

Annual Report 2008



BATON ROUGE
SPEECH & HEARING
FOUNDATION

www.brshf.org

Our Wish....

A Letter from the Board President and Executive Director

Our name, the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation (BRSHF), just doesn't tell the whole story these days. As community needs have changed during our 48 years of services, we've responded. We know that successful communication does not happen by accident and the path to full communication for each individual is unique. We consider the needs of the whole client when we begin a relationship here at the Foundation and collaborate across disciplines to meet those needs. Through diagnosis, treatment, education and research, we are changing lives and making wishes come true - one client, one family at a time.

2008 has been a year of great strides for the BRSHF. In the past year, we have strengthened our development efforts to address today's non-profit environment and to ensure the long-term sustainability of our organization. Our audiology department received special recognition this year when the BRSHF was selected as a 2008 Best of Baton Rouge Awards recipient in the hearing aids category by the U.S. Local Business Association. We also offered a camp this summer for children with hearing disabilities called HEAR We Are. Our first summer camp season was a great success!

Our services to our clients and their families continue to focus on the diagnosis and intensive treatment of disabilities that affect one's ability to communicate, but as the needs in our community have grown, so has our service reach to also include developmental health – especially for children with issues affecting their ability to relate effectively with their family and the environment such as those affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Also a first in 2008 – this annual report! As we approach 50 years of service in the Baton Rouge community, many things have led to these many successful years of helping children and adults achieve their full communication potential, but one thing remains certain - we couldn't have done it without our generous supporters, our Friends of the Foundation. We hope that you find this report useful and informative. Please let us know what you think – your ideas and thoughts about this inaugural edition will help us improve our future communications to you.

Such efforts and accomplishments prove beyond a doubt that 2008 has been a defining year for BRSHF in continuing to provide quality services to our community despite funding challenges. Gifts to the Foundation received in the coming year and during this year's upcoming annual campaign will allow us to continue to offer and develop programs that meet the ever changing needs of the Baton Rouge community.

We are excited about those things that lie ahead for us in 2009!

Melissa deGeneres
Board President

Melissa Juneau
Executive Director

THANKYOU! 2007 – 2008 Friends of the Foundation

Through the generous financial and in-kind support of our Friends of the Foundation you allow us to fulfill the wish that remains so important to what we do here at the Foundation – **to continue our charitable mission** by assuring program accessibility to every client, to every family who is in need of our help, regardless of their ability to pay for services. Our sincere thanks to the following people and organizations that help make our work possible:

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	Michael & Karen Khonsari	Larry & Franccen Reeher	
	Alice S. Kronenberger	Reilly Family Foundation	

Is your name missing or listed incorrectly?

Is your name missing or listed incorrectly? If you think your name should have been included in this report and it is not, then we probably made a mistake. We are sorry if this is the case. Although we take great care in compiling our list of donors, there is always the chance that an error will occur. If we have accidentally omitted or misspelled your name, please contact us and let us know at 225-343-4232.

...To Continue Our Charitable Mission

Making Wishes Come True.....

Our therapists provide speech and language, audiology, special education, and ABA/group therapy program services – all with the goal of helping children and adults achieve their full communication potential. Jack, Carla, Sarah and Christopher are but a few examples of the wishes come true at the BRSHF.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Speech and language services at the BRSHF are provided by Master's level therapists with Certificates in Clinical Competency. Speech and language services provided include:

- Speech/language evaluations
- Individual language therapy
- Speech therapy for children with hearing loss
- Group language therapy for preschool children diagnosed with autism, developmental delay, and other factors impacting communication development

By the first grade, roughly 5% of children have noticeable speech disorders; the majority have no known cause.



The BRSHF has been instrumental in the success of my children, especially my older son, Jack. At the age of 2, he was diagnosed with a severe language delay. Consistent perseverance by the speech therapists and a group language setting were pivotal to the development of his communication. He was able to learn a new communication skill and instantly apply it with his peers. We are not without our challenges, but Jack is currently in a "mainstream" school and doing well in the 2nd grade.

~ Joany, Jack's Mom

AUDIOLOGY

Audiology services at BRSHF are provided by practitioners with Masters degrees in Audiology, who are licensed by the State of Louisiana and who have earned a Certificate of Clinical Competency.

Audiology services include:

- Testing and evaluation
- Fitting of hearing aids and assistive listening devices
- Specialized services and hearing protection and related products

Approximately 28 million Americans have a hearing impairment.



