

WATCH! THIS!

WE'RE
PROVING
WHAT'S
POSSIBLE.
EVERY
DAY.

FROM OUR LEADERSHIP



**WATCH!
THIS!**

**FIRST SMILE.
NEW FRIEND.
CONFIDENCE.
HOPE.**

Dear Friends,

Each day, in countless ways, our expert team of educators and health care providers celebrate achievements with our CRCC children and families. Jubilant shouts of, “Watch this!” ring through our halls. Often these successes are for accomplishments they have been told would never be possible for a child with such complex needs.

At CRCC, we are dedicated to helping every child who comes through our doors reach his or her full potential in life. By providing a joyous learning environment and holistic integration of care, CRCC children thrive, and families find real hope, along with peace of mind and a new world of expanding opportunity.

Our care extends beyond our centers and into our community. Through our out-patient rehabilitation therapy services, mental health program, partnerships with area schools, and expanding network of community collaborations, CRCC is busy increasing access to proven support for children in need.

Continuing our focus on educational excellence, we launched our new preschool in August of 2019. Learning Together Preschool is a unique, integrated peer program open to all children — those with and without complex needs — between the ages of three and five. This demand was unmet in our community, as we immediately filled both rooms and are already planning our expansion.

Extraordinary things are happening at CRCC. What’s next? *Watch this!*

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Constantino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Constantino
CRCC President & CEO

IT ALL ADDS UP

Children Served



219 School-based Behavioral Health

96 Out-patient Behavioral Health

315 Total Behavioral Health Clients



262
Total Active Day Clients



170 Rehabilitation Therapy Care Clients

53 Out-patient Rehabilitation Therapy

223 Total Rehabilitation Therapy Clients

Children may be served in multiple programs.

Revenue & Support



70% Program Services
21% Grants & Contributions
9% Other

Expenses



59.5% Skilled Care & Day Services
23.5% Therapy Services
15.5% General Administration & Fundraising
1.5% Weekend Services

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WATCH

MARLEY SMILE

You'd never guess that during the first 12 months of her life, Marley never smiled at all. This four-year-old is making up for lost time.

Marley can't stop smiling.

"She's the sweetest girl. The most loving, happy, easy kid ever," said her mom, Michaela.

Her first year of life was a roller coaster of doctors appointments, physical therapy sessions and more. Born five weeks early, Michaela knew during her pregnancy something wasn't right, having experienced a healthy pregnancy with her first child.

"As soon as she was born, I knew she was sick," she said.

After insisting that her newborn be tested, a brain scan found that little Marley had suffered a stroke.

"A slew of doctor's appointments followed, and she was diagnosed with Cohen Syndrome."

An extremely rare genetic disorder, people with Cohen Syndrome often have developmental delays, weak muscle tone and poor eyesight. A physical therapist recommended CRCC to Michaela as a place with specialized care for children with complex medical needs.

"I call it 'special baby daycare.' The staff is so great. They've made her blossom into a little lady," Michaela said.

For the single mom of two, all the services offered at CRCC mean a significant amount of stress lifted off her shoulders. She no longer needs to schedule physical therapy, occupational therapy, or speech therapy appointments – it's all handled during Marley's daily care.

And, Marley has access to new equipment, like a retina scanner, called a "gazer," that allows her to communicate more effectively with her friends, teachers, nurses, therapists and family.

"The first thing she told me was that she wanted new clothes!" Michaela said.

Marley's friends at CRCC also learned she has chickens at home, which Michaela confirmed with a laugh.

"When she was born, I was scared she'd never live past three years old," she said. "Now look at her – she's four and happy and even learning to walk. It's amazing."

Marley uses her "gazer" to communicate with her CRCC caregiver, Shelby Farrer, SLP.





Twin brothers Malaky and Markus have thrived being around kids just like them at CRCC.

WATCH

MALAKY & MARCUS GROW

Malaky and his twin brother Markus have been beating the odds their entire lives. Now they are four-and-a-half, and surpassing expectations every day.

Born at 25 weeks and three days, they spent 105 days in the NICU at Children's Hospital. "They were only supposed to live 24 hours," said their mom, Rachel.

