students (with 2 already started for the new year) this winter and spring of 2023, and for years to come!

Children's Colorado in Colorado Springs continues to collaborate with physicians within the community and in the Children's Colorado system to offer multidisciplinary clinics that are not available elsewhere in southern Colorado. These clinics allow the families in our community to access high-quality medical and developmental services which address the needs of their children with complex medical and developmental diagnoses.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Scottish Rite Foundation (SRF) of Colorado continues to be a consistent and invaluable resource for families in southern Colorado to ensure that their children receive high-quality and evidence-based interventions necessary for the appropriate development of speech, language, learning, and feeding skills. In 2022 the SRF scholarships offered continued to be invaluable to many SoCo families whose primary insurance providers were denying coverage for speech therapy services. This coming year, Children's Colorado in Colorado Springs anticipates continued growth, including an increased number of patients seen, an ever-expanding list of services and specialty clinics, continued offering of therapy groups and parent education programs, and improved access to care with additional staff to better serve our community.

We greatly value the unwavering support provided by the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado for our patients and families.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of children.

Respectfully submitted,
Matt Holmberg, MA, CCC-SLP
Associate Clinical Manager of Speech and Language Services in Colorado Springs
RiteCare Director, Colorado Springs



**SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF COLORADO
2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2022, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado (SRF) helped 9 children receive speech-language or learning therapy in Pueblo. The table below summarizes the number of children served, the SRF contribution for this service, and the average cost per child for these services.

Program	Number Served	SRF Contribution	Average Cost Per Child
Total unique patients served	9	\$23,247	\$2,583

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Children's Hospital Colorado Speech Telepractice team completed its second year of operation as a telepractice-only service. Speech-language, feeding, and learning therapy held via telepractice model of care, and treatment via video in real-time, has shown to be a very effective service delivery model for many children and families. This model of therapy removes many barriers that families encounter traveling to physical locations, such as fuel expenses, time, and transportation. The telepractice model of care actively encourages parent/caregiver participation in therapy which leads to the increased comfort of generalizing strategies into the home environment. The speech telepractice clinicians remain dedicated to the Pueblo community.

Services via telehealth include speech-language, augmentative and alternative communication, voice, stuttering, and feeding therapy services to children from birth to 21 years with various medical and developmental diagnoses. The speech-language therapists offer a wide range of services for children with autism spectrum disorder, apraxia of speech, augmentative/alternative communication needs, cleft lip and palate, developmental delay, fluency disorder, head injury and/or stroke, feeding disorders, hearing loss or deafness, learning disabilities, and voice disorders. In addition to individual therapy, therapists provide Hanen with parent education programs (It Takes Two to Talk; Talkability and More Than Words). These parent education classes target parents of young children who are delayed in talking or have a diagnosis of Autism. Hanen is a researched based parent education program that is not accepted by insurance, including Medicaid.

The clinicians involved in the telepractice model of care continue to strive toward excellence and best practice by refining and improving technological skills. The telepractice team thrives on creativity and the resources developed are shared with the speech-language therapists within the Speech Department at Children's Hospital Colorado.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Children's Colorado Speech Telepractice documents the effectiveness of treatment through validated, standardized clinical measures and parent surveys. We use our electronic health record to track outcomes for children who receive Scottish Rite Funding. These assessments are conducted based on evidence-based care and are part of the standard of care assessments, and all data are de-identified. These assessment tools in the database target social communication skills, comprehension, expressive language, and articulation abilities and are administered upon a child's entry to therapy and at six months intervals thereafter. Pre and post-assessment scores are entered into the database every 6-12 months, depending on the acceptable timeframe for re-administered tools. During the 2022 year, Stacey Bernal completed chart audits and observations of treatment sessions to ensure consistent, high-quality care.

LEADERSHIP

Stacey Bernal's role has transitioned to the Rehab Clinical Program Coordinator for Speech-Language and Learning Telepractice. This is an exciting opportunity to grow and strengthen the program. Stacey continues to create online resources and uploads them to the Telepractice "home" where all clinicians can have access to support their therapy. Additionally, the Play With Me Boxes! has grown in popularity with clinicians. Stacey has received very encouraging and positive feedback from clinicians and families alike regarding using these to improve therapy services virtually.

Jaelyn Mutz collaborates with a pediatrician at CHCO in Colorado Springs to provide the best care for patients with complex feeding needs and complicated medical challenges. Jaelyn and this pediatrician will present to the community their special program on a virtual Community Collaboration Day hosted and put on by CHCO.

