



## OUR PROGRAMS

The total approach of combining therapy and education to help each child is what makes the Meyer Center unique.

**EDUCATION** – Certified Special Education Teachers provide individualized instruction and whole group learning experiences based on a child’s developmental age and specific needs. Six curriculums are utilized to meet the varying needs of each classroom.

**THERAPY** – Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapists work with children to improve fine/gross motor skills, communication and feeding/swallowing. Students receive therapies throughout the school day in one-on-one and group settings.

**INNOVATION – SENSORY ADDITIONS** – This year in an effort to elevate the service we provide, we developed a universal plan to create more sensory involved play. In these interactive spaces, students can participate in a variety of activities that aid in regulating processing or provide students with specific sensory input. Our campus now has a sensory corner in each classroom, as well as an interactive projector in the indoor play space and an interactive metronome.



# A Time to Elevate

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22



**Meyer Center**  
for Special Children

## LETTER FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESIDENT



Have you ever looked around and wondered how you got here? I know I do. Reflecting on the 2021-2022 school year at the Meyer Center, I can’t help but think “how did we get here?”

“Here” is a simple but complex word. It can indicate a time, point, or place; an emotional state of being, or a word to be used to draw attention to what has arrived. You might ask what is “here” for the Meyer Center. Here is where we are.

- The Meyer Center is an agile thriving organization that prioritizes our mission every day.
- The Meyer Center is financially strong with diverse funding avenues and a strong donor base that continues to grow.
- The Meyer Center continues to lean into our surrounding community and listen to how to better serve the children in the Upstate.
- The Meyer Center Board of Directors is strong, engaged, and passionate.

All these facts bring me joy. But what brings me the most joy is this: the Meyer Center is a special place where milestones are met and obstacles are overcome. We are an organization of amazing educators, therapists, and administrative staff, who serve and provide children with disabilities the opportunity to be the best versions of themselves. A combination of therapy and education is our secret sauce, and it’s truly inspiring to see what can be accomplished. Our children are the heart of the Meyer Center and truly have no limit.

Within this Annual Report you will see all the accomplishments of the 2021-2022 school year that we want to celebrate – record breaking fundraising events, highly engaged volunteer and advocacy groups, and the amazing program enhancements that further the foundation for our kids to reach their maximum potential.

As the current Board President I am happy to report and celebrate all the amazing accomplishments of the Meyer Center, big and small. A coach once told me, “When you quit getting better, you quit being good.” The Meyer Center recognizes this and will continue to grow as the need in our community calls. Growth comes with hard work, dedication and love – all foundational characteristics of the Meyer Center. What “here” will look like for the Meyer Center in years to come is beyond my imagination, but I can’t wait to see what it is. I welcome you to come grow with us.

Sincerely,  
Jeni Cain  
Board President



## BOARD OFFICERS

- **PRESIDENT:** Jennifer Cain, *Monkee’s of the West End*
- **SECRETARY:** Jim Cassidy, *Roe, Cassidy, Coates & Price, P.A.*
- **TREASURER:** David Gable, *Retired CFO/ Meyer Center Grandfather*
- **MEMBER AT LARGE:** Kirk Shockley, *Enevate Corp.*
- **PAST PRESIDENT:** Jill Schneider, *The Schneider Company, a division of SESCO Lighting*
- **HONORARY BOARD CHAIR:** Beth Clements, *First Lady of Clemson University*

## BOARD MEMBERS

- Andreaa 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*
- Lauren Gallagher, *Dynamic Speech and Language Services*
- Rebecca Ellefson, *Bon Secours Wellness Arena*
- Skelly Stevens, *GourmetGVL*
- Sloan Ellis, *US Attorney’s Office*

## EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS

- Kathy Higgins
- Sally Russell
- Bobbi Swann
- Susan Wilkins

## 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.





At the Meyer Center, our goal is to help each child reach his or her potential, regardless of circumstances. But we can't do it without the hard work of our volunteers. In January 2022, we were able to reinstate our volunteer program, celebrating 355 hours. A special thanks to Woodworkers Guild, Greer Middle College, Clemson Life, Round Towners and Trunk or Treat groups.

## PTA

PTA plays an important role to keep families and staff connected through communication and family engagement events.

## IMPACT!

Impact! is a group of hardworking individuals who together make a huge impact on the Meyer Center. They increase awareness of our mission and support special initiatives for education and therapy.

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The Kids Classic and Holiday Luncheon both broke records, raising over \$1 million to support our programs.



To learn more about volunteer opportunities or Impact!, visit [meyercenter.org/get-involved/](https://meyercenter.org/get-involved/) or scan the QR code.



## SUMMER CAMP FUN!

Summer at the Meyer Center means F-U-N! Summer Camp was offered at no cost to families this year in an effort to offset loss of learning over the summer and to make up lost time during quarantines over the school year.



