They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

-Jeremiah 17:8
Special Kids’ mission is to serve Jesus Christ by caring for His children. We provide quality and affordable therapy and nursing services in a loving, Christian environment with the support and guidance of the patient’s physician. Our goal is that no family would be denied services due to lack of funding or access to services. We believe that the family unit is important, and by offering quality, coordinated services to the special needs community, we will assist in keeping the family intact.

WHO WE SERVE
Special Kids serves children from birth to 21-years old. Special Kids serves any diagnosis from developmental delays to children who will need long-term medical assistance. Special Kids is a Murfreesboro-based ministry that started with one child in 1998 and has grown to serve over 3,700 children from 19 surrounding counties in middle Tennessee. The organization serves every family, regardless of their income. In 2017, 1,046 total patients were served, 520 of those were new patients.

WHO WE ARE
What others call a job, we call a mission. We are a diverse team comprised of various professions, all here with one passion and a heart to serve His children.

TOTAL PATIENTS IN 2017
373 more than 2016

TOTAL THERAPY SESSIONS IN 2017
4,177 more than 2016

24,155

WHAT WE DO

PHYSICAL THERAPY
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
SPEECH THERAPY
FEEDING THERAPY
GROUP THERAPY
NURSING SERVICES
CAMP ABILITY
FAMILY RESOURCES

PATIENT GROWTH

1,046
Katie, and her husband Brian Dell, first came to Special Kids when their son, Alex, was almost four. He had received services at another therapy provider, but his parents had trouble paying for the services and could not afford to have Alex in therapy as often as was needed. The Dell’s soon met with the Special Kids Family Resources team. Family Resources helped the Dell’s get started with services and begin navigating Alex’s recent diagnosis of autism. “It was a lot of help,” said Katie. “When you go through a diagnosis with a kid, you feel like you’re the only one.”

Special Kids helped the Dell’s find two outside grants that would help pay for Alex’s frequent therapies, allowing him to receive therapy as often as he needed.

Over the past years, Special Kids has blessed the Dell’s with gift cards, diapers, Thanksgiving dinner, and Christmas presents, thanks to donors in the community who give directly to families at Special Kids. “It has been so helpful for us,” said Katie. The Dell’s have continued to do whatever it takes to help not only Alex, but also his two siblings Abbey and Amelia. All together, the three Dell children receive 9 services every week, including speech, occupational, physical, and feeding therapies. “We’re amazed at all the help the kids and our family have received,” Katie said. “The kids are doing so well here,” said Katie. “The therapists are more than willing to give ideas, tips, and tricks. The kids love it!”

The Dell’s commitment to getting their children what they need is making all the difference. Brian works during the day and Katie works nights and weekends so she can take the children to their appointments. “It’s a big part of our life right now because we are here every day,” said Katie. “We do it because we know it will help.” The Dell children are the proof. Through the love and support of their parents, they are making huge strides in therapy and life. If it were not for Special Kids investors this family would not be able to afford the therapies their children need. The Special Kids Endowment has been established to help families just like the Dell’s.

In 2017, Special Kids increased therapy sessions by 21% over 2016 and added extended hours to try and meet our community’s ever-increasing need.

REFERRALS ARE GROWING
Special Kids’ referral rate has increased by over 50% in the past year. As this referral rate grows, our number of families needing financial support continues to grow as well. We need sustainable resources to help us meet this growing need in our community. In 2016, Special Kids had a $200,000 gap to help families on the sliding scale, which was met by our investors. According to the organizations needs assessment, by 2019, Rutherford County alone will have over 12,000 children in need of therapy services. If we hope to serve only 10% of these children, we expect our deficit to double to more than $400,000 by that time. The Special Kid Endowment Fund would help us to meet that need, as well as help provide funds for the growth of the organization to ensure that we are able to meet the growing need of the community.

SOURCE OF REVENUE
The Endowment Fund has been created to give stability to the Special Kids organization. Special Kids faces many variables that are part of our existing landscape. These include, but are not limited to, healthcare changes, insurance reimbursements that are fluctuating, and the high percentage of our revenue coming from insurance reimbursements and fundraising. Only seven percent of Special Kids’ revenue comes from the families themselves.

“This has been a God send for us. This is a safe place. They get it, and I’m not alone.” - Katie Dell
To ensure that Special Kids is able to continue serving every family that walks through our doors, the Special Kids Endowment Fund was created. The Fund empowers families to receive the medical and therapeutic treatment that their children need, regardless of their income.

Special Kids is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2018! To commemorate this special milestone, Special Kids has established a goal of $2 million pledged from donors. Over $520,000 has currently been pledged to the Special Kids Endowment Fund.

Anyone can give to the Endowment at anytime, with any amount. Contact Noel Deal, Lead Investor Relations Specialist at ndeal@specialkidstn.com or 629-207-1282 to express your interest in the endowment.

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

-2 Corinthians 9:11
Many years ago Charlie Yates learned of the mission of Special Kids and immediately started investing. Charlie shares, “Then by God’s grace, four years ago, I was invited to participate on the board of directors which has shown me the needs of Special Kids. The Endowment Fund fits to fully develop the long term needs of Special Kids.”

Q. You have invested in the Special Kids endowment fund, why is it important for you to invest in this way?

A.  I have chosen to invest in the present and future of Special Kids. The opportunity is there to invest in the operational giving, present needs, and now with the Endowment Fund your gift continues to give year after year.

Q. What would you say to encourage someone thinking about investing in the endowment fund?

A.  Investing in the Endowment fund completes the giving cycle. We invest in the yearly operation fund for the current needs and then the Endowment fund answers the long-term future needs.

Q. What does Special Kids mean to you?

A. Within our Godly nature is the desire to help and support those in need. The blessing in supporting Special Kids is that these children do have needs and they are also learning to thrive in their relationship with our Lord at the same time. Special Kids puts your giving into action.
Getting started with the Endowment fund process is easier than you may think. As an investor in the Special Kids Endowment fund, you will receive annual updates on the progress of the endowment, where the funds were used, and how those funds helped the growth of the organization and the families we serve. Below are the steps you will take to get started.

1. Contact Noel Deal, Lead Investor Relations Specialist, at ndeal@specialkidstn.com or 629-207-1282 and express your interest in the endowment.

2. Special Kids will meet with you and talk one-on-one about how you can leave a legacy for families at Special Kids for decades to come.

3. Once all of your questions have been answered, pray about what the Lord would have you do.

4. Fill out a pledge card with your intended commitment. This card will include the following information:
   a. Your name and contact information
   b. The amount of your pledge
   c. Naming/Designation Opportunities
   d. Recognition Request
   e. How the pledge will be fulfilled

5. Once your investment is received, it is sent to the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, which manages the Special Kids Endowment Fund.

6. You will receive an annual update on the progress of the fund and how it has impacted the families at Special Kids.

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field; and this is smaller than all other seeds, but when it is full grown, it is larger than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the bird of the air come and nest in its branches.

- Matthew 13:31-32
I am the Vine, You are the branches

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