Carla has blossomed with the help of BRSHF. When she was 2 years old, she was diagnosed with hearing loss and over the years has received amplification and therapy at BRSHF which have enabled her to enter main stream kindergarten with age appropriate skills. This would not have been possible without the BRSHF staff providing education, therapy and genuine care to Carla and her family

~ Heidi, BRSFH Audiologist

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

Early intervention services at BRSHF are provided by a Louisiana certified educational diagnostician.

Services include:

- Comprehensive developmental assessments
- Special instruction and outreach services provided by Early Steps
- Early Steps Educational Diagnostic Services



Sarah began at BRSHF and it was such a bright spot in her journey of learning to speak. BRSHF combined fun, love and learning in a beautifully unique environment that serves so many different kinds of kids. We have now moved to a different state but realize again how BRSHF prepared us all in Sarah's early years – from songs taught that we still sing with her, to resources supplied by her teacher, to the first steps of speech which were taken in her class there. As we continue this journey of communication with Sarah, we remain deeply thankful for our season spent at BRSHF and the teachers who make it all happen. Overall, simply thanks for loving Sarah.

~ Kathryn, Sarah's Mom

ABA/GROUP THERAPY PROGRAM

This preschool program for children affected by Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) combines speech and language therapy with Applied Behavioral Analysis principles – Discreet Trial Therapy. This program at BRSHF is currently the only program of its kind in our area.

More children will be diagnosed with Autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined. Today, there is no medical cure or detection for Autism.



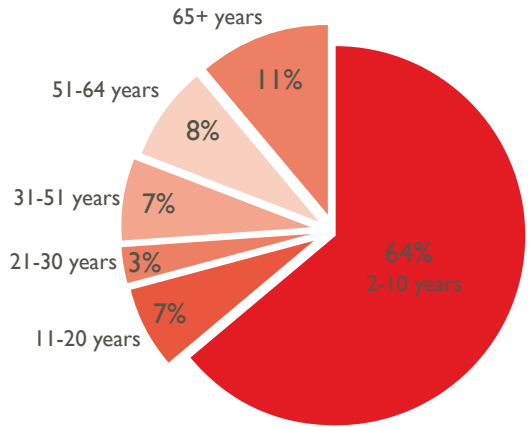
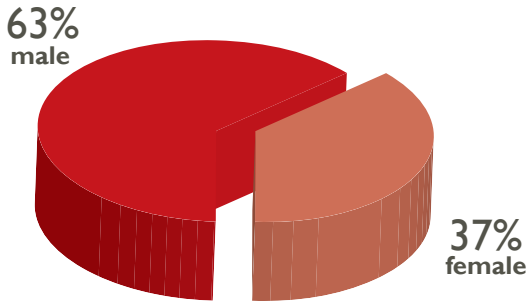
We moved to the Baton Rouge community a year ago and were fortunate to find the BRSHF for our son, Christopher. We now have the peace of mind knowing Christopher is gaining critical skills while at the same time being in a caring and nurturing environment. As Christopher's mom, I can't express how much it means to me to have him run out of the class room with a big smile on his face each day. Christopher has been a blessing to our family and the BRSHF has been one as well.

~ Colleen, Christopher's Mom

Who We Serve

Since our foundation in 1960, the BRSHF has provided services to thousands of children and adults living in the Baton Rouge and surrounding areas with speech, language, learning disabilities and hearing impairments.

Our clientele are predominantly male and over half are two to ten years of age as demonstrated in the following charts.



Services

960 clients received services last year including:

- Audiology – 514 clients
- Speech and Language – 276 clients
- Early Intervention – 152 clients
- Preschool Program for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders - 18 clients

Financial Summary

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures For the year ending December 31, 2007

Revenue	
Program Service Fees	\$399,604
Contributions and Fundraising	\$59,483
Investments	\$18,521
Grants	\$135,400
United Way	\$254,105
Other	\$20,035
Total Revenue	\$887,148
Expenses	
Personnel	\$528,004
Occupancy	\$62,402
Supplies	\$69,755
Other	\$159,694
Total Expenses	\$819,855

Statement of Financial Position For the year ending December 31, 2007

Assets	
Current Assets	\$279,641
Investments	\$345,665
Property and Equipment	\$120,342
Total Assets	\$745,648
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities	\$30,287
Net Assets	\$715,361
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$745,648

Our Wish Is To Continue Our Charitable Mission

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Baton Rouge, LA 70802
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