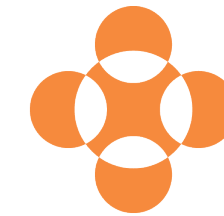


feeding matters

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

a decade of progress



feeding matters

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OUR MISSION

Feeding Matters is furthering advances in pediatric feeding disorders by accelerating identification, igniting research, and promoting collaborative care for children and families.

OUR VISION

A world in which children with pediatric feeding disorders will thrive.

OUR VALUES

Innovation. We are partners in the latest developments to advance the research and treatment of pediatric feeding disorders.

Credibility. We combine practical experience with a deep knowledge of the medical, social, and personal impacts of pediatric feeding disorders.

Collaboration. We work with healthcare professionals, families, and the community to address all facets of pediatric feeding disorders.

Determination. We are deeply committed to promoting awareness and understanding of pediatric feeding disorders and their impact on people's lives.

Understanding. We provide perspective, context, and compassion for the children, families, and healthcare professionals impacted by pediatric feeding disorders every day.



LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP



BRUCE WRIGHT



SHANNON GOLDWATER



CHRIS LINN

During the past decade, we have been lucky to witness the transformation of both Feeding Matters and the people we serve. In honor of our tenth anniversary, the theme of A Decade of Progress seemed to be especially fitting.

Much of 2016 was spent reflecting on the past and thanking those who believed in our founder's vision of creating a world in which children with pediatric feeding disorders will thrive. We also spent the year looking ahead, identifying ways Feeding Matters can have an even more lasting impact in Arizona and communities across the United States.

Although we have accomplished a lot in these ten short years, we will continue to work diligently to improve the quality of life for children and families. Now more than ever, Feeding Matters plays a pivotal role as a nationwide, collaborative leader for furthering advances in pediatric feeding disorders by accelerating identification, igniting research, and promoting collaborative care for children and families. This 2016 annual report gives you the opportunity to learn more about how Feeding Matters is creating a local model of care to address national concerns and how we are raising awareness of pediatric feeding disorders to better support both families and healthcare professionals.

With a steadfast commitment to making a better world for children with pediatric feeding disorders, we will continue solving the problems of today while also creating solutions for the future. These are exciting times, and we thank you for your continued trust, generosity, and support.

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**“FEEDING MATTERS
IS SHIFTING THE
PARADIGM FOR
ALL CHILDREN
WITH PEDIATRIC
FEEDING DISORDERS
— NO MATTER
WHAT STATE OR
COUNTRY THEY
LIVE IN.”**

*Jacquie Dorrance and Ashley Dorrance Kaplan
Community Advisors, Feeding Matters*



**“FEEDING MATTERS
IS MAKING A
TREMENDOUS IMPACT
IN THE LIVES OF
CHILDREN WITH
PEDIATRIC FEEDING
DISORDERS. I AM
HONORED TO PLAY
A PART IN THIS
IMPORTANT WORK.”**

*Daniel B. Kessler, MD, FAAP
Medical Council Member, Feeding Matters*

OUR TEN-YEAR TIME LINE

From a volunteer-led support program to a national nonprofit thought leader, Feeding Matters has made tremendous progress over the past decade, and it is directly related to the unwavering support of our community.

“We know our investments go further with Feeding Matters. It is the only organization nationwide collaborating with families, doctors, and the community to help children who can’t eat.”

- Judy and Bill Schubert
Feeding Matters Community Advisors

“Because of the work with national experts, our collaboration with Feeding Matters to create a local solution in Arizona will ultimately lead to replicable models nationwide.”

- Rene Bartos MD, MPH, FAAP
Mercy Care Plan

“Over the past ten years, I have seen Feeding Matters grow rapidly in both staff size and reach. I am honored to have watched the organization evolve into what it is today.”

- Ron Coleman
Ingebritson Family Foundation



After witnessing the impact pediatric feeding disorders have on each of their young triplets, Bob and Shannon Goldwater establish the P.O.P.S.I.C.L.E. Center and provide the initial seed funding.



P.O.P.S.I.C.L.E Center begins working toward a world in which children with pediatric feeding disorders will thrive. The organization offers the first parent support group, and 2,700+ hours are donated by four parent volunteers.



18 feeding experts gather for the first official meeting of the Medical Council. This group identifies the importance of a screening tool, and members begin work on what will eventually become the flagship Infant and Child Feeding Questionnaire©.



