



2022

Annual Report

Children's Research Triangle

Letter from the Chief Executive Officer

Dear CRT Donors and Partners,

It's hard to believe 25 years have passed since CRT was officially incorporated, providing support to children and families affected by what was then referred to as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Since then, with the generous support of donors, foundations, corporations, and government grants, we have greatly expanded the services we provide, the number of communities in which we work and, most importantly, the number of children served.

The work of CRT is more important than ever. Post pandemic, there is a youth mental health crisis throughout the country. The impact of the crisis is greatest on Black and Brown youth, who also have lower rates of connection to critically needed mental health services. CRT's community-based services are specifically

designed to reach youth from communities with scarce mental health resources.

We hope you enjoy this Annual Report, which outlines the impact of your giving in 2022. With your support, CRT is serving even more children through mental health services and Camp SOAR. A few highlights:

- CRT's growing staff of clinical providers and new community partners means we are increasing the number of children served.
- A new grant from the Cook County Justice Advisory Council for Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction is funding expanded CRT mental health services in 10 schools on Chicago's South and West Sides and South Suburbs.
- We welcomed even more Camp SOAR campers this summer, as we work to return to our pre-Covid numbers of campers and volunteers.

Our quarter century of serving Chicago's most vulnerable children, thanks to your generous support, is certainly something to celebrate, and we look forward to a spectacular 25th Anniversary Gala! We invite all of our supporters, partners and families to join us for this special evening. We look forward to seeing you there!



Linda Schwartz, PhD
Chief Executive Officer

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IMPACT

Mental Health Services

999 children served

391 children and caregivers received mental health therapy

7,580 therapy hours provided to children and families

1,033 individuals received mental health training

131 children received psychological evaluations

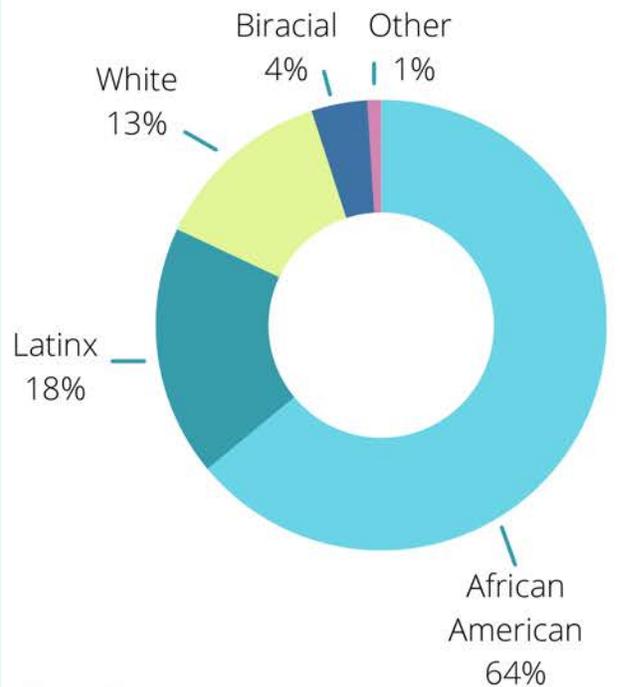
775 children screened for trauma

91% of children served from low income families

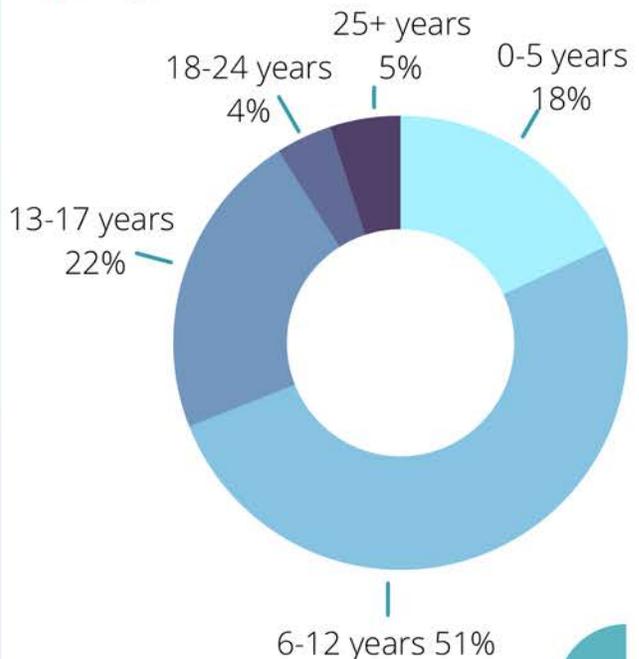
95% of clinical services provided at no cost

