move: (v.) to progress, to go forward, to exhibit great activity or energy.
Dear Friends,

**Movement.** ABC of NC has been on the move since our founding in 2002. We’ve evolved from three itinerant therapists working out of the trunks of cars to a full-service school and psychological clinic serving over 330 individuals with autism per year. And now we’re prepared for our biggest expansion yet as we move to our new location and raise funds to build an innovative, comprehensive autism campus.

We see growth in our programs through evolving research and collaborations while our community moves towards greater awareness of autism and its impact on individuals and families. Advocacy efforts have led to clear progress towards inclusion and acceptance. And with the recent passage of statewide autism insurance legislation, we see movement towards greater access to services.

Our committed staff, volunteers and donors have been a part of this dramatic expansion since the beginning. A heartfelt thank you for helping us continue our remarkable forward movement.

–Felice Brenner  
*Chair, Board of Directors*
This year, we’re on the move.

After more than eight years of leasing space on Old Vineyard Road, ABC of NC purchased an existing school building and more than seven acres of land at 905 Friedberg Church Road, Winston-Salem. With renovations, we will continue serving area families who rely on ABC of NC for clinical services and as a non-public school alternative for their children with autism. And, the expansive acreage provides room to grow as we embark on a $5 million capital campaign in 2016.

Our new campus will offer a world of possibility:

- A cutting-edge clinical building to expand existing psychological services; support new therapeutic programming; establish labs for functional living skills and career/vocational training; and create distraction-free therapy suites for one-to-one insurance-funded behavioral intervention services.

- A multi-purpose gym/auditorium for physical activity and space for performances and workshops.

- Natural-environment play areas for children to explore the world.

- An endowment to ensure the long-term sustainability of the organization.
This year, we moved mountains.

Autism Insurance Reform

105 miles. That’s how far it is from Winston-Salem to the State Capitol, a trip made many times by ABC of NC’s staff, board of directors, and committed families as we worked tirelessly with other autism organizations to advocate for autism insurance reform. For far too long, autism families in North Carolina have lacked access to critical, medically necessary behavioral interventions. We can finally celebrate that state legislators passed autism insurance legislation early this fall. The bill, which becomes effective July 1, 2016, will require health insurance companies to cover critical therapies for thousands of North Carolina families with a child with autism.
During Autism Awareness Month (April), Winston-Salem demonstrated its support for the autism community by literally — and figuratively — shining a light on the developmental disability by illuminating the city’s most iconic buildings and landmarks. ABC of NC was the driving force behind bringing the campaign to the Twin Cities in 2014, and we went bigger and bluer in 2015! Through the Light It Up Blue campaign, we raise awareness, understanding, and acceptance; and increase community knowledge about autism while reinforcing the importance of early diagnosis and early intervention.
Two years ago, ABC of NC expanded its mission and services to add a diagnostic and therapeutic clinic to its educational facility. The Autism Clinic, accepting both private health insurance and Medicaid, provides diagnostic services, psychological reevaluations, and therapeutic interventions that serve the unique needs of individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. Since opening its doors, more than 300 families—from 14 counties—have accessed the clinic’s specialized services. In 2014–15, the Autism Clinic saw a dramatic increase in the number of families receiving 1:1 ABA therapy services.

In 2014–15, The Autism Clinic served 207 children, a 95% increase over the previous year.

“My son John (‘Perk’) was diagnosed with autism at 21 months. Through a providential series of events, we found ABC of NC. Perk began with 15 hours a week of in-home ABA therapy and slowly built up to 30 hours. In those days, the movement forward felt so slow. Perk is now 14. His speech is stilted, and he fluctuates between non-stop and no talking depending on the topic. He doesn’t make much eye contact, and he’s not always sure how to respond in social situations. Yet, he’s come so very far.

