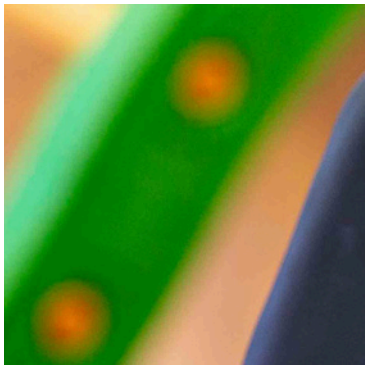
UCP United Cerebral Palsy®

2024-2025 Annual Report

75 YEARS OF INCLUSION, INNOVATION & IMPACT









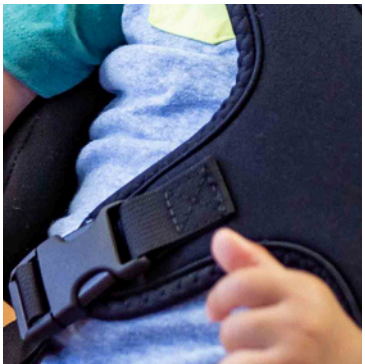




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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



ARMANDO CONTRERAS
PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

Reflecting on the past year at United Cerebral Palsy, I am proud to share a story of resilience, progress, and unwavering commitment to the individuals and families we serve. This annual report is more than a record of financials and programmatic milestones; it is a testament to the power of advocacy, the importance of education, the promise of research, and the strength of our network.

Advocacy remains at the heart of our mission. Over the past year, UCP has worked tirelessly at both the federal and state levels to protect the rights of people with disabilities, champion inclusive policies, and push for greater accessibility in every facet of life — from healthcare to employment. Our voice has helped shape legislation that moves us closer to a society where everyone is seen, heard, and valued.

Education is the key to transformation, and in 2024, we expanded our outreach to provide tools and resources not only for individuals with cerebral palsy and other disabilities but also for direct support professionals, caregivers, educators, and employers. From webinars and community trainings to digital toolkits, we equip people with the knowledge they need to foster inclusive environments.

When it comes to **research**, we continue to push boundaries and explore critical questions about treatment, early detection, and long-term care. Through strong partnerships with leading institutions, we're accelerating discoveries, and our dedication to evidence-based practices ensures our work is driven by both data and empathy.

Perhaps most inspiring of all are the stories from our affiliates, whose **impact** is nothing short of extraordinary. Whether it's a young adult gaining independence through assistive technology or a family receiving early intervention therapies, these moments are a powerful reminder of why we do this work. Across 56 affiliates, we are seeing real change that begins in communities and ripples outward.

We know that none of this would be possible without your support. As you read this report, I invite you to envision yourself in these pages because your belief in our mission drives us forward. Together, we empower every person — advocating, educating, discovering, and uplifting. Thank you for standing with us.

With gratitude,

Armando Contreras
President & Chief Executive Officer
United Cerebral Palsy

ABOUT UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY
A LEGACY OF INCLUSION

United Cerebral Palsy is a dynamic, international organization dedicated to advancing opportunities and equity for people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. We are committed to the belief that all people with disabilities should be treated as equal members of an inclusive society.

Through bold **advocacy**, cutting-edge **research**, and accessible **education**, we work to drive systems change while empowering individuals and families. At the heart of our mission is a powerful **affiliate network** — nearly 60 local organizations committed to delivering life-changing services, amplifying voices of resilience, and demonstrating that inclusion isn't just possible — it's essential.



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OUR HISTORY

In 1948, Leonard H. Goldenson — then president of United Paramount Theaters and ABC Television — and his wife Isabelle joined forces with New York businessman Jack Hausman and his wife Ethel to change the future for children with cerebral palsy. At a time when resources were limited and families were often separated, they placed a bold ad in the New York Herald Tribune, calling on others to help create a better path forward.

Their vision — to keep families together and bring disability out of the shadows — led to the founding of United Cerebral Palsy in 1949.

BROADCASTING CHANGE

Leveraging his media influence, Goldenson helped UCP pioneer one of the first national telethons, using the power of television to raise both awareness and millions of dollars for people with cerebral palsy.

His visionary leadership brought disability advocacy into homes across America and transformed a once-overlooked condition into a national conversation.



