

**Annual Report** 

September 2024 - August 2025

### Message from our Executive Director

Dear High Hopes families, friends, and supporters,

It is with great joy and deep gratitude that I share the FY 2024–25 Annual Report for High Hopes with you. When I stepped into the Executive Director role in the final quarter of the fiscal year, I was inspired by all that High Hopes had achieved and energized by the opportunities ahead. For more than forty years, High Hopes has been a place where inclusion is lived out daily, where education and therapy are intentionally woven together, and where every child is recognized for their unique gifts and boundless potential. I am honored to help steward this legacy and excited about where we are headed together.

This year marked meaningful momentum toward a bold future. Guided by our new strategic plan through 2030, we advanced the development of a therapeutic preschool model that integrates credentialed teachers, licensed therapists, and individualized learning plans to both nurture the whole child and strengthen the bridge between education and therapy. We continued investing in our extraordinary team, expanding support for families, and enhancing programming so that every child in our care has the opportunity not just to grow, but to thrive.

None of this happens in isolation. It happens in partnership—with families who trust us, therapists and educators who bring expertise and compassion, volunteers who give their time and heart, donors and grant funders who fuel our mission, and community partners who cheer us on. If you have walked alongside us for years, thank you. If you are just discovering High Hopes, welcome—there is a place for you here. Your voice, your time, your generosity, and your advocacy make a real and measurable difference.

As you read this report, I hope you see what I see every day: a community rallying around children and their families; a team committed to excellence; and a mission that is both steadfast and forward-looking. Together, we will deepen our impact, strengthen our programs, and ensure High Hopes continues to be a beacon for inclusion, learning, and therapeutic care across our region.

Thank you for believing in what's possible and for helping us make it real.

With hope and gratitude,

Neily Boyd, Executive Director

### Who We Are



"High Hopes feels like family.
Our son's therapists have
earned his trust and helped
him grow in ways we never
imagined. This is what the
future of early childhood
education should be."

### **Our Mission**

Equip children, youth, and their families with the skills necessary to succeed through education, therapeutic services, and loving support.

"High Hopes has given our son a fighting chance. With the tools to overcome his challenges, he's now able to be present with his siblings. High Hopes is truly a gift to our family."



### **Our Vision**

A community where hope and inclusion are cultivated, embraced, and shared.

### WHY



**1 in 6 children** in the U.S. have a developmental disability or delay.

### HOW.

#### **Inclusive Preschool**

Small class sizes, low teacher-to-student ratios, and a child-centered curriculum create a welcoming space where children of all abilities learn, grow, and thrive.

### **Therapy Services**

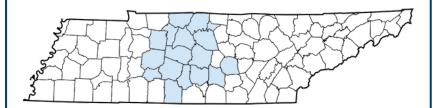
On-site pediatric therapy, individualized treatment plans, and collaboration with teachers ensure children get the help they need right where they are.

### **Family Support**

We walk alongside parents and caregivers, offering resources, guidance, and hope so families never feel alone on their journey.

### IMPACT.

This year, 1,083 children from 17 counties walked through our doors—each with their own dreams, challenges, and potential.



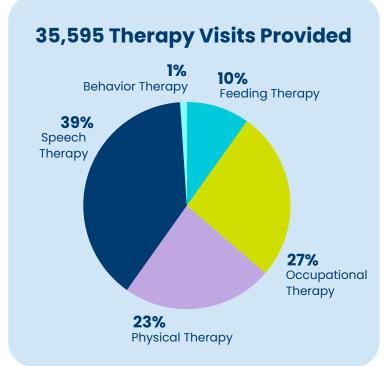
In our therapy clinic, **990 children** received **35,595 sessions** of specialized support, helping little ones take first steps, find their voices, and reach new milestones.

In our inclusive preschool, **93 students** experienced **109,200 hours** of play-based learning where every child belongs, learns, and shines.

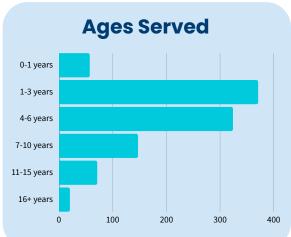
Guided by a dedicated team of **20 teachers** and **34 therapists**, we work together each day to build brighter futures—one child, one milestone, one moment at a time.

**Because of your support**, families never have to choose between education and therapy—they can find both, under one roof.

### **Therapy Clinic Highlights**



**45% of therapy services** were supported by government programs.\*



**41% of children** served in our therapy clinic participate in more than one type of therapy, highlighting our comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to meeting each child's individual needs.

### **Top Documented Diagnoses**

The children served in our therapy clinic have a wide variety of diagnoses. The top five documented diagnoses supported account for 58% of the patients served.

- **20%** Delayed Milestones
- 11% Speech Disorders
- 11% Genetic Disorders

including Down Syndrome

- 9% Autism
- 7% Cerebral Palsy



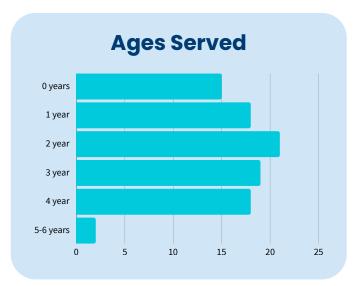
100% of parents agree or strongly agree that High Hopes therapy services have made a difference in their child's life and their ability to care for/suport their needs.

