mission
To empower children and adults to reach their greatest potential and to effectively communicate and interact.

vision
To serve as a beacon of hope for children, adults, and their families facing communication, behavioral and developmental challenges.
In 2015, with our new facility and greater capacity to provide our services to more in our community, we were able to spread our wings wider than ever before.

Our expansion brought new challenges in 2015. Challenges that our dedicated team faced head on. Challenges that resulted in expanded services, a larger staff, and more children receiving the therapy they so desperately need.

In the following pages, you will see what we’ve accomplished and where we’re headed as we continue to spread our wings and soar even higher.
I’ve had the opportunity to observe the development of The Emerge Center and the wonderful work they accomplish through both personal and professional lenses. With this experience, I remain impressed with our team’s fantastic management of challenges that presented themselves during the 2014 - 2015 expansion. In addition to streamlining procedures, they also produced a variety of programs and services, and increased personnel to better serve our region.

Today, 75 percent of Emerge’s operation costs are covered by insurance billing, accomplished by contracting with 23 insurance providers, including all Healthy Louisiana plans. Still, these reimbursements do not cover the full scope of their services. Charitable contributions make up 25 percent of our finances, filling the gaps to provide a solid financial base for the organization.

As board president, I consider Emerge’s largest achievement of 2015 to be the completion of an initial feasibility study on potential growth into the educational space. This is critical in our vision—to continually provide services to meet the needs of our region’s underserved population.

I foresee a positive and successful future for The Emerge Center, especially for the families we serve. Through the combined efforts of an actively-involved board, committed leadership, and dedicated staff, I am excited to see what the future holds for Emerge. I’m honored to be a guiding partner in this journey for the greater good of the region.

Sincerely,

Robert Pettit
Board President
In 2015, our nonprofit produced a variety of innovative, interdisciplinary programs and services, and increased personnel to meet even more of the early intervention needs of our community. The Emerge Center provides a continuum of care through our wealth of services to an area that includes 21 Louisiana parishes and 7 neighboring counties.

Last year, 1,114 children enrolled in our Children’s Development Center. One hundred percent of those children demonstrated increased communication, socialization, and self-help skills. Despite this success rate, we continue to experience a demand for services from a critically underserved and increasing population, underlining the region’s future needs, and eliciting a call to action to our leadership and supporters.

Our nonprofit remains committed to the provision of an integrated model of care to all - no matter their background, current limitations, or financial means - to empower all individuals to reach their greatest potential and to effectively communicate and interact.

We invite you to join us in our mission, our vision, and our hope to improve families’ lives through The Emerge Center’s services for yourself. Your involvement, whether financial, verbal, or through volunteerism, is greatly valued. Without our partners, we are unable to continue in our role as champions of change.

Emerge into a world of ability with us.

Melissa Juneau  
Executive Director
What we did... Since our inception in 1960, The Emerge Center (formerly the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation) has existed as an independent 501c3, fulfilling the needs of families challenged by communication, behavioral and developmental issues. If 2015 is any indication of our future success as an all-inclusive resource, we eagerly await the developments that 2016 and 2017 will bring!

In 2015, we continued to grow our Children’s Development Center through the addition of a second Kindergarten class. We expanded our full-time staff by 47 percent, including the addition of two Spanish-speaking speech and language pathologists to support our region’s diversity, specifically, the growing Hispanic population.

Internally, our team developed monthly Emerge Grand Rounds to present innovative programming, expand medical knowledge and improve patient care for the increasing and evolving client case roster, and provided critical feedback to the Baton Rouge Area Foundation’s study of Autism Services in the Capital Area Region. We’ve continued to build and strengthen our community partnerships with the Baton Rouge Symphony Orchestra and Paws for a Cause. We accomplished a great deal in 2015 and look forward to doing even more in the years to come!
2014 to 2015 growth