Today, our network of affiliates in the United States and Canada provides a wide range of services annually to approximately 200,000 children and adults with cerebral palsy and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. These services include:

- information and referral services
- respite care
- advocacy
- assistive technology support
- early learning and K-12 educational programs
- early detection and intervention therapies
- financial assistance
- employment services
- recreational opportunities and day programs
- community-based residential programs

MEET UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES & STAFF



OUIDA SPENCER
CHAIR
Broker, Realty Associates of Atlanta



KELLY PIACENTI
VICE CHAIR
Head of SpecialCare, MassMutual



KEITH GRAHAM
IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR
Managing Principal, Graham Yaden



DR. JENNIFER C. LUEBKE
SECRETARY
President and CEO, Relay Resources



KENNETH A. BLUHM
TREASURER
Retired, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan



BRAD BOYER
TRUSTEE
Partner, Kutak Rock, LLP



SEAN CRUMP
TRUSTEE
Chief Executive Officer, Included By Design



TERESA GAGLIANO
TRUSTEE
Executive Director, UCP of Northwest Missouri



DR. MARK GORMLEY
TRUSTEE
Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine Physician, Gillette Children's



JERRY HULICK
TRUSTEE
Principal and Consultant, Caring Consulting Group



JANEEN LATIN
TRUSTEE
President and CEO, UCP of Central Pennsylvania



MARK LEZOTTE
TRUSTEE
Shareholder Practicing, Butzel Long



CHRIS MARTIN
TRUSTEE
Executive Director, UCP of Stanislaus County



LINDA MASTANDREA
TRUSTEE
Manager of Accessibility, FIFA World Cup 2026



ROGER SLINGERMAN
TRUSTEE
Executive Director, UCP of Central California



CHERYL SMITH
TRUSTEE
Chief Executive Officer, UCP of Huntsville and Tennessee Valley



CHERYL HINES
HONORARY TRUSTEE
Actor and Advocate



JR MITTE
HONORARY TRUSTEE
Actor and Advocate



ARMANDO CONTRERAS
President and CEO



KISMET SAGLAM
Vice President of Strategy and Operations



CARRIE CANTRELL
Director of Affiliate Relations and Programs



PAM NORMAN
Director of Development

"United Cerebral Palsy has never been just an organization — it's a force for inclusion, innovation, and equity. As we look ahead, we remain committed to breaking barriers, amplifying voices, and creating a world where every person can thrive."
—OUIDA SPENCER, CHAIR, UCP BOARD OF TRUSTEES



BRYAN ABRAMSON
Development Manager



SARAH PEIPER
Marketing and Communications Manager



ALEXIS SANCHEZ
Business Operations Administrator



GERALD ONG
Executive Assistant



DARIA CHURSINA
Salesforce Administrator and Data Analyst

ADVOCACY
UNITED FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS

DRIVING CHANGE FROM THE CAPITOL TO THE COMMUNITY

Advocacy is at the heart of United Cerebral Palsy's mission. In FY24, we expanded our reach, sharpened our strategy, and amplified the voices of people with disabilities like never before.

From congressional briefings to one-on-one meetings with lawmakers and agency leaders, UCP brought lived experience to the policy table, making clear that these aren't political debates but personal realities about dignity, independence, and access to care.



UCP President and CEO Armando Contreras with former Congressman John Porter — founder of The Porter Group, UCP's trusted policy consulting partner — on the steps of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

In 2024-2025, UCP leadership traveled over 381,000 miles — equal to more than 15 trips around the globe — to meet with lawmakers nationwide to advance disability rights.

EMPOWERING AFFILIATES TO LEAD CHANGE

Through our **Advocacy Grant Program**, UCP helps affiliates drive grassroots advocacy at the local and state levels — advancing policies that directly impact their communities.

This year, UCP awarded nearly $60,000 thanks to Opportunity Village, a dedicated organization committed to empowering people with disabilities.



In 2025, UCP launched a nationwide advocacy initiative, powered by geofencing technology. The initiative targets key policymakers with precision messaging, ensuring that preserving Medicaid remains top of mind when decisions are made.