Lori Short, who joined our virtual team this year, is trained in the Hanen It Takes Two To Talk program. She has provided enthusiasm and organization skills to revitalize the program via telepractice and offers three opportunities to families this year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Scottish Rite Foundation plays an integral and significant part in the success of our Speech Telepractice Program at Children's Colorado. Thank you for supporting new and creative ways to virtually provide excellent services to families with the Play With Me! Box project supports Hanen programs that teach and empower families to use speech and language facilitation strategies with their children at home in everyday routines.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of children.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacey Bernal, M.A., CCC-SLP
Speech Telepractice Pueblo



**SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION
2022 ANNUAL REPORT
CHILDREN'S SPEECH AND READING CENTER**

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Program	Number of children served	SRF contribution	Average Cost per Child
One-on-One Therapy (Individual)	39	\$64,652	\$1,658
Early Pre-Literacy (Group)	161	\$27,790	\$173
TOTAL	200	\$92,442	\$462

CSRC conducted a total of 243 speech-language, reading, and pre-literacy screens in-house and at several off-site locations. The 39 children that were supported by SRF funding received a total of 1,002 individual one-on-one speech-language therapy sessions at an average SRF cost of ~\$64/session. An additional 161 children four years of age received pre-literacy group therapy sessions supported by the SRF funding. CSRC provided 397 pre-literacy sessions to children in area preschools who were identified as being delayed in pre-literacy skills development at a cost of ~\$70/session. Total co-pay in support of SRF funding was \$25,975.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Children's Speech and Reading Center (CSRC) is Northern Colorado's only 501(c) (3) non-profit that focuses on speech-language, reading and pre-literacy with these primary services:

- **Free screenings** for all children for early literacy skills, speech and language disorders, and reading delays with a total of 243 screens in 2022
- **Individual speech-language and reading therapy** on a sliding scale fee structure that goes to zero so no child is ever turned away that needs our services. In 2022, CSRC provided services to a total of 195 children. Of those, 139 children received 3,243 one-on-one speech-language therapy sessions and 56 children received 1110 one-on-one reading therapy sessions
- **Free pre-literacy programs** for children 4-5 years old that are determined to be delayed in their pre-literacy development with a total of 161 children served in 2022.
- **Community education program** which includes speech, language and literacy development presentations, seminars and workshops for parents, expecting parents and childcare providers.

ACCOUNTABILITY

CSRC continues to track each child's progress toward short-term and long-term goals according to their Individual Care Plan in six month or one-year intervals. Of the 239 SRF children treated from 2020 – 2022, the treatment diagnosis data shows that 68.2% of the children (163) were seen for articulation/phonology, 10% (24) were diagnosed with dysfluency, 8.8% (21) had mixed expressive-receptive disorders, 6.3% (15) other, 4.6% (11) were seen for motor speech/childhood apraxia of speech, and 2.1% (5) were seen for expressive language disorder.

For the largest number of children diagnosed with articulation/phonology disorder we saw a mean/average improvement of 18.4, 10.4, 16.6 and 23.5 at 6, 12, 18, and 24 months respectively. For the second largest treatment category of dysfluency we saw a mean/average improvement of 8.7, 14.1, and 8.0 at 6, 12, and 18 months, respectively. These findings suggest that with an increase in duration of intervention we continue to see improvements.

For our Pre-Literacy Program, CSRC uses the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening for Preschool (PALS-PreK). The Pre-Literacy program runs from October through June and usually includes ~ 32 weekly sessions (~20 hours) with a maximum of four children per session. The aggregate data for our last cohort (73 children) and shows that all went from being below the developmental standards that predicts early reading success prior to the program -- but afterwards ~81% were in the developmental range – and many **(46%) were ABOVE the range for all 6 categories.**

LEADERSHIP

CSRC staff participates in many professional and community events that promote and educate the community (parents, child care providers, teachers, etc.) concerning communication and literacy development. Some of these events included: United Way of Larimer County Community Collaborative Impact project, Be Ready Fairs, Autism Resource Fair, the Early Childhood Council of Larimer County, individual elementary school fairs, and training for teachers and schools, upon request. CSRC also conducts presentations and training to parents (i.e., Parents As Teachers) and teachers and always promotes SRF's financial role in supporting CSRC.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CSRC's Board of Directors is extremely grateful for the funding from the Scottish Rite Foundation. This funding enables CSRC to diagnose and treat childhood communication disorders and reading delays for all children regardless of their family's income level. We will continue to strive to meet the Foundation's vision that all children in Colorado will have access to speech-language and reading services. On behalf of the children we serve, we want to thank the Scottish Rite Foundation and its Trustees for their on-going support.