- **Audiology**: ↑40%
  - 70 hours May 2014, 98 hours June 2015

- **Autism Programs**: ↑91%
  - 1264 hours May 2014, 2409 hours June 2015

- **Speech**: ↑47%
  - 49 clients May 2014, 72 clients June 2015

- **Occupational Therapy**: ↑151%
  - 39 clients May 2014, 98 clients June 2015

- **Psychology**: ↑56%
  - 36 clients May 2014, 56 clients June 2015

"EVERYONE AT EMERGE SAW CAMILLE’S POTENTIAL WHEN SO MANY OTHERS DIDN’T. SEEING HER PROGRESS HELPED ME SEE A LIGHT AT THE END OF WHAT SEEMED A VERY LONG, DARK TUNNEL. I KNOW THAT SHE IS WHERE SHE IS BECAUSE OF THE AMAZING PEOPLE AT EMERGE, AND FOR HELPING HER REACH THIS POINT I WILL FOREVER BE GRATEFUL.”
– CAMILLE’S MOM–

- **Evaluations performed**: 2,095
- **Doctor referrals received each month on average**: 300
Who we served... The need for our services is vast and vital. In 2015, we offered 28,487 hours of speech therapy, over 26,000 hours of Applied Behavioral Analysis therapy, 1,637 billable services hours in our psychology department, and over 3,500 hours of occupational therapy.

According to national data, it is anticipated that up to 260 children in the Baton Rouge metro area will be diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder in 2017, with an increase every year thereafter, based on occurrence rates. Each year 1 in 68 children – 1 in 42 boys – are diagnosed with autism. Additionally, the average lifetime cost for an individual with autism can be between $1.4 and $2.4 million.

As a non-profit clinic, we are proud to say that our programs exist for anyone in our community, regardless of their ability to pay. We are one of a few non-hospital programs offering speech therapy services to clients on Louisiana Health Plans/Medicaid, a population that typically represents 60 percent of our Children’s Development Center’s caseload, with the remaining 40 percent representing private insurance or private pay clients.

For those in need of audiology services, hearing aids are most often not covered by insurance. We offer financial assistance to those who may be unable to pay, but require these products to live a fuller, happier life.
total clients served

1,119 audiology services
898 speech therapy
306 psychology services
196 occupational therapy
88 autism services

*represents some clients receiving more than one service

22 scholarships granted in our school readiness programs

“EVERYONE WAS SO WELCOMING AND HELPFUL. IT WAS SUCH A BLESSING THAT HE COULD GET ALL HIS THERAPY IN ONE PLACE. PHILLIP NOW SPEAKS, ASKS QUESTIONS, PARTICIPATES IN GROUPS, AND PLAYS WITH FRIENDS. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR EMERGE AND THE WONDERFUL STAFF.”
– PHILLIP’S MOM –
### ASSETS

#### CURRENT ASSETS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>991,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable - program (net of allowances)</td>
<td>179,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promises to give receivable (net) - current portion</td>
<td>179,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other receivables</td>
<td>22,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>87,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,460,405</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### OTHER ASSETS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promises to give receivable (net) - long-term portion</td>
<td>95,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note receivable</td>
<td>6,095,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred financing costs - net</td>
<td>334,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1,077,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment - net</td>
<td>6,809,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assets under capital lease - net</td>
<td>126,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,998,234</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### CURRENT LIABILITIES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liability</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obligations under capital lease - current portion</td>
<td>69,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable - trade</td>
<td>49,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred tuition</td>
<td>22,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>108,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>249,675</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### OTHER LIABILITIES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liability</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term debt</td>
<td>7,857,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obligations under capital lease</td>
<td>1,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,108,422</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NET ASSETS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted - undesignated</td>
<td>7,381,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted - designated</td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>63,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>95,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,889,812</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Total liabilities and net assets**         | **15,998,234** |
## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

### REVENUE AND SUPPORT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program revenue</td>
<td>$3,290,247</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SUPPORT REVENUE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Area United Way</td>
<td>279,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>121,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant income</td>
<td>142,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special fund raising events</td>
<td>687,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total support revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,231,053</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total revenue and support**  **4,521,300**  **100%**

### EXPENSES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>3,871,805</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>436,599</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund raising</td>
<td>475,856</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,784,260</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Decrease in net assets**  **(262,960)**
Our events... Each year our fundraising events play a critical role in supporting daily operations at The Emerge Center, and 2015 was no exception. We are grateful to our community for helping to make each of our events a tremendous success.

