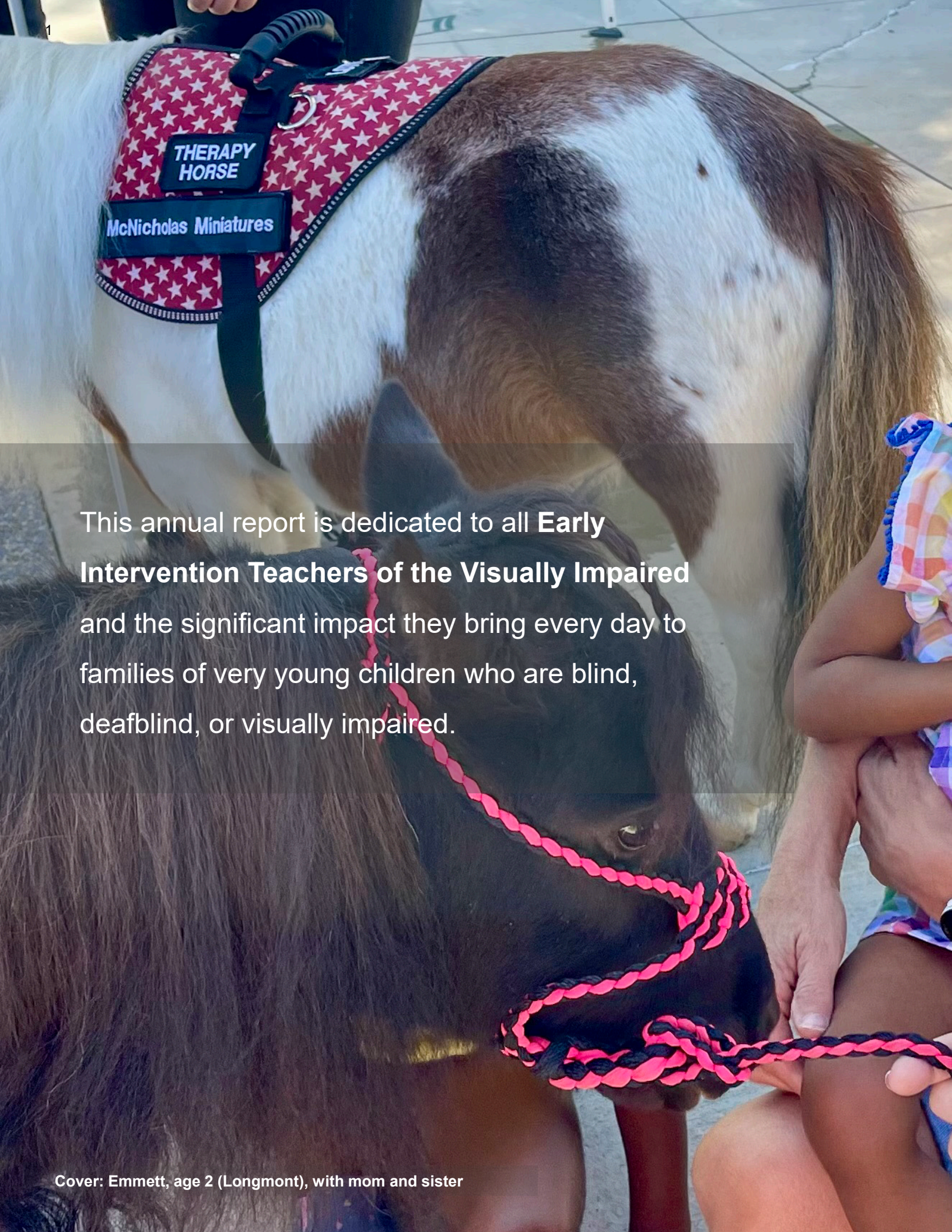


A Shared Vision

Partners in Pediatric Blindness &
Visual Impairment

2022 IMPACT REPORT





This annual report is dedicated to all **Early Intervention Teachers of the Visually Impaired** and the significant impact they bring every day to families of very young children who are blind, deafblind, or visually impaired.