A ten-month series of educational workshops presented by P.O.P.S.I.C.L.E Center provides vital education on pediatric feeding disorders to healthcare professionals and families.



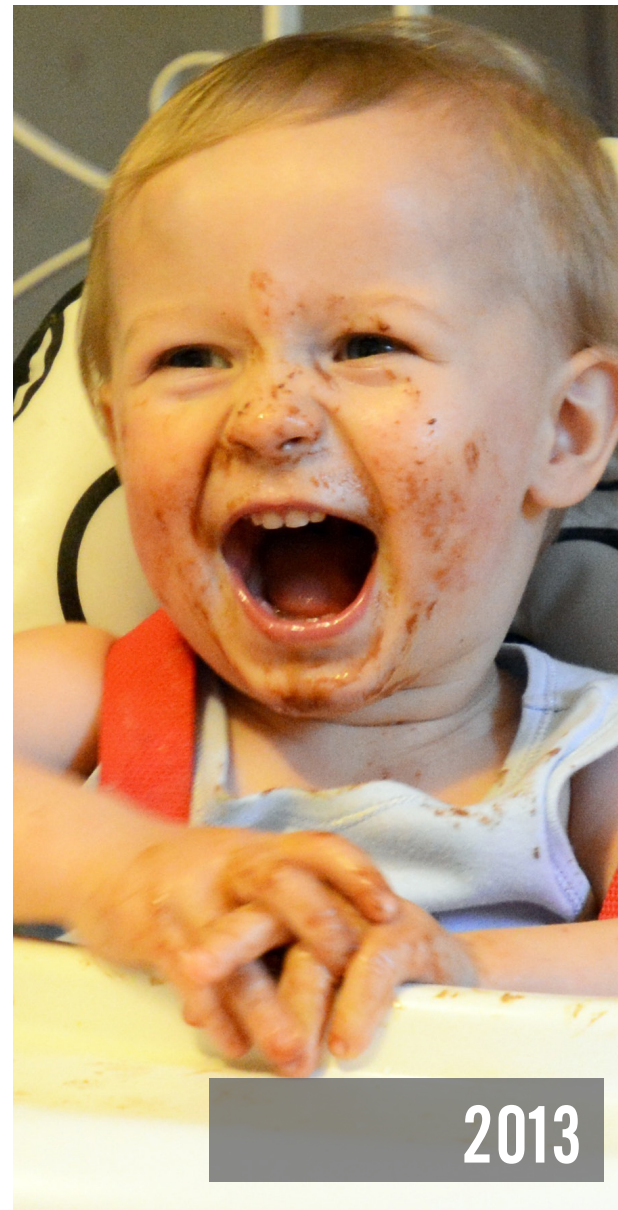
P.O.P.S.I.C.L.E Center offers its first educational webinar, which focuses on the importance of a team approach in caring for children with pediatric feeding disorders.



P.O.P.S.I.C.L.E Center wins both the Investee and Mentor's Choice Awards at Social Venture Partners of Arizona's inaugural Fast Pitch event, a prize totaling \$122,500 towards building the capacity of the organization.



The initial parent support groups evolve into the Power of Two mentoring and support program. This expanded capacity allows families worldwide to begin receiving the help and hope they need.



P.O.P.S.I.C.L.E. Center is rebranded as Feeding Matters, though the organization's purpose remains the same — making a better world for children with pediatric feeding disorders.



The Virtual Health Resource Platform launches on the new Feeding Matters website, allowing worldwide access to the Provider Directory, video libraries, and other digital educational resources.



Over 600 people attend the 4th Pediatric Feeding Conference. These in-person and virtual participants represent ten countries and a wide variety of disciplines.



Work begins on the pediatric feeding disorders Advocacy and Early Intervention Model (AIM), Feeding Matters' model that will transform the system of care for children nationwide.



ADVOCACY & EARLY INTERVENTION MODEL (AIM)

“Vitalyst Health Foundation’s Innovation Grants catalyze collaborative projects that impact health and resiliency through systems and policy change. We are proud to partner with Feeding Matters to transform the way the healthcare system supports children who struggle to eat. The long-lasting and national impact of their work is unparalleled.”

- Melanie Mitros, PhD

Director of Strategic Community Partnerships
Vitalyst Health Foundation, Arizona

When a child first struggles with feeding, their family’s journey from diagnosis to treatment is often confusing, lonely, and challenging. Currently, there are gaps in the system of care due to limited healthcare specialists, delayed identification, minimal evidence-based best practices for treatment, and inconsistent insurance coverage. All this can contribute to families feeling overwhelmed with the stress of caring for their child. In addition, families often face financial hardships as well as the disruption of their child’s education.