With The Emerge Center serving as the backdrop, our inaugural signature gala, Emerge Into Song, was a hit! Named the #1 party of the year by The Advocate, our center was transformed into an array of musical clubs, inviting guests to tour the center while enjoying the various musical acts, including a performance by ABBA: A premier tribute band.

The annual Angling Against Autism fishing tournament, hosted by Moonie and Angela Bergeron, has done a tremendous job of building autism awareness while raising funds to support Emerge.

Hosted for six years by Chip and Sandi Robinson, the Battle Against Autism combines a vehicle raffle, highly anticipated silent and live auctions, and a golf tournament. Since its start, Battle Against Autism has raised nearly one million dollars to support Autism Services at Emerge.

For 44 years, the Baton Rouge Area Volunteer Activists luncheon has proven to be the place to be seen! We were thrilled to honor the well-deserving group of 2015 community activists, nominated by their peers in the community. Delta Zeta Sorority, received the coveted Margaret Neely award, a special award named for Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation’s founding director, Margaret Neely. Funds raised at our 2015 luncheon provided 22 families with scholarships to attend our school readiness programs.
$10,000 AND ABOVE

Albemarle Foundation
All Star Automotive Group
The Andreeff Foundation
Angling Against Autism, Craig and Angela Bergeron, Event Co-Chairs
Battle Against Autism, Chip and Sandi Robinson, Event Co-Chairs
Capital Area United Way
Delta Zeta Sorority
Frel! Kids Foundation
H&E Equipment Services
InforMD Solutions
Cheney Joseph* and Mary Terrell Joseph
William Edwin Montan Charitable Trust
Ouray Capital Management
Will and Yvette Owens
Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Foundation
Dee Dee Reilly
Mark and Rachel Rohr
Sertoma Club of Baton Rouge, Inc.
Kevin and Staci Tabor
The Huey and Angelina Wilson Foundation

FROM $2,500 TO $4,999

James and Denise Angelle
Capital One
Entergy Louisiana
ExxonMobil Foundation
Matt and Melissa Juneau
Lee Michaels Fine Jewelry
LUBA Worker’s Comp
McGlinchey Stafford
Med Data Service Bureau
Jean-Paul and Wanda Perrault
Phelps Dunbar
The TJX Companies
John Turner and Jerry Fischer

FROM $5,000 TO $9,999

Amerigroup
Bill and Mary Lee Dixon
Fishman Haygood
IberiaBank
Luke and Kathryn Kissam
Louisiana Television Broadcasting, LLC
Norwood and Maureen Oge
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
E.J. and Marjory B. Ourso Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Newton B. Thomas
Mike and Kim Wampold
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC

*deceased

Our work simply would not be possible without the generosity of our donors. Our sincerest thanks to all of the individuals, foundations and corporations in our community who helped to support the daily operations at The Emerge Center. The following gifts were made between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015.

To soar even higher in 2016, we hope to...

Grow our educational programs
expand the Kindergarten program, offer 12-month options and full-day services through Camp Butterfly, and grow the afterschool program
Participate in research projects
partner with LSU to research effective therapy and treatment options for children with ASD

