

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



#MiraclesinMotion

THE THERAPY PLACE  
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## Dear Friends of The Therapy Place AKA our Miracle Makers,

In March of 2018, we celebrated 10 years since our nonprofit incorporation was approved. In 2011, we opened at our current location in Forest Acres. Since then, we have been blessed to touch the lives of over 700 midlands families. We treasure each and every one of the beautiful children we have had the pleasure of knowing! So many children have reached their goals and no longer need therapy, yet their families continue to participate in our support activities. Many have been with us since the doors opened and we are grateful to have the opportunity to be in their lives on a weekly basis to continue watching them move toward their full potential!

We know that none of this would have happened without your support! Your prayers, gifts, and volunteer hours keep us going! You'll see in this report so many sweet faces that have been touched by your generosity!

You'll also see that our financials reflect how your dollars are at work! Providing scholarships, purchasing equipment and supplies, providing training and continuing education for our staff as well as bridging the gap between the insurance reimbursement rate and our true costs -- every gift is appreciated!

We continue to be in awe of how God is working in this place that many said financially didn't make sense.

Thank you for taking the time to see what we've been doing in the past year. And thank you for making all of it possible!

God Bless!



Dawn M. Darby  
Co-Founder/Executive Director  
#MiraclesinMotion



Dawn & Cooper at the golf course

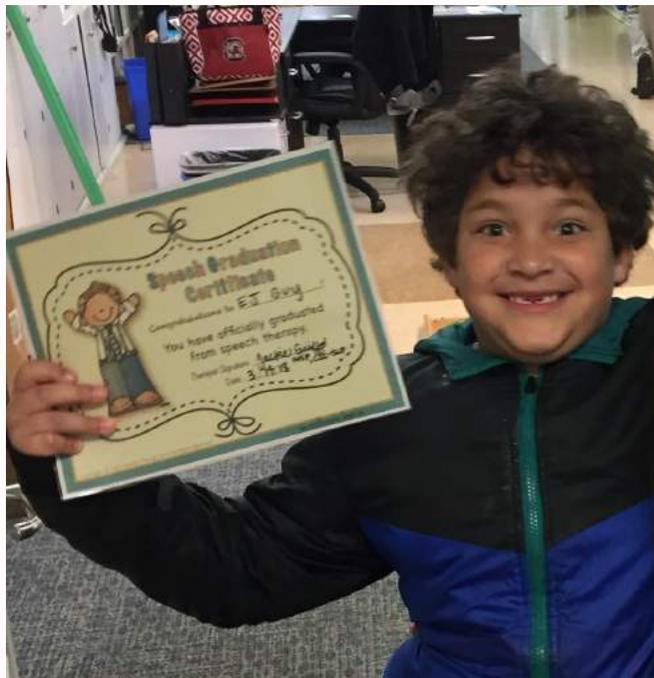


## THE THERAPY PLACE, INC.

**HISTORY:** Two local moms saw a shortfall of services for children with special needs. In 2008, they set out to bring different types of therapies and help curb waiting lists. Ten years later, The Therapy Place now provides physical, occupational and speech therapies, family support services and a therapeutic preschool for over 200 children from 11 midlands counties each year.

**VISION:** All children with special needs will have every opportunity to pursue his or her goals, realize his dreams and reach his full potential. Every parent or caregiver of those children will be provided with information, resources and encouragement in order to best support his or her child.

**MISSION:** To provide traditional and innovative therapies and recreational opportunities for children with special needs in an environment that is family-friendly, to include resources and education for the parents/caregivers.



Above left, EJ holds his graduation certificate. He received physical, occupational, and speech therapy at TTP starting in 2015. In 2018, EJ graduated from all three disciplines after meeting his goals and showing age appropriate skills! He now has confidence to communicate and play with peers in his 1st grade class.

Above center, River had selective dorsal rhizotomy (in St Louis) to alleviate the spasticity caused by his CP symptoms. Post-op protocol for SDR is 4-5 days per week of physical therapy, provided at TTP, 50 miles from the family's home in Williston. In order to get the full benefit of SDR, River had PERCS (hamstring and heel cord lengthening) in December to fully release his left heel for proper gait pattern and more stable walking. River keeps smiling, as shown here in speech therapy receiving oral facial taping to promote lip activation.