Children served

By Race/Ethnicity



By Age



Therapy Services

CRT is increasing the reach of our mental health therapies for Black and Brown children and families in communities experiencing high rates of family and community violence. **Due to grants and donations, 95% of CRT's services are provided without cost.** These children have experienced high levels of trauma:

- 44.8% experienced sexual abuse/assault
- 42.5% lived with an impaired caregiver
- 35.5% resided in a household with domestic violence
- 27.6% were exposed to community violence
- 23% experienced physical maltreatment/abuse
- 23% were exposed to extreme interpersonal violence
- 17% experienced homelessness/housing instability

CRT has a strong track record of success. Outcome data consistently shows that youth decrease trauma symptoms and improve emotional and behavioral functioning, while parents decrease risk of child abuse, psychopathology, and stress. CRT's services are specifically designed to serve children confronting barriers to services so they develop the **critical tools needed for lifelong success in school, work, and interpersonal relationships.**

2022 Therapy Team Accomplishments

- Increased the Therapy Team by 27% to 14 full time staff
- Added 10 new community partners
- Expanded services for veteran and military families
- Increased diversity of staff to better reflect the population served
- Expanded gun violence prevention programming in 10 schools
- Provided training in trauma informed therapy, including the Illinois Model for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

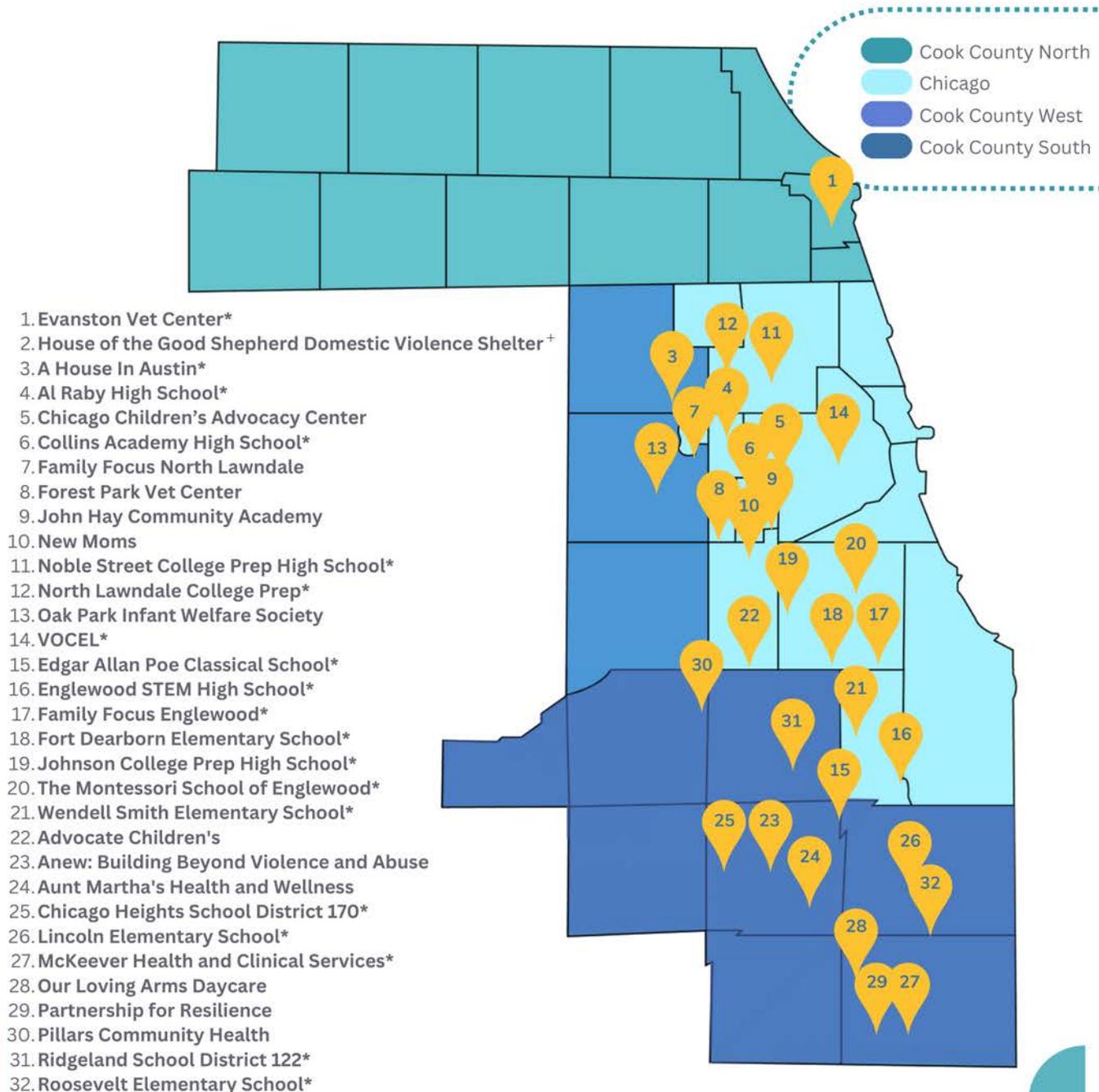
Community Partner Spotlight

CRT is proud to support the work of community partners like A House In Austin (AHIA), that provides services to empower families to shape their children's futures. CRT serves clients directly at AHIA to reduce barriers to receiving mental health services. Through CRT's relationship with Chicago White Sox Charities, volunteers built a playhouse during Sox Serve Week. It's now a sweet play space for neighborhood children in Austin.



Community Partners

CRT's community-based model was created to increase accessibility to mental health services for low income Chicago families living in communities with scarce resources. In 2007, CRT began providing services in a domestic violence shelter in Lawndale. In 2022, CRT had a total of 32 community partners primarily the South and West Sides of Chicago and South Suburbs. These community-based health and social services organizations, domestic and homeless shelters, Vet centers, schools and school districts refer clients to CRT and/or provide space to CRT therapy staff to work directly at their site to provide increased access to critical mental health services.



*CRT therapists deliver services onsite at these partners

+Location of domestic violence shelter not shown

Evaluation

Evaluation is a critical step in developing a clear path forward for children with developmental and behavioral challenges, and many families come to CRT specifically for our expertise. Our Evaluation Team saw 131 clients last year, many of whom had complex presentations. CRT's assessments help caregivers, teachers and other adults better understand the strengths and needs of these children. By serving economically marginalized families, we strive to provide equal access to early identification and treatment.

