



Total Expenses: **\$3,006,771**

In the last 5 years, St. Gerard has more than doubled in size - from a **\$1.4 million** annual budget to last year's annual budget of over **\$3 million**. We are serving more autistic staff to take the mission onto their shoulders, doing more good in WNC. We are thankful to all of our donors for enabling this growth, but we have much more to do. Our

inquiries in 2021

children, adults, and their families, hiring and training more current waitlist stands at over 200 families. We need your continued help so that we can continue to grow - both in quantity and in quality - and deliver life-changing therapies and support to everyone who needs it in WNC.



2021 Board of Directors

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"St. Gerard House provides a

positive environment for my

daughter. She is growing and

learning every day."

- St. Gerard House parent

February 21 **Mardi Gras Party**

Asheville, NC

for **2023**

April 26 13th Annual First Words of Hope Luncheon

Blue Ridge Community College Flat Rock, NC "Faith is not for overcoming obstacles; it is for experiencing them—all the way through!"

- Richard Rohr



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Mission is to help individuals with autism and their families experience more joy and achieve meaningful life outcomes.



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LETTER FROM THE **CEO/Founder**



f 2020 was the year of survival, 2021 was the year of recovery. After enduring all the changes and uncertainties of the pandemic, 2021 was about recognizing our many blessings, being patient with one another, being there for families and staff during their most vulnerable times and accepting that everyone was tired. Despite this, our programs were thriving. Kids and young adults with autism were

doing quite well and making marked gains. Struggles with hiring and staff retention became a new issue. The operating landscape of any business or nonprofit had drastically changed. Our team did what we do best and helped each other out while remaining focused on the kids, families and our mission.

Our waitlist grew significantly during 2021 as more kids with special needs weren't finding success in other learning settings. The SGH board and leadership team created a new strategic plan to map out new goals and growth for the next few years so we can serve more WNC families experiencing autism. This dynamic plan has been informing our steps to strengthen administration to scale programing for greater impact. We couldn't have done this without the unwavering support from our funding partners, sponsors and individuals like yourselves who continue to believe in the mission of St. Gerard House and the special souls we serve.

While we have immense data on the outcomes and efficacy of our programs, you may not see all the unmeasured kindness, grace, patience and love practiced on an hourly basis around here. Our staff exemplifies faith in action and it frequently leaves me speechless. Thank you for allowing this important work to continue. You are helping families find peace that they had long ago forgotten.

With Gratitude and Jov.

Carolin C Long Caroline Long

"The team genuinely cares for my son and appreciates him for who he is." - St. Gerard House parent

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, where our facilities were fully shut down, we were able to provide nearly 20,000 hours of therapy.

Technicians obtained their certification as **Registered Behavior** Technicians through

our training.

"What we appreciate most about our child's team is their communication, honesty, & commitment."

- St. Gerard House parent

accomplishments and successes.' - St. Gerard House parent Provided staff with over job training in 2021 'I am constantly in awe of the way the staff and volunteers at St. Gerard House show the participants in my son's program kindness, dignity and respect." - St. Gerard House parent ovided over 500 hours of BCBA - parent training in a

one on one, in-person, or virtual environment



City of Hendersonville

2021

GRANTS &

FUNDING

PARTNERS

Alongside new

community partners, SGH

held 13 Family Group Night

sessions in 2021, where 474

meals & 189 activity kits were

distributed to over **59** families

seeking support and resources

for raising children with

special needs.

Community Foundation of Henderson County Community Partner Grant: Horizon Heating & Cooling, Hannah Flanagan's, & Southern Alarm

Community Foundation of Henderson County

Community Foundation of Henderson County - Melvin R Lane

Community Foundation of Western North Carolina

Department of Health & Human Services

Dogwood Health Trust

Henderson County

Richard & Marie Reynolds Foundation

Community Foundation of North Louisiana, Denman and Mary Long Advised Fund

Community Foundation of WNC, Colton Groome & Co.

Bill & Pam Faulk, Donor Advised Fund

Gumbo Foundation

H.M. Bitner Charitable Trust

Jack & Judy Brinson Foundation

Lamb Foundation of NC

Tobin Family Education and Health Foundation

Dirk & Paige Willms, Donor Advised Fund