Kenslee, above right, attended therapies at TTP for four years, including her participation in TheraSuit Method, an intensive therapy program consisting of 3-4 hours of physical and occupational therapy designed to promote alignment, increase motor coordination and balance.

*"It is so obvious that you guys work so hard and care so much for our kiddos. Thank you for all of the time, energy, and patience you've invested! Caleb will never be the same." TTP Parent of Child in Bridges*



### **Bridges/Therapy:**

Above left, Junior is learning to drink with a specialized cup with his occupational therapist during snack time of the Bridges preschool.

**Extracurricular Activities:** Above center, Zymir and friends participate in a special yoga class during the Bridges Preschool day. Zymir graduated from Bridges and now attends weekly therapies.

### **Therapy**

Above right, Allie began receiving therapies at TTP in August. Within her first four months, Allie mastered her goal to jump in place with two feet. With this success, Allie has moved closer to age appropriate gross motor skills, increased ability to participate in games and activities with her class, and play with peers. She is now working to jump forward with a two-foot jump.

### **Family Services**

Despite her child's appointment being canceled, one of our moms came in to spend time in the waiting room with other parents. We are proud of the connections made and community we foster!

# IMPACT MADE IN 2018, BY THE NUMBERS

## **Therapies: 221 children received the following therapies**

- 8,410 Total Therapy Visits
- 2,225 Physical Therapy Visits
- 3,125 Occupational Therapy Visits
- 3,060 Speech & Language Therapy Visits

## **Bridges Preschool: 12 children (rolling enrollment)**

- 4 graduated from the Bridges Preschool, Summer of 2018

## **Family Support Services:**

- 70 unique families participated in Family Programs
- 201 overall attendance in Family Programs
- 11 family fun days
- 3 parent education workshops
- 3 support groups, 6 to 8-week sessions with childcare
- 5 individual & family counseling sessions
- 1 parents' night out with respite
- 1 family conference

## **Educating/experience for future therapists & teachers:**

- 8 adult students participated in the Bridges Preschool as interns/aides
- 10 interns/shadows obtained 1,800 pre-therapy hours alongside TTP therapists
- 3 graduate students performed practicums at TTP

# WHO WE HAVE SERVED

## **Since Our Doors Opened in 2011:**

- 711 children and their families have been served
- 53,660 Therapy Visits have been provided

**Diagnoses:** TTP has served children with common and very rare diagnoses: cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, Autism, Angelman Syndrome, Cri-du-Chat Syndrome, Dravet Syndrome, Sanfilippo Syndrome and many other developmental delays.

## **94% of children served at TTP qualify for medicaid:**

Of these children,  
75% qualify due to poverty (with disability/Medicaid primary)  
25% qualify due to disability (no poverty/commercial primary)

## **Families from 11 SC midlands counties attend services at TTP:**

Barnwell	Lexington
Chester	Orangeburg
Fairfield	Richland
Florence	Sumter
Kershaw	York
Lancaster	

**Brandon playing water games at the Bridges Preschool**



Who do we help?

# PEDIATRIC THERAPIES



## PHYSICAL THERAPY

Above, Jerrial is using a gait trainer in physical therapy. This device can help improve a child's ability to stand and walk with the end goal of independent ambulation or decreasing level of assistance/assistive device required. PT also helps strengthen major muscle groups needed for sitting, standing, walking or riding a bike.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

OT focuses on the upper extremity, fine and visual motor skills needed to complete functional tasks. OT helps improve activities of daily living such as dressing, eating and executive functioning.

Above, Caleb is "fishing" from an upside-down Bosu.

## SPEECH/LANGUAGE THERAPY

Speech therapy helps improve overall communication by assisting with receptive and expressive language, articulation, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), literacy, and swallowing.

Chelsey is using a book to work on receptive and expressive language in order to expand her length of utterance and increase intelligibility.

Therapists provide a home exercise program for the caregivers to carry over activities in the home setting, further promoting progress toward the child's goals.

**Over 150 local pediatricians refer children to our clinic for one-on-one physical, occupational and speech therapies.**

# MODALITIES & APPROACHES



## **SENSORY INTEGRATION**

Children benefit from sensory aspects of Occupational Therapy when learning to self-regulate due to too much or too little stimulation.

Here, Alivia gets a break in our sensory room. The room features special lighting, comfortable seating and textured objects on the wall for exploration.

