

Welcome

The past year was filled with exciting new developments as we continued to grow our programs and services and establish ITA as a leading provider of creative arts therapy. We hired our first Development Manager which allowed us to host five different fundraising events including a large celebration at the Levy Center last April where we honored retiring Evanston Mayor, Elizabeth Tisdahl, and neurologic music therapy pioneer, Dr. Michael Thaut.

We continue to expand our network and grow the number of generous individuals who financially support ITA allowing us to serve clients of all income levels. When we became displaced for the entire summer after a pipe burst and flooded our entire clinic, our community members came together to show their support. Together we raised over \$58,000 through our first Capital Campaign. These funds allowed us to relocate our offices and fully furnish a new space much more suited for art making and the unique individuals we serve.

I could not be more grateful for your support and all we have achieved together in the two short years since ITA became an independent organization. We have great momentum amongst our staff and Board of Directors and are committed now more than ever to bring the creative arts therapies into the lives of those most in need. With your support, we are able to provide opportunities to CREATE, GROW and HEAL.

-Jenni Rook, ITA Executive Director Looking back at the last year, our focus was really on moving forward. The Institute for Therapy through the Arts (ITA) has a strong vision for the future which was outlined this last fiscal year in a successful strategic planning process, led by the Strategic Planning committee of the Board of Directors. It is the first independent strategic plan developed by ITA, and the process sparked energy and hope among stakeholders.

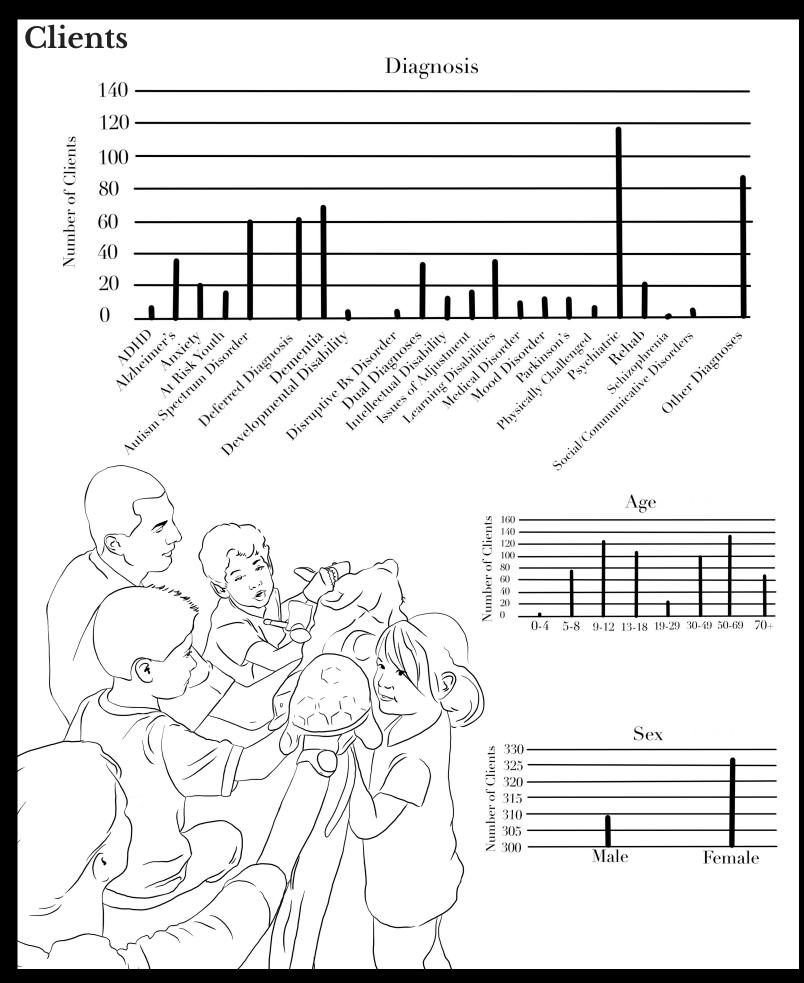
A series of focus group discussions concentrated on the question, "What does success at ITA look like?" In addition, The Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool (OCAT) was sent out to a larger network of stakeholders to help assess ITA's operational capacity and identify strengths and areas for improvement. A culminating session among members of the advisory council, board and staff reviewed this information and began putting ideas together. This laid the groundwork for a volunteer from Taproot Foundation to develop a 3-year plan which was officially adopted at the spring meeting of the Board of Directors. The major themes in the strategic plan include: developing an active community presence,