Not that their journey was or is easy. After he was born, Malaky was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid in the brain. He almost died twice during his time at Children's, Rachel said. He still has a shunt in his head that continues to drain the excess fluids.

"It keeps him alive," Rachel said.

Markus has had seizures – and after his second one at their former childcare, Rachel received notice that the provider was unable to care for the twins going forward. She remembered that her doctors at Children's had recommended CRCC, and luckily when she called a few months ago, the center had openings.

"The twins love it there," she said. "Seeing other kids like them has really built their confidence."

Malaky used to be worried and embarrassed about his g-button, the gastronomy tube inserted through his belly button that allows nutrition to go directly into his stomach. Markus doesn't have one, and he thought it made him different.

Now he has friends at CRCC with g-buttons, too. One of his friends told Malaky he thought he was a superhero because he can eat through his belly button.

"Now he's always taking off his shirt, showing it off," Rachel said.

They're also showing compassion for their new friends. Malaky tries to give his feeding backpacks to others, and he's befriended a girl who uses a wheelchair.

"He really has a heart for her. He seeks her out and rubs her head," she said. "Little things like that tell me they're in the right place. It's so sweet."

CRCC's
Emily Jarman
provides
therapy to
students at
Millard North
High School.



WATCH

STUDENTS TRANSFORM

The care CRCC provides extends beyond the walls of its two buildings.

Recognizing an opportunity to provide youth with mental health care while they are at school, CRCC developed the Behavioral Health Outpatient Therapy Program. A best practice in community-based mental health care, the program is an example of how strategic partnerships allow CRCC to bring expertise to a much wider audience – and make an even greater impact.

The program currently provides licensed mental health practitioners to five area school districts: Omaha Public Schools, Ralston Public Schools, Millard Public Schools, Papillion La Vista Public Schools and Bellevue Public Schools.

“It’s outpatient therapy, just located at the school,” said CRCC’s therapist Emily Jarman, the first wellness counselor at Millard North High School.

Emily moved her office to the school in February 2018 when the partnership between Millard and CRCC began. She has worked at CRCC for three years, and prior to that she worked in residential therapy, in-home therapy, and in another school-based setting.

“Mental health care is important for everyone. It should be a priority just like one’s physical health,” Emily said.

For her, the therapy sessions are similar no matter the location. But the benefits of being at the school are many:

- Additional support and background information from school counselors and social workers
- Accessibility to families – parents don’t have to take time off to drive their child to a therapy appointment, and students don’t have to miss school because sessions can often be scheduled during study hall
- Wait time between referral and the first intake session is often just a few days, whereas private therapists can have wait lists of weeks or months
- The ability to be a resource for teachers – Emily will make presentations to students about mental health topics

Emily works with about five students a day and has seen transformations of all kinds within her clients. Her very presence at the school underscores the importance of mental health care.

“Everyone should be doing what they can to support their mental health and that of others,” she said.

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Thank you for your generous support! You are helping children push past limitations to accomplish more than anyone thought they could.

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WATCH CHILDREN THRIVE



CRCC is dedicated to supporting children with medical, cognitive, developmental, or behavioral needs in the Omaha metro and beyond. Over the past year, we worked with more than 600 children from birth to age 21 through our highly individualized day, weekend, summer camp, school- and community-based programs.

From licensed nurses and therapists, to teachers and paraprofessionals, CRCC is setting a standard in the Omaha community by combining compassion, first-rate qualifications and best-practice expertise to help children of all abilities excel in life with confidence and joy.

WATCH! THIS!

WE'RE PROVING
WHAT'S POSSIBLE.
EVERY DAY.

"Watch this!" is a familiar statement at our centers. The children we serve beam with pride as they hit new milestones alongside their peers and are eager to show off their new skills. It's also a gratifying expression of our team members, who make our children's day-to-day progress possible. You'll also hear "Watch this!" coming from families who encounter anyone who underestimates their child's ability — they know their child can defy the odds.

New discoveries, triumphant successes and conquering challenges is what our supporters empower children to achieve every single day at CRCC. **Watch this!**



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On the Cover:
Marley giggles with
Physical Therapist,
Brienne Walbrecht.