“At Perk’s seventh grade awards ceremony, I waited anxiously to hear his name announced for ‘A-Honor Roll,’ an achievement of
“We spent years visiting professional after professional, and undergoing screening after screening. All the while, our son continued to have problematic behaviors that affected him at home, at school, and in the community,” said one mother.

“It wasn’t until we found ABC of NC’s Autism Clinic that we found the answers we were searching for and the support we so desperately needed. We were finally able to move the ball forward.”

which we were so proud. But then, the vice principal began to read familiar comments about the Student of the Year award recipient. I couldn’t believe it as I heard ‘John Steele’ announced as the winner.

“In Perk, as in everyone, the other side of his greatest weakness is his greatest strength. Perk’s autism may be his greatest challenge, but it’s also the key to his most amazing gifts. And, to take away the autism would make him, well, less exceptional. We discovered this first at ABC of NC and we adiscovered it again at a seventh grade awards ceremony.”
This year, we moved deeper into the community.

**Riverwood Therapeutic Riding Center**

In 2014, ABC of NC partnered with Riverwood Therapeutic Riding Center to bring equine and farm-based learning to participants in ABC of NC’s summer program. We later expanded this initiative through a generous grant from Autism Speaks. The collaboration between the two organizations has resulted in strengthened ties and a commitment to sharing knowledge, skills and expertise to more effectively serve children with autism.

**Young Champions Adaptive Martial Arts**

For many children with autism, “typical” extracurricular activities may be out of reach due to behavioral, sensory, communication, and social challenges. ABC of NC, in collaboration with Young Champions of America, began a developmentally tailored, adaptive martial arts program for children with autism spectrum disorders and their neurotypical siblings.
Forsyth Tech Paraprofessional Class

ABC of NC continued its multi-year collaboration with Forsyth Technical Community College for the Autism Paraprofessional course. The course introduces paraprofessionals to evidence-based practices, building the field and scope of autism workers in our community and establishing a sustainable and permanent contribution to the field of autism services.

Public School Partnerships

In 2012, through the generosity of the Pratt Family Foundation, ABC of NC began providing autism specific trainings and consultative services to educators in Guilford County Schools. Funding the following year from the Reynolds American Foundation allowed us to extend this work to three other public school districts. This work continues today and widens our reach into additional counties.

1 in 3

Nearly one out of every three classrooms in the U.S. has a student on the spectrum. And with rates of autism diagnoses growing, that number is only going to increase. That’s why it’s critical to make sure children with autism — along with their families and teachers — have the support they need in the classroom.

–Autism Speaks (2015)
This year, we moved hearts to give.

Gourmet Lunchbox Luncheon

Through our annual Gourmet Lunchbox Lunch, we bring together caring members of the community and raise much needed funds to advance our mission, most notably our vital financial aid program. The 2014 luncheon featured Pulitzer Prize winner, Ron Suskind, author of *Life, Animated: A Story of Sidekicks, Heroes, and Autism*. In *Life, Animated*, Suskind writes “Each person’s chosen affinity, their passion, no matter what it is, can be a pathway to reach them.” We couldn’t have said it better ourselves!

Lisa first came to ABC of NC to attend the 2013 summer program after a challenging year in public school. She found such success during that first summer that her parents enrolled her, with the help of ABC of NC’s financial aid program, in the school for the following academic year. Two years later, she is ready to return to her community school.

$1,800,000

We have awarded more than $1.8 million in financial aid over the past ten years.

$278,623

In 2014–15, we awarded $278,623 in financial aid, a 28% increase over the previous year.
Modern Toyota Golf Classic

Fore! In 2014, Modern Toyota named ABC of NC as the beneficiary of its long-standing golf classic. The first tournament, held in September, was such a success that we hit the links again in May. The tournaments raised much needed unrestricted funding, but more importantly, they raised awareness. Each hole featured information about autism and its impacts on children, families, and our community. Attendees experienced a wonderful day on the green and were reminded—with every drive and putt—why this round of golf was special.

