Revenue*
Revenues in 2013 totaled $764,603 and were generated primarily from our education programs, donations and grants. Our research program is supported in large part by grants from the Wallace Research Foundation.

Expenses*
Expenses in 2013 totaled $742,656 and were committed to research, education and awareness programs.

Financial Information
We had a successful year in 2013 which will help us to continue to research SPD in order to help millions of people whose lives are impacted every day. We are dedicated to expanding our research efforts and our educational outreach.

Become a Champion of Change
Contact us to explore how you can help us through sponsorships, advocacy and volunteering.

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Our Mission:
To improve the lives of children and adults with Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) and their families through research, education and increased global awareness.

SPD Foundation
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About Sensory Processing Disorder

Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) is a neurological disorder that disrupts the way an individual processes and responds to sensations. SPD affects daily activities and relationships impairing quality of life.

As the leader in Sensory Processing Disorder research, education, and advocacy, the SPD Foundation offers an abundance of services and programs for professionals, parents, and anyone interested in knowing more about the sensory challenges that affect children academically, socially, and/or in their emotional development.

Research Catalyst

The SPD Foundation is committed to enhancing the quality of life for children and adults with Sensory Processing Disorder and their families by conducting and collaborating in rigorous research into the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of SPD.

Today, the organization is recognized as a world leader in research for this disabling condition. The SPD Foundation’s research team has recommended 50 researchers from prominent institutions who will collaborate on SPD research to further the development of effective treatment for this under-represented and often misunderstood disorder. The SPD Foundation is currently conducting 12 studies related to SPD with the goal of providing compelling evidence that SPD exists as a unique clinical entity and that treatment is effective. Our own research program and the studies sponsored by the Wallace Research Foundation totaled over $600,000 in funding for SPD research in 2013!

Research Accomplishments:

• SPD researchers Dr. Lucy Jane Miller, Dr. Darci M. Nielsen and Dr. Sarah A. Schoen published “The presence of migraines and its association with sensory hyper-reactivity and anxiety symptoms in children with autism spectrum disorder” in Autism, doi:10.1177/1362361313486937

• Dr. Sarah Schoen and SPD Scientific Work Group collaborator, Dr. Teresa May-Benson presented a scientific poster at the American Occupational Therapy Association’s Annual Conference in 2013: Effectiveness of the Integrated Listening System for Children with Autism and Sensory Processing Disorder.

• Two articles were published in Autism Asperger’s Digest during 2013.

More than 4 million children across the United States have Sensory Processing Disorder. That’s at least one child in every classroom.

As Brian’s mom, I knew something was just not right when it came to Brian’s behaviors but I had no idea what was wrong. Finally my 3-year-old son was diagnosed with Sensory Processing Disorder. I was relieved to know that what we were living through had a name, but I had no idea what that name meant and where to begin. So I started searching the internet for information and guidance. One of the first websites I stumbled upon was the SPD Foundation’s website. I could certainly tell that this organization was one that was committed to not only its research related to SPD but was committed to helping each individual family affected by SPD.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the SPD Foundation Symposium which just happened to be in Boston, where I’m from. I was so moved to attend a conference where so many people were focused on gathering information and research in an effort to help my child and other children like my child.

Education Innovator

Through a diverse mix of opportunities, educational outreach encompasses online courses, webinars, seminars, symposiums and workshops with the purpose of significantly elevating awareness about SPD in the medical community and among therapists, educators, early intervention specialists and families.

Online Opportunities

The SPD Foundation hosts the SPD University which provides online curriculum with video education programs with 24/7 access. In 2013, online traffic to the SPD University website increased 184%. Two new series were launched with success: the All-STAR lecture series and the Assessment Webinar Series.

Intensive Mentorship Program

The SPD Foundation provides clinicians with a unique opportunity to receive training in assessment and intervention for Sensory Processing Disorder during intensive, one-week programs at SPD Foundation and its partner clinic, the STAR (Sensory Therapies And Research) Center. Working in a small-group setting, mentees learn to apply clinical reasoning during treatment observation and analysis with experienced therapists. In 2013 we mentored a total of 73 individuals from 29 states and 5 countries outside the U.S. We were able to launch a scholarship program for mentorships and received 77 applications.

Awareness Champion

The SPD Foundation continued to elevate its marketing outreach activities.

• The Denver Business Journal selected Dr. Lucy Jane Miller as Top Woman in Business in Healthcare.

• Parents magazine (estimated readership is 14.7 million) featured a callout in an article on sensory issues.

• Parents magazine’s “Parents Perspective Blog” mentioned us on the topic of Picky Eaters and the Holidays.

• We were interviewed by the media including:
  • ABC Eyewitness News
  • NY Daily News
  • Connecticut blogger
  • International Autism Association for Families and Educators Teleseminar
  • Colorado Expression magazine

Early diagnosis of Sensory Processing Disorder increases the chances of successful treatment.

Education Update for 2013

In October we held our annual SPD 3S Symposium in Charlotte, adding online viewing capacity and support from sponsorships. We held three S.O.S. (Sequential Oral Sensory) Approach to Feeding conferences with the final one in Ft. Lauderdale (having the highest attendance ever) to educate professionals on methods to help children with feeding challenges to eat and thrive.

Media Outreach

Media outreach attained over 15 million print impressions and 3 million online impressions.

Social networking accomplishments included doubling Facebook fans with an additional 4,096 more fans. Additional outreach included Blogger, Twitter and YouTube. The SPD Foundation’s website saw a 45% increase in traffic over the prior year with a total of 39,793,372 hits.

Publicity and visibility increased throughout the year with 618,264 impressions from press releases sent to the media.