UCP Heartland's Duane Gruis, advocacy and benefits specialist (center), with Kevin Litt, vice president of development (left), and Missouri State Senator Tracy McCreery at the Disability Rights Legislative Day Rally in Jefferson City, Mo. Duane opened the event as the first speaker, setting the tone for a powerful day of collective advocacy focused on expanding disability services.



"We are incredibly grateful for the support from UCP's Advocacy Grant Program, which enables us to enhance our efforts through the They Deserve More Coalition, a united group of over 90 IDD service providers across Illinois. We have made significant progress in securing wage increases for direct support professionals, but there is still much more work to be done. Individuals with disabilities deserve better, and so do the dedicated staff who support them every day."

—LORI OPIELA, CHIEF OF POLICY, RESEARCH & ADVOCACY, UCP SEGUIN OF GREATER CHICAGO

ADVOCACY
2025 CASE FOR INCLUSION

For almost two decades, the **Case for Inclusion** has offered comprehensive data across dozens of measures to assess how effectively states serve people with cerebral palsy and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Together with our partner ANCOR, United Cerebral Palsy released the inaugural **Case for Inclusion Policy Blueprint for Sustainable Services** in 2025. The report builds on findings in the previous Case for Inclusion Data Snapshot released in October 2024. It details critical recommendations for policymakers to strengthen community-based services for people with disabilities.

WHY IT MATTERS

The Case for Inclusion Policy Blueprint and accompanying Data Snapshot reveal the urgent need to invest in home- and community-based services for people with disabilties.

As federal policymakers weigh deep Medicaid cuts, these resources provide critical data and actionable solutions to protect access, stabilize the workforce, and strengthen local economies.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

- $715 billion in federal cuts could devastate Medicaid-funded programs.
- 90% of providers report severe staffing shortages.
- 39% of providers have already reduced services.
- The average wait time for services is now more than four years.
- Families are leaving jobs and taking on major financial burdens to fill gaps in care.

THE BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE

The 2025 Policy Blueprint outlines key policy recommendations for state and federal leaders:

- Create a federal Standard Occupational Classification for direct support professionals
- Increase funding for Medicaid home- and community-based services at state and federal levels
- Ensure Medicaid rates reflect the actual cost of service delivery
- Use access monitoring systems to track and address gaps



"Congress has the opportunity to reject proposed cuts to Medicaid, stabilize the direct support workforce, and improve access to services for people with disabilities. We urge decision makers across all levels of government to enact policies that prioritize dignity, independence, and full inclusion of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities."

—ARMANDO CONTRERAS, UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY PRESIDENT & CEO

UCP'S RESEARCH COUNCIL
ACCELERATING SCIENCE

Through the Research Council, UCP is advancing the science of cerebral palsy by bridging research, clinical practice, and community impact.

In 2024, our work focused on clinician education, early detection, inclusive training, and groundbreaking partnerships that bring knowledge where it's needed most.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SERIES

In collaboration with UCP of Central Arizona and Gillette Children's, UCP hosts webinars that provide continuing medical education credits to clinicians nationwide. Topics include:

- Dystonia in cerebral palsy
- Hip surveillance and best practices
- Neurologist perspectives

These webinars bring cutting-edge insights directly to the providers who make a difference every day.

EARLY DETECTION & INTERVENTION (EDI) COLLABORATIVE

A cornerstone of the UCP Research Council's work, the EDI Collaborative holds monthly virtual knowledge-sharing sessions and an in-person training hosted by the Cerebral Palsy Foundation.

28 physical and occupational therapists received advanced instruction in cerebral palsy care this year, including optional certifications in upper limb intervention therapy and the Hammersmith Infant Neurological Examination.

PROJECT ECHO: A FIRST FOR CEREBRAL PALSY

In 2024, the EDI Collaborative partnered with Project ECHO to launch the first-ever global ECHO Hub focused on cerebral palsy.

This virtual learning platform uses real-time case studies and expert-led teaching to expand access to early screening practices, ensuring more children at risk for cerebral palsy are identified and supported earlier, transforming outcomes for families around the world.

GRANTS THAT DRIVE DISCOVERY

In 2024, the UCP Research Council awarded $60,000 in funding: two $10,000 Affiliate Planning Grants and two $20,000 Pilot/Extension Grants.

