



Special Strides

Annual Report 2015

FOUNDING DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: Proud of Our Success



Passion, community support, and a great herd of staff, volunteers, donors, directors and horses have enabled our success over the past seventeen years. Our mission in providing a variety of life-changing opportunities for growth proves itself every day at the farm! Watching our participants take their first steps, utter their first words, make new friends, learn how to smile, experience success, build self-confidence, and gain an awareness of their bodies and the natural world is an awesome reward for all of us at Special Strides and our dedicated stakeholders.

We are especially proud of our ability to award over \$114,000 in financial assistance in 2015 to 43% of our families. The recipients of this assistance would not otherwise be able to benefit from equine assisted activities and therapies. We are appreciative of our cherished volunteers and interns who, on a daily basis, share our passion for making a difference.

Our community of friends and our relationships over the years provide the engine that drives us all to reach higher, live better and be stronger. We plan to invest even more energy in securing endowments, grants and legacies. We have also added the delivery model of psychotherapy/emotional health in order to enhance the most special attributes of the individuals and families we serve.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurie Landy". The signature is fluid and cursive.

LAURIE LANDY, OTR/L
Special Strides Founding Director

Board of Directors

Kathy Conforth
Zac Gross
Neal Herstik
Rob Kash
Laurie Landy
Sam Landy
Celia Mastbaum
Allison Nagelberg
Susie Rehr
Carol Werthan

Our Mission

Special Strides is a non-profit organization devoted to improving the lives of individuals with special needs. With a unique combination of horses, therapy, and affordances of the natural setting, Special Strides is able to achieve **recreational, educational, and therapeutic goals** in an atmosphere that is all about fun. It is our goal to be able to provide all individuals that come to us an opportunity to **"Improve their lives... one stride at a time"** regardless of their financial status.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

Moving Forward



The year 2015 marked the seventeenth year that Special Strides has been "improving lives...one stride at a time." Many of our supporters have witnessed our growth for years while others are new to the honor roll. It is with tremendous pride that we highlight some of our accomplishments and look ahead to future success. We continue to provide physical therapy and occupational therapy, along with recreational programming such as adaptive riding and carriage driving. In addition, we have expanded to include educational facilitated learning and the EQUUS learning program. And in 2016, we are introducing equine-facilitated psychotherapy to our therapy milieu.

The 162 individuals who crossed our barn doors and engaged with the horses all made significant life changes: walking farther, sitting taller, speaking clearer (and louder), growing stronger, and feeling better.

We are excited about Special Strides' future: the variety of programs and services for our families; the funding opportunities available to our donors; and the unlimited potential for everyone involved with our organization. We are inspired by what we have accomplished and motivated by what is yet to come. We arrive at work every day prepared to give our best, and in return we receive the blessing of knowing that we all make a difference. Thank you for your generous support.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susie Rehr". The signature is fluid and cursive.

SUSIE REHR, PT, HPCS

Special Strides Executive Director

Our Support Team

Laurie Landy, OTR/L and Founding Director

Karen Goldberg, Director of Marketing & Events

Lindsay Clark, PT, DPT

Martha Heinkel, MS, LCSW

Andrea Rehr, PT, DPT

Susie Rehr, PT, HPCS and Executive Director

Beth Miller, Development Assistant

Meredith Gebel, PT, DPT

Jen Majdosz, OTR/L

Maureen Rubin, PT

Charlene Skwara, Barn Manager, Adaptive Riding Instructor, Program Coordinator

Amanda Sowa, Equine Trainer, Therapeutic Driving and Adaptive Riding Instructor

Dina Parrello, Adaptive Riding Instructor and Equine Facilitated Learning

Aleksandra Lenczewski, Adaptive Riding Instructor

Mary Rodriguez, Equine Facilitated Learning

Sharyn Bagnasco, Volunteer Coordinator

We also recognize our 500+ volunteers including side-walkers, horse handlers, Junior Committee Leaders and our equine partners: AJ, Chubby, Dreamer, Iris, Johnny, Juliet, Magic, Molly, Pretzel, Prince, Romeo, Snowy, Snuffy, Summer, Sunny, Templeton, Ticonderoga, and Tucker (plus retiree Marco)

