



Heartspring

# DIALOGUE

Annual Report 2019



## On the Cover

Through Heartspring's Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) program, Paraeducator Jaraya Owens helped David, a former student, grow a passion for recycling. Not only did this activity teach David job skills, but it also helped him foster a sense of social responsibility and sustainability for the environment.

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## Our Story

Founded as the Institute of Logopedics, Heartspring has been a leader and innovator in creating hope and opportunity for children with special needs and their families for more than 85 years. Heartspring provides a wide range of services and therapies through the Heartspring Residential and Day School, Pediatric Services, and Autism Services to meet the ever-changing challenges of children with special needs.

The **Heartspring Residential & Day School** serves children with developmental disabilities from across the country.

**Pediatric Services** offers outpatient therapy services to children from birth to 21.

**Autism Services** provides services and resources for children and families impacted by a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

*Heartspring is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.*

## Our Values



Excellence



Celebration



Leadership



Service



Possibility



Integrity

# A Legacy of Hope

In 1934, Dr. Martin Palmer had a dream to help children with disabilities achieve their potential. Today, we continue his legacy through life-changing services that help provide hope to children and their families.

**Take a look back at our history through a four-part documentary series, “85 Years: A Legacy of Hope.”**

[Heartspring.org/1934](https://heartspring.org/1934)



Dr. Martin Palmer assists a boy during therapy at the Institute of Logopedics (now Heartspring).

# Board of Trustees

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# Hope in Times of Uncertainty

**2020 is a year we will always remember.**

Wherever you are, I am sure that the world coronavirus pandemic has affected you, your family, and your loved ones in some way or another. Maybe someone you know contracted the virus. Perhaps you had to put social distancing into practice. Maybe you had to radically change your routine to stay home with your children to help them finish their school year online. Or perhaps—like many Heartspring staff—you stepped in to be a helper in your community.

In these times of uncertainty, I feel hope—hope for unity, solidarity, and acceptance. During this difficult albeit life-changing moment, the Heartspring mission truly shines in the world: to empower children with special needs to grow towards a more independent life. Since 1934, Heartspring has shown the world the power of service and community, and today, we continue to be an organization that attracts and grows the “helpers” of the earth.

Through their selfless, passionate work, Heartspring employees are united by the same common mission. They are fueled by one another’s solidarity, and every day, they come together to change lives. While the world was not prepared for this planet-wide tragedy, I can say with certainty that the hearts and spirits of Heartspring employees have always been prepared. Because if there is one thing Heartspring has demonstrated over the years, it is our employees’ relentless commitment to service, giving, and caring for the children entrusted to our care. Faith manages.

May you find hope in your communities, solidarity in your hearts, and peace within yourself during these transformative times.

Together, we will prevail and rise.

**Mike Flores**

*Heartspring Board of Trustees Chairperson  
Assistant Director, School of Accountancy  
Wichita State University*





**WE'RE GOING VIRTUAL!**



# AUTISM CARE WALK!



**Saturday, April 25, 2020**

**In times of uncertainty, we adjust.**

Due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, we will go virtual for the Autism CARE Walk this year! Though we won't be able to walk in person, we will continue to walk together in spirit. Visit **Heartspring's Facebook page** for details on an exciting, inspiring virtual walk!

**#ActionsForAutism**





## A Home Away from Home: Maggie's Story

### **Home is where children take their first steps towards life.**

It's where they discover love.

It's the magical place where they learn to explore their world feeling safe, secure, and accepted.

But five-year-old Maggie's journey started with an alarming realization: she was fifteen months, and she still wouldn't respond to her name, hold eye contact, or play with toys.

"As first-time parents, we were

very scared," says Hannah, Maggie's mother. "We had a lot of overwhelming 'What if?' questions, and we were worried about her safety."

For years, Maggie's family searched for answers.

"It was a long waiting time," states Hannah, as she recalls anxiously waiting for answers after multiple doctor visits, testing, and therapy sessions.