Emerie, age 2 (Aurora), with Janet Anderson (EI-TVI, COMS)



Joey, age 2 (Crawford), with Kimala Rein (EI-TVI, COMS)

A Shared Vision's teachers **educate, inspire, and empower caregivers** to nurture their very young children during the most critical years of their brain development.

There's no classroom. Our teachers work with families where they live - in their homes and other familiar settings.

This past year, our teachers supported **212 children and their families**. They provided **1,675 educational service visits**, representing **61.4% of all early intervention vision services across the state of Colorado**.

Our teachers also led our return to in-person and virtual events for their families.

And through our vision screening training program, we continued to build a large community of early intervention professionals who can identify vision concerns in a very young child and refer the family for more support.

“Our vision teacher has been the number one resource for our child's developmental growth and overall happiness. Vision drives learning, and it's comforting to know we are not alone!”

Allysa Forrest (Pagosa Springs)

Dear Friends,

Prior to our founding in 2017, only a small percentage of Colorado families with very young children who are blind or visually impaired received in-home vision services.

Today, A Shared Vision's teachers are the leading providers of these critical and federally mandated early intervention vision services in the state. This past year, our teachers supported **212 children and their families, providing 1,675 educational service visits**. In fact, in the 55 counties we served, our teachers provided 70% of all education service visits in Denver/Boulder metro, 87% in the Fort Collins and Greeley communities, and 86% of all services in Colorado's rural communities!

Our teachers are the cornerstone of the community that supports families with very young children who are blind or visually impaired.

With graduate degrees in visual impairment, our team of 16 licensed Early Intervention Teachers of the Visually Impaired are uniquely qualified to meet the needs of families. As one parent commented, "Our teacher is in our corner cheering us on and **providing the tools and techniques for our child's success.**"

A Shared Vision is a unique, virtual "home" that encourages licensed Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI) to provide early intervention services across the state. Our home includes financial support and a breadth of services, support, and technologies that allow our teachers to excel at what they love most – supporting families with babies and toddlers who are blind or visually impaired.

However, we are experiencing a **shortage of licensed teachers to meet the growing demand throughout the state**. At any point in time, **20 to 30 families are waiting** for ongoing services until a teacher becomes available.

We are leading efforts to define resource needs by geography, secure funding for competitive compensation, and encourage and attract TVIs to support the unique needs of our families in rural and urban communities.

We are grateful for the support of many individual donors and foundations – including the **James Hynd Trust for the Blind**, the **Buell Foundation**, the **Anschutz Family Foundation**, and **LONG Building Technologies, Inc.** – who make our mission possible. In 2022 we raised \$126,393 in donations and grants, which supports the breadth and operationalization of our programs that support our families and build a stronger community of early intervention professionals.

Thank you for your continued partnership!

Your board,

Stefanie Hamilton, Paula Landry, Steven Lindauer, and Susan Raymond

Our Team!



Janet Anderson
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Kerry Auld
(EI-TVI)



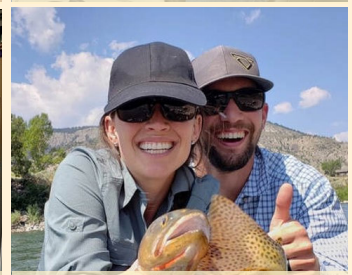
Suzan Barlow
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Sally Burch
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Lorraine Chevarria
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Stephanie Crosen
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Stefanie Hamilton
(EI-TVI)



July King
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Paula Landry
(EI-TVI)



Katie Lindauer
(Communications Manager)



Steven Lindauer
(Executive Director)



Janis Mountford
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Kimala Rein
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Leonor Rosser
(EI-TVI)



Edie Smith
(EI-TVI, COMS)



Wendy Stoltman
(EI-TVI, COMS)



