

# SERVING BATON ROUGE LOUD AND CLEAR

## DEAR FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION,

2011 has been an exceptional year here at BRSHF. We have introduced new programs, including summer camps for **children like Isabelle**, psychological-educational evaluations, and hearing conservation education. We've increased and improved some of our long-standing services, adding Occupational Therapy staff and hours, and doubling staff eligible to provide Federal Early Steps services. We've seen more **children like Nolan and Christopher** with autism spectrum disorders and language delays, and conducted the most free community hearing screenings ever. We've also improved business office efficiency and amplified our development and marketing efforts. For more about BRSHF's 2011 operations, this year's Annual Report is available for download at [www.BRSHF.org](http://www.BRSHF.org).

You may have heard that this year, BRSHF embarked on a Capital Campaign, raising money for a new building that will allow us to offer even better services to more clients. While 535 W. Roosevelt St. has served us well since 1968, that space is no longer adequate to support our programs. Exciting times lie ahead for the future of our center!

As we look future growth, **your annual operating support is more crucial than ever**. In the next few years we will be ramping up our services as well as operations, in preparation of serving a greater number of clients who need us so badly in our new building. Support from donors like you is critical to filling the gap in providing services to clients in financial need, and to keep our fees reasonable for those without financial assistance.

In grateful thanks for your generosity,



COLLEEN WAGUESPACK  
President



MELISSA JUNEAU  
Executive Director

PS – We hope you'll flip through and learn about how donor dollars helped uphold our mission for families like Nolan's, Isabelle's, Christopher's and Virginia's.

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## 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.



### DANIELLE

ISABELLE'S MOM, GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL SPEECH AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CLIENT

“People used to say “one day, she’ll be talking non-stop,” and that was so hard to imagine. But now she’s there! BRSHF has truly been a god-send for us.”

## YOUR DONOR DOLLARS FILL THE GAP

Donor dollars made it possible for BRSHF to achieve the following growth and improvements in 2010:

- Provide over **17,000 hours** of speech and language therapy to **843 children** with speech and language delays, including:
  - 212 children in group speech therapy
  - 133 children in individual speech therapy
  - 498 speech language evaluations.
- Provide **over 10,000 hours** of therapy to **33 children with Autism Spectrum Disorders**
- Serve **1525 Audiology patients**, 95 of whom received hearing aids
- Provide **294 free hearing screenings** in the community through audiology outreach
- Conduct **90 hours of occupational therapy** for 20 students in 372 OT sessions
- Offer **323 hours** of Early Steps evaluation and therapy services to 125 children
- Give **75 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral student workers** in speech therapy, audiology, education, and psychology applicable experience to carry into the workforce.

### VIRGINIA

AUDIOLOGY PATIENT

“My husband and I both got extremely good care at BRSHF. I’ve recommended many of my friends come there for hearing aids as well!”



## DID YOU KNOW...

- 1 in 110 children (1 in 55 boys) is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders?
- 7% of children are 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-based, multi-disciplinary early-intervention program for children with Autism, combining 1-on-1 therapy based on the scientifically proven principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), with group speech therapy preschool classes and occupational therapy?
- is one of the only clinics in town accepting Medicaid for children with language delays?
- is the only clinic in town that regularly offers deeply discounted hearing aids to individuals who can't afford them?
- is the only clinic in town that does mobile outreach audiology testing at group homes and health fairs?
- accepts 5 kinds of private insurance, Medicaid, and Medicaid Part B, and offers financial assistance for all of its programs?
- provides comprehensive developmental assessments in the home through the Federal Early Steps program?



### ANGEL

NOLAN'S MOM, AUTISM PROGRAM CLIENT

“From the beginning the staff embraced not only our child but our entire family. They have given us the courage, hope, and desire to strive for success for our son's future.”

## 2011 NEW INITIATIVES:

- Our Lady of the Lake's Pediatric Residents rotate through the clinic observing our clients, to learn how to spot the early warning signs of autism.
- A full-time Speech-Language Pathologist contracted to the staff at to the staff of Our Lady of the Lake's Pediatric Development and Therapy Center, conducting evaluations and providing therapy as part of the assessment team.
- Robinson Brothers held the second annual Battle Against Autism fundraiser, which earned over \$150,000 towards our building campaign through a car raffle, auction, and golf tournament.
- Increase in Psychology hours, and expanded services to include psycho-educational evaluations and behavioral consulting.
- In-home therapy, consultation, and support for clients in our autism program.
- Introduced occupational and speech therapy-focused summer camps for pre-school aged children, and social skills summer camp for school-aged children.
- Offered new audiology education outreach with hearing conservation presentations geared at adolescents.

### ASHLEY

CHRISTOPHER'S MOM, GROUP SPEECH CLIENT

“Now he's saying words, and we can understand him. BRSHF has really done a great job with him.”





## YOUR GIFT MAKES AN IMPACT

BRSHF leverages donations by billing individual clients, private insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare for services, but 50% of the 2010 operating budget came from community support.

It costs an average of \$6,000 a day to provide our critical, unduplicated services to the Capital Region.

**WE CANNOT PROVIDE SERVICES TO CLIENTS LIKE ISABELLE, NOLAN, CHRISTOPHER AND VIRGINIA WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT.**

### PLEASE MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY.

- Your gift of \$20 allows BRSHF to provide 1 hearing evaluation for a patient like Virginia.
- Your gift of \$40 allows BRSHF to provide 1 individual speech therapy session for a client like Isabelle.
- Your gift of \$75 allows BRSHF to provide 1 day of one-on-one Applied Behavior Analysis therapy for a child like Nolan.
- Your gift of \$300 allows BRSHF to provide 1 audiology outreach trip, providing free hearing screenings with the only Mobile Testing Unit in the Capital Region.
- Your gift of \$500 allows BRSHF to provide 1 month of Applied Behavior Analysis therapy (3 days a week) for a child like Nolan.
- Your gift of \$1,000 allows BRSHF to provide 1 set of hearing aids at a greatly reduced price.

**GIVE ONLINE BY VISITING [WWW.BRSHF.ORG](http://WWW.BRSHF.ORG),  
MAIL IN A CHECK,  
OR CALL 343-4232 TO DONATE WITH A CARD!**

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