## **INTERACTIVE METRONOME**

Interactive Metronome® (IM) is used during OT and/or PT to improve Neurotiming, or the synchronization of neural impulses within key brain networks for improved cognitive, communicative, sensory & motor performance.

Here, Clara is working on stepping to the rhythm of an interactive game on screen.

## **FEEDING THERAPY**

Our skilled speech and occupational therapists diagnose and treat a variety of children with feeding difficulties. We provide feeding therapy in order to assist with self feeding, progression of textures, oral motor skills, and increasing safety and quality of eating.

Here, Nariyah is exploring new foods and textures.

**TTP Therapists are trained in multiple modalities and approaches to provide the best care and outcomes for children.**

# THE BRIDGES PRESCHOOL



## COLLABORATION/ THERAPY INTEGRATION

Bridges Preschool uses a holistic approach with the unique combination of therapeutic and preschool techniques. Therapists work directly with teachers to insure each child's goals are carried over in the classroom and at home. Above, Seth and his teacher use input from his occupational therapist to independently write the letters of his name.



## PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM

The class uses the preschool curriculum *Read It Once Again*, a program specifically designed to teach cognitive, speech-language, fine motor, gross motor, and daily living skills to children of all abilities. Children participate in the engaging activities with customized support to meet their individual needs. Above, Eli is matching articles of clothing to the correct body parts during daily morning work.



## SCHOOL READINESS

The goal of Bridges is to encourage independence and prepare each child for the next step in his/her educational journey. Teachers work with parents to smoothly transition their child to the next educational setting after graduating from the Bridges program. Above, children are participating in a literacy activity identifying animal mamas and babies. Classroom aides and teachers insure that each child has the strategies and technology to participate fully.

The Midlands' ONLY Therapeutic Preschool

# FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES



## FAMILY FUN DAYS/FIELD TRIPS

Through the support of our partners, TTP treats families to Saturday fun days in-house as well as outings to the Ausome Gym, Columbia Marionette Theater, Riverbanks Zoo & Waterfall Junction, area parks, strawberry picking, baseball games, and much more!

Above, Sara, Jennifer and Enzo are having fun at Ausome Gym, hosted by the Junior League of Columbia.

## EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Training is provided at the request of parents to include such topics as financial planning, Medicaid, IEP process, behavior and more. TTP makes it happen by providing the instructor, food, space and childcare.

Above, parents are attending a workshop given by Family Connection of SC staff on maintaining their child's medical history through the use of a special binder system.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

Probably the most valuable to our families - time together to share, support and learn from each other. TTP provides outings for parents as well as counselor-led time with childcare included. The bonds that our parents build help them emotionally get through times that other parents may not understand.

Above, TTP moms are having a great time at our Mother's Day social.

*"The Therapy Place is unlike any other! When we walked in, we automatically felt loved and welcomed into the family. The parents are always talking to each other and support is unlike anywhere else." TTP Parent*

# The Therapy Place Team

TTP recruits the highest caliber talent. All teachers and therapists have advanced degrees and are certified in their respective fields. They continue learning through memberships in their professional organizations and further training. Here are just a few of the Continuing Education and topic specific trainings staff attended this year:

- Feeding Therapy
- G-tube Training
- Childhood Apraxia
- Seizures/CPR
- Responsive Classroom
- Nat'l Pediatric PT conference



**Bridges Teachers, Caroline & Lindsey at Responsive Classroom training**

## **Occupational Therapy**

Erin Maltba, MS, OTR/L  
Kristen James, MS, OTR/L  
Mandy Martin, MSR, OTR/L

## **Speech Language Therapy**

Ashley Reames, MA, CCC-SLP  
Jackie Griffio, MSP, CCC-SLP

## **Physical Therapy**

Ashley Eichler, DPT



**Our staff also likes to have fun with the kids. During Spirit Week, staff dresses up for Halloween.**

## **Bridges Preschool**

Caroline Strauss, MSW - Director/Co-Teacher  
Lindsey Duerr - Co-Teacher

## **Family Support**

Joye Lee, MPH - Family Services Coordinator  
Romy Rodriguez-Diaz- Family Engagement Specialist

## **Operations**

Dawn Darby, MPA - Executive Dir/Co-Founder  
Terry Reid - Associate Director  
Teresa Fleming - Billing Manager

