

## FEAT OF LOUISVILLE, INC. 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

<b>Families for Effective Autism Treatment of Louisville, Inc. 1100 East Market Street Louisville, KY 40206</b>	<b>Phone: 502-596-1258 Fax: 502-253-0758</b>	Website: <a href="http://www.featoflouisville.org">www.featoflouisville.org</a>
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### **Mission Statement**

*FEAT of Louisville, Inc. is dedicated to easing the autism journey, through a network created for families by families, by providing ongoing support, education, programs, and resources.*

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This has been a busy year for us with the continuation of our family support, programs and advocacy efforts. As a relatively small non-profit made up of primarily volunteers, FEAT relies on its collaborative efforts with other agencies in the community to design and deliver many of its programs. FEAT truly exemplifies a collaborative spirit within the community and as a result, many of our families are receiving much needed support and programming for themselves and their children, including:

- ◆ **Monthly Support Meetings** – In addition to offering informative speakers, these meetings provide an opportunity to meet others on the autism journey. Speaker topics include community services, treatment and therapy options, educational rights, transitioning into teenage years and adulthood, legislative issues, etc. Meetings support our membership which includes approximately 240 families.
- ◆ **Conferences** – FEAT hosts conferences, featuring nationally known autism specialists, to keep our community abreast of the latest information regarding various aspects of treatment.
- ◆ **Social Outings** – FEAT hosts social outings for children with autism and their families. Outings are designed to be non-stressful and fun and to provide opportunities for social interaction. Outings include exclusive movie viewings, gym play times, bowling, swimming and holiday parties.
- ◆ **Respite** – FEAT assists families in finding respite workers, many of whom are college students from Spalding University and Bellarmine College who are majoring in education, psychology, nursing, speech therapy or occupational therapy.
- ◆ **Endeavor Program** – This collaborative program with Carriage House Educational Services provides a specialized method for developing the verbal, social, emotional, and self-help skills required for younger children with autism to become successful when placed in a typical preschool or elementary school classroom. Many of the children entering the program have limited or no communication skills and maladaptive behaviors which have the potential to cause a major disruption in large, typical school settings. The Endeavor Program is based on the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) model, which the Surgeon General recommends as the most

successful teaching method for children with autism. The skills learned in the Endeavor Program increase school readiness for young children with autism.

- ◆ ***Dreams in Motion*** – This therapeutic and recreational summer camp for teens/young adults with autism is a collaborative effort with FEAT and Dreams with Wings. The program offers onsite and community-based life skill activities as well as enjoyable summer outings.
- ◆ ***Getting Our FEAT Wet*** – In collaboration with All About Kids, children with autism learn to swim with one-on-one instruction. The program improves the health of the children by teaching them the lifelong skill of swimming, which will provide them not only with enjoyment, but also with the means for physical exercise.
- ◆ ***The Opportunity to Play Sports (TOPS) programs at the Northeast YMCA*** – FEAT parents volunteer with the various special needs teams at the Northeast YMCA including basketball, t-ball and soccer. Many children with autism take part each year to learn what it is like to be on a team and about different types of ball games.

FEAT remains active in its fundraising efforts to be able to provide the above programs and services to its members. The three major events held annually include the following:

- ◆ ***“Creating a Stir About Autism – Dancing with the Louisville Stars”*** dinner gala - held each spring to raise funds for the Endeavor Program. Event includes dancing, dinner, live and silent auction.
- ◆ ***“Drive to DeFEAT Autism”*** golf scramble – held each summer to raise funds for family support services and programs.
- ◆ ***“Outrunning Autism - FEAT on the Street”*** 5K race – held each fall to raise funds for the summer camp. This past year, FEAT was presented with a generous offer to add an “Extreme Run” by Mr. Jim Ball, owner of the Trail Store, who ran for a continuous 24 hours and had many supporters donate to this special addition to our annual race.

FEAT would like to thank all its supporters and donors this past year who make it possible for us to help the many families affected by an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Our mission is all about helping the entire family – the child(ren) affected by autism, siblings, parents, grandparents, and other loved ones.

As FEAT looks forward to 2010, it is important to recognize that the rates of autism continue to increase with current estimates at 1 in 110 children with the rate for boys at the rate of 1 in 70. With the pronounced increase in autism over the past few years, it will be even more important that organizations like FEAT provide a strong network for family support and help coordinate with other organizations to offer the programs that for the most part are not offered elsewhere in our community. This need is occurring in an economic environment that makes the challenges even greater for non-profits who greatly depend on financial contributions to help fund these efforts. FEAT is hopeful that the continued passion of its committed group of volunteers, the growing community awareness of the impact of autism in our community, and the greatly appreciated support of our donors will help FEAT continue to be a leading force for change and source of hope for the families that so desperately need these services.

The following is an overview of FEAT of Louisville's income and expenses for the year that ended on December 31, 2008 which is the date of FEAT's most recent financial audit:

<b>Total revenue and support:</b>	\$254,648
<b>Program service expenses:</b>	\$230,189
<b>Management and general expenses:</b>	\$16,780
<b>Fundraising expenses:</b>	\$24,849
<b>End of year accumulated net balance:</b>	\$155,806

**Executive Director (as of 12/31/2009)**

<b>Donna Beasley (position currently open)</b>
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**Board of Directors (as of 12/31/2009)**

<b>Debra Barmore</b>
<b>Manual Casanova, M.D</b>
<b>David Cosby Jr.</b>
<b>Todd DeYoung</b>
<b>Shawn Freibert</b>
<b>Sam Gardner</b>
<b>Jody Resmondo Garner</b>
<b>Jeff Gregory, Board Chair</b>
<b>Michelle Mees-Harper, Vice Chair</b>
<b>Joann Jolgren</b>
<b>Diane Karem</b>
<b>Kevin Muench</b>
<b>Henrietta Pepper</b>
<b>Ken Schnurr, Treasurer</b>
<b>Stacy Trinkle, M.D.</b>
<b>Lynn Watson, Secretary</b>
<b>Jim Whelan</b>
<b>Bill Wilson</b>

**FEAT of Louisville, Inc. is tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.**