FROM $1,000 TO $2,499
Joe and Annie Alleva
Verge and Cheri Ausberry
The Baton Rouge Clinic
Scott and Melissa Blake
Coleman Partners Architects
Commerce Title
Cox Communications
Charlie and Susan D’Agostino
Michael and Patty DePaul
The Dunham School
Emergent Method
Faulk & Meek General Contractors, LLC
John Fetzer
Johnny and Rose Marie Fife
Chris and Kelsey Funes
General Informatics
Terrence Ginn
Richard and Holley Haymaker
Drs. Jay and Charlotte Hollman
ISC Constructors
Jones Walker
Jeffrey Kearns
KeepSafe Inc.
Lard Oil
Massengale Grounds Management
Charles and Jeani Moniotte
TJ Morant
John and Virginia Noland
Christopher Odinet and McHenry ‘Dub’ Lee
Dr. Carol Patin
Robert and Conway Pettit
Patrick Richard

Paul and Alaina Saltaformaggio
Matthew and Catherine Saurage
Saurage Rotenberg Commercial Real Estate
Kabrina Smith
Nick and Abbie Speyrer
St. Aloysius Church
The ALS Association Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter
Ryan and Kim Thibodeaux
Frank and Laurie Thigpen
Roland and Kay Toups
Scott and Tracey Tozier
Turner Industries
Stephen and Colleen Waguespack
Whitney Bank

FROM $500 TO $999
Charles and Kathy Allen
Princeton and Dadie Bardwell
Peter and Lauren Barrios
Bayou State Rabbit Hunters Federation
Barbara Beckmann
Keith and Lori Boeneke
Marvin and Susan Borgmeyer
David and Jan Brantley
Vicki Crochet
McCleish and Linda Dawkins
Norman Deumite
Robert and Marc Drumh
Robert and Erin Easton
Foundation for East Baton Rouge School System
Charles Freeburgh
Todd Gerald

FROM $250 TO $499
Dawn Jason
Barrett Johnston
Ted and Shelton Jones
Jodi Jowers
Frederic and Cary Kearny
Lakeshore Lions Club
Joseph and Monica Landry
Michael LeBlanc
Louisiana Business Inc.
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry
Louisiana Lottery
Claire Major
Jake and Emily Mayo
Layne and Jill McDaniel
Hugh McIntosh
Erin Monroe Wesley
Jim and Adrienne Moore
The Moran Group
Sam and Ann Nader
George Newbill
J. B. Olinde
Elizabeth Querbes
Quota International of Baton Rouge
Charlie Roberts
Robinson Brothers Ford Lincoln
Michael and Jan Ross
Edward Rotenberg
Lenny and Melissa Samuel
Mary Ann Sessums
Shell Employee Giving
Southern University
St. Elizabeth Hospital
St. Jude the Apostle School
Todd and Kim Stevens
Sullivan Dental Center
TOPCOR Companies
Eric and Audrey Wascome
Geordy and Kate Waters

FROM $100 TO $249
Alzheimer’s Services of Great Baton Rouge
Charles and Marci Blaize
Robert and Linda Bowsher
Henry and Monica Bradsher
Buquet & LeBlanc
Michelle Carriere
City Year Baton Rouge
FROM $100 TO $249

Jimmy and Mary Allen
Wanda Alphin
The Alpine Group
Kathy Andrus
Bernice Arbeneaux
Brad Axelrod
Chris and Kathleen Bachman
Lorrie Bearden
Ralph Bender
Scott and Leslie Berg
Robert and Dianne Berry
Frank and Brenda Bertrand
Brad and Emily Boudreaux
Tanya Bourgoyn
Tim and Aza Bowlin

James and Judith Boyle
Karol Brady
John and Beth Brantley
Joseph and Marcy Brown
Evelyn Brown
Bradley Burget
Larry and Betty Cain
Renee Chatelain
Stacey Chiasson
Matt and Nicole Colvin
Pamela Cowart
Jack and Susan Dampf
Nicholas and Julie Danna
John David and Aimee Dawes
Ronald Evans
Bobby Fahey
Paul and Etta Fair
Jennifer Faugue
Steve Felix
Anna Fogle
Camilla Ford
Judith Furukawa
Darrell Gautreaux
Vernon and Mary Gautreaux
Darrin and Vee Goss
Marjorie Ann Green
Gerico Trucking
Darius Hall
Leo and Gwen Hamilton
Jason Hammack
Rosemary Hannie
Catherine Heitma
Chong and Patricia Ho
Daniel Hotard

