



BATON ROUGE SPEECH AND HEARING FOUNDATION'S

# 2010 | ANNUAL REPORT

## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

Thank you for accompanying us throughout the 2009-2010 program year! Thanks to your steadfast support, this year has been full of growth and energy here at Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation.

In celebrating our 50th Anniversary this year, one thing struck me about the fantastic impact BRSHF has brought to the community: as the hearing and communication needs of the Baton Rouge area have evolved and changed, so have the programs offered here at BRSHF. Founded in 1960 as a resource for very young deaf children, the Foundation later shifted focus towards pre-school aged children with language delays. In keeping with that focus in 2004, BRSHF partnered with LSU's department of Psychology to launch a multi-disciplinary early-intervention program for children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders. We have shifted our programs to match the needs of our community, and our dedication to meeting those needs will continue for the next 50 years.

2010 has been an exciting year. We have grown our therapeutic and administrative staff, initiated new fundraising and marketing initiatives, and begun discussing the need for expansion. With 1 in 110 children and 1 in 55 boys being diagnosed with Autism, your support goes farther than ever to ensure our ability to offer effective, unduplicated, affordable programs that make a tangible impact, here in Baton Rouge and across South Louisiana.

We look forward to embarking on the next 50 years of serving our mission for those in Greater Baton Rouge with Speech and Hearing difficulties... loud and clear!



**MELISSA MULKEY**  
Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation  
Board President

## IN 2009, BRSHF...

- Served **1509 Audiology patients**, 118 of whom received hearing aids
- Performed **over 24,700 hours of therapy** to 636 children with language delays in the Therapeutic Language Center
- Conducted **over 10,000 hours of individual therapy based on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) principles**, the only scientifically proven treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders, to 28 children.
- Provided **188 free hearing screenings** on 12 audiology outreach trips.
- Gave **77 student workers** in speech therapy, audiology, and psychology applicable experience to carry into the workforce.

## OUR MISSION

The mission of Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation is to increase our clients' capacity to reach optimum levels of independent communication and social interaction through the use of research-based best practices, leading technology, and highly-trained professionals.

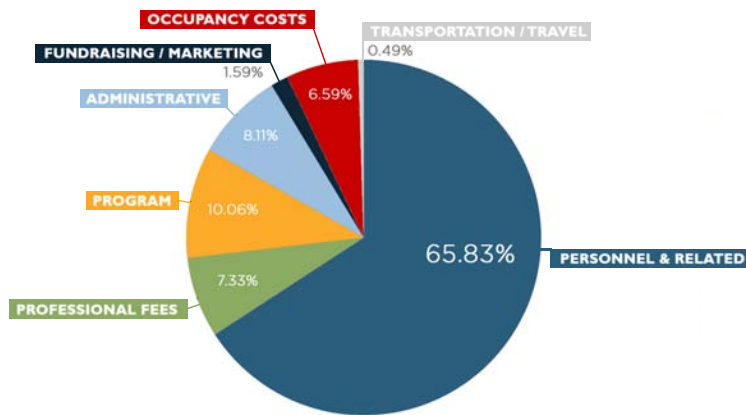


## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

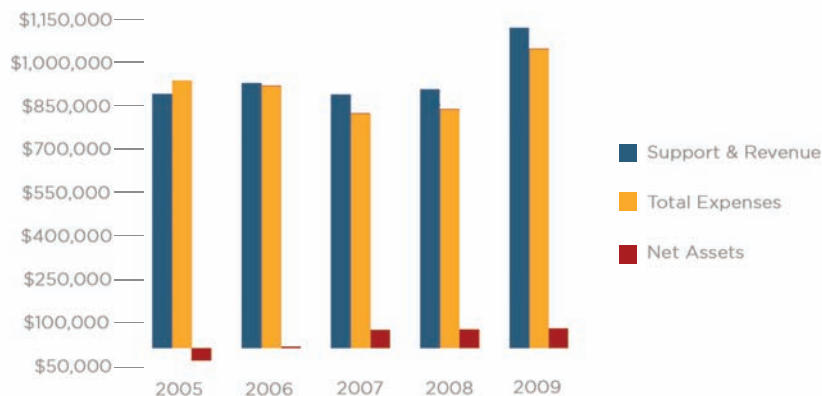
### Our Financial Support (taken from 2009 audited financials)

| Capital Area United Way  | 2009 Annual Campaign | *Community Support | Volunteer Activists Luncheon | In-Kind Services and Materials | Grants    |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| \$204,789  | \$28,720             | \$44,355           | \$33,662                     | \$11,369                       | \$130,202 |
| <b>Total Support: \$453,097</b> <small>*Non-grant contributions from local organizations</small> |                      |                    |                              |                                |           |

### 2009 Ordinary Expenses



### Income Comparison 2005 - 2009



## YOUR DONOR DOLLARS...

Helped facilitate an increase in therapeutic staff: from 1 to 3 full time speech pathologists (and 5 part time), and added an occupational therapist.

Building on this staff growth and new scheduling formats, BRSHF was able to increase our capacity to serve more clients in our existing facility by 30% (42% increase in speech clients, 25% increase in audiology patients).

### MAKING AN IMPACT LOUD & CLEAR

- Speech services (including group and individual speech appointments, as well as on-site and in-home evaluations) **increased on average by 32%**.
- BRSHF increased its capacity to offer individual ABA therapy to children with Autism Spectrum Disorders by **40% at a time**.
- The audiology department **increased hearing aid fits by 36%**. It also launched 2 new initiatives: a program to establish, train, and monitor a system for hearing impaired students (and their educators) in West Baton Rouge Parish; and, a troubleshooting and maintenance clinic for local patients with cochlear implants.