“We knew that ABC of NC was the right place for Lisa, but financially, it was out of reach for our family. It has been amazing to watch her transformation. She learned how to better manage some of her more challenging behaviors, and has, seemingly for the first time, developed friendships with peers. ABC of NC has given Lisa skills to draw upon, skills that will serve her well as she transitions back into our neighborhood school. Thank you so much for making this possible for Lisa!” –Paul, Lisa’s Father
In 2015, ABC of NC graduated its first student. Below is an excerpt of the speech given by ABC of NC’s executive director, Selene Johnson, at his commencement:

“Kirby, I am so proud of all you have accomplished. I remember the day we met—you sat on the floor, unwilling to move from your ‘safe spot.’ Some years later, one of my proudest moments was watching you independently ride your bike around the block—chasing you faster and faster as you pedaled harder than I ever imagined you would—that little boy who wasn’t even motivated to move on the first day we met.

“And now, you are ready to move into the world. You take with you your joyful spirit, unadulterated enthusiasm, and contagious smile.

“Our doors are always open to you as we wish you all the best on the rest of your life’s journey!”
STAFF & SUPPORTERS

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Selene Johnson, M. Ed., BCBA
Executive Director
Kelly C. O’Laughlin, Psy. D, MT-BC
Psychologist
Angela Pesenti
Director of Finance
Casey Raymer
Director of Development
Brabara Stockfish
Director of Operations
Christie Ragan
Clinic Office Manager
Maria Sink, LPA
Psychological Associate
Drew Coulter
Accounting Assistant

SENIOR PROGRAM STAFF
Cindy Andree Bowen, BCBA, ITFS
Lizzy Donovan, BCaBA
Stephanie Holladay, BCaBA, ITFS
Kristin Toruno, BCBA

GOURMET LUNCHBOX
2014 TABLE CAPTAINS
Susie Andrus
Melanie Adams
Jan Badger
Tom and Meredith Boylan
Richard and Felice Brenner
Brent and Allison Brewer
John and Mary Louise Burress
Dori Colly
Lisa Cornelser
Charles Corpening
Chip and Shea Crutchfield
Sherrise Pain
West and Jeni Fowler
Omnia and Jennifer Fowler
David and Libby Freedman
Harvey Freeman
Allison Greene
Rob Hirshsteiner
Kim Hobi
Alleta Johnson
Selene Johnson
Scott and Mary Jones
Whitney Jones
Dick and Ellen Joyce
Tammy Kinney
Jennifer Knight
Darryl Marsch and Laura Laylx
Elizabeth Marley
Vonda Marlow
Alan and Beverly Moore
Lee and Casey Raymer
Stephanie Reitz
Kyle and Bobbie Robinson
Andy Schneider
Ken Steele
Carolyn Strickland
Jim Toole
Jodi Turner
Claire Tuttle
Missie Vaughan
Toni Walker
Katherine White
Debbie Wittenberg

INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPORT STAFF
Cindy Barrett
Lindsay Bell
Kris Blow
Kelly Bunch
Kristen Carter-Jackson
Traci Clayton
Brittany Cook
Courtney Fox
Mike Erickson
Katie Frank
Ted Giordano
Mary Keiger
Anna Klene
Paige Leatherman
Randi Lucas
Vilia McClureen
Shundra McLaurin
Becky Payton
Amanda Rosemann
Alex Russell
Leigh Ellen Spencer
Manasia Sturdivant
Gabbi Turver
Kelsie Vaughn

INTERNS AND PRACTICUM STUDENTS
Salem College
Briana Lewis

University of North Carolina Greensboro
Terisita Calderon
Desiree Cooper
Sabrien Gauther
Kendall Tokaly

Wake Forest University
Hannah Athey
Samantha Boesch
Ashlyn Brong
Alex Patron
Kate Zappoth

