

### Clarity's Personal Approach: Minnie's Story


Minnie was 5 years old when she was seen by Clarity's Autism Spectrum Evaluation Team (ASET). Her parents first had concerns that their daughter may have autism when she was a very young child. Rather than waiting 6-9 months for an Autism evaluation with another provider in the Upstate and waiting an additional 1-2 months to have her evaluated by a speech language pathologist and occupational therapist, Minnie's parents called Clarity. Minnie was scheduled for an evaluation within a month of her parents' first call to Clarity. Through a play-based and collaborative multidisciplinary evaluation, Dr. Shands (Psychologist with Clarity), Maggie Moore (Speech Language Pathologist with Clarity), and Nikki Tench, (Occupational Therapist with Advanced Therapy Solutions; ATS) identified Minnie's strengths, including her above average intelligence and academic skills. Significant delays were identified in Minnie's sensory processing, expressive language, pragmatic (social) language, self-help skills and social, emotional, and behavioral functioning. Overall, it was determined that Minnie has an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Following the evaluation, Minnie's parents sought to implement many of the recommendations provided by ASET. Minnie was determined eligible for a daily preschool special education program through the local school district within two months of her evaluation at Clarity *without* the need for further evaluations by the school district. In addition, the evaluation report from Clarity assisted Minnie's parents in accessing case management services through the Autism Division of the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs and she now has insurance coverage through TEFRA Medicaid due to her Autism diagnosis. With TEFRA, Minnie receives speech therapy at Clarity and occupational and physical therapy at ATS at no cost to her parents.

Minnie's parents expressed appreciation for Clarity's personal and accessible approach to evaluation and treatment, noting their personal introduction to Susan Kastner (a parent mentor with Family Connections) immediately after receiving Minnie's diagnosis of Autism. Minnie's mother shared that she appreciated how "easy the team made it for Minnie to enter the public-school system" and that she and Minnie's father were pleasantly surprised that "all the testing Minnie would need to access services through DDSN, the school district, and privately had already been done by ASET".

\*Please note that Minnie's family requested that their story be shared anonymously and Minnie is the name chosen by their 5 year old daughter.

## Message from Our Leadership



Each year we are privileged to watch the individuals we serve overcome speech, hearing and learning challenges. This year was no exception. Our team of providers collectively evaluated and/or treated 1,277 children and 342 adults. That's 1,619 lives that were impacted and made better through Clarity: The Speech, Hearing and Learning Center.

While impacting the lives of the individuals we served, Clarity welcomed and embraced new opportunities. We successfully transitioned to electronic medical records in February of 2016 and in the summer of 2016, we restructured our Autism Spectrum Evaluation Team (ASET) to provide a truly multidisciplinary evaluation that includes evaluations by a psychologist, speech language pathologist, occupational therapist and audiologist. Through this collaborative and multidisciplinary approach, our clients can now be evaluated at one time by multiple evaluators in one location. We are the *only* provider in our community to offer this approach to Autism evaluation and through this approach our clients can access necessary early interventions sooner rather than later. In the later part of 2016, our team began preparations for the development and unveiling of a new website in early 2017.

Our board welcomed two new board members in late 2016—Eldon Russ, a retired Human Resources professional, and Courtney Kenna, a community volunteer with graduate-level training in clinical psychology. We also welcomed three new staff members—Dr. Laura Rogers (a bilingual post-doctoral fellow in the Learning and Psychology department), Terri Fulton (a Speech Language Pathologist in the Speech and Language department) and Malorie Batts (our new Director of Operations). We said farewell to Jennifer Merriam and Julia Colon, speech language pathologists in the Speech and Language Department. We also said farewell in October to Dr. Steve Guryan who served as a staff audiologist since 1987 and as our Executive Director since 2000. Holly Hurley stepped in to serve as the Interim Executive Director during Board of Directors search for the new Executive Director.

Clarity continues to provide speech and language, hearing and audiology, and learning and psychology services at the Center for Developmental Services and our speech and language department continued to provide speech therapy services at Advanced Therapy Solutions. We also continued to serve individuals in our community through onsite services. Our audiologists provided video otoscopy and hearing screenings at five locations including ScanSource, St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School, and Lead Academy. Our psychology and learning department continued implementation of the Homework Organization Planning Skills Program at Grove Elementary in the Spring and Fall of 2016 and our speech and language department provided mobile speech language services at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School and aquatics speech language therapy in partnership with Advanced Therapy Solutions at The Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center. In addition, our Clarity team provided training and supervision to three undergraduate students from Penn State University, Furman University and North Greenville University and three graduate students in speech language pathology from the University of South Carolina.

Our continued success would not be possible without the continued support of our community through grants and donations. Thank you for all you have done to support our success. We look forward to another successful year in 2017.



