



ANNUAL REPORT

2022
EDITION

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



2000
CHILDREN SERVED

We are surrounded by SUPERHEROES! The 2022 Annual Report is our opportunity to celebrate with donors, volunteers, staff, and community members the successes of the children and families we seek to serve. We tasked each to “Show Us Your Muscles!” and all of you exceeded expectations! Together, we have helped over 2000 exceptional children lead extraordinary lives by providing services to children with a multitude of diagnoses beyond what is covered by insurance and Medicaid. Furthermore, we are excited for the possibilities in 2023 as a year of continued expansion, accomplished goals, and surpassed expectations. None of this would be possible without you!

Contained in this report are repeated examples of how together we have continued our mission. This year has been filled with tremendous growth for individual children, families, and Launch as an organization. Our therapists and staff are committed to the success of each child, to empower each family to support their child, and expanding the influence of this work into activities and programs outside of the clinic. Each child has a team of professionals and numerous organizations working for their success. We appreciate our “Village” of supporters. Additionally, we are amazed at the resilience and tenacity of the children we serve.

Always Grateful,
Chantelle Varnado

Executive Director





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Dougay	President	Lard Oil Company Livingston Parish Sewer Board
Jimmy Clark	Member	B&C Sheet Metal
Jason Harris	Member	Livingston Parish Clerk of Court Kiwanis International First Baptist Church Livingston Parish Board of Election Supervisors
Angela Wales	Member	First Guaranty Bank Kiwanis International

GOALS

1. Provide services close to home and school to enable participation in typical activities of childhood to the maximum extent possible.
2. Provide needed services based on the frequency and duration research indicates is most effective.
3. Integrate children with disabilities into the community by supporting individuals, businesses, and programs in being inclusive.

GROWTH

Since August of 2015, Launch has served **2041** children with disabilities and their families by providing speech, occupational, physical therapy services, behavioral support, parent support groups, social groups, inclusive activities, community awareness, and community support. This year, Launch combined their two Denham Springs location into one larger location to accommodate the need. Launch has grown to 16 therapists and 10 support staff enabling over **400** visits weekly. This equates to **18,461** visits, **11,609** hours of treatment this year. Additionally this year, the population served has grown to include **87%** children who receive Medicaid. In 2023, Launch seeks to add psychological services, additional speech and physical therapists, and other behavioral support.

Superhero!!

AnnaBeth showed her muscles
by walking at 20months!



STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS

Over 150 volunteers joined Launch in 2022 to help make the children we serve successful. Programs and services offered would not be possible if it weren't for these individuals. Students from local universities including Louisiana State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, Louisiana State University Health Science Center, University of Louisiana at Monroe, and Delgado Community College have volunteered, completed internships, and completed off-site clinical instruction, all contributing to providing services beyond what is covered by insurance and Medicaid. Local businesspeople, including dentists, coaches, social workers, and first responders, have worked with therapists to help the children participate more successfully in community settings.

14 SUPERHEROES ATTENDED STEM CAMP AND PRACTICED SOCIAL SKILLS THAT CAN BE USED AT HOME, SCHOOL, AND OTHER COMMUNITY SETTINGS.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Launch supports a number of community organizations to help children with disabilities in the community and their families experience improved quality of life and increase outcomes through both volunteering, providing materials and supplies, collaboration, and consultative services. These organizations include: Incredible kids of Denham Springs, Department of Children and Family Services, Livingston Parish Public Schools, Ryleigh Gives Back, My Community Cares, BREC's Inclusive Programs, Families Helping Families of Greater Baton Rouge, and The Family Village, Kiwanis of Denham Springs, Lions Club of Denham Springs, Camp Up, and Different Abilities, and STARS Soccer.



As we aim to support the community, our community supports us! Civic organizations, businesses, politicians, and individuals hold fundraisers, hold workdays, and donate money and supplies to help achieve our mission. First Guaranty Bank, Shepherd Wealth Solutions, Bencaz Family Dentistry, Fruge Orthodontics, Yale Pediatric Dentistry, and Dr. Brittany and Dr. Tim Hattier were some of our largest sponsors. These are a few highlights of 2022!



Superheroes!!!