Cheryl Campbell

Children's Speech and Reading Center, Ft. Collins



**SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF COLORADO
2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

The Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado (SRF) helped 10 children receive therapy and 4 parents receive support and education for supplementing their child’s language, speech, and literacy techniques from CLC into the home. This included home visits to help the families implement skills in the home.

Program	Number Served	SRF contribution	Average Cost per Child
Therapy, Individual	3	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00
Therapy, Group	7	\$6,922.50	\$988.93
TOTAL	10	\$9,922.50	992.25

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic (SLHC) at CU Boulder offered a 2nd year of summer social communication programming for neurodiverse and ASD pre-teens called, “Social Warriors.” SLHC created an additional social communication play group for toddlers (18 months-3 years) involving caregiver-child pairs working with each other to learn strategies to foster communication, play, and social skills. “Play Partners” was designed to help families re-engage following COVID isolation, especially young children. “Colorado Speaks” summer camp, for teens who stutter, also remains popular. The Child Learning Center (CLC) continues serving children ages 2-5 using an inclusive model and was at full capacity. “Literacy Lab” is a new name for programming serving children with dyslexia/dysgraphia providing reading/writing skill development with a very full waitlist. SLHC after-school programs continue serving children with articulation needs as well as AAC for children with more severe speech-language needs.

SLHC continues to refine health claims processes to shift financial responsibility from families to insurance while also providing greater access to services, especially being in-network for Medicaid as well as 4 other commercial insurers.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Fifty-seven (57) total data points for children receiving speech-language services at the CU Boulder SLHC have been entered. The most frequent diagnosis for children receiving services is “other” (47.4%) with most of these being Dyslexia/Dysgraphia (developmental reading and





writing difficulties) diagnoses. The next most common diagnosis is Receptive-Expressive Language Disorder (38.6%), followed by Articulation/Phonology Disorders (12.3%) and Expressive Language Disorder (1.8%). Pre/Post Difference Scores indicate positive growth in reported test scores over time, especially at 12 and 18 months post initial data. Decreasing numbers of data points as month's post-initial reporting increase are a reflection of high discharge/turnover of clients at the SLHC from semester to semester. It is noted that only five children represented in the 57 data points were still enrolled in SLHC programs in the fall semester, of 2022. It is also noted that data is not reported for children seen in summer SLHC programs that are brief (1-2 weeks), as a collection of standardized test scores within such a brief period would not be appropriate.

LEADERSHIP

The Speech, Language, and Hearing Dept. remains highly ranked as a top 20 program nationally in Speech, Language Pathology as well as Audiology. Our clinical, research, and translational work is highlighted by our faculty members and students at national and international conferences. Two scholarship funds created by alumni and set up as trusts continue to provide annual graduate student awards for CU Boulder SLP students.

The clinical leadership team remains strong with a new Chair, Oliver Gerland, appointed to serve through July 2024. Tammy Fredrickson and Alison Lemke continue serving as the Clinical Education Directors for audiology and speech-language pathology respectively. Shelley Sheppeck continues as the Clinic Director of Operations now in her 8th year as Director. She brings consistency and efficiency to clinic processes and procedures while seeking to create new capabilities to modernize the clinic, adopting technological solutions to survive disruptions. Grant funding for clinical programs continues to bring additional money to the clinic providing support for clinical faculty salaries and benefits, as well as program development.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We thank the Foundation's Trustees for continued financial support in providing scholarship funding to children and families needing speech and language services.

SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF COLORADO: 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

STATISTICAL SUMMARY In 2022, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado (SRF) helped 7 children receive speech, language, and literacy services at the UNC SLP and AuD Clinic and via in-person services. Through the Greeley Treasure Chest Program, an additional 29 children were served. The table below shows the contributions of the SRF.

Program	Number Served	SRF contribution	Average Cost Per Child
Therapy, individual	5 (in-person)	\$3,450.00	\$690.00
Talking and Listening Preschool Group	2 (in-person)	\$1,400.00	\$700.00
Greeley Treasure Chest, Individual parent coaching	29	\$50,000	\$1,724.14
TOTAL	36	\$54,850.00	\$1,523.61

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION The UNC Audiology and Speech-Language Sciences Program provides educational opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students. Our clinic offers diagnostic and intervention services to individuals of all ages with communication needs. As a specialty clinic, we also offer ultrasound biofeedback therapy for children with speech sound disorders, which is a relatively new technology for our field. With the generous grant from the foundation, we continued our Greeley Treasure Chest Program. First-year graduate students learn evidence-based coaching strategies to support parents of young children. We served some families through virtual parent-coaching sessions as well.

