



# 2023

ANNUAL REPORT

**hear**  
INDIANA





Creating **equal opportunities** for children with hearing loss through Listening and Spoken Language.



# A NOTE FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I reflect on the past year at Hear Indiana, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude. 2023 was a year of transition for Hear Indiana, but we held strong to our unwavering commitment to our mission: empowering children with hearing loss to achieve their full potential. Thanks to the dedication of our staff, the generosity of our donors, and the resilience of the families we serve, we have made significant strides in our efforts to ensure that every child with hearing loss in Indiana has access to the resources, support, and opportunities they need to thrive.

In 2023 Hear Indiana continued to expand our programming and outreach. We have provided audiological services, school services and listening and spoken language therapy to more children than ever before, and our advocacy support remains available to every family at no cost to them. Our educational programs have expanded, enabling us to reach more schools, teachers, and communities with vital services, information and training on how to best support students with hearing loss who use spoken language to communicate.

As we look to the future, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. We will continue to innovate and adapt our programs to meet the changing needs of the families we serve. Our goals for the coming year include expanding our telehealth services to reach more rural communities, increasing our scholarship fund to ensure that no child is turned away due to financial constraints, and launching new initiatives to support teenagers and young adults with hearing loss as they transition into higher education and the workforce.

None of this would be possible without you—our supporters, partners, and friends. Your generosity and belief in our mission fuel our work and inspire us to keep pushing forward, even in the face of challenges. Thank you for your continued support, and for standing with us as we strive to create a world where every child with hearing loss has the opportunity to listen, learn, and achieve their dreams.

I am more confident than ever that, together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of countless children and families across Indiana.

