

# Steel Magnolias



## President's Message

Is it just me or does time seem to be moving at warped speed? It certainly felt as if 2022 happened in the blink of an eye. January brought with it plenty of challenges as Covid raised its ugly head once again making many of us wonder: *When will this end!?* But by the time 2022 came to a close, we were gathering mask-free at our annual meeting. What a difference a year makes.

And what a year it was! In January we were off and zooming—literally—as we held our monthly meetings online reminiscent of the opening credits of *The Brady Bunch* with each of us confined to our little onscreen boxes. But before long, “the band was back together” meeting vis-à-vis and in person.

Finding a location for our annual **Signature Event** wasn't an easy task as many venues were unable to welcome large groups. However, all hope wasn't lost as we began planning our **Five Alarm Fundraiser**, which took place on July 31 at the **Mayne Events Center and L.A. County Fire Museum**. The heat was on as nearly 200 guests enjoyed cocktails made by community leaders while Emcee Zack Krone goaded the unsuspecting into bidding wars during the live auction (a case of wine went for \$1000!). Unlike 2021, when it poured rain (as well cocktails at the 19<sup>th</sup> hole), it was nothing but blue skies at our annual October **Golf Tournament**.

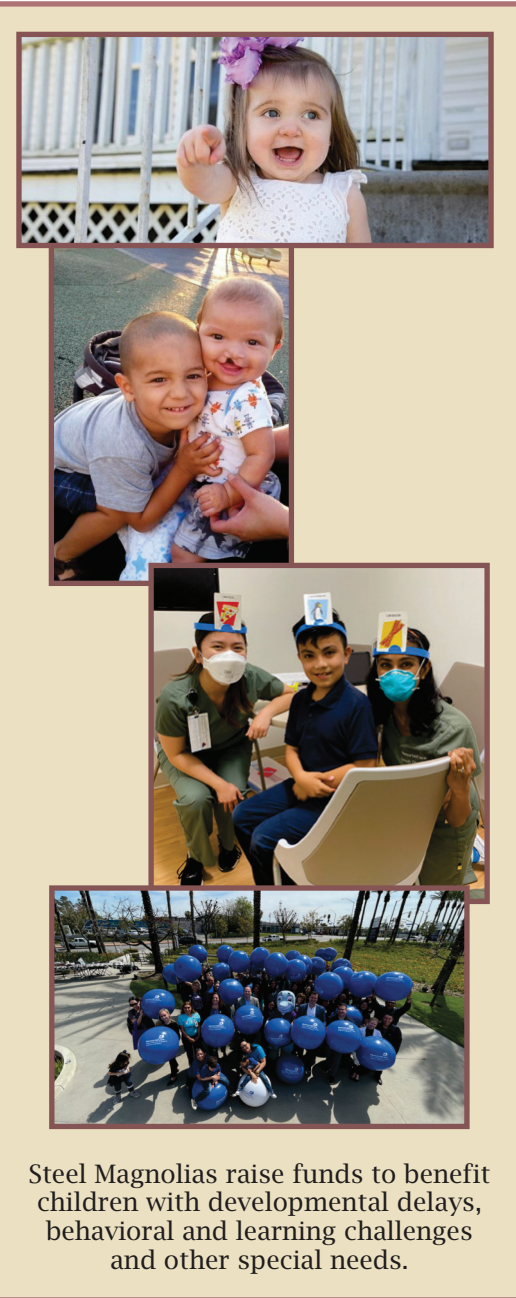
The year concluded with **Sleigh on the Bay**, a private holiday culinary experience with the Naples Canals as a backdrop. You can read about these fundraising—and *friendraising*—initiatives in more detail on page 4. While the year proved to be one of celebration, it was also one of loss. In May, longtime member and our shutterbug, Janis Krantz, lost her battle with cancer and, just seven months later, Myrna Wigod, another longtime member with a wonderful sense of humor, passed away as well. To say these losses were difficult is an understatement as both women contributed so much to our organization.

And you--our donors, volunteers and members-- contribute so much as well. Whether it's time, money or in-kind sponsorship, you are appreciated and valued. Your support enables us to provide the necessary funding needed to help children with disabilities, developmental delays and behavioral disorders live their best lives through the medical expertise provided by Dr. Gary Feldman and his team at the Stramski Children's Developmental Center - our main recipient for the fundraising we do. It's a reminder that early assessment and diagnosis is key to ensuring these children thrive despite the obstacles.