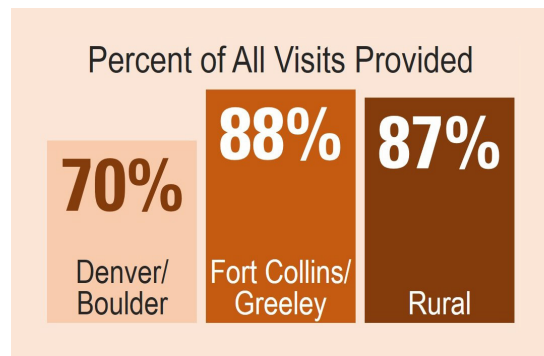
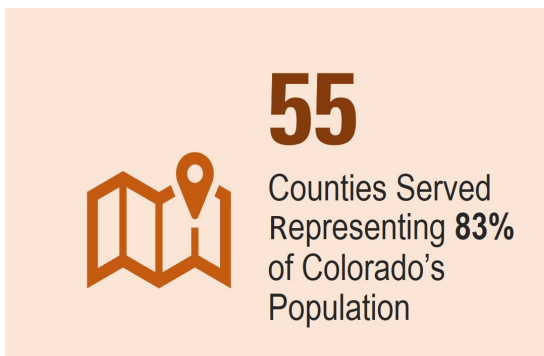
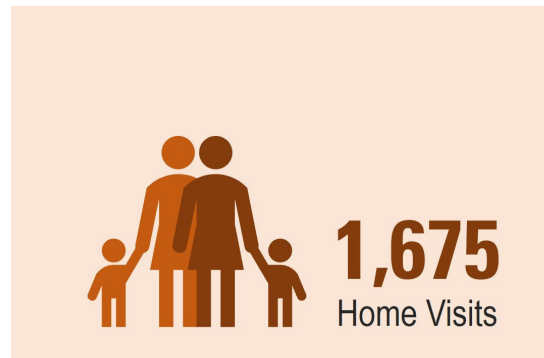
Maggie Tutt
(EI-TVI)



Liz Wieder
(EI-TVI, COMS)

Home Vision Services Program

For every family, our teachers provide a **portfolio of home-based services curated to their unique needs and the needs of their child** with blindness or a visual impairment. The goal is preschool and kindergarten readiness and a positive trajectory for cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development for each child.



“Our experience with A Shared Vision has been wonderful. Not only did we receive helpful resources, but we did so in a caring and understanding way which is so important to us while we navigate challenging medical diagnoses. Our A Shared Vision teacher shows care and empathy while helping guide us through best practices for our child. This is a difficult quality to find while navigating a cold and distant medical world. Thanks for all you do!

Marij Castello (Golden)



Help families understand their child's specific visual diagnosis and the effect it will have on early learning

Help families understand their child's specific visual diagnosis and the effect it will have on early learning

Provide educational and emotional support to families in their homes and in community settings

Help families understand their child's specific visual diagnosis and the effect it will have on early learning

Conduct assessments, including Functional Vision, Sensory, CVI, and more

Teach and model adapted ways of doing everyday activities such as mealtime, bath time, and more

Accompany families on ophthalmology, hospital, and other provider appointments

Help families connect with other families

Contribute to the development and implementation of a family's IF-SFS

Foster emergent literacy

Help families prepare or obtain learning materials

Help families adapt their home for access, learning, and safety

Collaborate with other therapists and providers

Identify a child's need for additional services

Help families transition from early intervention to school-based programming

Esmeralda, age 17 months (Aurora)

One Step at a Time

Imagine a parent's grief when they learn their child is completely blind. Emerie was born without eyes and was diagnosed later with a hearing loss. Her mom LaShawn needed new skills and confidence to help Emerie learn and grow. Janet Anderson, her teacher from A Shared Vision, was just one of the six members on this family's early intervention support team.

When they met, Emerie was very fearful of exploring her environment. So, Janet introduced LaShawn to an effective strategy of establishing boundaries in Emerie's play space to make her feel safe. As a baby, Emerie learned to roll on the floor with a couch as her boundary. As a toddler, she practiced walking back and forth between her mom and her teacher.



"I met LaShawn's needs with good communication. I supported her on rough days. I taught her and the team about blindness, deaf-blindness, and strategies to use when working with Emerie.

It was exciting for me to see Emerie progress, taking steps and feeling comfortable with movement. I felt like we were on the right track and making a difference in Emerie's life. She was reaching her goals.

Janet Anderson, EI-TVI, COMS

Off to School

Rebecca and Eddie began working with their teacher, Liz Wieder, when Emmett was three months old. “Our teacher helped us understand his vision diagnosis, gave us questions to ask the doctors, provided tools to help him navigate his environment, and even helped with his transition to preschool,” explained Rebecca.