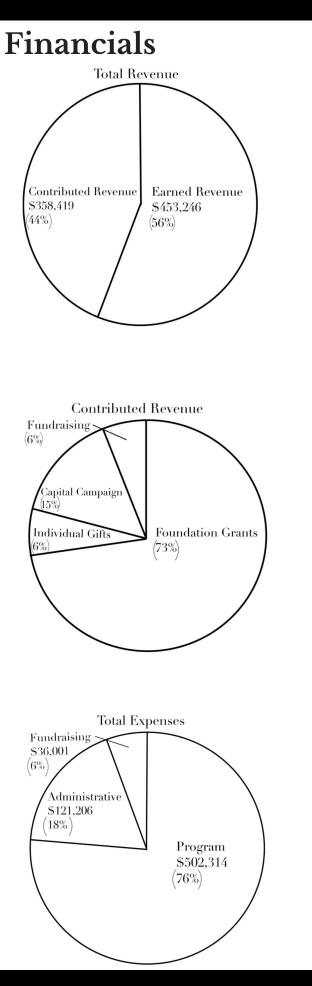
establishing a strong organizational identity, promoting a people-focused organization, and flourishing with stable business operations. Some of the strategic goals include growing our annual creative arts therapy conference, defining best practices in creative arts therapy, exploring the possibility of positioning ITA as a research institution, and cross training the leadership team in business practices through board engagement.

As I reflect on the process and the work that went into it, I'm struck by the passion and strength of the ITA team and the people who support us.

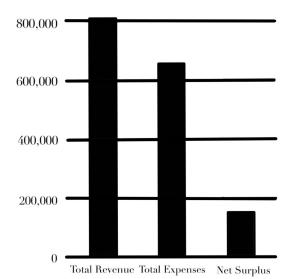
Looking toward the future, I see ongoing success for ITA, but more importantly, I see increased opportunities for people to have their lives changed through the creative arts therapies.

> -Sarah Wiemeyer, ITA Board Chair









The large net surplus is a result of funds raised in 2017 that will be spent in future years. This includes a multi-year pledge and money raised through the Capital Campaign for ITA's relocation.

Achievements

2017 Fundraiser

Evanston's retiring mayor, Elizabeth Beidler Tisdahl, and University of Toronto Neuroscience Professor, Dr. Michael Thaut, were acknowledged for their outstanding professional contributions on April 28, 2017 at the Institute for Therapy through the Arts' first annual celebration: Rooted in the Arts. The event marked a brand-new milestone for ITA fundraising efforts.

Capital Campaign

Early in summer 2017, the Institute for Therapy through the Arts announced its impending fall move to 2130 Green Bay Road in Evanston via an open letter from Executive Director Jenni Rook. By way of the 2017 Capital Campaign, ITA raised more than \$58,000 to fund the relocation and fully furnish a new clinic.



Mayor Elizabeth Beidler Tisdahl (Right) Christian Farr, Fundraiser Emcee (Left)

Community

Board Members

Sarah Wiemeyer, Chair Tracy Canter, Vice Chair James Grutsch, Treasurer Jill Calian, Secretary Karen Baumann Borna Bonakdarpour, MD Leslie Chamberlain Elizabeth Richman Marilyn "Toddy" Richman Ginny Trainor

Advisory Council Members

Ed Bidanset Matt Bodett Marian Casey Dr. Leora Cherney Catherine Cooper Dr. Jacqueline Duke Dr. Steven Hanus Susan Imus Dr. Priya Mhatre Howard Sitron

Mission Statement

Empowering individuals, families and communities to grow and heal through advanced approaches in Creative Arts Therapy, setting the standard for treatment, practice, and training within the field.

