



# Meyer Center

for Special Children



**ANNUAL REPORT**

# A YEAR TO REMEMBER

The 2022-23 school year was filled with tremendous excitement as we added our 11th class and welcomed 108 new and returning students! Back to school at the Meyer Center is such a special time. Some parents are learning to trust their child in someone else's care for the first time. Others are reassured by the familiar faces who will serve their child for another year. All are eager for the growth their child will achieve because of our program's unique approach to early intervention education and therapy.



At the Meyer Center, we are focused on the potential that lies in every child. Our unique approach changes the trajectory of a child's life and aids them in their long-term independence. This would not be possible without the work of our dedicated board, staff and most generous community. Together, we provide the building blocks that children with disabilities need to thrive.

Meta Bowers  
Executive Director

As I look back on the 2022-23 school year, it is easy to recall our shiny accomplishments; successful fundraising events, Kid's Classic and Holiday Luncheon; sensory garden play space, cross-programming between our education and therapy departments and launching a 1:1 device program to instill the skills potential graduates will need in the future. Those shiny accomplishments are great but what we are most proud of is the "little everyday" milestones that our children achieve. These milestones provide hope to our families and are the foundation for the dreams of their children.

I often hear in the community that, "magic happens at the Meyer Center." Yes, the Meyer Center is a magical place filled with love, support and hope. Our student's accomplishments are not achieved by magic. They are made possible because of our skilled educators, therapists, support staff and you. This is how our children achieve milestones once thought impossible. This is our mission, which is the same vision Dr. Meyer had almost 70 years ago. I look forward to celebrating our 70th birthday next year with the hope in my heart that Meyer Center will continue to grow and impact our community.

Jeni Cain  
Board of Directors President



## BOARD OFFICERS

- **PRESIDENT:** Jennifer Cain, *Monkee's of the West End*
- **PRESIDENT ELECT:** Sloan Ellis, *Ellis Hinton Law, LLC*
- **SECRETARY:** Jim Cassidy, *Cassidy, Coates, Price, P.A.*
- **TREASURER:** David Gable, *Retired CFO/ Meyer Center Grandfather*
- **MEMBER AT LARGE:** Kirk Shockley, *Enevate Corp.*
- **HONORARY BOARD CHAIR:** Beth Clements, *First Lady of Clemson University*

## BOARD MEMBERS

- Andreama Snyder, *Coldwell Banker Caine*
- Anne Carter MacNabb, *Wilson Associates*
- Barry Lynch, *Northwestern Mutual*
- Brian Holmes, *Peachtree Planning*
- Janet Calvage, *Retired Education Administrator*
- Jill Timmons, *Prisma Health*
- John Runion, *Pinnacle Financial Partners*
- Lauren Gallagher, *Dynamic Speech and Language Services*
- Sara Shamblin, *Community Volunteer*
- Skelly Stevens, *GourmetGVL*

## EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS

- Bill Bishop
- Cathy Howard
- Janie Bridges
- Sally Russell
- Tommy Jenkins
- Susan Wilkins
- Clarence Edwards
- Barbara Swann
- Marsha Elrod
- Kathy Higgins

## MISSION

The Meyer Center is a nonprofit specializing in early education and intensive therapy services to empower children with disabilities to reach their maximum potential.

## VISION

We envision a world where all children with disabilities are enabled to learn and thrive in their communities.



# BUILDING BLOCKS FOR



## SPEECH

Grant is unable to use verbal speech to communicate so he uses a Speech Generating Device. His motor limitations affect his hands, so instead of touching his device to make it speak, he uses his eyes. Grant has worked hard to master communication skills allowing him to participate and engage in classroom activities like naming the weather of the day during circle time. He can also use his device to name the letters of the alphabet, play games and tell jokes (his favorite)! Scan the QR code to watch a future meteorologist in speech therapy!



[SCAN TO WATCH VIDEO](#)



## PHYSICAL THERAPY

When Evan started at the Meyer Center in the Fall of 2022, he was not an independent walker. In fact, he wasn't even an independent stander. Through lots of hard work and encouragement in physical therapy, Evan is not only walking all over the school, but he is also going up and down ramps, climbing up ladders on the playground with the help of teachers and standing from the floor (see videos). Scan the QR code to see Evan go!



[SCAN TO WATCH VIDEO](#)



## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Emma was a very shy and fearful little girl when she started at the Meyer Center. She was cautious with exploring any equipment, would not explore preschool textures with her hands. She struggled to sit and pay attention to complete adult directed activities. Emma is now a confident little girl who is eager to explore her environment and new sensory experiences. She has learned to put on her socks and shoes and feed herself with utensils. She loves to color and is able to sit and complete puzzles. Emma is now learning to cut across lines with scissors and write the letters of her name.



[SCAN TO WATCH VIDEO](#)



## EDUCATION

At the beginning of the school year, Cason was using few words. Throughout the year, his teachers discovered things he was interested in and used this to build his confidence for learning in class. Cason can now independently write 12 words, say the whole alphabet in order, count to 20 and recite the months of the year. Scan the QR to see Cason's success in action!




[SCAN TO WATCH VIDEO](#)






# WHO WE SERVE

The Meyer Center specializes in early education and intensive therapy services to empower children with disabilities to reach their maximum potential. Our overarching goal for all students is to bridge the gap between the child with a disability and their same-age typical peers. The Meyer Center is the only place in Upstate SC where preschool-age students with disabilities can receive combined education and therapies under one roof.

