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

“Faith is not for overcoming obstacles; it is for experiencing them—all the way through!”

- Richard Rohr

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 children, adults, and their families, hiring and training more staff to take the mission onto their shoulders, doing more good in WNC. We are faithful to our dream of making this growth happen, but we have much more to do. Our 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—to deliver life-changing therapies and support to everyone who needs it in WNC.

St. Gerard House provides a positive environment for my daughter. She is growing and learning every day.

- St. Gerard House parent

2021 Board of Directors

Maurean Adams, President
John Glover, Vice President
William Lammers, Treasurer
Mary O’Neill, Secretary
Rita Cubbage, Past-President
Eric Congdon
Bob Lange
Dave McFarland
Lee Mulligan, Esq.
Kelli Spector

2021 Annual Report

Save the Date

February 21
Mardi Gras Party
Asheville, NC

April 26
13th Annual First Words of Hope Luncheon
Blue Ridge Community College
Flat Rock, NC
LETTER FROM THE CEO/Founder

If 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 in the ablest manner to serve kids, families and our mission.

Our work has broadened significantly. In 2021, we served kids with special needs and expanded our services to include adults with autism and those with intellectual disabilities. Our Board of Directors and leadership team have dedicated the last several months to planning our future and creating a new strategic plan to map out new goals and growth for the next few years.

This dynamic plan has been informing our steps to strengthen administration to scale programming 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 forsook.

With Gratitude and Joy,
Caroline Long

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.

Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, SGH was able to provide nearly 20,000 hours of therapy. SGH received 136 new phone calls inquiring about services, 48 of those 136 were able to be added to the waiting list.

SGH was able to EXPAND services for our Discovery program by adding a mobile classroom for growing learning opportunities.

“I appreciate that St. Gerard House does not use a "one size fits all" approach. The team looks at our daughter as an individual to see where she needs help and tailors her therapy plan to meet those needs." - St. Gerard House parent

Provided over 500 hours of BCBA - parent training in a one on one, in-person, or virtual environment.

Provided staff with over 5,280 hours of role-specific job training in 2021.

50% of early intervention children graduated and entered into mainstream learning environments.

City of Hendersonville
Community Foundation of Henderson County

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

Community Foundation of Western North Carolina

Department of Health & Human Services

Dogwood Health Trust

Henderson County

Richard & Marie Reynolds Foundation

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

Dirk & Paige Willms, Donor Advised Fund

Bill & Pam Faulk, Donor Advised Fund

Gumbo Foundation

H.M. Bitner Charitable Trust

Jodi & Judy Brinson Foundation

Lamb Foundation of NC

Tobin Family Education and Health Foundation

Drs. & Peggy Willms, Donor Advised Fund

2021 Grants & Funding Partners