Winston-Salem State University
Shaniqua Columbus
Michael Gray
Asia Harris-Moyer
Brittany Izer
Laura Langill
Danielle Latoni
Amanda Lazaro
Telia Lockhart
Katiebeth Mailleue
Shannon Meyerhoff
Deanna Payne
Rosa Pena
Christina Pyle
Thomas Resper
Carli Stanley
Carrie Starling
Holly Swarthwood
Gena Stazel
Anya Tilly
Rebecca Thompson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: ABC OF NC
Melanie Adams, M.D.
Thomas Adams
Felice Brenner, Chair
Richard Brenner
John Burress
Dori Colly
Carol Kirby
Kurt Klinepeter, M.D.
Darryl Marsch
Emily Nesse
David Shapiro
Ken Steele
Debbie Wittenberg

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: ABC OF NC FOUNDATION
Felice Brenner
Richard Brenner
Simpson O. (Skip) Brown, Jr.
John Burress
Allan Burrows
Lisa Carter
Selene Johnson
Emily Nesse
Stephanie Reitz
John L. Ruffin
Ken Steele, Chair
Randall Tuttle
Debbie Wittenberg

VOLUNTEERS
Sandra Belmont
Lynn Biggam
Dori Colly
Eric Davis
Ines Earl
Zach Gordon
Megan Hauser
Mya Johnson
Chandler Marlow
Kate Mchalek
Merritt Orr
Audrey Patrick
Dominique Patrick
Rachel Piazza
Gretchen Preheim
Paul Totherow
Lauren Turner
Allison Williams
Robin Woodward

ABC of NC makes every attempt to publish a complete list of donors and volunteers. Please contact us with any additions, deletions or other changes.
DONORS

BEST FRIENDS ($25,000+)
Ann Brenner
Richard and Felise Brenner
John and Mary Louise Burress

GOOD FRIENDS ($10,000+)
BlackHorse Studios (NC)
The Duchossois
Family Foundation
Hatteras Financial Corporation
Modern Toyota
Scott Pope/L.E. Pope Building Co., Inc.
ShapiroWalker Design (NC)
Wake Forest Baptist
Medical Center
Tyles and Pat Wilson
Lawrence M. and Sally Wolfish

COMPANIONS ($5,000+)
Autotrader
Mike and Wendy Brenner
Cars.com
Dealer.com
Dealerstrack Technologies
Fisher DeBerry Foundation
Glenn Family Foundation
Jim Moran & Associates, Inc.
John and Grace McKinnon
Juniors of America
Daniel and Colleen Siadak
Michael Stinnett and Amy Pope Stinnett
Randall and Claire Tuttle
Denny and Cheryl Walker

BUDDIES ($2,500+)
Android
Mike and Wendy Brenner
Cars.com
Dealer.com
Dealerstrack Technologies
Fisher DeBerry Foundation
Glenn Family Foundation
Jim Moran & Associates, Inc.
John and Grace McKinnon
Juniors of America
Daniel and Colleen Siadak
Michael Stinnett and Amy Pope Stinnett
Randall and Claire Tuttle
Denny and Cheryl Walker