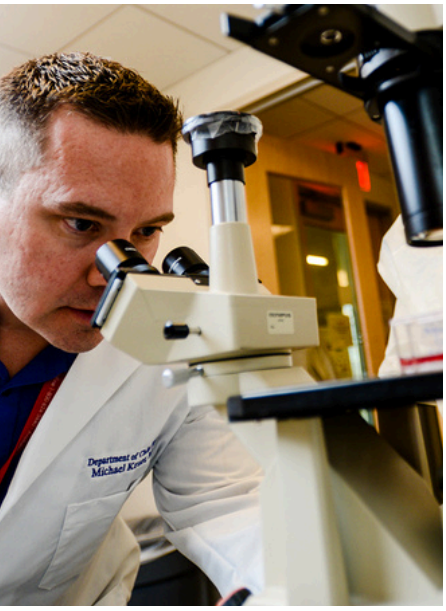
These investments fuel innovative ideas and strengthen our affiliates' ability to contribute to the future of cerebral palsy research.



UCP'S RESEARCH COUNCIL
FUNDING INNOVATION & IMPACT

Through the UCP Research Grant Program, we're accelerating bold ideas that reimagine what's possible for people with cerebral palsy.

From groundbreaking genetic therapies to grassroots outreach that connects families with critical early intervention, these projects reflect the full spectrum of the innovation that UCP champions.



REWRITING DNA: A FIRST-IN-KIND TREATMENT FOR GENETIC CEREBRAL PALSY

Phoenix Children's Hospital & UCP of Central Arizona
Pilot/Extension Grant Recipients: Dr. Michael Kruer & Valerie Pieraccini

Imagine designing a treatment for one child's specific genetic mutation — that's exactly what this project is doing. With UCP's support, researchers advanced custom therapy for a young girl with a rare DNA mutation linked to cerebral palsy.

The team has expanded screening efforts, built infrastructure for trials, and is now working with the n-Lorem Foundation to explore real-world treatment options. A second child with the same mutation has already received therapy — proof that this science isn't just promising, it's possible.

CATCHING CEREBRAL PALSY EARLY, CHANGING LIVES FOREVER

UCP of Greater Cleveland
Affiliate Planning Grant Recipient: Katie McGregor

Early detection is everything. This grant helped UCP of Greater Cleveland supercharge community education around identifying cerebral palsy in babies and toddlers.

From custom flyers for physicians to tailored presentations for families and healthcare workers, their outreach is building a stronger, earlier pathway to care. Upcoming events include hands-on training and summer outreach at local early intervention events — ensuring more families know the signs and where to turn for support.



> **"We will be attending several local events this year to promote the early detection and intervention work we are doing and the services we provide at UCP of Greater Cleveland."**
> ***—KATIE MCGREGOR, SENIOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, UCP OF GREATER CLEVELAND***

UCP'S RESEARCH COUNCIL
UNITING EXPERTS, IMPROVING LIVES

PRECISION REHABILITATION: WALKING, MEASURED & MAXIMIZED

Seattle Children's Research Institute, Cal State & University of Washington
Pilot/Extension Grant Recipient: Dr. Kristie Bjornson

What if we could predict and optimize a toddler's ability to walk with cerebral palsy? This study is using real-time gait analysis and custom orthotic design to do exactly that. With institutional review board approvals secured, equipment tested, and the first toddlers recruited, the study launched full protocol implementation in Spring 2025.

It's poised to bring highly personalized rehab within reach for young children nationwide.





PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF CEREBRAL PALSY RESEARCH

Gillette Children's
Affiliate Planning Grant Recipients: Rhonda Cady & Tammy Jobes

Real progress starts by listening. Gillette Children's "Partners in Progress" initiative is embedding patient and caregiver voices directly into the research process through the creation of a Cerebral Palsy Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC).

The team has already completed five virtual planning sessions, analyzed population data for inclusive representation, and explored augmentative and alternative communication accessibility in research spaces.

Next up: onboarding partners and launching the PFAC — ensuring future research is truly by, with, and for the cerebral palsy community.