It was an honor to have followed in the footsteps of so many dynamic women before me who have held the position of president, including Mari Hooper who we bestowed with title of President Emerita at our annual meeting. I'd also like to acknowledge Founder Shirley Wild and Chairman Anthony Gagliardi for having the vision in 1999 to turn one fabulous fête into a worthy, all-volunteer organization with no paid staff or brick and mortar offices. The two of you certainly created something admirable while filling a void within the community.

It's been a pleasure...

Elizabeth Borsting, President, 2022

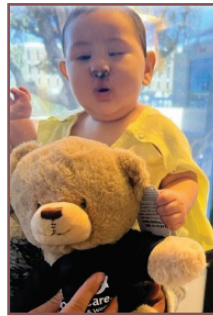


Steel Magnolias raise funds to benefit children with developmental delays, behavioral and learning challenges and other special needs.

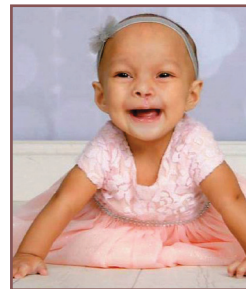
## Annual Report 2022

## Our Primary Recipient

The Stramski Children's Developmental Center at MemorialCare Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach cares for children - from birth to age 21 - with behavioral and developmental conditions, such as autism, Fragile X, ADHD/ADD, Down syndrome, learning disabilities, behavioral sleep conditions and craniofacial abnormalities, like cleft lip and palate. The Stramski Center often serves as the transitional care center for infants and toddlers, who have developmental delays following hospitalization in either the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit or Cherese Mari Laulhere Pediatric Intensive Care Unit - many times following the child's care for years.



The Stramski Children's Developmental Center was founded in 1975 by Dr. Geraldine A. Stramski, a developmental pediatrician who recognized the need for a team approach to the multiple health issues so often encountered in children with developmental conditions. For nearly 50 years, the Stramski Center has continued to provide comprehensive care and create specialized programs that address the unique needs of its patients.

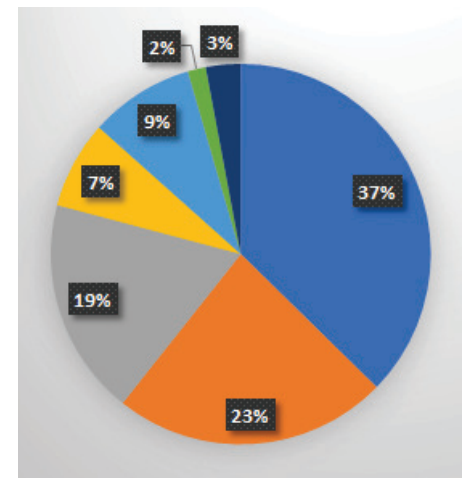


The Stramski Center is Steel Magnolias' primary recipient. Over the years this all-volunteer organization, has raised more than \$6.12 million to benefit children and their families treated at the Stramski Center.

Thanks to the compassion and generosity of donors like you, thousands of children are getting their special-needs care at the Stramski Center and now have a chance to reach their highest potential.



## Stramski Clinic Visits by Program in 2022



- Behavior and Neurodevelopment/Psychological Testing (BNP) - 1,411 visits
- Genetics - 883 visits
- High-Risk Infant Follow-Up - 698 visits
- Craniofacial - 281 visits
- Sleep Disorders - 337 visits
- Fragile X - 58 visits
- Metabolic - 112 visits

3,780 total clinic visits by  
2,185 unique patients



# n's health blossom



## What Stramski Parents Say

*"It was a very pleasant appointment. The office staff is very nice, polite and friendly. The doctor is very funny, sweet and informative. My daughter really likes him."*

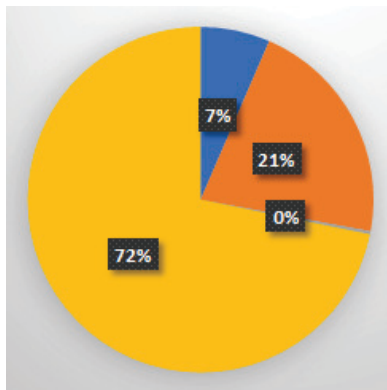
*"Excelente Doctora."*

*"Thankful for the service."*

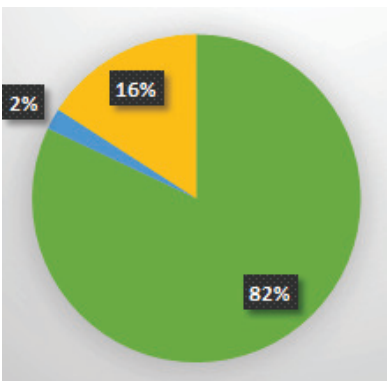
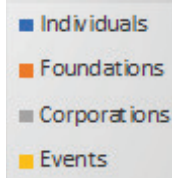
*"ALL the staff that work here do their very best to make each patient and their family comfortable as well as making the kids feel safe, too. Love how all the nurses always remember something about my son. They're very personable."*