## **Board of Directors**

Mary King - Board President, WISTV  
Heather McDonald - Vice President, Lawyer Lisa  
Melissa Cole - Secretary, Sentinel Risk Advisors  
Adam Odom - Treasurer, SouthState Bank  
Carlynn Cary, CCM Investment Advisers  
Storey Gilchrist, Amgen, Inc.  
Michael Anthos, AgFirst  
Nancy Goffi, TTP Parent, USC Athletics  
Jack Oliver, Jack Oliver's Pool, Spa and Patio

The Therapy Place would like to extend its appreciation to newly retired board members:  
Jason Burkett, Xavier Blake, Lynn Cornfoot  
and Jeff Davis

# We couldn't do it without your support!

## **BUSINESSES:**

AFLAC  
AgFirst Farm Credit Bank  
Ambient Media  
American Subcontractors Assn of the Carolinas  
AmerisBank  
Andron Stainless  
BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina  
Bristeeri Technologies  
Brown Electric  
Building Industry Association of Central SC  
Carolina Children's Dentistry  
Carolina Orthotics & Prosthetics  
CCM Investment Advisers, LLC  
Central Carolina Community Foundation  
Clark's Termite & Pest Control  
Colonial Life  
Columbia Rehabilitation Clinic, Inc.  
Crescent Construction  
DFAHCO  
Dupre Catering & Events  
Electric Control & Supply, Inc.  
Forest Acres Restaurant & Merchant Assn.  
First Citizens Bank  
Groucho's Deli Five Points  
Hanger Clinic  
Hoover Building Systems  
HUB International  
Jack Oliver's Pool, Spa & Patio  
Jill Smith & Associates  
Junior League of Columbia

Kirby Law  
Kiwanis Club of Columbia/Golden K Foundation  
K-Love Radio  
#KPstrong  
KW Beverage  
Lipscomb Family Foundation  
Livingston Insurance Agency  
Lizard's Thicket  
On Call Plumbing  
Pediatric Mobility Innovations  
Performance HCM  
Pizza Joint  
Reggie Sullivan Band  
Richland County Government  
St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Foundation  
Shandon United Methodist Women/James Hipp Memorial Fund  
Sisters of Charity Foundation  
Sound & Images  
South State Bank  
Southeastern Forestry, Inc.  
Southeastern Insurance Consultants  
Stier Supply Company  
Synovus  
Vaughn Belting Co., Inc.  
Village Idiot Pizza  
Zil Photography LLC

## **INDIVIDUALS:**

Rick & Liezl Baden  
Brenda Baker  
John Baldwin

Darrell Barnhill  
John & Carole Brazell  
Ed Byrd  
Carlynn Cary  
Diana and David Engle  
George & Jean Davis  
Mary Beth Davis  
Joseph & Ann Dedman  
Jeanne Dillman  
Bruce & Lilly Filler  
James & Virginia Fleming  
Holly Frost  
Reid and Teddy Hearn  
Ron & Linda Hoover  
Randy & LeAnn Hurtt  
Joe & Dale Kerwin  
Paris Knotts  
Julia & Jenkins Mikell  
Jean Moore  
Priya Pujara & Todd Senn  
Patricia Richardson  
Langley Shealy  
Elizabeth Simpson  
Hank Stier  
Teresa & Richard Strauss  
Suzanne Tedder  
Anne Tharp  
Frank & Tracy Voss  
Warner & Wendyth Wells  
Donna Williams

Please accept our forgiveness if we missed you in this report. We received some donations via online platforms and may have missed you in this printing.

# OUR PARTNERS

## Advisory Council

Xavier Blake, SCETV  
Jason Burkett, First Citizens Bank  
Kim Conant, Palmetto Pediatrics  
Lynn Cornfoot, SCETV  
Caleb Riser, Richardson Plowden  
Dr. Harley Morgan, Neurologist  
Dr. Larry Siegel, Developmental Pediatrician  
Jill Smith, Jill Smith & Associates  
Langley Shealy, Sisters of Charity  
Tem Miles, The McKay Firm  
Dr. Carol Page, SC Assistive Technology



## Community Partners

Able South Carolina  
The Arc of South Carolina  
Bright Start  
Carolina Behavior & Beyond  
Easter Seals  
Family Connection of SC  
Ray Tanner Foundation  
SC Assistive Technology Program  
Special Olympics of SC  
SC Respite Coalition  
USC Athletics  
USC Department of Exercise Science  
Vision Therapy Institute  
150+ Referring Pediatricians



Terry & Dawn accept piles of donations from the wish list from Palmetto GBA.