CRT is also leading in the development of diagnostic and assessment approaches. In May of 2022, the Evaluation Team presented materials on how we assess for fetal alcohol spectrum disorders at the American Academy of Pediatric Neuropsychology (AAPdN) conference.

“ I left the evaluation with the sense of a brighter future for my foster son.

“ CRT's advocacy helped move the child in my care toward a successful adoption.

Research

A cornerstone of CRT's mission, the depth and breadth of our research work sets us apart from other organizations. Our Research Team collects and analyzes program evaluation data, allowing us to measure outcomes and fine-tune our work to sustain a high level of research-driven clinical interventions.

In 2022, four members of the Research Team designed and presented materials at the Midwestern Psychological Association entitled "Predictors of Therapeutic Outcome in Children Exposed to Trauma." In addition, our Research Director, together with three former staff members including CRT founder Dr. Ira Chasnoff, had a paper entitled "Parents and Children Together: A Treatment Program for Children with FASDs" accepted for publication in the journal Child Welfare.

CRT's research internship program has become increasingly well-known and sought after. In the summer of 2022 we received over 100 applications for seven positions. During the year we worked with 15 interns from colleges and universities in the Chicago area, and more in the summer from schools across the country.



Training

CRT's extensive training program is two-fold, providing hundreds of professionals and community members training in mental and behavioral health curricula, as well as training graduate-level interns in trauma-informed clinical practice.

In 2022, CRT trained **1,033 community members** to help recognize and address the increasing need for child and youth mental health services with such topics as:

- Recognizing Trauma and Managing Its Impact
- Mindfulness and Self-Care in the Classroom
- Prenatal Drug and Alcohol Exposure: What Adoptive Parents Need to Know

CRT also oversees specific grant-funded training. With our SAMHSA Training Grant, we worked to promote Mental Health Awareness training through the use of the Youth Mental Health First Aid Curriculum. Our outreach across the nation to schools, mentorship programs, and many other youth-serving organizations has been very well received and surpassed all goals, providing training to over **600 people**.

CRT's internship program trains masters and doctoral level students to become trauma-informed clinicians. Upon completion, they are well prepared to begin practice addressing the unique challenges present in Chicago's under-resourced communities. In 2022, CRT had a cohort of six students. In addition, CRT expanded our training to include psychological evaluation as well as therapy, consolidating these topics into a single internship to benefit our students and their future clients.