## OUR COMMUNITY IS THE KEY TO UNLOCKING THEIR POTENTIAL.

Because of the generous support of our community, we can keep Dr. Meyer's vision alive and help our students reach their full potential. At the Meyer Center, no child is turned away due to a family's inability to pay. That's why we are so grateful of our event sponsors, donors, grantors, community partners and volunteers. We are blessed to have formed unique partnerships which generate community-wide support and a diversified funding base. Approximately 80% of the Center's annual support and revenue is utilized for program services.

For a complete list of Annual Donors visit [meyercenter.org/give/](https://meyercenter.org/give/).

- Alliance Development, Inc. – Lindsey Elrod Jr.
- Paul C. "Bo" Aughtry III
- AWT Family Foundation
- BMW Charity Pro-Am
- Bon Secours St. Francis Health System
- Brooks and Joan Fortune Family Foundation
- David and Kathy Cain
- Billy Clinkscales
- Russ and Kim Crowe
- Dabo's All In Team Foundation
- Daniel-Mickel Foundation
- Don and Zelma Waggoner Foundation
- Clarence and Betty Edwards
- Ellison S. and Noel P. McKissick Foundation
- \*emediagroup
- Encore Container
- Ethox Chemicals, LLC
- Tommy and Shounda Foster
- Greenville Maintenance Services, Inc.
- Aaron Hagler
- Jeff and Alexis Hanna
- Ryan and Fran Hendley
- Carol Ann Heymann
- John and Kathy Higgins
- Marilynn Hollis
- Brian and Jillian Holmes
- Infinity Marketing, Inc.
- John I. Smith Charities, Inc.
- Mike Kaplan
- David and Sonya League
- Lexus of Greenville
- Marla Rogers Agency
- Bill and Jan McCrary
- Monkee's of the West End
- Owings Family Foundation
- Pinnacle Financial Partners
- Precision Genetics
- Psalms of Life
- \*Rick Erwin Dining Group
- ScanSource Charitable Foundation
- Greg and Jill Schneider
- The Schneider Company, a division of SESCO Lighting
- United Way of Greenville
- \*The Woodhouse Day Spa - Greenville, SC
- Vulcan Materials Company
- W.W. Burgiss Charities
- World Acceptance Corporation

\*In Kind Donors

## WHO WE SERVE

Dr. Leslie Meyer founded the Meyer Center in 1954 with a belief that every child, regardless of disabilities, could benefit from quality education and therapy services. Today, the Meyer Center carries on that vision, serving children with disabilities (birth-2nd Grade) from all economic and demographic backgrounds.

## OUR STUDENTS

AGE	0-1 Year = 2	1 Year = 7	2 Years = 10	3 Year = 24	<b>53</b> average # of students on the wait list
4 Years = 23	5 Years = 18	6 Years = 19	7 Years = 8		
RACE	Caucasian <b>65</b>	African American <b>20</b>	Multi-Racial <b>6</b>	Hispanic <b>20</b>	<b>9%</b> of students have english as a second language
COUNTIES	Greenville <b>100</b>	Pickens <b>4</b>	Spartanburg <b>3</b>	Anderson <b>4</b>	<b>111</b> students served
GENDER	Male <b>76</b>	Female <b>35</b>	<b>48%</b> of students qualify for a free or reduced lunch		
DIAGNOSES	Autism = 22	Developmental Delays = 24	Speech Impairment = 41	Other health impairment = 1	Neuro-typical Peer = 6
	Orthopedic Handicap = 3	Vision Impairment = 4	Presumptive Medical Disability = 2	Hearing Impairment = 3	Multiple Disability = 5

The Meyer Center participated in a joint effort to seek increased education funding for children with multiple disabilities. Children in South Carolina living with multiple disabilities are funded according to a single disability, which does not reflect their full educational needs and accommodations. This effort resulted in an additional \$173,666 in funding for the Meyer Center students identified as multiple disability. This legislative investment fully funded the educational, therapeutic, nursing, equipment and wrap around services for these students.



## WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED

<b>20</b> Graduates in 2021-22		<b>8</b> Family engagement activities		<b>7,043</b> Nursing services provided (2 EMS calls)
<b>34,206</b> Miles traveled (by 4 buses) to transport students to and from school		<b>65%*</b> of students met 80% of their education goals (IEP)		<b>83%</b> Caregivers reported being able to continue or enter the workplace as a result of their child attending the Meyer Center
<b>47%*</b> of students met 65%* of their therapy goals		<b>16,568</b> Therapy sessions		

\*Factor in Covid 19 and frequency of quarantines

### REVENUE

**\$5,200,000**

- Charter Schools = \$1,800,000
- Medicaid = \$1,100,000
- Fundraising = \$1,100,000
- COVID Relief = \$700,000
- Donations = \$500,000

### EXPENSES

**\$4,200,000**

- Program = \$3,100,000
- Fundraising = \$300,000
- Administration = \$400,000
- Facilities = \$300,000
- Other = 100,000

\*In Kind Donors