Mason is heading back from the playground via a new sidewalk donated by the Wells Family.



TTP mom, Kimberly Richey speaking, at Disability Advocacy Day

# FY 2018 Financials

## Budget FY2018

Total Revenue: \$1,125,108

Program Service Revenue: \$879,327

Fundraisers: \$62,281

Contributions & Grants: \$183,500

Total Expenses: \$1,145,221

Employee Expenses: \$1,017,533

Operating Expenses: \$99,521

Fundraising Expenses: \$28,167

Net Assets: \$380,984

The cost to TTP for an hour of therapy is \$120.

Through private insurance and Medicaid, we are reimbursed \$88 per hour, on average.

THANK YOU for your contributions to help make up the difference!! We couldn't do it without you!

Grants, special events and donations provided the funding for our family support programs, therapist and teacher training, facility improvements, equipment & supply purchases and Bridges Scholarships.

Bridges Scholarships Provided FY2018: \$40,850

Insurance Reimbursement Deficit: \$269,120



**Bridges Preschool Field Trip to Disability Advocacy Day at the State House**



**AC Flora students helping to beautify the outside at TTP.**

# Honorariums and Memorials

## Donations were received to honor:

George & Jean Davis  
Ophelia Federico  
Eli Filler  
Carson Fleming  
Ron & Kathryn Foisey  
Clara Goffi  
Gabe Kennedy  
Nicholas Matthews  
Annabella Moore  
Nyla Rogers  
Susan Sexton  
Avik Senn  
Braxton Snyder  
Enzo Thomas  
Bill Tibshrary  
TTP Staff Members

## Donations were received in memory of:

Declan Alexander  
Richard & Peggy Boatwright  
Jeannie Stier Butler  
Owen Caldwell  
Fran Clary  
Louise Davis  
George Eddy  
#KPstrong  
James Merritt  
Paul Whitlark

## THE DAVIS AWARD FOR KIM CONANT

Kim Conant, LPN & Special Needs Care Coordinator, received the Inaugural "Davis Award" at Therapalooza 2018. Kim is a founding board member of TTP and currently serves on the Advisory Council. The Davis Award was named after VADM (ret) George and Mrs. Jean Davis who have gone above and beyond in their time and support of TTP over the years.



**Kim Conant with TTP Mom, Diana Lawrence at Therapalooza 2018**



## DECLAN JACKSON ALEXANDER

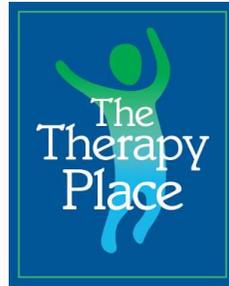
**12/29/2008 - 12/6/2018**

Declan was a loving child who fought a long, courageous battle against a very rare condition of Metachromatic Leukodystrophy. He attended TTP therapies and the Bridges Preschool. We are blessed to have known him and will continue to love on his beautiful family - parents Shannon & Brian and sister, Lilly Berlin.

# Ways to Help and Get Involved



**Mary Grace, TTP Graduate,  
designed our 2018 Tshirt**



TTP participates in Kroger Community Rewards, AmazonSmile, Facebook Fundraisers and the occasional percent night at area restaurants.

Please join our mailing list, make a donation, check out our wish list or find ways to volunteer at our web site [www.thetherapyplace.org](http://www.thetherapyplace.org)

**Follow us on social media:**

Facebook: [thetherapyplace](https://www.facebook.com/thetherapyplace)

Insta: [therapyplaceinc](https://www.instagram.com/therapyplaceinc)

Twitter: [@therapyplaceinc](https://twitter.com/therapyplaceinc)

## **Looking forward in 2019:**

TTP's 8 Year Anniversary: February 7

30th Annual Disability Advocacy Day, March 6

Gamecock Games: April 7

Midlands Gives: May 7

Inaugural 5K: Spring of 2019

Bridging Ceremony for Preschool Graduates: July 26

Therapalooza: Shine On! TBA - Fall 2019

Giving Tuesday: December 3



**TTP Families at the Ray Tanner Home Run,  
Champions Race**