To address these barriers, Feeding Matters created the pediatric feeding disorders Advocacy & Early Intervention Model (AIM) to transform systems of care in local communities. This collaborative model includes a community task force representing several healthcare, government, and nonprofit agencies working together to shorten the time between diagnosis and treatment so as to prevent long-term consequences for both child and family. Ultimately, the multi-year, multi-state work will establish replicable norms for identification, early intervention, and healthcare reimbursement for children with pediatric feeding disorders throughout the United States.

Through this transformative work, providers will be specialized in pediatric feeding disorders so children can be diagnosed at the onset, qualified interdisciplinary teams will establish proven individualized treatment plans, insurance companies will have accurate billing codes, and families will maintain their quality of life.



“AIM WILL ENHANCE SERVICES FOR THESE CHILDREN BY EXPANDING EDUCATION, COMMUNITY COLLABORATION, AND STRENGTHENING HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIPS.”

- Rebecca Lightner, CFY-SLP, MS

Speech-Language Pathologist, EntireCare Rehab & Sports Medicine

MEET LUCY

“Over these past years, it has been incredible to see family after family thrive because of the nurturing and support these parents receive from Feeding Matters.”

- Gary Jaburg
Founder and CEO,
Jaburg Wilk, Attorney’s at Law

Lucy’s pediatric feeding disorder journey began early. She only drank about four ounces at a time at six months of age, and she refused all solid foods. Then, Lucy battled a severe case of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and was sent home from the hospital with a nasogastric (NG) feeding tube that was inserted through her nose and down into her stomach. With the NG tube came daily bouts of vomiting, which continued even after she was switched to a surgically inserted feeding tube in her stomach (G-tube) at 19 months. As years passed with very little progress, Lucy’s parents were left feeling helpless and alone. Their small family was traumatized.

Then, Lucy’s dad Garrett found Feeding Matters. Feeding Matters helped find a healthcare professional and treatment plan that was the best fit for Lucy. Now, Lucy is thriving. Thanks to a new medication, her vomiting is under control, and she is making great strides during her therapy sessions. She even recently had her first-ever full meal by mouth!

Garrett has become more involved in the organization that helped his daughter thrive. He was matched with a coach through the Power of Two parent coaching program, which provided him with the support and resources he needs to be the best possible advocate for Lucy. He has also joined the Family Advisory Council, which was created in 2014 to ensure the family voice remains at the heart of our programs and initiatives as Feeding Matters continues to grow.



“RECENTLY, LUCY ATE ENOUGH BREAKFAST ORALLY TO BE ABLE TO SKIP HER TUBE BREAKFAST. FIRST TIME IN HER LIFE DOING THIS! HUGE STRIDES FORWARD.”

- Garrett
Lucy’s Dad

In 2016, we fostered Feeding Matters' mission of furthering advances in pediatric feeding disorders by accelerating identification, igniting research, and promoting collaborative care for children and families.

ACCELERATING IDENTIFICATION

Delayed identification or intervention for children with pediatric feeding disorders can lead to poor brain development, deficient motor skills, and emotional impairment¹. Proper nutrition during the first few years of life is crucial for proper brain development^{2,3}. Because of this, the early identification of pediatric feeding disorders is critical to a child's long-term health.

IGNITING RESEARCH

Feeding-related concerns are among the most common issues in pre-school children⁴, yet there is little data available on the true prevalence of pediatric feeding disorders nationwide, as current statistics are unsubstantiated. With little research in the field, it is vital that Feeding Matters and its partners remain dedicated to enhancing research to improve health outcomes for infants and children.

PROMOTING COLLABORATIVE CARE

When caring for a child with a pediatric feeding disorder, parents often find themselves struggling with feelings of guilt, blame, isolation, helplessness, and even all-encompassing fear⁵. By promoting a collaborative approach to care, Feeding Matters works to equip the entire care team, including the family, with the knowledge they need to effectively treat children who struggle to eat.

First-ever
CONSENSUS CONFERENCE
held in March.

Launched
**ADVOCACY & EARLY
INTERVENTION MODEL**
development.

A total of
9,440 INDIVIDUALS
used the Infant and
Child Feeding
Questionnaire©
(ICFQ).

PHASE 1 ICFQ RESEARCH
published in the
Journal of Pediatric
Gastroenterology and
Nutrition (JPGN).

