

detroit institute for children

We Are What Special Needs.

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2012

You Are What Special Needs

Dear Friends,

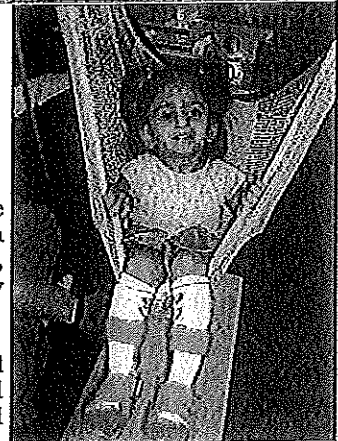
The DIC has existed for over 90 years, providing core services for disabled children within Detroit. Our patients rely on us for their needs, and many have nowhere else to turn for the therapy they rely on.

We are very pleased to share that during this last year we completed a number of activities which have had a significant impact on improving our existing financial state, and positioning us to be able to serve our children for many years to come.

On the operational front, we have completely re-engineered the delivery of our therapy services as well as streamlined our core operations. We eliminated some positions and reassigned responsibilities, without negatively impacting operations. We have also been successful in restructuring liabilities to make us stronger financially and utilize our resources to the greatest extent possible to benefit the community.

We couldn't have done this without your support. Thanks to you, we will be here for our special children for many more years.

Best wishes,
Bruce Friedman, DIC Chairman of the Board



The Center for Disease Control estimates that 1 out of 6 children in America has some form of developmental or behavioral disability.

The rates are estimated to be even higher in Detroit, due to the high level of low birth weight and pre-term births, with an increased risk of disabilities.

Contents

The News	2
Our History	2
Our Rehabilitative Services	3
Our Schools Services	4
Our Outcomes	4
Our Demographics	5
Ways to Give	6

Our Mission

The Detroit Institute for Children (The DIC) cares for children with physical or developmental disabilities, neurological or behavioral special needs in a way that is positive, passionate, integrated and family-centered so that the children can maximize their potential within their families and the community.

The Growing Need

Our children have few local healthcare alternatives due to the extraordinary costs of extensive care and their need for a wide array of services.

As a result, our special needs children are frequently denied service or placed on long wait lists to receive basic rehabilitation services.

And now, more than ever, these children are further at-risk due to increased poverty and reduced insurance and Medicaid coverage.

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Communication systems used in our speech therapy include iPads. With specially-designed applications (or apps), these computers help our children communicate and unlock their isolation.

By using the iPads therapeutically these children can finally "speak" and express themselves.

The News

This year we added Universal Exercise Units (UEUs) at two of our facilities, which allow even the most severely impacted patients to exercise specific body parts while eliminating gravity. By promoting independent movement with the support of bungee cords and limb suspension, children develop proper techniques for the skills they lack. The UEUs allow our therapists to isolate specific muscle groups for strengthening and greatly accelerates physical therapy outcomes. We want to thank The Detroit Industrial School, The Junior League of Detroit, and Ms. JoElyn Nyman for providing the needed funding to purchase the UEUs, key accessories and therapist training.

iPads have now become one of the leading technology tools in speech therapy. By applying the iPads therapeutically, children can use their touch and swipe screen to "speak", often for the first time. In the last year, we received 10 donated iPads for use in therapy sessions with over 25 speech therapy apps. Ironically, even though iPads are significantly less expensive (@\$500 each) versus traditional options (Dynavox, traditional touch button speech boxes, are @\$10,000 each), insurance will not cover the costs since iPads are considered "social" media. We are grateful to our donors for helping to make them available to our children and therapists.

We also implemented our new Raintree software to help us track patient outcomes as well as create "early intervention" documentation and complete pediatric evaluations. It also allows for on-going outcomes measurements and assessments; socioeconomic data collection; and progress reporting. The system also provides data benchmarking for clinical indicators, which helps us in determining additional diagnostic tools that help us to better evaluate and serve our clients/patients.