2015 Financial Highlights

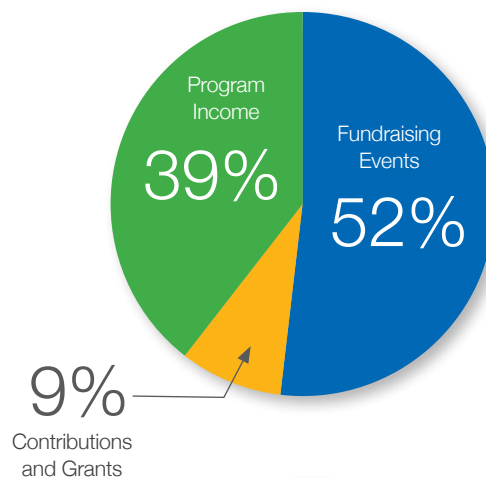


Financial support from our donors is integral to the success of Special Strides and accounts for over 60% of our revenue annually. Operating a therapy clinic on a farm and providing riding and driving lessons to individuals with special needs includes many costs that cannot be transferred to the individuals without outpacing their ability to pay. This year our donors, in partnership with our herd of horses and cherished volunteers, helped Special Strides serve over 160 children and adults.

Revenue

Program Income	\$290,242
Fundraising Events	\$381,155
Contributions and Grants	\$63,721

Total Revenue **\$735,118**

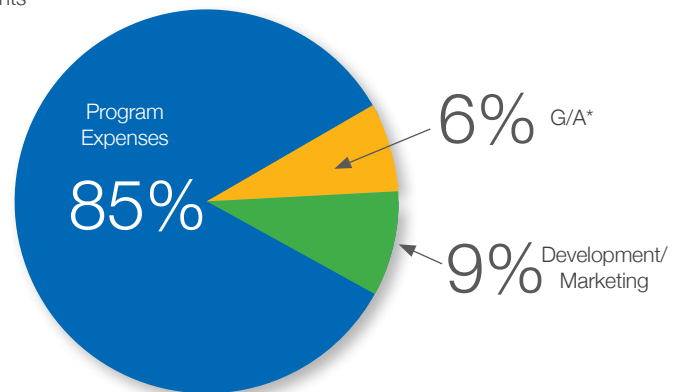


Expenses

Program Expenses	\$615,818
General/Administrative	\$ 47,075
Development/Marketing	\$66,146