CRT Tackles Gun Violence Prevention

CRT was chosen as a grantee for the Cook County Justice Advisory Council (JAC) Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction. This funding supports CRT's school-based gun and other violence prevention and intervention programming, using a trauma-informed schools framework and evidenced-based treatments to address the impact of childhood exposure to violence and trauma. Thank you to the JAC for this support that will impact thousands of youth at 10 partner schools on Chicago's South and West Sides and South Suburbs.



CAMP SOAR

The "Best Week of the Summer!"

In July 2022, Camp SOAR welcomed 84 campers and 96 volunteer counselors and staff over two weeks for summer camp fun and adventure. Camp SOAR impacts not only the campers, but also provides invaluable support and respite for parents and a life-changing experience for the volunteer counselors. Our ability to provide this amazing opportunity for campers with disabilities, counselors, and families depends on the generous friends of Camp SOAR. In 2022, we raised \$100,000 to fund the gap between the cost of tuition and the true cost of camp.



"Our son asks about Camp SOAR all the time up until the day we leave. It's a HUGE part of our lives. We are forever grateful for all of the time, commitment, care, and compassion that goes into camp from the staff and counselors." - **A Camp SOAR Parent**

Camp SOAR Counselors 2022

Ellen Bakal
Nicole Baker
Caitlin Bauer
Kassie Bout
Alena Brandt
Connor Buckley
Meghan Canfield
Brandon Casey
Sermet "Cesar" Cetin
Maya Chandarana
Savita Chandarana
Graham Cooney
Anna Crabbe
Sean Crowley
Jake Cruz
Emmett Cuncannan
Colleen Cuncannan
John Curry
Caden Deutsch
Audrey Duetsch
Allison Eby
Dori Eby
Ari Fagan

Ellie Fagan
Ava Falk
Allison Feeney
Ryan Feeney
Anne Figueroa
Kiera Figueroa
Miles Friedman
Charlie Fritzsche
Aleks Gotlund
Derrick Graves
Emily Graves
Sarah Greising
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Naomi Meyers
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William Moran
Grace Murphy
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David O'Leary
Ana Lucia Ochoa
Danny Oliver
Luis Penzini
Daniel Phillips
Peyton Reisman
Jake Sagrati
Emma Schwartz-Dodek
Brooke Semple

Nathan Skiera
Renee Skiera
Luke Smith
Nora Smith
Rex Sohanaki
Hana Stansfield
Dani Stassen
Annie Tassi
Maddie Thomson
Annabelle Thomson
Lizzy Titus
Maggie Tripp
Grant Turcich
Caleb Turnock
Melissa Van Bokel
Abby Vaughan
Abby Voelker
Sydney Wetherill
Trey Wetherill
James White
Kate White
Tommy Winslow
James Zumba

Donors

Thank you to CRT's generous donors, without whom we would not be able to serve children at risk for developmental, behavioral, psychological, or educational challenges. We are grateful for donations of any amount; here we list those donors of \$1,000 or more in 2022.



\$50,000 and above

Bob Woodruff Foundation
Crown Family Philanthropies
EA Foundation
Michael Reese Health Trust
Morgan Stanley Global Impact Funding Trust

\$25,000-\$49,999

Chicago White Sox Community Fund
Cleary ten Brink Family Foundation
North Shore Exchange
Anonymous
Linda Schwartz and Alvin Dodek
W.P. & H.B. White Foundation
The Wescott Group

\$15,000-\$24,999

Albert Pick, Jr Fund
Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Inc.
Grant Healthcare Foundation
Help for Children
Illinois Attorney General Office
Violent Crime Victim Assistance
Women Leaders in Philanthropy, a giving group of the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation
Special Kids Foundation
W.H. Trading LLC

Nearly 300 in-person guests gathered at the Heroes of Our Hearts Gala on November 5, 2022, with another 50 guests around the country tuning in to our Live Stream. The Gala delivered record-breaking funds for CRT and will allow us to serve hundreds of children and families.