Eventually, a diagnosis hit home: Autism Spectrum Disorder.

This scary and misunderstood journey led Maggie to Heartspring, where her life quickly took a hopeful, positive turn.

After two years of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy, Maggie progressed and exited therapy to start the next bright chapter in her life: CARE Clubs.

Through the Community of Autism Resources and Education (CARE) Club program, Maggie found a safe and inviting place where, with peers, she could put

her social and communication skills to work.

And with each smile, new friendship, and interaction, she began to grow in confidence as she learned to enjoy being her authentic self with those around her.

“CARE Clubs is her place,” says Hannah. “It’s her place to go. It’s become her second home, because she feels so happy and comfortable there.”

Through structured activities and conversations, Maggie

began to come into the fullest expression of who she is—a sweet, loving child with a zeal for life and the exciting adventures that await her.

Maggie’s journey with autism started with uncertainty and fear—but it led her to find her place in the world where she discovered a home away from home: Heartspring.

At Heartspring, Maggie found a home in the hearts of the people who surround her and a safe and nurturing place that fosters her growth.

**“CARE Clubs is her place. It’s her place to go. It’s become her second home, because she feels so happy and comfortable there.”**

*-Hannah, Maggie’s mom*

**Left:** At CARE Clubs, children like Maggie learn to socialize while having fun in a safe, structured environment.

**Right:** Maggie happily shows a social story of her time spent at CARE Clubs. Activities like creating social stories help children on the spectrum practice consistency and manage expectations for safe and secure routines and schedules.







The Warmest Part  
of the Winter:

# Decklyn's Story

With the help of Heartspring's physical therapy program,  
Decklyn took his first steps towards independence.



## It's a cold winter day in northeast Wichita.

Despite the grey skies and low temperatures, the Heartspring Outpatient Services therapy rooms are as busy and sunny as ever with play, laughter, and the remarkable warmth from within.

The physical therapy gym is no exception to this. Crisp, fresh snowflakes fall to the ground as two-year-old Decklyn gracefully rises, standing strongly on his two legs and trusting fully in the support beneath him. With his smile, the room glistens with the ardor of a strong, invincible spirit and the shine of sweet childlike innocence.

Decklyn has fought to move since the traumatizing stroke he lived at birth. This shocking moment defined the lifelong condition for him: cerebral palsy.

"It was very scary," says Cassidy, Decklyn's mom. "But he was diagnosed right at birth, and this helped us get the help he needed from the beginning."

One in every 323 infants—roughly 12,000 babies in the United States—get diagnosed with the cerebral palsy every year.

In fact, cerebral palsy is the most common childhood physical disability, but unlike other diagnoses, it represents a spectrum of different developmental disorders and

a lifetime condition without a cure.

Because of the stroke, Decklyn is partially paralyzed in his right arm and has several delays, including speech, feeding, and fine motor skills. And while there may not be a cure or solution, thanks to the early therapy intervention, his movements are getting stronger every day—and he is set up for success, one step at a time.

"For cerebral palsy, early intervention is especially important," says Director of Pediatric Services Kara Gibson. "Within the first year of a child's life, critical motor and brain development occurs. This time period is critical for developing foundation skills needed for independence, and early intervention can provide the most positive outcomes for better long-term results."

"You can do it, buddy!" exclaims Physical Therapist Erin Bullinger, as she holds Decklyn's hands while he practices his balance by standing on one foot. He lights up with joy, and he smiles from ear to ear as he adoringly gazes at his mother, whom he knows is delighted to see him work hard.

Since he started therapy at Heartspring, the hallways of the Outpatient Services department have witnessed major improvements in Decklyn's mobility and independence.

**"It was so emotional to see my son walking by himself for the first time."**

**- Cassidy, Decklyn's mom**

"In matter of six months, he began pulling to stand independently, cruising around furniture, standing on his own, and he even took his first steps over the holidays," mentions Erin.