ACCOUNTABILITY The UNC Clinical Supervisors and student clinicians regularly monitor the progress of each child receiving speech and language intervention services. Before each semester (12-14 week sessions, 3 times per year), each child receives a formal or informal

assessment, and new goals and objectives are developed in consultation with the child's family. Progress is monitored and documented routinely, and a comprehensive progress report is shared with the family each semester. If adequate progress is not being made, supervisors work with student clinicians to adapt the child's treatment plan to ensure effective and evidence-based treatment is being provided. Families in the Treasure Chest Program complete pre- and post-assessments of their child's communication and self-efficacy.

LEADERSHIP This was my first year as the Program Manager of the Greeley Treasure Chest Program and UNC Scottish Rite Director for Dr. Caitlin Raaz. Dr. Murza continues to support and advocate for the collaborative partnership of UNC and the Scottish Rite Foundation in her new role as Associate Dean of Research and Faculty Affairs. To continue the relationships established by Dr. Murza, Dr. Raaz joined the Advisory board for the Weld County Nurse-Family Partnership and has worked collaboratively with several community partners, including the SEVA Community and the United Way of Weld County. She has also established a new relationship with the Colorado Rural Public Health and Education Initiative.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT The generous support from the SRF has provided our graduate students the opportunity to train in the TALP and Treasure Chest Programs; initiatives that would not be sustainable without this support. The SRF has had a substantial impact on the lives of many Northern Colorado families, and we are incredibly grateful for the continued support of our programs. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of children.

Respectfully,



Caitlin Raaz, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
UNC RiteCare Program Director



**SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF COLORADO ANNUAL
REPORT for 2022**

The Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado aided 66 children to receive Speech and Language Therapy at St Mary's Medical Center in Grand Junction, CO, in 2022. The average cost per child to receive speech and language therapy was \$1,307. The significant cost reduction for 2022 therapy services, was primarily a result of an increase in the number of children participating in group therapy sessions versus individual therapy sessions.

2022 Program	Number Served	Scottish Rite Contributions	Average Cost per Child
Total	66	\$86,280	\$1,307

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Our Rite Care program sponsored children from 16 months through 7 years of age, throughout the year to receive individual and/or group speech and language therapy and up to 11 years of age, in the summer. Family education is always a high priority, caregivers are encouraged to attend therapy sessions, therapists review the goals, demonstrate the strategies employed to facilitate learning, and assist the family with implementing those strategies.

In 2022 services were provided by five licensed and certified speech-language pathologists, with the support of a therapy assistant and two therapy aides. We now have seven licensed and certified speech-language pathologists, which will allow us to increase our patient access. The St. Mary's Rite Care Program provides speech therapy treatment for children with simple to complex developmental delays, including autism, hearing loss, voice, fluency, cleft lip and palate, eating disorders, learning disabilities, neurotrauma, executive function, and augmentative/alternative communication.

ACCOUNTABILITY

To monitor our performance, we administer baseline assessments to each child and periodic reassessments. The 2022 Red Cap data indicates that after 6 months of therapy children with the diagnoses of receptive language delay, expressive language delay, articulation delays, or a mixed receptive and expressive language delay, demonstrated improvements in the areas of social communication(pragmatics), and overall language and speech skills. It also indicated children continued to demonstrate improvements after 12 months and 18 months of treatment. To ensure we provide best practice programs, pediatric therapists participate in ongoing continuing education. Educational opportunities were in dyslexia, augmentative communication, cultural diversity, ADHD, executive function, autism, neurodiversity, early language, speech sound development, and ethics.

LEADERSHIP

The St. Mary's Speech and Language Department associates are active within our department, our hospital, our community, and our state. Some of the organizations, in which they participate include The Cleft Palate Team of Western Colorado, the Colorado Home Intervention Program, The Early Childhood Steering Committee, the Mesa County Partnership for Children and Families, the Colorado Speech and Hearing Association, and The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are proud to say that we are partners with the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado. The Foundation has provided more than \$3.6 million over the past 36 years to our children. We are most grateful for your contributions to our children and our community. We would especially like to thank our 2022 Scottish Rite Appraisal Committee, Don Hobbs, Jimmy McBride, Gerald Conyers, Dennis Bechtold, and Mike Murphy.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to our children.

Amy Brophy-Neilsen, M.S., CCC-SLP, St. Mary's Medical Center, Grand Junction



SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF COLORADO

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2022, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado (SRF) helped 9 children receive speech and language therapy at Gunnison Valley Hospital (GVH). The table below summarizes the services provided.