\$10,000-\$14,999

Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation
Michael and Diane Dowd
Fred J. Brunner Foundation
Ladies Philoptochos Society of Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church
Dave and Jen Lewis
Morris and Fran Schwartz
John Paul and Jennifer Turcich

\$5,000-\$9,999

The Albertsons Companies Foundation
The Davis Benedict Group at Morgan Stanley
Will and Julie Hobert
Illinois Tool Works Foundation
Patrick Marcoux, Jr and Jane Marcoux
Daniel and Lorel McDonald
Doug and Beth Shabelman
St. Francis High School
United Way Metro Chicago



CRT gratefully acknowledges the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for significant support for our programs, including Project LAUNCH, Early Childhood Mental Health, Training, and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

Donors, continued

\$2,500-\$4,999

Andy and Stephanie Baker
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Timothy and Joan Marie Conway
Jeffrey and Jennifer Cramer
Darcy DeWolfe and Aaron Rappaport
Jason Fishbein and Tali Kogan
George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities
Steven and Lisa Levenson
Benjamin and Miriam Lichstein
Lori and Ty Quaderer

\$1,500-\$2,499

Jim and Laura Bream
AJ Conway and Jessica Levy
John and Agatha Defranco
Joan Dodek and Oscar Dodek III
Ruth Edwards and Richard White
Amy Groessel and Dirk Gould
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Patricia Peña Therapy LLC
Roy and Karen Splansky
Mark and Victoria Stach
Ronald and Stacy Stillman
The Wallace Family Foundation

\$1,000-\$1,499

The Alben F. Bates and Clara G. Bates Foundation
Arturo and Dawn Alvarez
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John and Erin Telford
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Grant Turcich
Evan Turcich



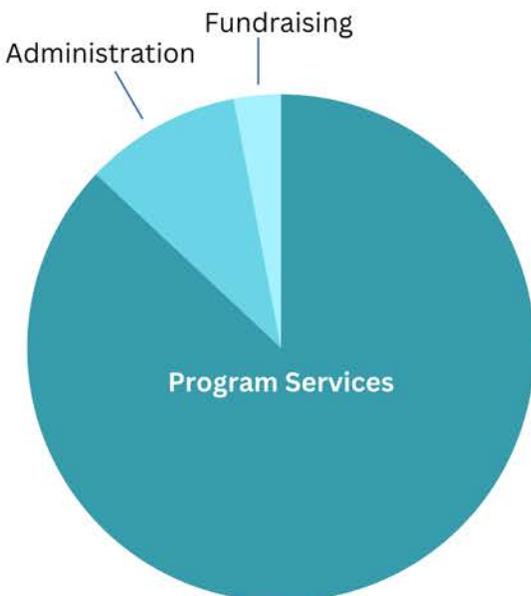
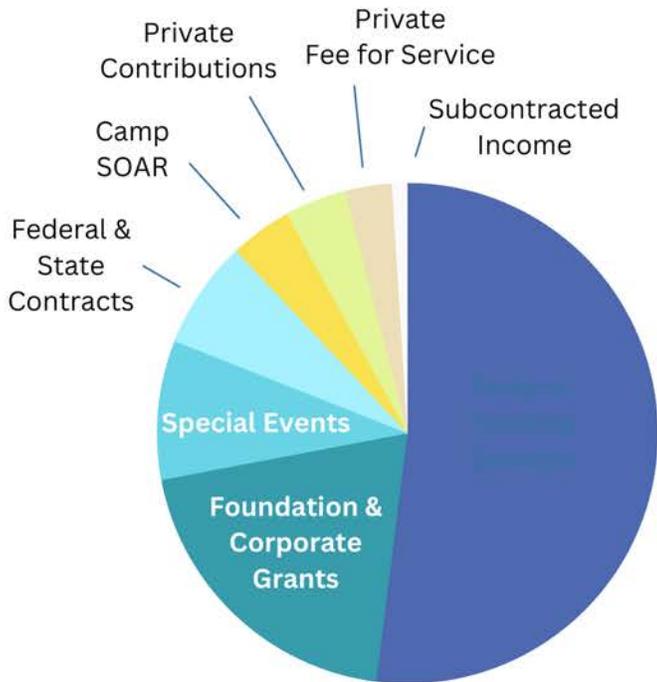
*In 2022, the much-anticipated Children's Holiday Party for CRT clients and Camp SOAR families was back in person! More than 200 guests gathered at Lincoln Park Zoo for an evening of great food, gifts from Santa, games, and Zoolights. **Thank you to our wonderful event sponsor WH Trading.***



Financials

FY 2022

CRT strives to maintain a balanced budget, responsible financial practices, and diverse funding streams so that funding is used primarily for the children and families we serve.