> Members of the ITA Board of Directors with Jenni Rook

Supporters

Individuals

Gershen Abraham Leonard and Phyllis Adams Geralyn Alesauskas Robert Alfajora Holly Allen Michael Allen Ann Angel Nicole Avadek Anne and Thomas Badagliacco Betsy and Bill Baker John Baker Karen and Mark Baumann Cliff Barber Victoria Bedford Natasha and Benjamin Berman Alicia Berneche and Ben Mueller Edward Bidanset Kellye Blosser Laura Blye Borna and Leisl Bonakdarpour-Jaberg Amber Bond Anonymous Cassie Brooks and Sumit Sengupta JoAnn and Dale Brown Bethany Brownholtz Kathleen Byrne Jill and Philip Calian Susan Canter Tracy and Michael Canter Catherine Carpenter Carl Chadek Michael Cohen and Lisa Goldberg Catherine Cooper and Marshall Greenwald Max Dayan Richard Dayan Ralph DePasquale Matt Dinerstein Craig Weldon Duff Jay Einhorn Roberta Ellerman and John Goodall Rob Exposito and Cheryl Pape Elyse Fineman and Adam Zoll Mary and Paul Finnegan Sara Flately Meghan Fox Sarah Ghantous **John Gilchrist** Therese Glascott Leslee and Morrie Goldman Ben Gorvine Barcy Grauer Robin Grauer

Jamee Greenberg Miriam Greenblatt James and Katie Grutsch Stephen Hagerty Jeff Head Jon Hilkevitch and Judith Pardonnet Mark Halko Judy and Bob Holstein Edward and Constance Horner Nikki Horrel Heath Howe Laurie Howick Barbara "Bonnie" Ida Barbara Jane Irwin Jason Jacobsohn Randy and Colleen Kadlec Maybelle Kim Nancy and Mark Kisicki **Richelle Kroening** Adina Levi Nancy Lindauer-Sarne and David Sarne Nancy Link Vicki Logan Jack Luft Chad and Leslie Luning Bill Manago Tracy McCormick Lois Melvoin Priya Mhatre Mary Militello **Eugene Mitchell** Alexandra and John Nichols Kerri and Bob Oakes Robert Pasquesi John and Betsey Puth Tom and Kathy Reed Daniel Richman Marilyn "Toddy" Richman Catherine Rook Cathy and John Rook Jenni Rook and Jeff Peterson Dr. Joseph Rook William and Magdelena Rook Abi Rosen Dr. Marni Rosen and Dr. Elie Saltzman Gloria Rosenbaum Barbara Rubenstein Brooke Rutstein Daniel Sandlin Gary Savine Elizabeth Sayrs **Jill Schacter** Joan Schneider

Julie Schrager Colleen Scroll Alexandra Piper and Jonathan Seed Ann Sickon Howard and Debra Sitron Carol Sokol Howard and Rachel Spiro Virginia and Steven Stapleton Christine Statkiewicz Barnard and Nancy Straus Matt and Susan Struve David and Carol Stone Pam Swick Elizabeth Beidler Tisdahl William Topaz David Tucci Ginny Trainor Dennis Trautvetter Jennifer Viets Sarah Wiemeyer Chris and Rebecca Wiesland Carmen Wilcox Conrad and Julia Winkler Keryn Wouden Jessica Young

Foundations

Chicago Community Trust Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust Evanston Community Foundation North End Mother's Club

Businesses

Anton's Greenhouse **Benefit Cosmetics Boutique** Bespoke Commercial Real Estate The Collage Cafe Dance Center Evanston Egea Spa Farmhouse Evanston LYFE Kitchen The Musical Offering Northlight Theatre Company Notice Old Town School of Music Panino's at Evanston Plaza Sky Nails and Spa Smylie Brothers Brewing Co. Solem Oath Brewery Steppenwolf Theatre Company The Spice & Tea Exchange of Evanston Taco Diablo Troubadour Music Company

A very generous member of our community has chosen to give to ITA anonymously for more than six years. This person has contributed greatly to ITA's achievements and recent relocation and has also shared advice, support and talents throughout a major transition. We would like to express our deep gratitude for the many acts of kindness and the confidence this donor has shown in our organization and in our work.