Total Expenses **\$729,039**

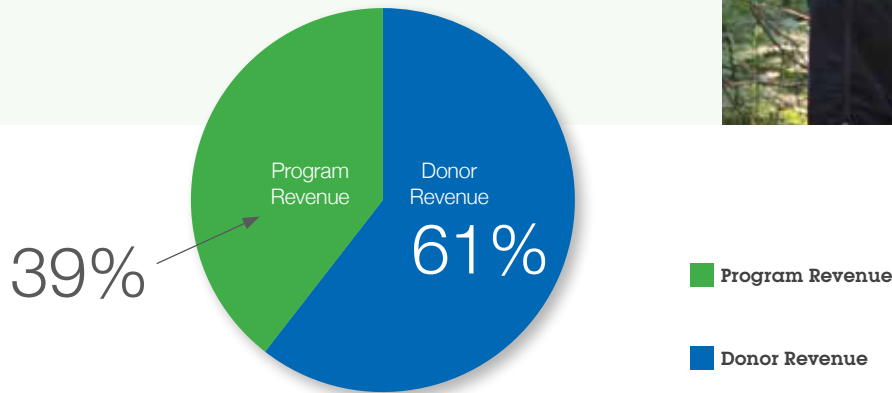
Net Income **\$6,079**



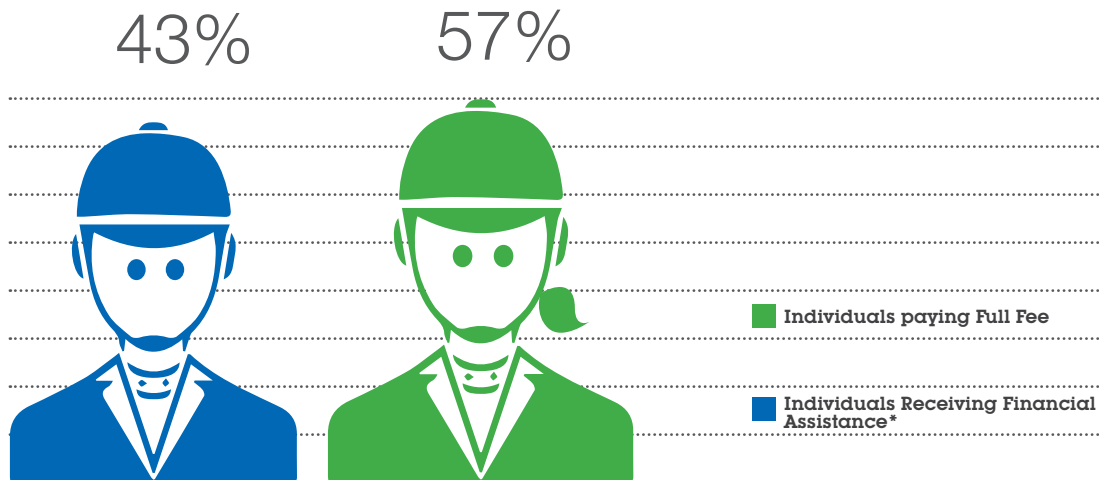
*General/Administrative

Donor Dollars Impact Annual Revenue

Your donor dollars help pay for a multitude of costs: the feed, care and training of our equine partners; the skilled services of our therapists; the adapted lessons of our riding and driving instructors; and the unique therapy elements located throughout our natural setting. These generous donations enable all individuals who come through our gates to make transformative changes in their lives, affecting their physical, emotional and social well-being.



Donor Dollars Impact Individuals



*Made possible by funds from the Steven Werthan Memorial Fund and Fund-a-Child. These campaigns allow Special Strides to provide financial support directly to our clients and hold the cost of therapy services and recreational programming to the lowest amount possible.

Our Community of Donors

Special Strides is grateful for all gifts of time, talent, and treasure received during the 2015 fiscal year.

Below we recognize those individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond in supporting our mission:

33 East Car Wash
Mr. Jack Aaronson
All Jersey Janitorial
Amboy Bank
Applegarth Donuts LLC
Mr. and Mrs. John Barker
The Charles Engelhard Foundation
The Clothing Center
Congress Hill Farm, Inc.
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Daniel Galorenzo Foundation
Gary Michaels Fine Jewelry
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Gross Family Foundation
iPlay America
Italian Welfare League
Jersey Shore Theatre Club
Jewelry Design Gallery
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Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Landy
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Landy
Landy Family Foundation
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Mr. and Mrs. William McDaid
Mid State Pool Liners
Monmouth Real Estate Investment Corporation
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New Jersey Jiffy Lubes
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Premselaar

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Mr. and Mrs. Steven Sewald
Steven Sewald & Company CPAs
Ms. Edith Shapiro
Share A Horse Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Spano
Spano Family Charitable Foundation
Spotswood Donuts LLC
Stonebridge Men's Club
UMH Properties Inc
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Werbler
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Werbler
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Zinbarg
Anonymous

Below we recognize gifts of \$200 and above:

Absolute Home Mortgage Corp
ABL Appliance
Advanced Dermatology
Advanced Orthopedics & Sports Medicine
Agri-tech Turf Maintenance Inc.
All American Waterproofing
Ms. Victoria Ali
Ms. Rose Allsop
Mr. Tom Ando
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Appaloosa Management
Charitable Foundation Inc.
Applegarth Donuts LLC
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Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Birstler
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Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bond
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Burgess

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Carters Heating & Cooling
CentraState Healthcare Foundation
Central Jersey Horseman's Association
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Mr. Neil Cohen
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Mr. Andrew Kaye
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Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Kirman
Kiwanis of New Brunswick
Knights of Columbus
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Korestky Family Foundation
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Kumon of Howell
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Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lenza
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MetTel

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Dr. Paula Miller
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard Molke
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Monteforte Architectural Studio
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Mr. and Mrs. Tom Sivo
Mr. Alan Skerker
Mr. Joseph Spada
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The Speech Tree
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Mr. Ross Stein
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Struminger
St. Thomas More Church
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Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Watts
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Ms. Laura Wittman
Mr. Michael Yatsko
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Yellin
The Yorktown Club Inc
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Zagha
Mr. and Mrs. James Zeris
Anonymous

Special Strides Statistics

\$114,130

Dollar amount of finançyal assistance awarded in 2015

75

Partiypants awarded finançyal assistance in 2015



1,386

Sessions annually subsidized by the Steven Werthan Memorial Fund

32

Volunteers each week

131

Individuals served on a weekly basis

17

Horses in the Speyal Strides herd



Events

Color Glow Run
April 16, 2016 at 6 p.m.

Horse Show and BBQ
June 5, 2016
(Celebrate Blackberry Honey's Birthday)

VIP Event
July 10, 2016 at 5 p.m.

Annual Barn Dance Gala
October 15, 2016

1,092

Bales of hay our horses eat annually