> **"Our goal is to bring clinicians, researchers, and families together as equal partners to shape research that truly reflects the lived experience of people with cerebral palsy. It's about ensuring the questions we ask and the outcomes we pursue are grounded in what matters most to those directly impacted."**
>
> ***— RHONDA CADY, GILLETTE CHILDREN'S***

DR. ELSIE S. BELLOWS FUND
EMPOWERING INDEPENDENCE

Since 1995, United Cerebral Palsy's Bellows Fund — established through a generous grant from Dr. Elsie S. Bellows — has been a beacon of hope for individuals with disabilities across the network. This vital fund supports the purchase of essential assistive technology, including wheelchairs, ramps, communication devices, and other tools that empower people to live more independently.

The Bellows Fund is administered through UCP's affiliates, which work directly with individuals and families to identify needs and distribute funds where they're needed most. Over the past three years alone, UCP has awarded more than $1.2M in grants, helping individuals gain access to the equipment they need but cannot otherwise afford, especially when insurance coverage falls short.



A LIFE-CHANGING GIFT: THOMAS'S STORY

One powerful example of the Bellows Fund's impact is the story of seven-year-old Thomas Broderick. Born with 5p- Syndrome (Cri du Chat syndrome) and multiple congenital heart defects, Thomas receives therapy through UCP affiliate United Ability in Birmingham, Alabama.

Thanks to a Bellows Fund grant, Thomas received a Convaid Cruiser, replacing his outdated, ill-fitting wheelchair. This new equipment has significantly enhanced his comfort, mobility, and overall quality of life.

> **"Thomas's new stroller has made such a positive difference. He is much more comfortable, happy, and content. It fits him perfectly and will provide plenty of room for growth. Without your generous support, we would not have been able to afford it; our insurance would not approve a wheelchair or stroller for another four years. Thank you for making such a difference in his life and the lives of other children like him."**
>
> ***—KRISTY BRODERICK, THOMAS'S MOTHER***

CONTINUING THE MISSION

The Bellows Fund continues to break down barriers and open doors for individuals with disabilities, reaffirming UCP's commitment to building a more accessible and inclusive world. Each grant awarded is more than just financial support — it's a step toward independence, dignity, and opportunity.



UCP'S FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
INVESTING IN GROWTH

United Cerebral Palsy remains committed to responsible fiscal stewardship and transparency. The following figures reflect our financial performance for Fiscal Year 2024 and the continued investment in programs that advance the independence, inclusion, and rights of people with disabilities.

Every dollar we receive is a step toward greater equity and access for people with disabilities. In Fiscal Year 2024, UCP strategically invested in advocacy, research, and support programs that continue to drive long-term change.



KENNETH A. BLUHM
TREASURER

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

While United Cerebral Palsy's overall operating revenues saw a modest decline in FY24 compared to FY23, we experienced meaningful growth in key areas, most notably in sponsorships, affiliate membership, and conference revenue. These are the pillars of our core operating income, and we remain focused on growing and sustaining them year over year. This success reflects our commitment to engaging existing affiliates and forging relationships with new partners.

Although contributions were lower than in FY23, we intensified our fundraising and development efforts throughout the year to build a stronger pipeline for the future.

On the expense side, FY24 saw a significant and intentional increase. These higher costs reflect strategic, board-approved investments aligned with our long-term vision, including our 75th anniversary celebration, a brand refresh, major upgrades to our website and technology platforms, and targeted development consulting. These initiatives, devised in collaboration with our Board of Trustees and affiliates, were made possible by the prior year's strong financial performance and are part of our plan to position the organization for sustainable success.

Our reserves and investments have been prudently managed over many years, providing a solid foundation for the organization's fiscal health. In FY24, investment returns of nearly $1.6 million helped offset the operating deficit, resulting in a net surplus of over $720,000. This outcome underscores the resilience of our financial strategy, even amid increased expenditures.

Thank you for your continued trust and support as we invest in a stronger, more impactful future.

Kenneth A. Bluhm
Treasurer
United Cerebral Palsy

UCP'S FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

At United Cerebral Palsy, financial stewardship is central to our mission and long-term vision. We are committed to managing resources with transparency, accountability, and care to ensure the sustainability of our programs and the strength of our international network. Each dollar is thoughtfully invested to maximize impact, fuel innovation, and drive progress toward a more inclusive future.