A curious, energetic toddler like Emmett has really benefited from his orientation and mobility lessons. “We verbalize what is in his environment because he doesn’t know what he can’t see,” explained Rebecca. His vision impairment doesn’t slow him down because his parents are empowering him to be a busy, independent toddler.



“Emmett’s parents have a lot of great natural instincts when it comes to raising their children. They allow Emmett to explore the world through play and give him many opportunities to get out into the community. I was able to reassure them, answer questions, model activities, and give them additional resources.

Since I am also a Teacher of the Visually Impaired in the St. Vrain school district, when the time came, I explained to Rebecca and Eddie what the transition to school would look like and helped them prepare. On the school district side, I explained to the other providers what Emmett’s vision is like and if they should adapt materials or activities that they might be using.

Liz Wieder, EI-TVI, COMS



Willa, age 12 months (Denver)

Parent Reflections

"I was very nervous about my son's Cortical Visual Impairment. When we first met our teacher, I felt like she was on his team immediately. She helped me understand CVI and how to engage my son. She has made all his vision complications a little less scary.

Morgan Cassimus (Arvada)

"Our teacher communicates well with other members on our daughter's team. I am impressed by her extensive knowledge of vision impairments and how that correlates with other developmental delays. We are so grateful for the value that she brings to our life!

Brianna Valdez (Thornton)

"Our teacher helps not only with our son's visual needs but also provides resources to support his overall development and will go above and beyond to find answers for all of our questions.

Lydia Thompson (Longmont)

Family Support Program

We provide education, community connections, and support for families of children with visual impairments through group activities (virtual and in person), our monthly newsletter, website resources, and social media. Our goal is to **improve the capabilities and the emotional health of caregivers** who raise children with visual impairments.

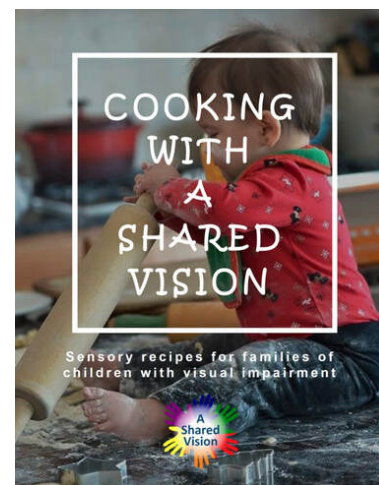


Learning Experiences & Sensory Recipes



In 2022, we published "Learning Experiences: For Families of Very Young Children Who Are Visually Impaired." The book was dedicated to our teachers, without whom the ideas for the book wouldn't be possible.

We also continued to develop (and taste!) new sensory recipes complementing our cookbook which we published the prior year. A big hit with our caregivers.



Family Events

As pandemic restrictions lifted, our teachers led our return to in-person and virtual events for their families in 2022. They hosted five virtual "Mystery Parties" on topics ranging from preparing for preschool to making a sensory gel bag to strategies parents can use when raising a child with cortical visual impairment. Families enjoyed these events so much they asked for more virtual time to socialize and share ideas.

In September, our families were invited to a free event to meet the miniature horses from McNicholas Miniatures, experience a horse sensory station, and "horse around" with a new song at a park in Centennial.

Volunteer Events


For their Silver Award, Girl Scout Troop #60035 made 10 sensory boards, 10 toy bars, and 11 book bags and presented them to A Shared Vision's families during the troop's December 4th meeting in Aurora, CO. This project was led by one of our teachers who also taught the troop how children with blindness or a visual impairment learn using all their senses. A Shared Vision parents were touched by these gifts. "This brought tears to my eyes. What a sweet and thoughtful project!"

Education Program

Our goal is to **build a community of highly skilled and collaborative professionals** to support all families of very young children with visual impairments throughout the state.

80%

For typical children, 80% of their early sensory connections to the world is through their eyes and ears. Special strategies are needed for children with visual impairments.



Raedyn, age 7 months
(Broomfield)

This past year A Shared Vision was awarded a contract with Colorado Department of Early Childhood's Early Intervention Colorado to continue our work to update the state's official vision screening protocol.