In addition, we were very pleased to be selected as one of the charities in Art Van's Million Dollar Charity Challenge this year. Using their \$50,000 grant, we were able to challenge our donors to match and even exceed their gift. By the time the program was completed, we raised an additional \$290,000 in donations above their \$50,000 gift. Our many thanks to all of the foundations and individual donors who rose to the challenge, and made the program such a success!

A History of Caring

The Detroit Institute for Children (DIC) has a proud legacy of caring for children with disabilities in our community.

This history dates back to 1904 when eight teenage girls formed the Sigma Gamma Association. Their purpose was two-fold: camaraderie with friends and providing charitable work to the community. Due to the high incidence of polio and tuberculosis at the time, they chose to focus their efforts on children with disabilities.

After several years of volunteering at various clinics and institutions, they established the Detroit Orthopedic Clinic in 1920. Two

profound principles guided the clinic and the care it provided: Service to the disabled community regardless of patients' ability to pay and concentration on treating not just the disability, but the whole child.

As the clinic grew, it moved to its current location. Because of the significant decline in diseases requiring long-term care, the Sigma Gammas developed an outpatient clinic that would, in 1970, become The Detroit Institute for Children.

The DIC's founding principles remain the cornerstone of the organization today.



Our youngest patients get to "play" as they work on gross motor skills.

Our older youth continue to develop their fine motor skills, learn appropriate self-care activities, refine sensory processing, work on focus and attention and learn calming and regulatory behaviors.

Our Rehabilitative Services

Rehabilitation services are provided for children and adolescents with a variety of disabling conditions, such as cerebral palsy, neuromuscular diseases, developmental delays, autism spectrum disorders, genetic syndromes, spinal cord injury, and brain injury. The intervention services we provide transform our patients' and their families' quality of life.

Physical Therapy

Pediatric physical therapy focuses on improving gross and fine motor skills, balance and coordination, and, most importantly, muscle strength. Every movement we make -- whether eating, talking, walking or breathing -- depends on muscle strength. Muscle strength is essential to perform daily activities and learn new functions. Not all of our children achieve the muscle strength to run on the playground, but they all achieve an improved quality of life.

Occupational Therapy and Daily Living Center

Pediatric occupational therapy focuses on developing the necessary skills to perform functional tasks. These tasks are fully dependent on the child's age. Our youngest patients get to "play" as they work on gross motor skills. Our older youth will continue to develop their fine motor skills, learn appropriate self-care activities, refine sensory processing, work on focus and attention and learn calming and regulatory behaviors. In addition to improved functioning at home, occupational therapy also impacts school readiness.

Our occupational therapy program is supported through our activities at our Daily Living Center, which is the first of its kind in our community. These rooms offer patients and their families the

opportunity to learn safe transfer methods within a real life setting. Complete with a model bathroom and bedroom, as well as a real car, patient and caregiver safety is the key focus of this program. Our therapists are able to work with patients -- and their families -- to practice the best methods to get in and out of the car, a bed, or a bathtub in a manner that is safe for both the child and the caregiver.

Speech Therapy

Pediatric speech therapy focuses on children with motor speech disorders who cannot communicate verbally and also children with feeding or swallowing issues. For children with speech delays, communication can be very frustrating. Our therapists focus on finding the best augmentative communication system for each child. This may be a picture exchange system that allows a child to put pictures together to create sentences; a Dynavox computer that children can use to "talk" for them; or iPads with specially-designed swipe and touch applications to help our children communicate.