This is a milestone moment Cassidy will never forget.

"It was so emotional to see my son walking by himself for the first time," says Cassidy, as she recalls the joy she felt when it happened. "I'm not going to lie, I cried."

With open arms, Decklyn cheerfully sprints across the gym to his mother as he babbles and beams with happiness.

In the midst of the bitter cold wintry season, Cassidy and Erin grin with joy as they feel the pleasant, loving warmth from Decklyn's smile.

This smile—this instant of pure wholeheartedness joy—is the warmest part of the winter.



Heartspring's CIE program helps students like David, Payton, Caleb, and Jacob find purpose in their communities and meaning in their vocations.



# Helping Hands of Hope: Heartspring's Competitive Integrated Employment Program

**Like ripples on a pond from a single pebble, small acts of solidarity hold an immense power to do good.**

Heartspring residential student Caleb embodies this. Since joining the Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) program, Caleb has created a net of kindness, service, and altruism using one simple thing: pop can tabs.

The Ronald McDonald House Charities' Pop Tab Pandemonium is Caleb's passion project, and since he began collecting and delivering the tabs as part of his vocational training, he has received an overwhelming wave of support from community members who have since donated more than 71 lbs. of tabs.

Like Caleb, many CIE students are enthused to give back to the community.

The in-house CIE recycling service, for example, expanded thanks to a students' heartfelt desire.

"Jaraya, I want to recycle with you!" states David, another residential student, as he looks at CIE paraeducator Jaraya Owens with excitement.

"Let's do it, David!" exclaims Jaraya.

Now, every week, David and Jaraya go around Heartspring campus to collect paper scraps, cans, bottles, and other materials to take to the recycle center each Thursday.

"Not only are students helping the environment by recycling and donating the pop tabs to help families at the Ronald McDonald House, but we are also able to exchange recycled cans for some money that we can use to buy more recycle bins for our school," states Employment Training Coordinator Jeffrey Jones.

The CIE program continues to expand the collective spirit of service while growing business partnerships in the community.

Besides recycling, students are also volunteering through

housewarming duties at Ronald McDonald House Charities and by helping sort foods at a local food pantry, delivering local newspaper to businesses in the Wichita area, cleaning and disinfecting rooms at a local hotel, and helping file paperwork at a doctor's office.

By helping others, students are helping themselves grow.

"It's amazing to see students gain social, communication, and job skills while fostering a desire to help others," says Curriculum Training Coordinator June Henkelman. "With these meaningful work experiences, they can discover their purpose and grow to become contributing members of the community."

By encouraging students to find their passions in human values like in kindness, compassion, and service, Heartspring's CIE program helps students look beyond independence and discover their purpose as ambassadors of hope – hope for a better, more inclusive tomorrow.



# Ways to Give

## **Donate**

Make your one-time gift via cash, stock, or securities. Your gift can have an instant impact, supporting Heartspring's immediate needs or can be endowed to ensure your contribution continues indefinitely. Gifts made to Heartspring are tax-deductible in accordance with IRS governing laws.

## **Recurring Giving**

Become a sustaining supporter of Heartspring by showing your support on an annual or monthly basis. Gifts can be directed to support our general fund or a specific area of interest.

## **Legacy Giving**

Have you included Heartspring in your estate plans? A deferred gift ensures the continued success of Heartspring programs and services, offering life-changing impact for the children and families we serve for years to come. Legacy gifts can include a bequest in your will or trust, life insurance, 401K and IRA designations, or stock donations.

## **Memorials and Honorary Gifts**

A unique and memorable way to contribute in honor of someone special. Celebrate the memory of a loved one, mark an important occasion or achievement, or give a unique holiday or birthday gift. Your thoughtful gesture will be greatly appreciated.

## **Workplace/Employee Giving**

Your employer may offer the ability to make an automatic payroll deduction while keeping your tax benefits associated with charitable giving.