Program	Number Served	SRF contribution	Average Cost per Child
Therapy, Individual	9	19,142.86	2126.98
TOTAL	9	19,142.86	2126.98

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The program at Gunnison Valley Hospital (GVH) is part of the outpatient rehabilitation clinic. Currently there are two speech-language pathologists who work full time (30 hours) at the GVH. Children who receive services at include children with autism spectrum disorder, apraxia of speech, swallowing/feeding, augmentative/alternative communication needs, developmental delay and TBI. Our services are now one of two options for families seeking speech-language, learning, and hearing services outside the educational system for their child.

ACCOUNTABILITY

GVH documents the effectiveness of treatment through validated, standardized clinical measures and parent survey.

LEADERSHIP

The speech-language pathologists continue to provide opportunities to help preschools, who do not receive Part B services through public education, in order for children to remain at their preschool/daycare without having to transition to a public preschool and then to the elementary school. The speech-language pathologists continues





to offer free screenings for families now at three preschool/daycare facilities in Gunnison and now all three sites in Crested Butte. This has provided not only new referrals but for families to remain at their daycare facility.

The SLP continues to present developmental information on communication and information on Scottish Rite to all the family care doctors in the area as new doctors move to the area including one pediatrician. One of the speech therapists provides speech therapy services at three daycares in Gunnison and all three daycares in Crested Butte. Daycare providers and teachers are pleased at the process is quick, easy and they are seeing dramatic results right away. The speech therapists have participated in various events and trainings held by both GVH and community events to offer our expertise and to be involved. The school district has contracted with GVH to provide services through teletherapy for Lake City.

In addition, one of the speech therapists offered a small baby sign language group through a local program for new moms. Since most of the moms were all first time moms and friends, they were eager to learn how to communicate with their baby and learn information regarding development. This success will be expanded into the community through both the group in Crested Butte and in Gunnison.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are honored to partner with the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado RiteCare program to provide therapy services and support for children with language disorders and their families here in Gunnison. In the years ahead, we will strive to meet the Foundation's vision that all children have access to speech-language therapy services.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of children.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Moore, MA, CCC-SLP

Scottish Rite Program Coordinator

Gunnison Valley Hospital



SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION COLORADO 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2022, the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado (SRF) helped children receive therapy:

Program	Number Served	SRF contribution	Average Cost per Child
Therapy, Individual	11	\$31,638.75	\$2,876.25
Therapy, Group	2	\$ 832.50	\$ 416.25
Total	13	\$32,471.25	\$2,497.79

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Mountain View Therapy, Pediatrics, provides a multidisciplinary approach to therapy, with speech, occupational and physical therapies available. We cover a five-county area with the main office located in Montrose. Currently, one full-time and two part-time masters level speech-language pathologist (SLP) work in this program. Special programs include bilingual support for families; literacy support for children with delays in phonological skills; and program development for augmentative communication use. Our clinic is open year-round, serving children from toddler through high school, typically for weekly one-hour sessions. RiteCare funding is available for children aged eight and younger with support for older children during the summer program and in special cases agreed upon by the director and members of the Appraisal Committee. Children are scheduled for individual and/or small group sessions depending on their needs. The RiteCare scholarship is often used for funding small group therapy for those whose insurance will not cover group therapy.

ACCOUNTABILITY

In 2022, the SRG director and Appraisal Committee met monthly to review RiteCare applications. For convenience, some meetings were conducted via Zoom. Our SLPs provide an evaluation report with test results and a plan of care for each child to their referring physicians at the initial evaluation, and every six months thereafter. Families are provided with home program activities to help generalize the therapy goals. Our program participates in the REDCap statical program. Results indicate

improvement in all areas of speech/language provided, however, the improvement in articulation/phonological skills seem to occur quicker than those for language development. Many of our clients who have a language disorder are toddlers who may/may not have a medical diagnosis on the Autism Spectrum. Our clients with articulation/phonological disorders are typically older and can maintain better attention and focus to the tasks presented, thus show improvement sooner.

LEADERSHIP

The SLPs at MVT continue to participate in conferences and community educational opportunities. This director attended the virtual RiteCare annual luncheon in February 2022. This program hosted our annual ice cream social in July and Holiday party with Santa in December. These events provide an opportunity to highlight the RiteCare program and allow families to engage with the members. Our program continues to support graduate students and Clinical Fellows in the field of communication. We support high school students who observe therapy as they explore different career opportunities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are grateful to the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado for the ongoing financial support provided to the Montrose program. Our families who receive this scholarship support are appreciative and promote this program to others. We receive support from the Appraisal Committee members for both day-to-day decision-making tasks and during special occasions. Dr. Uhler, Mr. Harris and Jeannie O'Neil have been very knowledgeable, supportive and helpful with all questions and suggestions that arise. In 2023, we hope to establish a literacy program for children experiencing reading difficulties and the possibility of toddler groups. Our therapists are excited to resume the classes and training concerning autism in children that have been provided by personnel from Children's Hospital Colorado and funded through the RiteCare program. Thank you for all you do to help make our program a success. We appreciate you all very much.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Anderson- CCC-SLP

