

Charlotte Speech and Hearing Center

Charlotte Speech and Hearing Center (CSHC) was founded by the Junior League of Charlotte in 1967 as the first community speech and hearing center in North Carolina. We became a United Way agency in 1969. At CSHC we believe communication is the key to connecting with the world. Our mission is to provide a full range of effective, family-centered speech-language and hearing services to everyone in need. We strive to make a lasting impact on those in need, to improve their quality of life and help make them successful and productive members of society.

WELCOME TO OUR CONVERSATION!



- Each year the Center provides approximately 10,000 services to 3,000 individuals.
- Our Step Ahead program is the only one that provides free speech-language and hearing screenings at childcare facilities in Mecklenburg County. Each year we provide over 1,000 screenings to preschoolers as well as referral assistance and parent counseling for their families.
- We provide services to families at Charlotte Emergency Housing and the Public Libraries of Charlotte Mecklenburg as well as testing and treatment for school-aged children at Alexander Youth Network, Thompson Children's Home and Kennedy Charter School.
- Our Language and Literacy programs at preschools in underserved neighborhoods, including Thompson Child Development Center and Bilingual Preschool, serve over 300 children each year. This is a pro-active program that provides at-risk children with a strong foundation to build their academic careers on.
- Our Hearing Services Bank has provided thousands of hearing aids to low-income children and seniors; turning a world of silence and isolation into a world of joy and sound.
- We provide approximately 750 therapy sessions each month at CSHC. Our Assistance Fund allows low-income families access to high-quality, individual therapy they otherwise couldn't afford ensuring that the world of communication is open to all.
- CSHC currently has a staff of 17 and is overseen by our Executive Director, Shannon Tucker and our Board of Directors.



- *Over 40 million Americans are affected by speech-language or hearing disorders.*
- *Speech language and hearing disorders have been identified as the largest class of handicapping conditions for preschoolers.*
- *One out of every 5 of our nation's school-age children suffer from reading failures. A majority of all poor readers have an early history of spoken-language deficits.*
- *1 in 10 Americans has some degree of hearing loss. Uncorrected hearing loss can lead to social isolation, academic failure and cognitive decline.*

For more information or to find out how you can help please contact Jackie Fogartie at 704 523-8027. We are currently recruiting volunteers and have various opportunities available.