

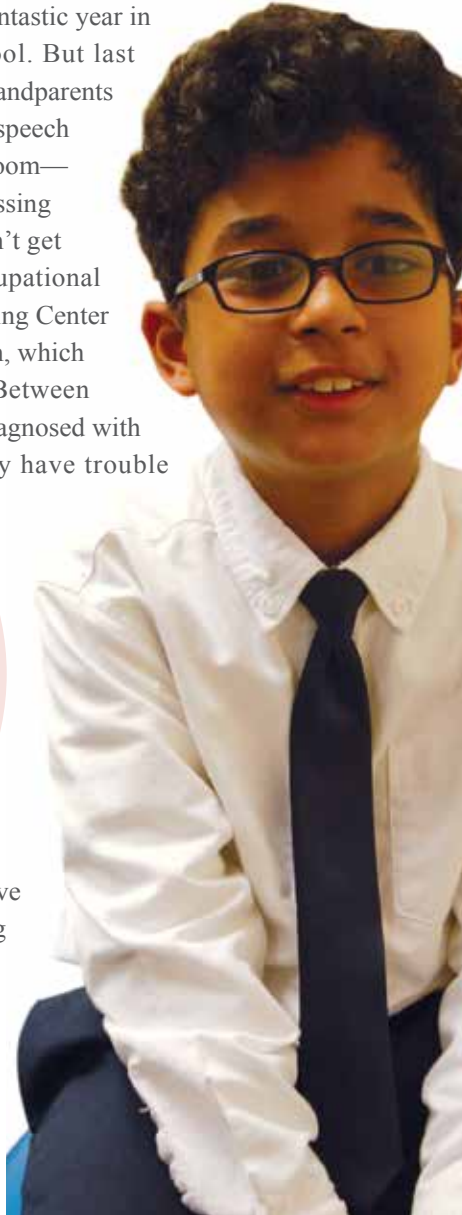
Isaiah

Because with your gift, children like Isaiah will never miss another recess.

What motivates Isaiah? Outdoor Recess. “If you can’t get your seat work done, then you can’t go out for recess. I couldn’t get anything done. I never got to go out for recess.” Isaiah is having a fantastic year in third grade at a local preparatory school. But last year was another story. He and his grandparents tell us that it wasn’t just his apraxia of speech that presented a challenge in the classroom—he had frustrations with his slow processing speed and handwriting. He “just couldn’t get his work done.” That’s when his Occupational Therapist at Columbus Speech & Hearing Center was able to treat him for incoordination, which affects his motor skill development. Between 5-8% of all school aged children are diagnosed with incoordination, which means that they have trouble planning and completing motor tasks.

To help Isaiah succeed in the classroom, Occupational Therapists work with him on gross and fine motor skills.

Just recently, Isaiah started Interactive Metronome in OT that has been effective in improving his timing and sequencing to increase his writing speed. With the help of OT services, he can get where he needs to be—successful and confident in the classroom—so that he can be out on the playground every day!



Murari

Because with your gift, a stroke survivor is able to find meaningful work in his community.

Murari, a PhD in Biochemistry, was living life to its fullest. A published research scientist in his field of study, Murari and his wife were so proud of their two sons (one at Harvard and one at MIT), and he was looking forward to retiring someday from a major university. His world changed forever when a stroke in 2001 left him paralyzed on one side of his body and unemployed. How would he ever get back to a “normal” life on the job? Columbus Speech & Hearing Center’s Vocational Rehabilitation Program has been working with him for the last few years on answering that particular question. At this writing, Murari is working at the Clintonville Resource Center. His supervisor remarks that he is one of their best employees and that the quality of his work is superior in every way and that he is a joy to be around.

Make a gift today!
Why?
Because your gift matters.