SUPPORTERS
Kent and Donna Adams
Melanie Adams
David R. Ahles
John G. Albertini, MD
Craig and Meg Alden
Chuck and Susie Alt
Terrance and Barbara Andree (NC)
Richard and Susie Andrews
David and Julia Archer
Keith and Becky Arnott
Genevieve Athens (NC)
Auto Supply Co.
Michael and Deanna Avent
Mitchell Avent
Bud and Stella Arvett
Bill and Kay Baldridge
Bill and Pam Ball
Sylvia Barkley
Scott and Debbie Barkow
Brooke Barnard
Ken and Julie Barsky
Michael Batalia and Gina Stewart
Dixie C. Baughn
Christine Beaman
Michael and Lori Beck
Greg Beier
Tim and Sarah Belk
Richard and Sandra Belmont
Donna Bembnister
Mike and Barbara Berry
Grace Billings
John R. Blacklock
Jonathan and Kristie Blanco
Edwin and Rosalie Bland
Steven and Linda Block
Art and Mindy Bloom
Guy M. Blynn
Bookmarks
Christopher and Catherine Boss
Bordon and Ann Hanes
Robert and Judy Breakstone
Frasco Brenner
Jimmy and Grace Broughton
Cassandra L. Brown
Henrietta Brown
Beth Bryant
Keith and Dana Bryson
Donna Burr
Richard and Brooke Burr
Casey Cadiente
Paul and Margaret Campbell
Rita Capps
Greg and Lisa Carter
Stephanie Cartwright
Scott and Greer Cawood
Gary Dwane Chambers
David Chapman
Pauline Chapman
Todd and Becca Chase
Jennifer Chatham
Elisabeth Church
Gail Citron
Dave and Catherine Clawson
Leonard Klein
Michelle Coates
Vivian Lam Coates
Marylou Coe
Gail Cohen
Christian and Amber Collo
Lisa Colvard
Heath Combs and Ginger Hendricks
Mark and Susan Conger
Thomas and Jocelyn Connors
Shanta Conrad
Donald and A. Cook
Alyson Cooke
Tim and Kate Cooper
Deborah Cornatzer
Robert and Lisa Cornatzer
George and Mary Cosentino
Christopher Cotia
Jesse Coté
Jim and Mary Corviello
Stephen Crawford
Peggy Crutchfield
John and Sarah Dalena
John and Carol Danforth
Betty Wiseman
Kristina Deutsch
Dewey’s Bakery (NC)
Douglass and Rosena Dillard
Paige Dillon
Victor and Terri Dillon
Daniel and Ellen Dolan
Kristin Douglas
Kirstin Downie
Robert and Andrea Duggins
Mike and Elyse Edwards
Kimberly Efrid (NC)
Grady and Kristine Elliott
Terry Elliott

PAALS ($1,000+)
Greg and Missie Alcorn
John Babcock and Emily Neede
Barefoot Transportation (NC)
BB&T
Black Rock Financial Management, Inc
Allan and Laura Burrows
Carl Parrish Law PLLC
Hudnall and Claire Christopher
Cynthia and David Daggett
Deutsche Bank, Conspening Group
Thomas and Mary Lee Douglas
Edmunds
Barry and Lynn Eisenberg
Larry and Mindy Feinsteine
Colin and Libby Gallahan
William H. Gifford, Jr. and Jodi Turner
Paul and Jennifer Grosswald
Highland Presbyterian Church
Scott T. Horn
Bill Johnson
Arthur and Suzy Kurtz
Jon and Dana Kurtz
Gilmour and Nancy Lake
Darryl Marsch and Laura Luykx
John and Wendy Miss
Zach and Anna Miller
Shawn and Tamera O’Rien
John and Cyndy O’Hara
Gary and Marian O’Neal
Laney and Merritt Orr
Primo Water
Lee and Casey Raymer
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice
RockTenn
John Setzer
Southeast Toyota Distributors, LLC
Kenneth A. Steele
Thomas and Kay Stocking
John and Peggy Taylor
TaylorMade (NC)
Time Warner Cable
Media Services
Triad Networking and
Computers (NC)
Truant Federal Credit Union
Trust Company of the South
Wells Fargo Bank
Winston-Salem Rotary
Benevolent Fund
Michael and Debbie Wittenberg
World Omni Financial
VISION

Our vision is that all people living with autism spectrum disorder reach their full potential in a world where they are valued, accepted, and included.

MISSION

To provide high-quality, evidence-based diagnostic, therapeutic, and educational services to people with autism spectrum disorder; to ensure service accessibility to individuals from any economic background; to offer support and hope to families; and to advocate for inclusion and acceptance.

ABC of NC Child Development Center
905 Friedberg Church Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27127

www.abcofnc.org  |  (336) 251-1180