As EI Colorado took responsibility for Child Find (birth to age three), we created and delivered **28 live virtual trainings to prepare 263 of the state's EI Evaluation professionals** to conduct vision screenings. Trainings will continue in 2023, including the addition of a third module to support objective testing.

Historically, too many of Colorado's very young children with visual impairments were **NOT** being identified.


While the problem is far from solved, the **vision screening protocol and trainings are having a positive impact - 49% growth** in vision services added to IFSPs from 2019 through 2021, compared to 1% decline for all other services.

28
Virtual
Training
Sessions



263 Professionals
Trained



 **49%**

Growth of vision services for children in early intervention from 2019 – 2021, compared to 1% decline for all other services



Jack, age 10 months (Golden)

Financials

A Shared Vision early intervention services are provided at no cost to families. Unlike center-based programs, we do not charge tuition or other fees to the families we support.

While a part of the costs to deliver home vision services are paid by Colorado's Community Centered Boards using federal IDEA Part C and other state funds, we rely on support from our donors to deliver the breadth of our programming.

We are a nimble, virtual organization with very little overhead. None of our expenses include brick-and-mortar structures or other capital investments as early intervention vision services are best provided in families' homes - the ideal model for delivery which is substantiated through years of research.

In 2022, **we continued to invest in programs that benefited our families and provided additional financial support for our teachers** using the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) grant we received in 2021.

Statement of Financial Position

	2022	2021
Current assets	76,754	105,157
Current liabilities	6,110	4,958
Long-term liabilities	-	-
Total liabilities	6,110	4,958
Equity	70,645	100,199

Statement of Activity

REVENUE	2022	2021
Contributions and grants	134,680	180,725
Services	160,840	169,259
Total Revenue	295,520	349,984
EXPENSES	2022	2021
Program services	312,807	269,520
Management and general	6,587	7,266
Fundraising	5,681	3,556
Total Expenses	325,075	280,342
Net Operating Revenue	(29,555)	69,642

2% of total expenses



Annalise, age 8 months (Craig)

Thank You!

The many individuals and organizations who gave to A Shared Vision deserve all the credit. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many children and families in Colorado. The following donors helped make our programs possible.

Myrna Ann Adkins	Givio Charitable	Moneta Charitable Foundation
Amazon Smile	Joyce Haley	Janis Mountford
Janet Anderson	Stefanie & Lee Hamilton	Chris Owens
Anschutz Family Foundation	Erin & Patrick Higgins	Kivanc Ozer
Andrew Arevalo	Estelle Hoehl	PayPal Giving Fund
Patricia Baker	James Hynd Trust for the Blind	Nancy Phares-Zook
Denise Barnwell	Linda Joy	Iurii Pilguk
Bonnie Benedetti	Seth & Liz Kelly	Jennifer Poltermann
Marti Bleidt	Christine & Dave Kilpatrick	Carol Puchalski
Buell Foundation	Tom & Nancy Kirkwood	Susan Raymond
Dave & Carol Callan	Kroger	Kimala Rein
Kathy Case	Paula & Jim Landry	Mary Reisher & Barry Berlin
Sue Catterall	Catherine Lindauer	Valerie Reymann
Lorraine Chevarria	Katie & Steve Lindauer	Carolyn Rickard
Colorado Gives Foundation	Sarah Lindauer	Karen & Jeff Roberts
Daniel Cummings	Shelley Lindauer	Jeannie & John Robinson
Nancy Currey	LONG Building Technologies, Inc.	Sally Burch
Paul & Beth Daughtery	Kristin Loveless	Muge Sen-Gucuk
Celeste Drinkard	John and MaryAnn Lundgren	Kylee Smith
Joyce Durol	Rodgers Madison	Ann Stafford
Scott Elliott	Roseanna Madison	TisBest Philanthropy
Korhan Ergul	S.R. Madison	Betam Thi Truong
Julie Titus Fair	Kelly Manley	Lorraine Vanderhye
Betsy Fecteau	Ali Martinez	Tom Waters
William Freeman	Jill McCarren	Kerri West
Susan Gates	Jeffrey Meier	Judy Wray
Stephanie Gill		



Our **Mission**

We educate, inspire, and empower families to nurture the development of their very young children who are blind or visually impaired so that all children may discover their brightest future.