*"Love Dr. Feldman. He is fantastic."*

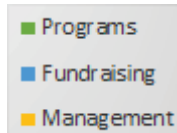
## Steel Magnolias



### Sources of Income



### Our Expense Categories



## Steel Magnolias Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

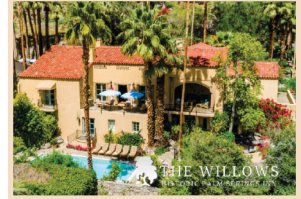
Revenue and Support	
Contributions	\$ 87,354
Investment income, net	<u>(67,205)</u>
	20,149
Special Events	
Revenue	196,600
Revenue - in-kind	25,156
Expenses	<u>(94,543)</u>
	<u>127,213</u>
Total Revenue and Support	147,362
Expenses	
Program services	152,873
Supporting services:	
Management and general	29,528
Fundraising	<u>3,858</u>
Total Expenses	<u>186,259</u>
Change in Net Assets	(38,897)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	<u>626,868</u>
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ <u>587,971</u>

### Notes:

1. Program services are the grants to Stramski Children's Developmental Center.
2. Bulk of net assets are earmarked for future giving.

## How We Raised the Funds

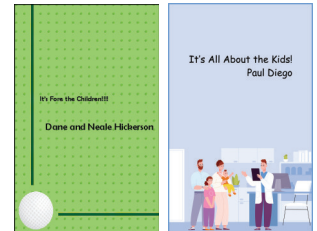
Travel not only resumed in 2022, but it returned with a vengeance. While people were willing to get comfortable outside of their comfort zones, they still weren't quite ready to take to the friendly skies. Steel Magnolias decided to offer an unforgettable close-to-home getaway. President Elizabeth Borsting donated a two-night stay at the 17-room Willows Historic Palm Springs Inn where luminaries, past and present, have slumbered for nearly a century. From Albert Einstein to Diane Keaton, The Willows is one of those places to check off the bucket list with a daily three-course, chef-driven breakfast, evening wine and hors d'oeuvres coupled with turndown service and five-star hospitality. The package also included dinner for two at the legendary Le Vallauris, one of Frank Sinatra's favorite restaurants, located a martini-toss from the inn (Le Vallauris also provides room service to guests of The Willows). As a result, Steel Magnolias raised a total of \$12,315.



Things heated up on the last day of July, and it had nothing to do with the weather. Our annual signature event, whose theme was appropriately dubbed a **Five-Alarm Fundraiser**, was on fire as nearly 200 guests gathered in the early evening at the Mayne Events Center, which is also home to the L.A. County Fire Museum. Guests enjoyed an alfresco cocktail reception with community leaders doubling as bartenders along with a silent auction, wine grab and free access to the static display of vintage firetrucks. The room was on fire as Emcee Zack Krone, who also served as auctioneer, took to the stage for the live auction pitting friend against friend, raising the stakes with paddle-waving guests and securing double bids all for a wonderful cause. The fête was catered by Steel Magnolias' very own Sofia Riley of TGIS Catering. Once the embers were extinguished, the event was still aglow raising more than \$69,000.



Steel Magnolias returned once again to Old Ranch Country Club for our annual Golf Tournament. Golfers of all abilities showed up on October 24 ready to take a swing at autism, Fragile X Syndrome and the many other challenges faced by special-needs children and their families. The 19<sup>th</sup> hole proved to be a win-win for all as the group settled in to enjoy the taco bar, ice cream station and cocktails. The fore-star event raised nearly \$31,000.



This year, the organizers of 'Sleigh on the Bay' literally "slayed" it during the holiday season. For the third jolly year in a row, Chairman Anthony Gagliardi and long-time member Gary Lee Wolf created an exclusive curated culinary event for 17 nights at the home of Lynn Gesner. Lynn, an original member of Steel Magnolias, once again provided her lovely canal-front terrace as the backdrop with son Jack, also a Steel Magnolia member, playing a rather convincing Santa. Dinner was followed by a Duffy boat ride around the island to admire the many bedecked homes. Elves, many who resembled Steel Magnolia members, helped prepare and serve guests. Christmas arrived a little earlier than expected with Steel Magnolias raising more than \$14,000.



None of these events could have happened without thousands of hours of volunteer time and unparalleled dedication. Thank you to all our volunteers.