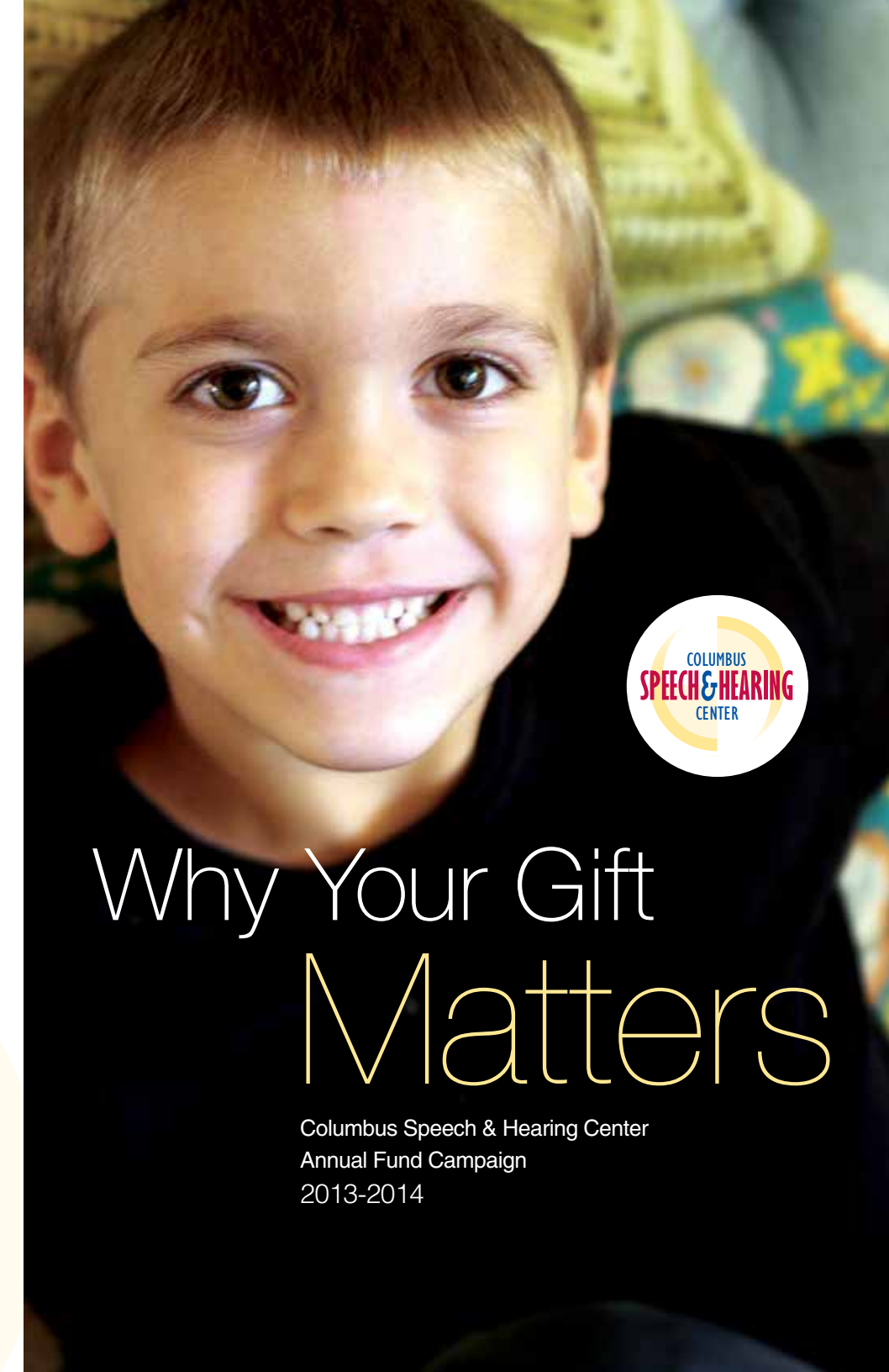
Make your gift online!
www.columbuspeech.org

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Resource Development Department
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Columbus Ohio 43214
(614) 261-5413

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Why Your Gift Matters

Columbus Speech & Hearing Center
Annual Fund Campaign
2013-2014

Lucian

Because with your gift, children like Lucian will overcome significant speech delays and enter Kindergarten with no additional supports.

At 12 months, Lucian passed many of the milestones of most children. He crawled and walked early, and began cooing and speaking in a baby-talk. But as Lucian neared the age of two, the babble, although incessant and earnestly made throughout the day, never became understandable, not even to his two older siblings. At 2 years of age, he only spoke 2 or 3 words that were comprehended by his mother. Despite the fact that he lived in a house full of siblings and two parents, Lucian was utterly alone. According to his mother, “He was untrusting of all of us because he was nonverbal and felt isolated and misunderstood. He lashed out at his family. He would ‘give up’ trying to play with other children because no one understood him. He was initially sad, but then became frustrated and quite angry.”

Lucian was diagnosed at the age of two with speech delays – and he wasn’t an ideal client at first - he was nervous and didn’t trust anyone, let alone a complete stranger in an unfamiliar building. Although his mind was full of thoughts that he desperately wanted to express, his weak tongue made it impossible for him to form any words. But Lucian’s speech therapist wouldn’t give up on him. She worked until she found a way to get him to trust her – and once that barrier came down, the real progress could begin. But even as his speech made dramatic improvements, his self-confidence and love of learning truly didn’t appear until he attended the BOOST preschool program. As a four year old, he didn’t show any interest in letters or numbers as his siblings did. His mother remarks, “Within just one week of attending, he went from complete indifference to coming home and telling me all about his numbers and letters and how excited he was to have ‘homework.’”

The individualized attention he received in the classroom helped him feel so accomplished.



Today he is flourishing in Kindergarten with no extra supports. “Columbus Speech & Hearing Center became a place that we looked forward to coming to for our weekly sessions and then later also for preschool. Now he attends school with his brother and sister, and he comes home telling us stories about the day and about new friends that he is making. Our family dynamic has completely changed. He plays with his four siblings (including a new baby sister!) and can fully participate in family activities because all of his behavioral problems vanished when he began to be able to communicate with us.

He just wanted to talk and be understood like everyone else. Now he does.

Rilyn

Because with your gift, hearing impaired children like Rilyn will improve dramatically in school and their self-confidence will blossom.

Rilyn was diagnosed at the age of 10 with moderate, permanent hearing loss in both ears. Her mother always sensed that something wasn’t quite right with her quiet middle daughter, but was never given any real answers or solutions until she was referred to the Columbus Speech & Hearing Center Audiology department. Her hearing loss made her isolated and unwilling to go to school. Even when she went, she interacted very little with other kids and often sat alone on the playground. After Rilyn’s diagnosis, she was fitted for hearing aids, and her whole world changed. Suddenly, Rilyn could hear - everything from dinnertime conversations to what her teacher was saying in the classroom. Her grades, always a struggle before, went from Ds and Fs to As and Bs. And last month she won the Good Student Award - chosen by the school board for those students who exemplify academic achievement, citizenship and attendance. Her self-esteem now soaring and her grades dramatically improved, Rilyn is beginning to make friends and try new activities both in and out of the classroom. She has discovered that she loves music (all kinds - everything from New Age to Country) and that she likes to sing and has joined the basketball team at school. She has also become empathetic to her peers who have learning differences, and has started helping her siblings do chores around the house. According to her mother -



it has changed every aspect of my 11 year old’s life. We are so grateful to Columbus Speech & Hearing Center.