### **Preschool Highlights**

**36 students in the preschool** received therapy services through our therapy clinic.









# 109,200 Hours of Educational Instruction



In our preschool, **66% of students** play a vital role as peer models. Peer models contribute to our classrooms' various developmental levels and abilities and are essential in creating an environment that supports ALL children's social, emotional, and academic success. In addition, this inclusive approach fosters acceptance and empathy while embracing and celebrating what makes everyone unique.

### **Top Documented Diagnoses**

The children served in our preschool have a wide variety of diagnoses. The top three documented diagnoses supported account for 34% of the students in our preschool.

18% Delayed Milestones

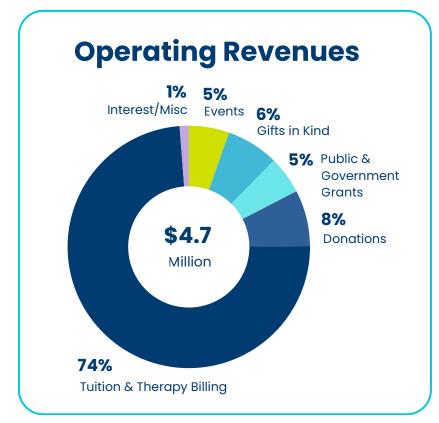
**12%** Genetic Disorders

including Down Syndrome

4% Any Need



### **Financial Reports**









## Did you know High Hopes is a nonprofit organization?

That means we are here for one purpose: to help children thrive. We don't have shareholders. We don't operate for profit. Every dollar we receive is reinvested into what matters most - education, therapy, facilities, and families.

As a nonprofit, we measure success not in margins, but in milestones: a child's first word, first steps, first breakthrough. We couldn't do it without the support of the donors and partners who make it all possible.

### **Community Partners**

Each year, High Hopes collaborates with foundations, corporations, and community partners to further our mission. Their generous contributions enable us to deliver essential resources and services to children and families in need. These partnerships allow us to broaden our impact, reaching more lives and fostering stronger, more resilient communities.

We believe that by uniting our efforts, we can drive meaningful change and create lasting, positive impact on the world.







Louie M. and Betty M. Phillips Foundation





















The Dorothy Cate and Thomas F. Frist Foundation





### **Fundraising Events**

### **2024 - 2025 Event Sponsors**

### **Heroes for Hope (\$10,000+)**

AP Live
Bill and Sally Zierden
Brett Boyer Foundation Inc.
Butch and Sonia Hoover, III
FirstBank
Tractor Supply Company

### Champions for Community (\$7,500+)

The Kingston Group

### Allies for Advocacy (\$5,000+)

Allied World Insurance Company American Constructors Inc. Boxwood Insurance Group Middle Tennessee Electric Uncle's Barbershop Walker's Trailer Sales

### Friends for the Future (\$2,500+)

5by5

Allison and Greg Gamble

**AmWins** 

**Andrews Transportation Group** 

**Barlow Builders** 

Carlin and Courtney Hess

Citizens Bank Nashville

City Wide Facility Solutions of Nashville

Clark Grading Inc.

Dan Jordan Properties, Inc. Equitable Trust Company

**HCA Healthcare Foundation** 

Heithcock Reality Hubie Smith

Martin & Zerfoss

McCall & Associates LLC Might Oak Builders, Inc. Old National Bank

Pinnacle Financial Partners – Franklin Pinnacle Financial Partners – Nashville

Recreational Concepts

Schneider Electric Foundation

Scott Cares Foundation

Susan and Greg Freeze

Team Elliott

Tennessee Fertility Institute
Twice Pediatric Dentistry

Vertek Solutions

Westerlund Shotcrete

WH Property Management

### Supporters for Success(\$1,000+)

A.R. and Debbie Guimond Anita & Julian Saul Foundation Inc. Brion and Cindy Rittenberry Clark Heating & Cooling, Inc. Goodall Homes

Kathryn and Ryan Stark M^2 Consulting

Mandy Snedeker

Meredith and Chad Duke Patterson Company LLC Sold by the Sherrys Symphony Advice The Print Authority The Sherrills VOSS Water

















### **Volunteer Support**





### **651 Volunteer Hours**

At High Hopes, volunteers play a crucial role in maintaining a positive and well-organized environment. From one-time events to ongoing roles, their time and talents make a meaningful impact on the children and families we serve. Every volunteer plays a vital role in helping us provide a nurturing, inclusive environment for children of all abilities.











### **Board of Directors**

### **Current Board of Directors**

#### **Ricky Scott, President**

**Partner** 

The Kingston Group

#### **Katherine Stark, VP**

Sr. Dir., Regional Ambulatory Services Vanderbilt Health

### **Courtney Hess, Secretary**

Associate General Counsel Corebridge Financial

### Maria Donnell, Treasurer

Vice President of Finance Citizens Savings Bank & Trust

#### Mike Alexander

Owner and President Signs First

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Owner AP Live

#### **Clara Blitch**

Chief Human Resource Officer Williamson Health

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Investor Self-Employed

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#### **Andy Lee**

Pediatric Physician Brentwood Children's Clinic

#### **John Ordus**

EVP, Chief Stores Officer Tractor Supply Company

#### **Emily Sandwith**

Early Childhood Educator

#### **Travers Sloan**

Director of Development
Rescue Mission for TrueSense Marketing

#### **Hillary Stalker**

EVP and Financial Advisor CapWealth

#### **Tyler White**

VP, Hospital Services connectRN

#### **Neily Boyd**

Executive Director High Hopes





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