Donovan and Rose Hudson
Brian and Stephanie Hughes
Kelly Hurtado
Michelle James
Daniel and Jayne Jason
Stephen Juneau
Holli Keller
Corey and Lauren Knotts
Josh and Jessica Langlois
Kent and Vicki LaPlace
Ronald Leo
Logeaux, Inc.
Louisiana Art and Science Museum
Bill and Mimi Macmurdo
Eric and Shelly Madison
Wayne Major
Mary Kathryn Martin
Frank McArthur
Freddie and Victoria McLaurin
Dax and Natalee Menge
Lawrence and Norma Michaud
Betsie Miller
Stan and Charlene Montelaro
James Moore
Stephen and Heather Moret
Maria Morris
Lynn Murphy
Todd and Courtney Newbill
Janna Oetting
James Olsen
Christopher and Barbara Payton
Joshua Pessles
Todd and Jaclyn Peters
Katie Pritchett

Enhance our family-centered approach
provide parent education, behavioral support groups, transition services, and connections to external community services
Matthew Rachleff  
Root Canal Specialists of Baton Rouge  
Randy Roussel  
William and Paige Silvia  
Craig and Annette Simmons  
Robert and Constance Smith  
Mark and Kristen Spring  
St. Francis Medical  
Andy and Theresa St. Romain  
Paul Stephen  
Monty Sullivan  
Ronald and Barbara Thibodeaux  
Suzanne Trahan  
United Way Suncoast - Tampa  
Mac Wampold  
Richard and Rose Mary Williams  
Kay Williamson  
Christie Zeringue  
Michael and Karen Zobrist

Glyn and Paula Bergeron  
Sharon Bethea  
Jeff and Megan Binder  
Brandon Black  
Monte Bonin  
Pam Bordelon  
Paulette Bourgeois  
Mark and Aimee Broussard  
Sarah Brunet  
Barbara Carey  
E. M. and Laura Clark  
Jamie Craig  
Nicholas and Judy Danna, III  
Marilyn Davis  
William and Melissa Devillier  
James and Yolanda Dixon  
B.E.B.E. Facundus  
Michael Ferachi  
Herennet Franklin  
Wanda Gibbs  
Kelly Gieo  
Buck and Fran Gladden  
Eddie Hattier  
Tommy and Teddi Hessburg  
Jan Hilborn  
Yentl Huggar-Cannon  
Mellissa Johnson  
Robert and Judy Jolly  
Gary and Kimberly Jupiter  
Dave Kimball  
Gary Littlefield  
Jennifer Lousteau  
Henry and Dorothy Lowery

Misty Martin-Kemp  
Anice McGill  
Katherine Meyer  
Harriet Miller  
Jennifer Normand  
Sarah Parette  
Chris and Sandy Perfait  
Phyllis Phillips  
Barbara Quirk  
L Ramirez  
Stephanie Riegel  
Tullio Scaffotti  
Elise Scallan  
Charles and Jeannine Schutte  
Leonard and Trish Sedlin  
Phil and Jill Slicker  
Eugene St. Martin  
Sheila Sterling  
Michelle Tassin  
Jeromy Theriot  
Patricia Thompson  
Beth Thompson  
United Way of Southeast Louisiana  
Cristina Weinnig  
Tetine Werlein  
David and Emily Wharton  
Gloria Wiley  
Mary Williams  
Sylvia Windor  
Martha Yancey

“I AM SO THANKFUL FOR EMERGE AND FOR THE LIFE-CHANGING HELP MYLA RECEIVED THERE. ALTHOUGH SHE WAS ONLY THERE FOR TWO YEARS, THE DIFFERENCE THAT WAS MADE WHILE SHE WAS THERE WILL LAST A LIFETIME!”  
— MYLA’S MOM —