### DID YOU KNOW...

- 1 in 110 children (1 in 55 boys) is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders?**
- 1 in 7 children is diagnosed with a language delay?**
- 1 in 3 adults over 65 years of age demonstrate a hearing loss?**

### DID YOU KNOW THAT BRSHF IS...

- The only clinic in town that does mobile outreach audiology testing at group homes and health fairs?
- The only clinic-based, multi-disciplinary early-intervention program for children with Autism, combining one-on-one therapy based on the scientifically-proven principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), with group speech therapy preschool classes and occupational therapy?
- One of the only clinics in town accepting Medicaid for children with language delays?
- The only clinic in town that regularly offers deeply discounted hearing aids to individuals who can't afford them?

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS



### SARAH BRUNET

SPEECH PATHOLOGIST 2008-PRESENT, STUDENT WORKER 2004-2007

“I saw the wonders of BRSHF when I worked as an aide with the pilot class of ABA students in 2004, and it gave me the skills and experience I use every day now as a Speech Therapist. It's been great to grow with the Foundation and contribute to the kids' success, and to play such a big part in their early language development. Because our program really does work! Seeing these kids be able to enter mainstream kindergarten, or hearing their parents tell me how much better they're communicating and interacting with their environment – that's what makes me love coming to work every morning.”



### KEVIN SERIO

STUDENT 1965-1970

“My parents enrolled me in BRSHF to learn how to communicate and speak with language, from 2 years to 7 years old. As a result, I learned how to communicate with friends and teachers – which is sometimes the hardest part, but most of the time is good! BRSHF taught me how to communicate with hearing people. Since I could understand them, I could work in jobs around all people. Thanks to that, I was salutarian in my high school class at Louisiana School for the Deaf and I've worked 18 years for the State.”



### MARY TERRELL JOSEPH

VOLUNTEER ACTIVIST 1995, BOARD MEMBER 2003-2008, FRIEND OF THE FOUNDATION

“I donate to Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation because I've seen the real impact they have for those in our area who need their services. From my diverse experience with the organization, I can confidently say that the work BRSHF does is unduplicated in our community, and the staff delivers high quality service with sincere concern for their clients. I'm proud to be associated with BRSHF.”



### RALSTON JOHNSON

AUDIOLOGY PATIENT 1998-PRESENT

“With the high cost of hearing aids and my active outdoor lifestyle that degraded the devices all too quickly, hearing aid affordability was the critical issue that brought me to the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation. However, I quickly learned that the staff was professional, friendly and in plain language, just really nice folks. In all the years that they have taken care of my hearing aid needs, it's never crossed my mind to go anywhere else.....that tells you how I feel about the BRSHF!”



### CATRECE BOURDA

SHAUN'S MOM, GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL SPEECH THERAPY CLIENT SINCE JUNE 2008

“Shaun learns more from 2-3 days at BRSHF than he does at the day care he attends 5 days a week. I notice he likes to participate more & has become far more social than he once was. Shaun loves coming to BRSHF: many mornings, the first word out of his mouth is “Meg!” (his therapist's name). He is very eager to learn and puts what he has learned to good use. His progress is heartwarming – his words just start to flow now. My whole family is very pleased with what BRSHF has done for Shaun.”



### AMY WILSON

ELLA'S MOM, ABA, GROUP SPEECH, AND OT CLIENT SINCE MARCH 2010

“We drive all the way from Lafayette to bring Ella to BRSHF 3 days a week. We have been repeatedly pleased with the love and dedication of the therapists, enthusiasm of the aides, and passion of the staff. Is the drive a pain? Absolutely... but it is the best decision we have made in the last two years of dealing with Ella's autism. I remember the first day she actually looked me in the eyes, which she learned in ABA. I felt so close to Ella that day, and this has continued every day of every week since March: signing, babbling, kissing me, hugging me, laughing, etc. For some of the first moments in my life with Ella, we are really together.”

## A YEAR IN REVIEW



Former teachers & students at the 50th anniversary



Discussing Hearing Health on Audiology Outreach trip



Reliving history at the 50th Anniversary



Water Day



Easter egg hunt



Blowing Bubbles at Animal Fun Fair



Testing Hearing via Play Audiometry



Learning about animals at the zoo



Golfers at the Battle Against Autism

## 2009-2010 FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation would like to thank these donors who came in **LOUD AND CLEAR** for our patients and clients in our 50th Year. The generous financial and in-kind support of our Friends of the Foundation enables us to continue our charitable mission by assuring accessibility to our programs for every client and family who needs our services, regardless of their ability to pay.

\* reflects donations received September 1, 2009 - September 15, 2010

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 Credit Bureau of Baton Rouge Foundation  
 Cribbs, Inc.  
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 Southeast Louisiana Home Health Inc.  
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 State Farm  
 Sweetwater Restaurant  
 Target  
 Taylor, Porter, Brooks & Phillips  
 TBT Industries  
 Truly Free Bakery  
 Unique Cuisine  
 Vaughan Roofing & Sheet Metal  
 Volunteers in Public Schools  
 WBRZ Channel 2  
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**Michelle Tassin**  
*Speech Therapist*  
**Laurie Thigpen**  
*Business Office Assistant*

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP BRSHF!

- Make a donation - online, in the mail, or over the phone.
- Sponsor or purchase tickets to the Volunteer Activists luncheon.
- Support the Capital Area United Way.
- Spread the word – tell your family and friends about our work.
- Be our friend! Find us on facebook, follow us on twitter, keep up with our blog, watch us on youtube!
- Donate therapy and classroom supplies from our Amazon.com wishlist.
- Ask your employer if they match donations or volunteer hours.
- Help in your own way – make an in-kind donation.
- Tell us what you think!

## KEEP IN TOUCH

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