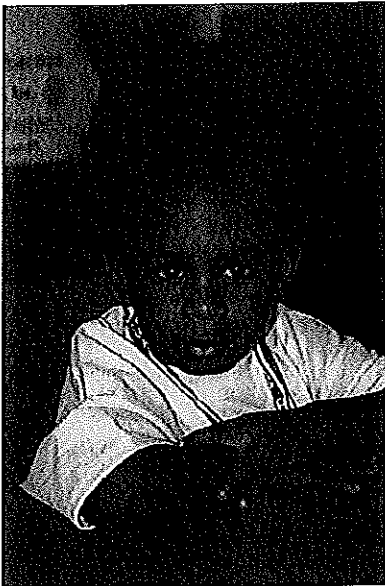
Multi-Sensory Therapy and Autism Services

Our Multi-Sensory Gym is one of the first of its kind in the nation. This room was developed based on the *snoezelen* concept of providing a therapeutic environment for children with sensory disorders such as autism. It is absent of color and allows for stimuli such as color, sound or touch to be introduced one by one so as not to overwhelm the senses of the child. This personalized treatment is the foundation of our programs and key to effective therapy for children with autism and other sensory disorders.



Our high-quality rehabilitative services have provided profound change to children who are "written-off" – never given the hope to lead a productive life

It is because of these services that our children learn to walk, talk, and dress themselves – the first movements toward self-sufficiency



Without strength, you cannot function. Every movement – whether eating, talking, walking or breathing – relies on muscle strength.

Not all of our children will achieve the muscle strength to run, but the improvements they make are monumental for them and their families.

Our School Services

For over 25 years, The DIC has been providing individual and comprehensive schools contract services. From early intervention to high school, from school districts to charter schools, we have been providing support throughout Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

Our school services programs include consultation, observation, evaluation, testing, therapy and in-services or educational workshops. Our areas of specialty include occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and social work.

Populations we serve through our school contract services include cognitive impairment, emotional impairment, physical impairment, speech and language impairment and early childhood developmental delay.

Our Outcomes

At a very fundamental level, we measure the outputs of our Rehabilitative Services program by the number of appointments provided. In our last Fiscal Year (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012), we provided 23,738 appointments.

But our primary and most important outcome is the improved quality of life for our children. We seek to deliver this outcome through diagnosis of disorders and the development of a treatment plan which will then be monitored throughout the child's life.

Among the children cared for at the DIC, many have spoken their first word, dressed themselves for the first time, fed themselves for the first time and even taken their first step. These significant occasions are our greatest accomplishments and the measurement of our success.

The conditions facing our children often require long-term, complex, interdisciplinary treatment. Our compassionate and highly skilled team of specialists collaborate to

carefully map out individualized treatment plans to help our children recover, grow, and regain their functional independence. These plans are monitored throughout the child's treatment. This multi-disciplinary approach yields the highest outcomes by addressing the core issues affecting each child.

Our most significant outcome measurements are in the areas of patient progress and parent satisfaction. At the beginning of this year, we set a target goal that 90% of our patients would demonstrate measurable progress against or fully achieving their individual goals. We are very pleased to report we actually achieved a success rate of 96.6%. We also set a goal to have a 95% satisfaction rate across all parents, but actually achieved a 98% satisfaction rate.

The DIC continues to respond to our community so that all children with special needs can receive the high quality care deserve. We are a safety net for these children, and through your support can continue to be there for them.

Summer Camp 2012

The same week America's elite athletes were competing at the London Games this summer, our children enjoyed their own Olympic experience at the DIC Summer Olympics 2012, our ninth annual summer camp program.

This camp, which is free to all patients and their siblings, combines therapy and play for the children. This year's camp featured opening and closing ceremonies and craft projects echoing the Olympic theme, such as creating paper torches and Greek headpieces. Children tackled a "track and field" obstacle course and slipped down water slides. Harnesses supported children unsteady on their feet while they got to jump on trampolines.

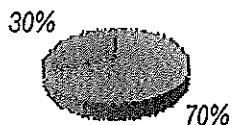
This camp could not be help without the support of our many sponsors, donors and volunteers. Our thanks to all. We look forward to you joining us next year!

Many thanks to the Detroit News for their coverage of our DIC Summer Olympics and these wonderful pictures.