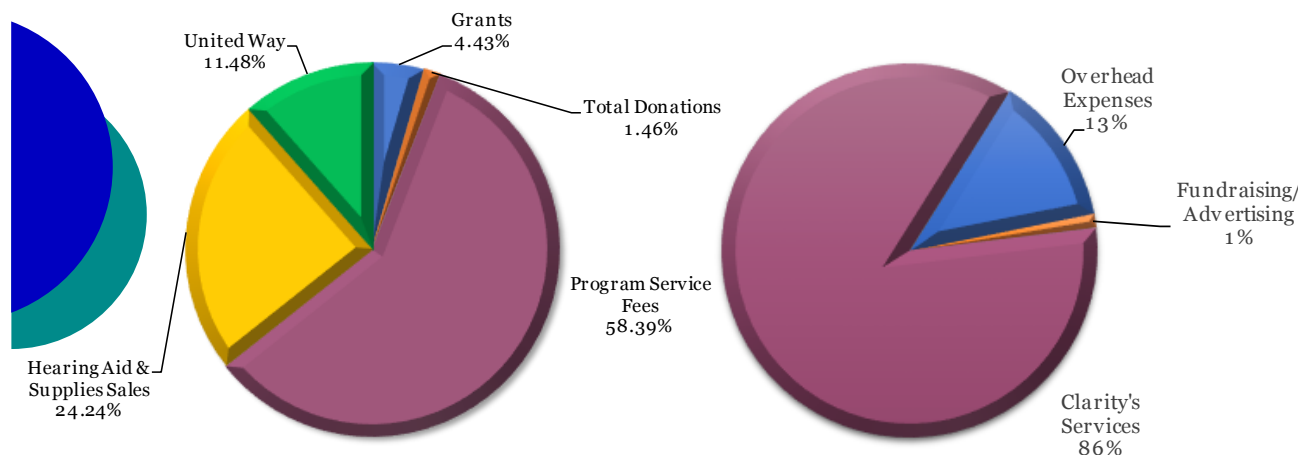
**Jason Farmer**  
Clarity Board President  
*Hitachi Solutions*



**Elizabeth Shands, PhD**  
Executive Director  
*Clarity*

## REVENUE & SUPPORT

## EXPENSES



## 2016 SUPPORTERS

*Thank you for your generous investment in the lives of the children and adults we serve*

Over \$100,000	\$500-\$999	Hubert and Mary Crosby	William W. Kehl
United Way of Greenville	Anonymous	Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Ferlauto	Austin McVay
	Dr. Stephen T. Guryan	Wesley Lambert	Robert "Skeeter" Powell
\$10,000-\$50,000	The Harper Family Foundation	Wellington M. Manning	Suzanne Rau
Fullerton Foundation	Jimmy L. Mobley	Tony Payne	Tara D. Reed
F. W. Symmes Foundation	W. Scott and Laura Montgomery, IV	Tara D. Reed	Amy Shiftlett
	Megan P. O'Neill		
\$2,500-\$9,999	Louis Runge	\$100-\$249	Under \$100
Jason and Carol Farmer	Darlene Renee Shepherd	Anonymous	Anonymous
Elizabeth "Bea" Funer	Russell D. Shepherd	Anonymous	Kristopher Butler
	Chris Thomas	Malorie Batts	Roger Cartee
\$1,000-\$2,499	Peter Whitson	Metris R. Cain	Allison Crawford
Anonymous	Sally Whitson	Mark S. Danielson	Ann Leohrlein Fluty
Becky and Bobby Hartness		Bridget Lynch Fetterman	Jonathan Hausman
Joey and Lis Shands	\$250-\$499	J. Williams and Emmy Holt	Jason Hessberg
Chris N. Wilson	Bobbie J. Branyon	Holly A. Hurley	Teresa G. Keasler

## CLARITY CARES

Many clients are able to access our services using their insurance or by paying privately but in some cases insurance doesn't cover the services needed or an individual is unable to afford our services when paying privately. **Imagine if your loved one needed speech, hearing or learning support but you couldn't afford it.** Our supporters assist our community in attaining these services through their generous contributions to the Clarity Cares Fund.

All of our clients receiving support thru the Clarity Cares Fund pay fees using a sliding scale but what they pay is dependent on their specific financial situation.

Financial donations to the Clarity Cares Fund makes many services at Clarity affordable to our clients. For example, they may allow an individual to receive a free or low cost hearing aid, a struggling student to receive intensive, research-based learning interventions or allow a student struggling to focus receive an evaluation and recommendations for support.

*Donations can be sent directly to Clarity at 29 N. Academy Street, Greenville, SC 29601 or by visiting [www.clarityupstate.org/donate](http://www.clarityupstate.org/donate). Please call our Executive Director, Dr. Elizabeth Shands, at (864) 331-1408 to discuss planned gifts, gifts of stock or securities, or to find out about volunteer opportunities.*



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



## 2016 ACHIEVEMENTS



**69 years of dedicated service to our community**

**1,619 clients served at Clarity**

Speech and Language	Hearing and Audiology	Learning and Psychology
169 Children    2 Adults	1,014 Children    327 Adults	94 Children    13 Adults

**706 Individuals received low or no cost services with 23 of those being provided through \$19,342 in sliding scale funds**

**64 Central Auditory Processing Evaluations completed**

**121 Audiological Brainstem Response (ABR) evaluations completed**

**75 New Pediatric patients fitted with hearing aids**

**27 New Adult patients fitted with hearing aids**

**5 Community hearing screenings performed**