



STAR Institute
for Sensory Processing Disorder

2016 Annual Report

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, an individual and family's quality of life.

STAR Institute is the premier treatment, research and education center for children and adults with Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD). This includes feeding disorders and other disorders with sensory issues such as autism and ADHD.

Our Mission

To improve the quality of life for children, adolescents and adults with SPD, and their families by providing:

- Comprehensive assessment and effective intervention for Sensory Processing Disorder
- Rigorous research with our collaborating clinical and university-based research partners
- Education for caregivers, pediatric professionals, and educators; and
- Advocacy for official recognition of SPD worldwide.



Treatment Center

STAR Institute provides the highest-quality assessment and intervention for children and families. In addition to SPD, diagnoses of children include autism, attention deficit disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, feeding disorders, and other behavioral and developmental disabilities. There is no cookie-cutter, one-size-fits-all approach at STAR Institute. Instead, treatment reflects the core STAR Institute philosophy: that each and every individual is unique, with individual strengths and sensory challenges and therefore, that each person deserves an approach to intervention tailored to their specific needs. STAR Institute allocates significant financial resources to outcomes research which enhances the evidence-base related to the effectiveness of the treatment of SPD.

Education Center

Education is one of the major pillars of STAR Institute's mission statement. We devote our resources to educating professionals, families and individuals on Sensory Processing Disorder, the impacts on quality of life, and ways to help those with the disorder. In the past year, this work has been delivered through online courses, webinars, seminars, symposiums and in-person workshops. In 2016 the Education Center welcomed a new Education Program Manager and Director of Education, who are moving forward with the purpose of innovating and expanding the reach of SPD education throughout the world. STAR Institute offers Intensive Mentorships, SOS (Sequential Oral Sensory) Approach to Feeding workshops, and our annual International 3S Symposium. In addition, families, individuals with SPD, and professionals can participate in over 70 online courses through SPD University (spduniversity.spdstar.org) on its new and improved learning platform for parents, individuals and professionals.

Research Center

The role of the research team at STAR Institute is to conduct and collaborate in rigorous research into the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of SPD, with the overarching goal of enhancing the quality of life for children and adults with Sensory Processing Disorder and their families. The STAR institute is recognized as a world leader, educator and advocate for research related to this condition. We are uniquely positioned to fulfill this mission because of the recent merger of the clinical and research programs under the same umbrella organization.

More than 50 researchers from prominent institutions across the country collaborate on SPD research to further our understanding of the biological pathophysiology and underpinnings of the disorder as well as further the development of effective treatments.

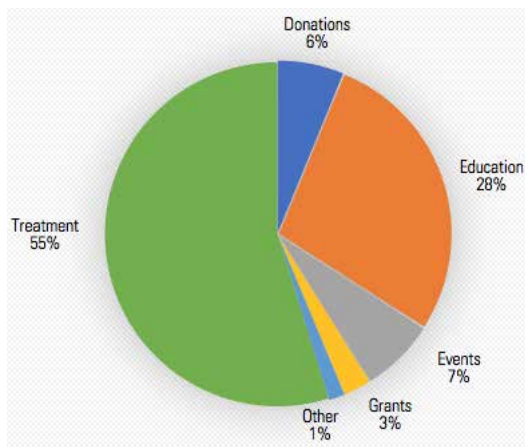


Financial Information

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

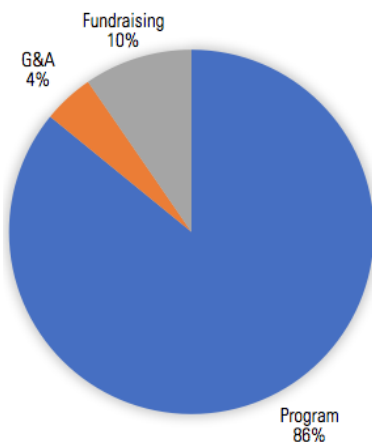
Revenue

Revenues in 2016 totaled \$3,092,820 and were generated primarily from treatment, education, events, donations and grants. Our research program was supported in large part by grants from the Wallace Research Foundation.



Expenses

Expenses in 2016 totaled \$3,152,240 and were committed to our treatment, education and research centers.



2017 Board of Directors

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Awareness Reach

- Baseball legend Paul Konerko's t-shirt campaign and TV exposure reached 21.5 million people
- The Wall Street Journal featured SPD and STAR Institute [When Children Are Diagnosed With a Sensory Disorder](#)
- The new website and branding was launched in June 2016 and reached record traffic in October with 197,000 monthly pageviews

Treatment Achievements

- 728 clients were served in 2016
- World renowned treatment with 55% of 2016 clients from Colorado, 34% out of state, and 11% from outside of the USA.

Education Successes

- Sold-out International 3S Symposium in Seattle, Washington with 400 attendees and 95 video ticket purchases
- Three SOS Feeding Workshops with 583 attendees total
- Six new SPD University online programs launched with 938 total course purchases for the year

Research Accomplishments

- Submitted for publication: Miller, Schoen, McConkey, Valdez and Hampton, "Play in Natural Environments: Developing an Evidence Base for Outcomes on a Sensory-Rich Playground", Journal of Occupational Therapy, Education and Early Intervention
- Submitted for publication Miller, Schoen, & Sullivan "Identification of sensory processing and integration symptom clusters: A preliminary study" American Journal of Occupational Therapy
- AOTA Presentation: Integrated Listening Systems for Children With Sensory Processing Problems: A Pilot Study