Continued the
PHASE 2 ICFQ STUDY
to expand Phase 1,
with plans to include
1,000+ caregivers.

Formed the
PREVALENCE COMMITTEE
to determine the
prevalence of pediatric
feeding disorders.

Our work engaged
65,707 INDIVIDUALS
worldwide.

Attendees at the
2016 VIRTUAL WORKSHOP
in June included 198
healthcare professionals
and caregivers.

For the first time, we
**HOSTED EXHIBITOR
BOOTHS**
at both national
and international
conferences.

CONTINUING FORWARD INTO 2017

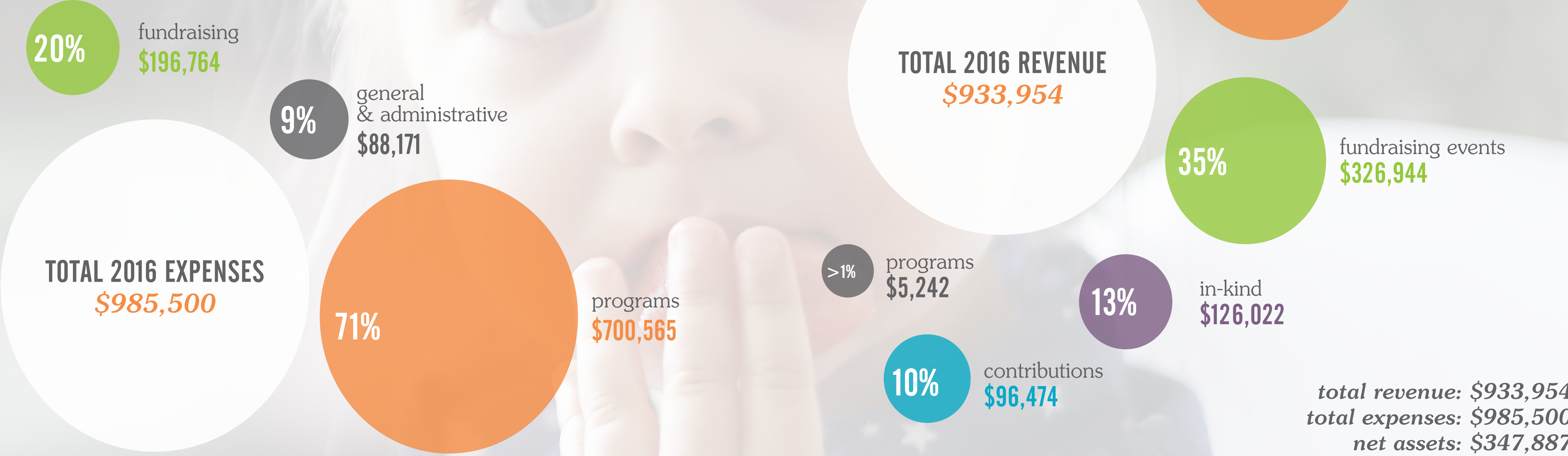
The work of Feeding Matters' Medical Council will further improve health outcomes for children with pediatric feeding disorders in 2017. Through this world-renowned group of feeding experts, we will continue to support the need for best practices and enhanced medical training for providers caring for children who struggle to eat.

The 2016 Program Evaluation found that 60% of the families we serve experience financial hardship due to their child's pediatric feeding disorder. With this in mind, in 2017 one of our priorities will be to complete an Economic Impact Study to investigate the financial impact pediatric feeding disorders have on families nationwide.

Beyond the 5th Pediatric Feeding Conference, we are expanding our continuing education offerings in 2017 to include a larger variety of educational workshops. The Power of Two parent coaching program will also continue to expand to support the growing need of families struggling with their child's pediatric feeding disorders.

[click here for references](#)

2016 AUDITED FINANCIAL SUMMARY



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BHHS Legacy Foundation
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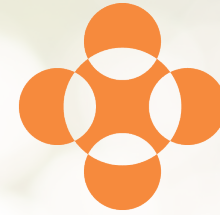
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SUPPORT OUR CAUSE

Your support helps improve the lives of children with pediatric feeding disorders. Feeding Matters is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which means your donations are tax deductible.

VOLUNTEER WITH US

We have a wide variety of ways to support our mission and vision through both in-person and virtual volunteer opportunities.

LEARN MORE & SPREAD THE WORD

Parents, healthcare professionals, and community members can learn more about the impact of pediatric feeding disorders and how to increase awareness.