RiteCare Director



SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION
2022 ANNUAL REPORT
MEMORIAL REGIONAL HEALTH

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In the year 2022 Memorial Regional Health (MRH) provided individual speech and language therapy to a total of 5 different children. The average cost per child served was \$2,052.67. MRH provided all services in the designated pediatric gym in the MRH Rehabilitation Center which is located in the organization’s medical office building adjacent to The Memorial Hospital campus. The table below displays patient utilization of Scottish Rite Foundation (SRF) funds in 2022.

Table with 4 columns: Program, Number of Children Served, SRF Contribution, Average Cost Per Child. Row 1: One-on-One Therapy (Individual), 5, \$10,263.38, \$2,052.67

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This year we expanded our team, welcoming a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant to provide additional OT services. Our speech pathologist attended the speech-language therapist Neurodiversity Summit virtually and has been incorporating neurodiversity-affirming practices into treatment with autistic patients and other neurodiverse populations. Our speech therapist also expanded her knowledge with additional training in AAC device implementation and Gestalt Language Processing. The MRH pediatric team continues to incorporate the autism training we received through the SRF Autism training grant in 2020. MRH continues to provide pediatric feeding therapy and this program continues to grow.

ACCOUNTABILITY

MRH Speech Therapists use evidence-based, standardized testing every 6 months and enter the data into REDCap. Data is also collected each session and tracked in the patient’s progress notes.



This year, based on our REDCap data, patients with a diagnosis of mixed receptive and expressive language disorder grew an average of 11 points over 18 months of intervention. Our patients with a diagnosis of articulation and phonology disorder grew an average of 28 points over 6 months of intervention. The speech therapy team at MRH ensures that their services are consistent with community expectations by working with families to create patient-centered goals, collaborating with therapy providers in the Moffat County School District, and working alongside the patient's referring providers. The MRH Rehabilitation Clinic collects monthly patient customer satisfaction surveys to ensure we are providing the utmost quality of care.

LEADERSHIP

This year, MRH contributed to local and professional communities by providing free screenings at the Connections 4 Kids Health Fair and collaborating with Moffat County School District and Northwest Colorado Center for Independence. The speech therapy team emphasizes the importance of involving each child's family in the treatment plan to foster a relationship built on trust, open communication, and caregiver buy-in and carryover at home.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MRH feels honored and privileged to partner with the Scottish Rite Foundation. Because of this benevolent partnership, we have received and will continue to receive in-person and virtual autism training, neurodiversity training, and networking opportunities. As we look to 2023, our goals include community education and peer groups for intervention. We cannot adequately express our gratitude for the opportunities provided to our clinic and, ultimately, our community through the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado.

Ericka Lucas
Memorial Regional Health, Craig

SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Treasure Chest Program-The Piñon Project-Cortez
Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Russell, Treasure Chest Coordinator

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

During this reporting period, The Scottish Rite Foundation (SRF) helped 206 families access The Treasure Chest Program through The Piñon Project. The SRF contributed \$53,250 to this program resulting in an average program cost of \$142.37 per child served. We were able to serve 148 children age's 0-3 and 226 children over 3 years.

Total Unique Children Served	SRF Contribution	Average Cost per Child
374	\$53,250.00	\$142.37

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

With support from The Scottish Rite Foundation, The Treasure Chest Program provides early literacy theme chests of books and related materials at no cost to families with young children. Over the course of the year, seven early childhood education sites and a variety of community organizations were served. Piñon offers services to all families throughout Montezuma and Dolores Counties and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Community. The Piñon Project checked out a total of 549 chests to families this year. Through close collaboration with local libraries and other community partners that serve prenatal and infant populations, The Piñon Project was able to increase the amount of children ages 0-3 served. The Piñon Project utilized story times at libraries to raise awareness of The Treasure Chest Program and the importance of early literacy. Local children's librarians created designated areas for Treasure Chests in the children's section to provide easier check out and returns of chests for families. By parenting with WIC through The Health Department, The Piñon Project was able to provide prenatal families and families with infants with The Treasure Chest Program during their visits at WIC. Families reported that using The Treasure Chest Program increased the amount of tummy time and reading time they provided their infant.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Based on a variety of developmental assessments (ASQ3, Teaching Strategies Gold, Bracken School Readiness Assessment), children who participated in the Treasure Chest Program experienced gains in language and literacy skills. In addition to the developmental screening results, parent surveys and teacher responses were again very positive. According to our surveys, checking out a treasure chest increased the amount of time parents and children spent reading, talking and playing together.

