



**STAR Institute**  
*for Sensory Processing Disorder*

# 2018 Annual Report

## Leaders in Sensory Processing

Sensory Processing refers to the neurology of 'feeling feelings'. It is how we experience sensation from our bodies and the world and is the way an individual processes, integrates and responds to sensations. It dramatically impacts all aspects of life, including behavior, learning styles, daily activities and social interactions. Sensory processing ultimately challenges or enhances an individual's and family's quality of life depending on ability, diagnosis, intervention and ongoing treatment.

STAR Institute is the premier research, education and treatment organization for understanding and supporting Sensory Processing. As we aim to make a global difference; families and clinicians entrust STAR Institute as a partner and pioneer in treatment, education and research. We are proud of the work we do and strive every day to improve lives for children and families worldwide.



## Our Mission

To improve the quality of life for children, adolescents and adults with sensory processing differences, and their families.

## Our Legacy

The past year marks a period of transition where our founder, Dr. Lucy Miller, moved into an emeritus role. New leadership began a strategic planning process toward new community partnerships, outreach to low-income populations, more in-depth work with schools, and carrying forth the research legacy established by Dr. Miller.

## Treatment Center

STAR Institute is recognized as an epicenter in the field of sensory processing. The experts and partners of STAR Institute help families benefit from a treatment journey that positively impacts children from diagnosis to successful intervention. Our focus includes impacting sensory processing and daily life functioning in a variety of behavioral and developmental disabilities or disorder. Among areas of focus are: early intervention / early childhood development, feeding, attention deficit disorder, autism, neurodevelopmental disorders, trauma, mental health, anxiety, and more. There is no one-size-fits-all approach at STAR Institute. Each and every individual brings unique strengths and challenges to treatment, and therefore, each person deserves an approach to intervention tailored to their specific needs. At STAR Institute, treatment reflects the core philosophy: sensory processing, relationships and regulation are inextricably linked and underpin health and wellness, participation and function.

## Education Center

Dedicated to increasing global awareness of the importance and role of sensory health and well-being, STAR Institute's Education Center focuses on developing and delivering the most up to date information on research and treatment to professionals, families and individuals impacted by disordered sensory processing. The Education Center strives to increase accessibility to information by utilizing both online and in-person platforms for courses, webinars, seminars, symposiums and trainings. In 2018, the Education Center added live, monthly webinars to our online education platform, SPD University, on a multitude of sensory related topics. As a means of increasing professional awareness and competency with sensory processing, STAR Institute's Pro Certification courses were launched in a collaborative with Temple University. The Education Center also made community-based programming a focus for the year, delivering multiple free and low-cost community workshops for parents, both live and online.



## Research Center

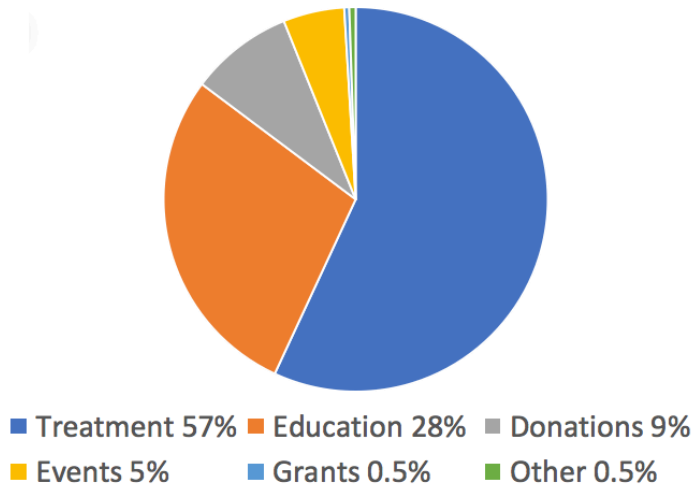
The role of the research team at STAR Institute is to conduct and collaborate in rigorous research into sensory processing function and dysfunction, with the overarching goal of enhancing health wellness and quality of life for children and adults and their families. The STAR Institute is recognized as a world leader, educator and advocate for this research. We are uniquely positioned to fulfill this mission because the clinical education and research programs are all housed under the same umbrella organization.

## Financial Information

STAR Institute commits its resources to treatment, education, and research opportunities in order to help millions of people whose lives are impacted by sensory processing challenges every day.

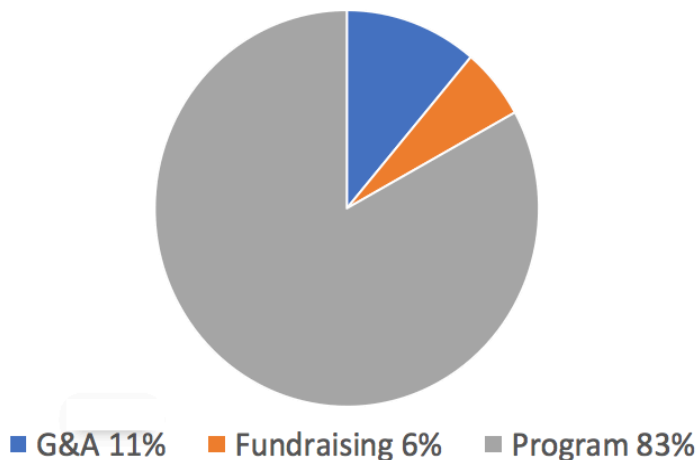
### Revenue

Revenues in 2018 totaled \$2,983,536.84 and were generated primarily from treatment, education, events, donations and grants.



### Expenses

Expenses in 2018 totaled \$2,972,799.75 and were committed to our treatment, education and research centers.



### 2018 Board of Directors

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### Executive Director of STAR Institute

Virginia Spielmann



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## Awareness Reach

- Free parent seminars available live & online
- Kindergarten screenings at two schools
- Presented at two international Autism conferences, State Dental Association, and the Executive Women's Summit

## Treatment Achievements

- 663 clients were served in 2018
- World renowned treatment with 63% of 2018 clients from Colorado, 37% out of state with 7% from outside of the USA

## Education Successes

- 200+ professionals were trained through our Mentorship programs
- Launch of SPD Pro Certification collaboration with Temple University, certifying over 40 professionals as SPD Pro Cert I
- First time ever live-streaming of Parent Workshop and Symposium lecture during the 3S Symposium Atlanta
- Three SOS Workshops for Feeding Therapists with over 450 attendees

## Research Accomplishments

- Schoen, S.A., Miller, L. J., and Flanagan, J. (2018) A Retrospective Pre-Post Treatment Study of Occupational Therapy Intervention for Children with Sensory Processing Challenges. The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy, 6, 4.
- Mulligan, S. Schoen, S. A., Miller, L.J., Valdez, A., Wiggins, A., Hartford, B., & Rixon, A. (2018). Initial studies of validity of the Sensory Processing 3 Dimensions Scale. Physical & Occupational Therapy in Pediatrics, DOI:10.1080/01942638.2018.1434717
- Mulligan, S. Schoen, S. A., Miller, L.J., Valdez, A. & Magalhaes, D. (2018). The Sensory Processing 3 Dimensions Scale: Initial studies of reliability and item analyses. The Open Journal of Occupational Therapy
- Miller, L.J., Schoen, S.A. & Spielmann, V.(2018) STAR Frame of Reference in P. Kramer & J. Hinojosa (Eds), Frames of Reference in Pediatric Occupational Therapy, 4th Edition. Baltimore: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.