Revenues: \$3,041,654

- Federal and State Grants \$1,566,831 (52%)
- Foundation & Corporate Grants \$617,236 (20%)
- Special Events \$259,397 (9%)
- Federal and State Contracts \$221,982 (7%)
- Camp SOAR \$132,029 (4%)
- Private Contributions \$110,633 (4%)
- Private Fee for Service \$90,958 (3%)
- Subcontracted Income \$42,588 (1%)

Expenses: \$3,035,824

- Program Services \$2,619,895 (87%)
- Administration \$312,100 (10%)
- Fundraising \$103,829 (3%)

Children's Research Triangle 2022 Board & Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Linda Schwartz, PhD

THERAPY TEAM

Stefanie Ward, LMFT – Therapy Director
Gauri Goswami, LCSW – Asst. Therapy Director,
Bilingual Child & Family Therapist
Victoria Albarracin, MA – Child & Family Therapist
Tracey Bell-Hodgman, LCSW – School Site
Coordinator, Child & Family Therapist
Ryan Chandler, AMFT – Child & Family Therapist
Jessica Chung, ATR, MA – Child & Family Therapist
Monica Dirr, LCSW – Child & Family Therapist
Corinne Fleming, PsyD – Child & Family Therapist
Anne Gamache, LCPC, CADC – Asst. Therapy
Director, Child & Family Therapist
Janeisha Hood Rogers, LCPC – Child & Family
Therapist
Abbré McClain, PsyD, LCPC – Clinical Supervisor,
Child & Family Therapist
Rose Mesick, LCPC – Child & Family Therapist
Patricia Peña, LMFT – Senior Bilingual Child &
Family Therapist
Cheria Randle, MA – Child & Family Therapist
María Gabriela Rodríguez, MA – Bilingual Child &
Family Therapist
Venezah St. Louis, LCSW – Child & Family Therapist
Christianna Weiss, MSW – Child & Family Therapist

EVALUATION TEAM

Corinne Fleming, PsyD – Evaluation Director
Maria Fay – Executive Clinical Assistant
Stephanie Kohlman, PsyD – Licensed Clinical
Psychologist
Sharon Murphy, PhD – Licensed Clinical
Psychologist
Quynh Giao "Tina" Nguyen, MD – Pediatrician

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Abby Vlahos – Development Director
Desmond Bailey, Jr. – Institutional Grants Manager
Teniesha Hinds – Development Manager
Miriam Lichstein – Development Associate

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Samantha Orbach, PsyD – Training Director
Victoria Albarracin, MA – Mental Health Trainer,
Child & Family Therapist
Wendy Kovacs, PhD, LMFT – Mental Health
Trainer & Consultant

RESEARCH TEAM

Anne Wells, PhD – Research Director
Devanshi Shah, MPH – Asst. Research Director
Cassandra Boyd, MSW – Program Evaluator
Gabiell Carpenter – Research & Program
Evaluation Specialist
Jaylin Hodge – Research & Program Evaluation
Specialist
Kayla Scanlan – Research & Program Evaluation
Specialist, Internship Manager

CAMP SOAR TEAM

Nancy Keck, MD – Camp SOAR Co-Founder &
Director
Ingrid Thompson, RN – Camp SOAR Co-Founder
& Head Nurse
Sari Rieger, MS, BCBA – Camp SOAR Coordinator
Tara Hanson, LBS1 – Camp SOAR Asst. Director
Debbie McLaurin, RN – Camp SOAR Nurse
Lindsay Nitardy – Accounting Administrator
Meghan O'Halloran, MS, BCBA – Camp SOAR
Coordinator
Chrisy Schmidt, PsyD – Camp SOAR Consulting
Psychologist

PROJECT LAUNCH TEAM

Emily Odiase, MSW – Co-Project Director
Anne Wells, PhD – Co-Project Director
Donzell Franklin – Project Coordinator
Cassandra Boyd, MSW – Project Evaluator
Gabiell Carpenter – Research Assistant
Darcy DeWolfe – Communications Coordinator
Rose Mesick, LCPC – Mental Health Consultant,
Child & Family Therapist
Cheria Randle, MA – Child & Family Therapist
Nekika Skinner – Family Navigator Specialist

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Robert Hinz – Controller
Andy Baker – Human Resources Consultant
Darriona Bible – Human Resources Consultant
Jacquelyn Dela Cruz – Office Manager
Kimberly Dressman – Intake Coordinator
Lindsay Nitardy – Accounting Administrator
Elizabeth Paredes Espinoza – Medical Biller
Natalie Rossman – Administrative Assistant