Parents reported an increased confidence in helping their child learn to read and communicate. Our Piñon Parent Advisory Council anecdotally reports high community satisfaction with the Treasure Chest Program.

LEADERSHIP

Kellie Willis, Executive Director of The Piñon Project and Kelli Hargraves, Assistant Director oversee Piñon operations with Elizabeth Russell serving as Treasure Chest Program Coordinator. Multiple staff assist in the creation, maintenance and distribution of Treasure Chests. Staff collaborate extensively with local agencies, schools, and libraries. Staff serve on a number of advisory councils and coalitions, such as MECC (Montelores Early Childhood Council), and TEAM UP through United Way.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the upcoming year, Piñon Project's goal is to increase collaboration with speech pathologists and The San Juan Board of Cooperative Educational Services in hopes of increasing the number of unique children served. We are most grateful for The Scottish Rite Foundation's continued generous support of The Treasure Chest Program that enables us to serve the children and families of our community. The guidance of Kristin Uhler, PhD and additional program staff at Children's Hospital Colorado is instrumental in helping The Piñon Project Family Resource Center continue this successful collaboration.

Elizabeth Russell

The Piñon Project, Treasure Chest Program, Cortez



SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF COLORADO

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2022, the Scottish Rite Foundation (SRF) helped 81 children in 65 families access the Treasure Chest Program through Centro de la Familia (Centro Colorado), serving the Western Slope's Head Start grant. The table below summarizes the number of children and families served. The SRF contributed a total of \$42,250, for 65 enrollment slots, with a resulting average program cost of \$522 per funded slot. Centro Colorado served 20 children ages 0-3, and 61 children ages 3-5.

2022 Treasure Chest Program Summary

Total Unique Children Served	Number of Families Served	SRF Contributions	Average Cost per Child
81	65	\$42,250	\$522

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

With support from the Scottish Rite Foundation, the Treasure Chest Program provides education and training for children and their families (siblings and parents) in a home-based environment. The Treasure Chest program provides early identification and intervention for children with possible developmental delays. The child's development is screened and reviewed with parents. Additionally, Treasure Chest supports school readiness through early learning within the home.

At the beginning of the school year, participating families receive Treasure Chest tubs containing developmentally appropriate materials that help strengthen every child's growth and development. Every month, families receive additional activities and materials based on common themes. By the end of the program year, families have amassed a Treasure Chest of valuable activities that support each of the five developmental domains.

Parent participation is an essential component of this program. The Family Services Specialist reviews the materials with the families monthly during their scheduled home visits, so parents understand why the activity was selected and how it impacts child development. The parents then guide their children through the provided activities.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The ASQ-3 screening system comprises 21 questionnaires designed to be completed by parents or other primary caregivers for children between one month and five and a half years of age. These questionnaires accurately identify children who need further assessment to determine whether they are eligible for early intervention or early childhood special education services. Each questionnaire contains 30 developmental items that are written in simple, straightforward language. The items are organized into five areas: Communication, Gross Motor, Fine Motor, Problem Solving, and Personal-Social. In addition, there is a section that addresses general parent concerns.

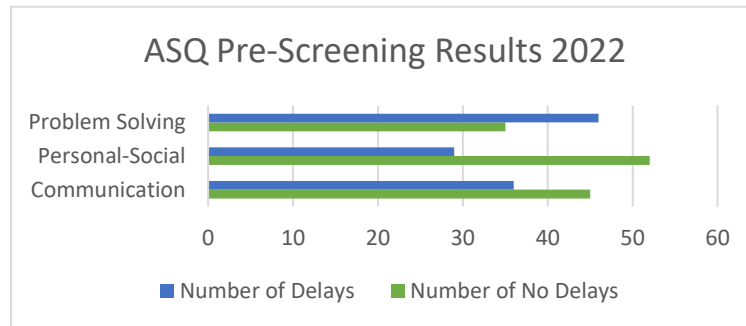
Throughout the 2022/2023 school year, the Treasure Chest Program enrolled 81 children between the ages of six weeks and five years of age. Of these 81 children, 16 are currently on an IEP (Individualized Education Plan for 3-5-year-olds), and 12 are currently on an IFSP (Individualized Family Services Plan for infants and

toddlers) by Mesa County School district 51 or Mesa Developmental Services. The children with identified disabilities are enrolled in the Treasure Chest Program, three children are currently in the process of being evaluated for IEP/IFSP services. The remaining 51 children were selected based on low ASQ-3 scores or teacher/parent concerns.