## **Matching Gifts**

Does your employer or company match employee gifts made to charitable organizations? If so, you have the ability to multiply the impact of your gift.

## **In-Kind Gifts**

Contributions of goods or services, other than cash, are always welcome. We have a list of helpful items on our website.

## **Corporate Partnerships/Event Sponsorships**

Our Corporate Partners (five-year commitment) and Event Sponsors understand the value of community. Corporate giving, either through program support, grants, cash donations, employee matching gifts, or event sponsorships, represents a large share of philanthropic dollars we depend on each year. Heartspring offers excellent opportunities for visibility and participation.

## **Volunteer**

Do you have the gift of time? Do you want to make a difference in our community? Here's your chance! Heartspring has a number of events and on-campus opportunities for you to get involved and connected to our mission.

## **Shop**

Did you know when you shop, you can support Heartspring? Kroger, Amazon, and Box Tops for Education are all ways to enhance your giving!

# 1934 Legacy Society

Heartspring's rich history and legacy of hope have been made possible by generations of individuals who have created perpetual support to our mission through their estate plans. The generosity entrusted to Heartspring by 1934 Legacy Society members ensures we are able to continue to impact the lives of children with special needs for decades to come. We are deeply grateful for each member's commitment to our future and to the successes of the children we serve.



[Heartspring.org/support](https://www.heartspring.org/support)

For more information on ways to give, contact Director of Development Stacie Williamson at 316-634-8816 or [swilliamson@heartspring.org](mailto:swilliamson@heartspring.org).



# Consolidated Statement of Activities

Years Ended June 30, 2019 and 2018

	2019	2018
<b>Revenue, Gains, and Other Support</b>		
Fees	\$ 24,217,678	\$ 20,833,579
Contributions	1,491,155	1,424,496
Investment Return	722,067	802,579
Change in assets held by Wichita Community Foundation	(62,887)	77,397
Other	216,235	145,845
<b>Total Revenue, Gains, and Other Support</b>	<b>26,584,248</b>	<b>23,283,896</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
School	17,788,865	16,375,149
Outpatient Services	4,429,016	4,337,283
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>22,217,881</b>	<b>20,712,432</b>
Management and General	896,027	847,858
Fund Raising	679,359	677,201
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>23,793,267</b>	<b>22,237,491</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>2,790,981</b>	<b>1,046,405</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>33,534,775</b>	<b>32,488,370</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 36,325,756</b>	<b>\$ 33,534,775</b>





# Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

Years Ended June 30, 2019 and 2018

	2019	2018
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,862,313	\$ 2,297,753
Accounts receivable, net of allowance	3,398,222	3,264,898
Prepaid expenses and other	455,491	419,620
Investments	9,932,387	9,754,655
Contributions receivable	216,515	301,946
Interest in assets held by Wichita Community Foundation	4,660,013	4,722,900
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	16,191,022	15,027,065
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 38,715,963</b>	<b>\$ 35,788,837</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 442,111	\$ 207,984
Accrued compensated absences	547,166	583,845
Other accrued expenses	1,373,350	1,133,605
Deposits and advances	27,580	328,628
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,390,207</b>	<b>2,254,062</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Without donor restrictions	31,281,581	28,684,492
With donor restrictions		
Purpose restriction	2,365,554	2,171,662
Perpetual in nature	2,678,621	2,678,621
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>36,325,756</b>	<b>33,534,775</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 38,715,963</b>	<b>\$ 35,788,837</b>



Heartspring's  
PedalFest 2020

# MORE TH>N A BIKE RIDE

**Save the Date!**  
**Saturday, August 22**

A bike festival benefiting children  
with special needs served at  
Heartspring Pediatric Services

[PedalFest.org](http://PedalFest.org)

# Light Your Heart with Heartspring

**Save the Date!**

**Saturday, November 7, 2020**  
**Wichita Marriott**

*A whimsical evening to benefit  
children with special needs*

**LightYourHeart.org**