At the Meyer Center, we focus on making a child successful for life. Providing intensive services at a young age can change the trajectory of a child's long-term potential in education, employment, and independent living – and it's what we, and we alone, do best.

AGE	0-1 Year = 1	1 Year = 6	2 Years = 13	3 Year = 27
	4 Years = 19	5 Years = 23	6 Years = 17	7 Years = 10
RACE	Caucasian <b>64</b>	African American <b>23</b>	Multi-Racial <b>10</b>	Hispanic <b>19</b>
	Greenville <b>109</b>	Pickens <b>5</b>	Spartanburg <b>1</b>	Anderson <b>1</b>
GENDER	Male <b>78</b>	Female <b>38</b>		
	Autism = 33	Developmental Delays = 24	Speech Impairment = 82	Other health impairment = 25
DIAGNOSES	Presumptive Medical Disability = 6	Hearing Impairment = 6	Vision Impairment = 11	Multiple Disabilities = 12

# WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED

<b>116</b> Students served 2022-23		<b>57</b> Medical emergency calls (non 911)		<b>8,927</b> Nursing services provided (2 EMS calls)
	<b>35,188</b> Miles traveled (by 4 buses) to transport 36 students to and from school		<b>17,943</b> Therapy sessions	

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT

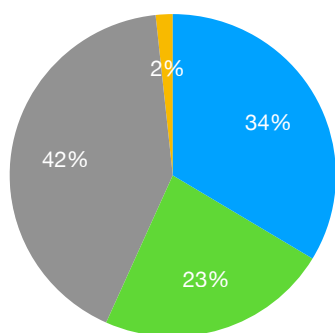
At the Meyer Center our goal is to provide building blocks for success for every student. But we cannot do what we do without the generous support of our community. We are grateful for event sponsors, donors, grantors, community partners and volunteers. It takes the hands of many to set our students up with a strong foundation to reach their full potential.



## VOLUNTEER WITH US!

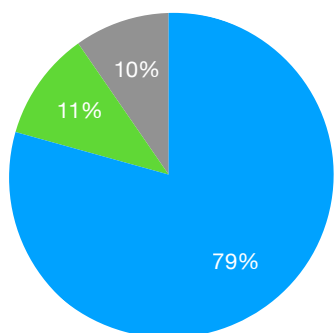
Our volunteers are dedicated, passionate, kind, reliable and not afraid to get their hands dirty! We have lots of opportunities for volunteers (individual & groups) to get involved in and out of the classroom. Visit [meyercenter.org](http://meyercenter.org) to volunteer.

Scan the QR code to learn more about volunteer opportunities.



## REVENUE

- State and Federal = 34%
- Medicaid = 23%
- Fundraising = 42%
- Other = 2%



## EXPENSES

- Programs = 79%
- Fundraising = 11%
- Administration = 10%

# OUR DONORS

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

### \$75,000+

Linda Biggs  
Green Valley Country Club  
Tommy and Toni Jenkins

### \$50,000-\$74,999

Paul C. Aughtry III  
Bon Secours St. Francis Health System  
Margaret Linder Southern Endowment

### \$25,000-\$49,999

Brooks and Joan Fortune Family Foundation  
Daniel-Mickel Foundation  
Greenville Maintenance Services, Inc.  
Heartstrong Media  
Monkee's of the West End  
Rick Erwin Dining Group  
Greg and Jill Schneider  
Carol G. Scott

### \$15,000-\$24,999

ALL IN TAILGATERS  
Alliance Development, Inc.  
Brashier Middle College  
Shounda and Tommy Foster  
David and Teresa Gable  
Sonya and David League  
John I. Smith Charities, Inc.  
Lexus of Greenville  
Pinnacle Financial Partners

### \$10,000-\$14,999

Greg and Amanda Arscott  
BMW Charity Pro-Am  
Buncombe Street Methodist-SISK Foundation  
CAPTRUST Greenville  
Billy Clinkscales  
Barry Cox  
Dabo's All In Team Foundation  
Maria and Rick Erwin  
Ethox Chemicals, LLC  
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Karl-Monz-Foundation  
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David and Sherry Poole  
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Hal and Minor Mickel Shaw  
The Phillips Foundation  
The Scout Guide Greenville  
Neill M. Timmons  
United Community  
Dan and Fran Walters  
Wilson Associates  
Woodhouse Spa Greenville  
World Acceptance Corporation  
Anonymous

\*Full list of donors is on the website.



## GET INVOLVED

Mark your calendars for our 2023–24 events!

- **Polo Classic**  
SOLD OUT! Stay tuned for 2024 details!  
October 22, 2023  
Historic Hopkins Farm
- **Holiday Luncheon**  
November 29, 2023  
Greenville Convention Center
- **Kids Classic Golf Tournament**  
April 30, 2024  
6 Upstate Golf Courses

### IMPACT!

Impact! is a group of hardworking individuals who together make a huge impact on the Meyer Center.

### CELEBRATE WITH US!

In 2024, the Meyer Center will celebrate 70 years of serving children with disabilities in the upstate. Be on the lookout for events and activities next year!



Scan the QR code to learn more about ways to get involved.

FOLLOW US ON



meyercenter.org  
Phone: 864.250.0005