Gender - All Locations

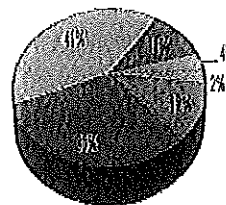
Male Female



Our Demographics

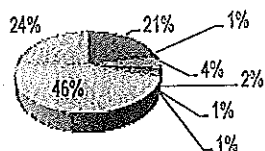
Age - All Locations

0 mos-2 yr 3-5 yrs 5-10 yrs 11-15 yrs 16-20 yrs 21-33 yrs



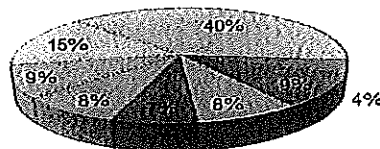
Ethnicity - All Locations

African American Asian / Pacific Islander
Hispanic Other
Other-Arabic Other-Mixed Race
White, Non-Hispanic None Given

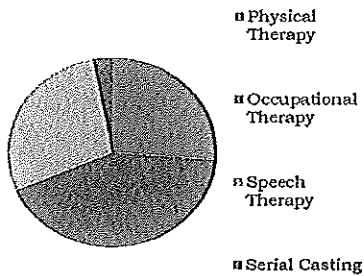


Household Income - All Locations

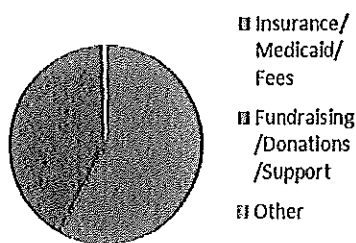
\$10,000 - \$20,000 \$20,001-\$40,000
\$40,001-\$60,000 \$60,001-\$80,000
\$80,001-\$100,000 Less Than \$10,000
Over \$100,000 Not Reported



Expenses By Service Areas



Therapy Revenue Sources



Ways to Support the DIC

Direct Contributions

Your financial gift is the most effective and straightforward way to care for a very special child with disabilities. Not only is your gift 100% tax-deductible, you can also know you are directly supporting the health and happiness of a child in need.

Support of a Program or Child

Several new programs have been created at The DIC in response to the growing and changing needs of our children. Examples include supporting our Summer Camp Program; our Activities of Daily Living Center; Multi-Sensory Gym; Universal Equipment Units; and the purchase of iPads for speech therapy. Your continuing support will ensure the longevity of these programs for our children for years to come.

Participation In Events

The Detroit Institute for Children is pleased to be one of the few

American International Auto Show Charity Preview, held by the Detroit Auto Dealers Association each January. This event features a sneak-peek at the world's greatest auto show and the newest and hottest cars before the show opens to the public. Please call 888.838.7500 or visit www.charitypreview.org to order tickets. Please designate the Detroit Institute for Children to receive the proceeds from your ticket.

In addition, each year, companies and organizations support us through fundraising events.

For more information about supporting the DIC, please contact us at customerservice@detroitchildren.org or via phone at 313.832.1100.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

charities that benefit from the North

Our Locations

Detroit Headquarters
5447 Woodward
Detroit, MI 48202

Abilities Center
2075 E. West Maple, Suite B-204
Walled Lake, MI 48390

The Judson Center - Autism Connections
4410 W. 13 Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48073

Pediatric Potentials
19505 E. Eight Mile Road
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

Donor List

Many thanks to all of the foundations, non-profit agencies, corporations and individuals who support us, including:

- Art Van Million Dollar Charity Challenge
- Carl's Foundation
- Christ Church Grosse Pointe
- Detroit Auto Dealers Association
- DeRoy Testamentary Foundation
- Ford Motor Credit
- Frankel Health and Research Foundation
- The Jewish Fund
- Kenwal Steel Corporation
- William M. and Mary E. Pagel Fund
- The Elizabeth, Allan & Warren Shelden Fund
- Sigma Gamma Association
- Sigma Gamma Foundation
- The Thomas Foundation
- Volkswagen Group of America

www.detroitchildren.org

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