- ***Sheri's Daiquiris*** held a Crawfish Boil Competition - \$7078.55
- ***Incredible Kids of Denham Springs*** held a kids Fun Run and Jambalaya Cook-off - \$4949.49
- ***Kiwanias of Denham Springs*** provided Christmas for 43 children.
- ***Leadership Livingston*** provided clean-up of the new building and installed a therapeutic racetrack.

FUNDRAISING

The Launch “Oh, The Places They’ll Go!” Gala was this year’s largest fundraising event, netting over \$96,000. It included live and silent auctions, raffles, dinner donated by area restaurants vendors. Funds raised are used to help provide services not covered by insurance and Medicaid and purchase therapy equipment and supplies. The 2021 gala was able to provide:



2592 visits that were not covered by insurance or Medicaid.

\$61,790 (1988 sessions) – cotreat sessions

\$24,517 (271 sessions) – insurance denials (visit limits)


\$22,423 (333 sessions) – policy exclusions (not due to illness or injury or not covered)



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



First Guaranty Bank and its employees have been committed supporters of Launch over the years. In recent years, FGB has been the title sponsor of our annual galas, Derby After Dark and Oh, The Places They'll Go! Angela Wales who now is the Walker Branch Manager serves as a Launch Board Member. She also is part of Kiwanis Club of Denham Springs who supplied Christmas Presents for 43 children at Launch. We are grateful for FGB to be part of our "Village", truly Launch Superheroes!

A close-up portrait of a woman with long, wavy, light brown hair with pinkish highlights. She is smiling and looking slightly to the left of the camera. She is wearing a brown, sleeveless top with a lace-like pattern. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with shelves.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

There wouldn't have been a gala this year without Kyla Randazzo of Randazzo's Italian Market. The theme of the event, traveling around the world through food, drink, and music, was her idea. Kyla executed the food to coordinate with various destinations around the world including Dallas, Italy, Germany, Mexico, Japan, and France. Additionally, she served on the planning committee which involved securing auction item donations and sponsors, decorating, and other organizational tasks. Thank you Kyla for being a Launch Superhero!

SUPERHERO SPOTLIGHT

"Rocketman" is the perfect description of Cooper Flores, another Launch Superhero. Cooper was born in Bulgaria and raised in an orphanage until being brought to the United States by his amazing parents Michael and Nita. Cooper has an extensive medical history including multiple surgeries for cleft lip, cleft palate and heart. He has diagnoses of situs inversus and developmental delay. He began his journey at Launch in May of 2021.

Since that time, he has brought tremendous joy to each provider that works with him. He consistently exceeds expectations given his diagnoses and medical history. Today, Cooper is our "Rocketman" not only because of his love for space and aeronautics, but because he blasts through each goal that is set for him reaching new heights every day.



Financials

\$1,245,395.37
EXPENSES

\$1,395,987.66
RECEIPTS

\$150,592.29
NET INCOME

Superhero Michael
Powered through his
38th surgery!



Grants

\$166,413

Patient Support

\$78,413.90

Employee Retention Credit
United Healthcare Foundation

Capital Improvements

\$73,000.00

Huey & Angelina Wilson
Foundation

Community Outreach

\$15,000.00

Capital Area United Way

Sponsors and Donors

\$15,000-5,001

Bencaz Family Dentistry

First Guaranty Bank

Fruge Orthodontics

Howard & Crystal

Stroud Jimmy & Cheri

Clark

Law Office of Ivy L. Graham

Drs. Tim and Brittany

Hattier

Yale Pediatric Dentistry

Willie and Kay Landry

\$5,000-\$2,501

Blue Wave Pools
David & Jewell Shepherd
Facebook Donations
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Matt Gallman
Natalie Crosser
Samantha Allain
Sammie Terito
Weiler Plastic Surgery

\$2,500-\$1,001

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Concord Family Dentistry
Denham Springs Radiator
and Glass
Destination Claims
Jason Harris Clerk of Court
Lamar Advertising
Quality Engineering &
Surveying
Roxanne Voorhies
Shaun Shepherd
Shepherd Wealth Solutions
Quality Engineering & Surveying

We can do

HARD

Things



#wetrainsuperheroes

\$1,000-\$500

Accelerated Dental Assisting
Academy
Amazon Smile
Abby Walker
CMB Properties
Chad Kruzynsky
Chanse and Mishaux Ramirez
Connie Laspe
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