With deepest gratitude,

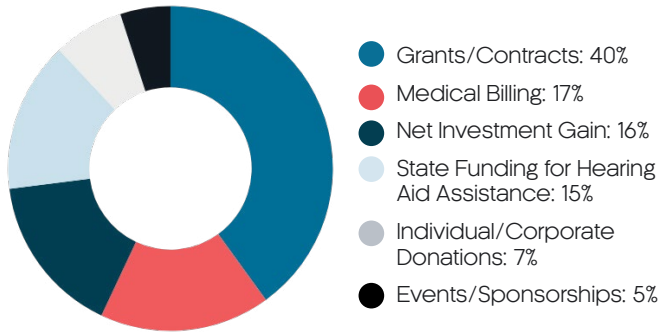


Ellyn McCall, MA, LSLC Cert. AVT  
Chief Executive Officer

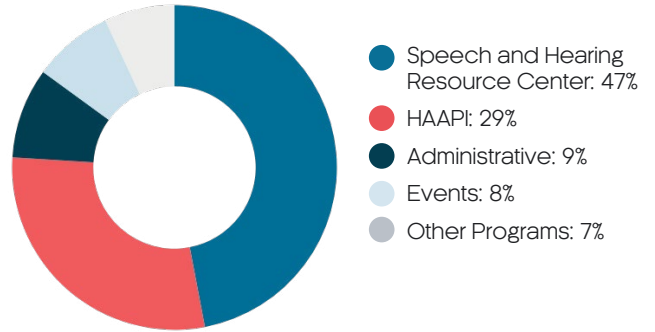


# 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

## 2023 REVENUE: \$2,204,589



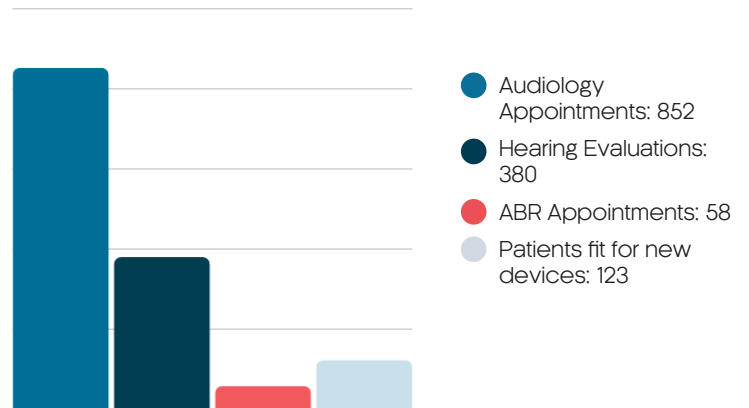
## 2023 EXPENSES: \$1,642,989



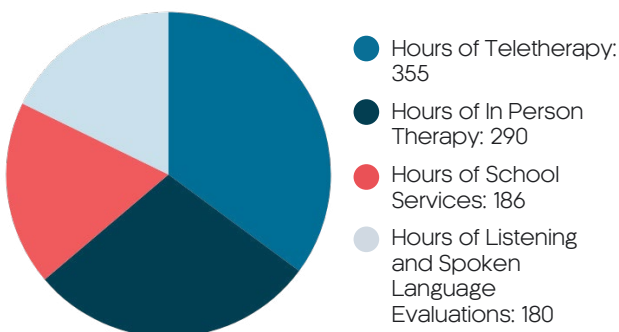
## 2023 EVENT PARTICIPANTS



## 2023 AUDIOLOGY SERVICES



## 2023 THERAPY: 1,011 TOTAL HOURS



## 2023 OTHER SERVICES



**152**  
Hours of  
Family  
Support



**5**  
Cochlear  
Implant  
Activations



**12**  
Cochlear  
Implant  
Evaluations

# PATIENT STORY

## MEET SARAH KATOWITZ

Sarah Katowitz's journey began with challenges that would shape her future in ways her family could not have imagined. Born prematurely, Sarah spent her early days in the NICU, where she did not pass her newborn hearing screening. Shortly after her discharge, her hearing loss was confirmed, and she was promptly fitted with hearing aids.

As Sarah grew, her parents recognized the importance of early and intensive intervention. Understanding that a strong foundation in preschool was crucial for Sarah's success, they enrolled her at St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf. There, Sarah was immersed in a language-rich environment alongside other children with hearing loss who also used listening and spoken language to communicate. This specialized setting allowed Sarah to develop the critical skills needed to thrive in a mainstream classroom.

Sarah's connection with Hear Indiana became a pivotal part of her journey a bit later. Reflecting on that moment, Sarah's mother, Monica, recalls, "When we found Hear Indiana, I said, 'We are never leaving!' They made understanding hearing loss so straightforward and took the time to truly know every family." Monica particularly valued Hear Indiana's holistic approach to Sarah's care, noting that the providers didn't just see Sarah's hearing loss—they saw Sarah as a whole person. This personalized care made a significant difference in their family's experience, fostering a deep sense of being understood and supported. "Hear Indiana worked with Sarah and advocated for her needs," Monica added. "We wouldn't be where we are today without their help."

Over the years, Sarah has benefited immensely from the various programs and services offered by Hear Indiana. She has received comprehensive audiological care, undergone specialized language evaluations and auditory rehabilitation, and borrowed devices from the loaner bank. One of Sarah's most cherished experiences has been attending Hear Indiana's Listening and Spoken Language camp. "Sarah made so many friends at camp who were just like her," Monica shared. "I only wish we had found it sooner. She can't wait to return as a volunteer!"

Initially, Sarah was not a candidate for a cochlear implant, but as her hearing loss progressed, she became eligible at the age of eighteen. With Hear Indiana's guidance, the family ensured that Sarah could receive the cochlear implant she needed. "Hear Indiana helped us navigate the complicated insurance systems that can make it difficult for parents to access the resources their child needs," Monica said.

Today, Sarah is thriving in college, confidently using the skills she has honed over the years. She effectively advocates for her accessibility needs and leverages technology to enhance her learning experience—skills that are invaluable as she steps into adulthood.

When asked what advice she would offer to other families, Monica's message was clear: "Reach out to Hear Indiana! The earlier you connect with them and access their services, the better. They make all the difference."



“  
**WE  
WOULDN'T  
BE WHERE  
WE ARE  
TODAY  
WITHOUT  
HEAR  
INDIANA'S  
HELP.**

**MONICA**  
SARAH'S MOTHER

”







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“

**REACH OUT  
TO HEAR  
INDIANA! THE  
EARLIER YOU  
GET ACCESS TO  
THE SERVICES  
THAT THEY  
PROVIDE,  
THE BETTER!**

”





# hear

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