As described, Centro prioritizes enrollment according to need: those who qualify for an IEP or IFSP get the top priority, followed by children whose ASQ-3 scores identify them as needing additional support, and lastly, children who score well on the assessment but whose parents or teachers have concerns about their development. Every child with an IEP, IFSP, or qualifying ASQ-3 score is enrolled in Treasure Chest, thanks to SRF support. In the future, we hope to include all eligible children, even those with less urgent needs.

Accountability-ASQ-3 SCREENING RESULTS

All participants in the Treasure Chest program were screened using the ASQ-3 screener based on their developmental age group as calculated by the Ages and Stages system. Ages and Stages account for several varying factors in determining the developmental age of each child, including their date of birth and if the child was born prematurely. The chart to the below illustrates where each participant scored in three key areas of development impacted by speech and language delays: Problem-Solving, Personal Social, and Communication. In the year-end report, Centro will share the results of the post-screening. We expect to see gains in every area.



LEADERSHIP

This year Centro Colorado has incorporated all departments in the implementation, planning, and distribution of the Treasure Chest program. This has allowed Centro employees to participate in the joy this program brings.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thanks to the funding provided by the Scottish Rite Foundation, Centro Colorado has been able to provide 65 English and Spanish-speaking families with early learning and literacy materials they will be able to enjoy for years to come. The potential impact of the Treasure Chest program surpasses the focus on helping children who are experiencing delays to make developmental gains. The program helps parents gain confidence in their role as their child's first and foremost teachers, encourages family togetherness through in-home activities, and fosters child development through play.

The success of the Treasure Chest Program is due to the continued interest, funding, and support from the Scottish Rite Foundation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carmen Marsh
Centro de la familia, Grand Junction

Scottish Rite Foundation (SRF) of Colorado: 2022 Annual Report

Statistical Summary: Through the generous support of SRF, MSU Denver opened its Speech-Language Clinic in June 2022, which houses the Treasure Chest Program. In six months, our clinic provided no-cost services to ~60 clients, roughly a third of whom were early-intervention clients or preschool children who received Treasure Chests and/or speech-language intervention.

	SRF Contribution	Average cost
Treasure Chests & related expenses (40 kits)	\$6000	\$150
Clinical programming (~20 families/children)	\$44,000	\$2200*

*This cost represents intervention services only and does not capture the impact of community-based preschool screenings completed in Fall 2022 through SRF support.

Program Description: MSU Denver’s Speech-Language Clinic is an integral part of the Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences department and our graduate program in speech-language pathology (SLP). All programs and services associated with our Speech-Language Clinic are designed to prepare graduate students to become credentialed SLPs who are culturally responsive practitioners. We are committed to expanding access to speech/language services for historically underserved populations, including those who are linguistically diverse. Our Treasure Chest Program supports families as they incorporate communication strategies into their everyday routines. Our Treasure Chests include environmentally sustainable materials that connect to major developmental areas (e.g. communication and social-emotional domains) as well as age-appropriate books and toys for toddlers or preschoolers and are available in English, Spanish or English + Spanish. The Treasure Chest Program is offered through

our on-campus clinic as well as through community partnerships such as You Be You Early Learning, a mobile preschool program that serves families living in section 8 housing developments.

Accountability: For children who received intervention as part of our Treasure Chest Program, outcome measures included the communication subtest on a parent-completed questionnaire. Improvements were recorded for all children for whom data were recorded at the start of services and after six months (4 children in total). Other progress data captured increases in vocabulary size, longer utterances and improved intelligibility. First-person feedback from families supports the impact of this program. One parent commented, *“These books are wonderful. I’m so glad we have more bilingual books to read with him.”* Another shared *“I can see how easy it will be to work on his language using these toys. There is so much to talk about!”*

Leadership: We welcomed a full-time clinical educator – Sarah Beckman – to our team in October. Sarah brings 9 years of clinical experience including student mentorship. Our two full-time clinical educators are now Hanen *It Takes Two to Talk* (ITTT) certified and are working to incorporate the ITTT curriculum into our Treasure Chest Program.

Acknowledgment: SRF’s generous support of our Treasure Chest Program and associated clinical infrastructure is essential to offering a no-cost clinic that prioritizes access for children/families who have been historically underserved. With SRF’s continued support, we will expand the reach of our Treasure Chest Program and enrich service delivery by integrating evidence-based approaches into our clinical care model.

With gratitude,

Ilana Oliff, MA, CCC-SLP
Director of Clinical Education

Jessica Rossi-Katz, PhD, CCC-A
Department Chair