



The Eagle's Voice

Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado

- a 501(c)(3) public charity -

A Newsletter For Our Valued Partners

The Scottish Rite Masons and Friends Who Care

Issue 11 – Winter 2010

What Colorado RiteCare did in 2009

In 2009 the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado provided financial assistance enabling 1,261 children in Colorado to receive speech-language care. The Foundation provided \$1.6 million to help parents pay for the expense of this care. Its administrative overhead rate in 2009 was less than 5 percent.

Children Served in 2009

Speech-Language Therapy.....	1,026 children
Treasure Chest Program.....	235 children
Total Children Served in 2009.....	1,261 children
Valley of Denver.....	797 children
Valley of Colorado Springs/Pueblo.....	131 children
Valley of Grand Junction.....	333 children

Seth Now Making Real Progress by Seth's Mom

(In a December 2009 letter to the Foundation, Seth's Mom wrote the following and is published here with her permission.)

Our family was unable to make it to the Holiday Open House (December 5, 2009, Holiday Party at Denver Consistory) but I still wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your generosity in the community and more personally for my son Seth's progress.

Seth receives a Scottish Rite grant for speech therapy given at The Children's Hospital in Westminster, CO (one of Children's satellite clinics).



Seth

Although Seth has been in group speech therapy since pre-school through Jefferson County, we had not seen real progress in his speech until he started taking private classes with Nancy Thorn at Children's.

Nancy seems very interested in helping Seth improve his pronunciation and also takes great interest in just getting to know him better.

My husband lost his job in June and we would not be able to send Seth to private therapy without the Scottish Rite grant.

I would also like to point out how caring and professional the staff at Scottish Rite is. I have spoken with Valerie Hernandez several times and she is outstanding.

Again, thank you so much for making such a difference in the community and for Seth and our family.

New Foundation Web Site Launched January 9, 2010

A new and improved website for the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado is now operational. It presents Foundation and RiteCare Program information in an attractive and user friendly format.

If you haven't visited the new site since it was activated January 9, 2010, please take a moment and do so. Go to www.scottishritefoundation.org. The site is best viewed using Google Chrome as the web browser. Internet Explorer will work, but Google Chrome presents a better display and is downloadable free of charge from Google.

The web pages have a warm and appealing appearance in layout, color scheme, good use of photos, and ease of navigation. They are designed with our prime users in mind – the families of children who are interested in our programs, graduate students at UNC and CU, and current and prospective donors. For each of these users, separate and distinct pages are presented which require a minimal number of clicks to obtain information.

The home page is confined to a menu of main section page titles with links. The emphasis is directed at potential client families and graduate students. Upon opening this page, you will see the following selections:

- ∴ Speech Therapy Information**
- ∴ Early Language & Literacy Information**
- ∴ Graduate Scholarship Information**
- ∴ Foundation Information**
- ∴ Donations & Gifts**
- ∴ Contact Us**

Donors will find the on-line donation capability offered by the website to be most user friendly with PayPal. This is a payment processing organization which provides hundreds of not-for-profits with discounted processing services. It requires no membership for making a donation and provides a secure way to process a credit card payment. The Foundation's bank account is credited by PayPal and the Foundation is not given your credit card number nor does it become involved with your credit card processing.

The RiteCare partner location map is a major improvement on the new site. A map is located in both the Speech Therapy and Early Language web pages. With a click on the map, an interactive Google map is displayed with each RiteCare location highlighted by a blue pin symbol.

The user can zoom in on a map location obtaining a good quality aerial view. Or the user can elect to see the location in a typical Google map format or change to a topographic or even a street map. In fact, for most locations the user can also convert to a Google Earth street scene and see a 360 degree photo of the location. This, indeed, is a dramatic improvement over the former site which offered only a static non-interactive map. Now the user can acquire a precise visual definition of the RiteCare partner of interest.

Jim Martin III, Ph.D., made the new site a reality and did all the coding and uploading of the web pages. But he did much more than this by adding real value to the utility of the site including a new location mapping strategy for the RiteCare partner location maps, insertion of an e-mail button on various key pages, and enhancing the site's color scheme and ease of navigation just to name several enhancements.

Your Financial Support Enables Children to Receive Speech-Language Services

We sincerely appreciate your financial support in helping children with speech-language disorders. Needs are greater now than they have been in many years, especially with so many parents having lost jobs in the economic downturn. Without exaggeration, if it weren't for the Foundation, many children would go without any therapy. As Executive Secretary I receive telephone calls and e-mails every week from parents seeking help for their children.

We ask for your support in helping with this work. With one of the lowest administrative overhead rates in the not-for-profit world – consistently under 5 percent – your gift will be efficiently used. And, please know, that each member of our Board of Trustees and Foundation staff financially support this work every year – a commitment each holds dear to his heart.

The Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity dedicated to funding speech-language therapy for children in Colorado who have childhood language disorders. Please remember the Foundation when considering charitable giving and making estate plans. For more information visit us on the web at www.scottishritefoundation.org or call us at 303-861-2410.