

2017



The National Association of Young People Who Stutter

IMPACT REPORT



2018



"Friends is more than support. It represents family."

“ I went to Friends because I wanted to figure out how to deal with my stuttering in the least painful way possible. Instead, Friends showed me how to wield my stuttering as a strength. Every year at Friends I hear strength and courage sound like a hundred different things, and I relearn that the best voices are not the ones that are untroubled but the ones that don't stop trying. ”



Mary McLoughlin

Letter from Lee

What began in 1998 as a group of 30 people coming together in the hope of finding support, has grown into the largest support organization for young people who stutter in the country. Over the past 20 years, we have touched the lives of thousands of young people and their families. None of our success would be possible without the generosity and dedication of so many people.

Today Friends is going stronger than ever, continuing to work towards our founding mission: to instill a sense of empowerment, provide an environment where feelings of isolation disappear, and to grow confidence and self-esteem. Thank you for your help in achieving our goal to reach more children and families, and allow them to experience what other young people who stutter have learned through Friends: that they are not alone.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Caggiano". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lee" and last name "Caggiano" clearly distinguishable.

Founder, Executive Director

Program Growth

2017-2018

One-Day Conferences

A full day of group activities, presentations, & panels.

Children, teens, siblings, parents, and speech-language pathologists attend workshops geared toward them.

Annual Convention

A 3-day immersive experience.

Abundant support and information.

Family oriented events, keynote speakers, and workshops for all.

2017

321 + **272** =

One-Day
Conference
Attendees

Annual
Convention
Attendees

593
people touched
by Friends
in 2017

2018*

487 + **250** =

One-Day
Conference
Attendees

Annual
Convention
Attendees

737
people touched
by Friends
in 2018

*Jan.-Sep. 2018

Program Growth

Annual Convention

2017

42

Scholarship
Recipients

2018

65

Scholarship
Recipients

From the moment of arrival at the Friends convention, it became very clear that **our son was not alone** and his feeling of being comfortable was through the roof. The focus was him. He knew it, and we knew it.

”

About scholarships: Friends sets aside funds for families who otherwise may not be able to attend the annual 3-day convention. This covers the cost of registration, 3-night hotel stay, and meals. Friends is dedicated to ensuring that every family is able to attend a convention regardless of financial status.



Program Growth

One-Day Conferences



“Friends has given our son a new sense of hope and a boost to his confidence. He met amazing people who have inspired him to do things that he would have never done before. Our family not only met a lot of courageous young people who stutter, but we also met other parents whose stories are very similar to ours: incredible people who are a wealth of information, who comforted us, and who understood exactly what we are going through.”

Program Growth

One-Day Conferences



Projected Locations for 2019

- 📍 Pittsburgh, PA
- 📍 Philadelphia, PA
- 📍 Raleigh, NC
- 📍 San Francisco, CA
- 📍 Indianapolis, IN
- 📍 Perrysburg, OH
- 📍 New Paltz, NY
- 📍 Seattle, WA

Research

After participating in Friends events, children and teenagers shared that...



They built strong relationships and a sense of community in a safe environment



Hearing and sharing personal stories increased self-acceptance and acceptance of others



Living with stuttering can be hard, but the convention helped normalize stuttering



Collaborative learning facilitated personal growth



Communicative & cognitive changes persisted beyond the convention



Research

Real-life changes witnessed at Friends



Feeling more confident about introducing themselves to a new person



Ordering food at a restaurant, without a parent or friend ordering for them



Finding the strength to ask someone for a date without being stopped by fear of ridicule



Running for student office while bravely and proudly telling their class that they stutter



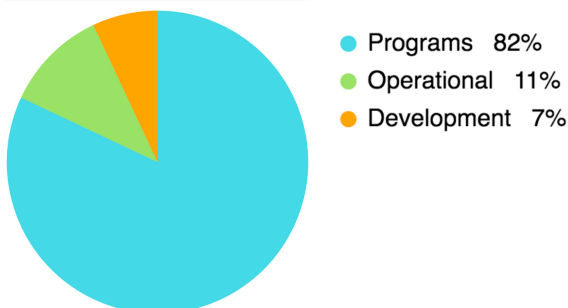
Learning that stuttering does not need to define the course of their lives

Financials

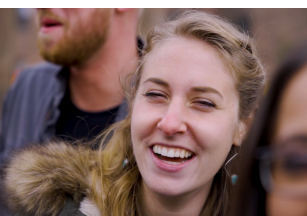
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

	2016	2017
Revenue and Support		
Contributions + grants	\$52,468	\$62,079
Programs	\$53,311	\$57,127
Investment Income	\$54	\$7
TOTAL	\$105,833	\$119,213
Expenses		
Programs	\$75,277	\$88,913
Operational	\$7,204	\$11,634
Development	\$5,761	\$7,839
TOTAL	\$88,242	\$108,386
Change in Net Assets	\$17,591	\$10,827
Net Assets - Beginning of year	\$43,109	\$60,700
Net Assets - End of year	\$60,700	\$71,527

2017 ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES



Vision for 2019



In 2019, we plan to reach more children and provide more continuous support by increasing the number of one day conferences, broadening locations of one-day conferences, and repeating our presence in certain cities. We will increase public awareness about stuttering and reach out to children who stutter in various school districts by developing and implementing a stuttering awareness program and anti-stigma program.





If you stutter, you have FRIENDS

www.friendswhostutter.org