



## SCOTTISH RITE FOUNDATION OF COLORADO 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

### STATISTICAL SUMMARY

In 2010, the Scottish Rite Foundation (SRF) helped 13 children receive therapy at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC). The table below summarizes the type of services offered, number of children served, SRF contribution for each service, and average cost per child for these services.

Program	# of Children	SRF Contribution	Average Cost Per Child
Individual Therapy	8	\$ 5,260	\$ 657
Group Therapy	5	\$ 1,980	\$ 396
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$ 7,240</b>	<b>\$ 557</b>

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The University of Northern Colorado (UNC) Audiology and Speech Language Sciences Program provides educational opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students. Our Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Clinic offers diagnostic and intervention services across the age span to individuals with communication needs. Preschool children who have speech, language, and hearing disorders receive intervention services through the generous support of the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado. Our focus is to identify and serve preschoolers in Northeast Colorado who may not otherwise receive speech and language therapy due to a lack of service availability or limited funding.

The Talking and Listening for Preschoolers (TALP) program was established in 2007. The program is a literature-based interactive group that meets two times per week for two-hour sessions, resulting in 52 hours of direct intervention per semester. The curriculum focuses on development speech, language, and literacy skills. Based on current enrollment, children are receiving a program focused on speech production (articulation and phonology) with a secondary language-literacy focus. Children are in the program for 1 ½ hours twice weekly.

Speaking and Signing Stories (SASS) is offered in the summer and is designed for children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. It is a literature-based program that targets all components of language through the use of both speech and American Sign Language.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

The UNC Speech Language Pathology and Audiology Clinic professionals and their students monitor the progress of each child receiving speech-language intervention services. Prior to each semester (12-14 week sessions, 3 times per year), each child receives a pre-therapy file review, assessments as needed, and new goals and objectives are developed in consultation with the child's family. Progress is monitored and documented, and a detailed progress report is shared with the family each semester.



Professional relationships were maintained in 2010 with Weld School District 6, Thompson Valley R2J, the Centennial BOCES, and the Poudre R1 School District. The successful collaborative efforts between UNC and public schools help promote the availability of SRF funding in our community. In addition, such collaboration provides valuable insight into the needs of families seeking services for their children.

The participation of graduate students to provide services to children enables these future professionals to develop skills necessary to become leaders in their own communities. Supervisors provide detailed feedback to graduate students during their clinical sessions and evaluate their clinical competencies at the end of the semester. By educating the graduate clinicians about the Scottish Rite Foundation and community service, we increase the likelihood that these students will be adopting similar roles in the future.

### **LEADERSHIP**

Two graduate students in speech-language pathology received scholarships from the Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association in 2010: Natasha Maria and Elisabeth Robertson. The students and their families attended the annual dinner and presentation of the awards. Their awards were also announced in the RiteCare newsletter.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado has significantly improved opportunities for many children and their families in Northern Colorado. It is so very important that clinics extend language intervention services to children who do not have the financial access to such services. Program Goals for 2011 include:

1. We continue to be available to offer services to children in communities in the northeastern area. We intend to advertise our services through the media and our contacts with SLPs and other service providers in schools and other agencies.
2. This year we will increase the number of children served through SRF funding. This will occur through increased enrollment in TALP and other programs.
3. Follow up will occur with community contacts to continue to build collaborative relationships.

Respectfully submitted:

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