The following financial statements reflect our continued dedication to responsible growth, strategic investment, and expanding opportunities for people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities.

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
September 30, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Cash	$ 134,321	$ 410,220
Accounts receivable (less allowance for credit losses of $14,535 and $15,160, respectively)	27,592	44,946
Unconditional promises to give	-	14,089
Prepaid expenses	123,342	145,866
Cash restricted for endowment	186,317	13,400
Investments	10,673,402	9,852,290
Furniture and fixtures	10,851	10,851
Office equipment	15,840	12,729
Software	78,638	-
Accumulated depreciation	(26,468)	(12,947)
Operating lease right-of-use asset	35,688	52,441
Beneficial interests in trusts held by third parties	381,917	309,852
Total assets	$ 11,641,440	$ 10,853,737
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 280,234	$ 181,629
Accrued payroll	91,354	104,383
Deferred revenue	20,242	22,688
Operating lease liability	36,776	53,340
Total liabilities	428,606	362,040
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	4,529,278	4,271,288
With donor restrictions	6,683,556	6,220,409
Total net assets	11,212,834	10,491,697
Total liabilities and net assets	$ 11,641,440	$ 10,853,737

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY, INC.
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
September 30, 2024 and 2023

	2024			2023		
	Without Donor Restrictions	Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE						
Contributions and bequests	$ 810,304	$ 11,075	$ 821,379	$ 905,106	$ 56,150	961,256
Contributed services	153,910	-	153,910	127,002	-	127,002
Sponsorships	168,186	-	168,186	129,982	-	129,982
Affiliates' membership and conference fees	956,565	-	956,565	935,536	-	935,536
Other revenue	5,412	-	5,412	20,453	-	20,453
Total support and revenue	2,094,377	11,075	2,105,452	2,118,079	56,150	2,174,229
EXPENSES						
Program services						
Bellows grants	381,169	-	381,169	409,857	-	409,857
Research	245,223	-	245,223	161,420	-	161,420
Public policy analysis and advocacy	140,274	-	140,274	147,066	-	147,066
Support of affiliates	642,854	-	642,854	544,006	-	544,006
Total program services	1,409,520	-	1,409,520	1,262,349	-	1,262,349
Supporting activities						
Management and general	1,264,184	-	1,264,184	792,449	-	792,449
Fundraising	363,787	-	363,787	263,780	-	263,780
Total expenses	3,037,491	-	3,037,491	2,318,578	-	2,318,578
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS						
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	627,292	(627,292)	-	569,110	(569,110)	-
Change in net assets before other changes	(315,822)	(616,217)	(932,039)	368,611	(512,960)	(144,349)
OTHER CHANGES						
Investment return, net	573,812	1,007,299	1,581,111	329,821	731,533	1,061,354
Change in value of beneficial interests in trusts held by third parties	-	72,065	72,065	-	36,481	36,481
Total other changes	573,812	1,079,364	1,653,176	329,821	768,014	1,097,835
Change in net assets	257,990	463,147	721,137	698,432	255,054	953,486
Net assets at beginning of year	4,271,288	6,220,409	10,491,697	3,572,856	5,965,355	9,538,211
Net assets at end of year	$ 4,529,278	$ 6,683,556	$ 11,212,834	$ 4,271,288	$ 6,220,409	$ 10,491,697

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY
PROGRESS YOU CAN COUNT ON

From coast to coast, UCP's impact is measurable. In 2024, our network of affiliates and national initiatives supported thousands of individuals and families.

Whether through grants, research, advocacy outreach, or early intervention services, UCP's numbers tell a powerful story of inclusion, innovation, and progress.

Here's a snapshot of what we achieved — together.

75
years of advocacy, research and impact

381k
miles traveled to advocate for individuals with disabilities



56
affiliates across the United States and Canada (and counting!)

$1.6M
in investment returns in FY24

30
Advocating for change across states and Capitol Hill

581
clinicians gaining expertise with UCP's Professional Learning Series

41
EDI Collaborative therapists and clinicians sharing knowledge and practical skills

$381k
in Bellows Fund grants given to provide assistive technology to people with disabilities

200k
people with disabilities and their families served across the UCP Network

800k
impressions across social media — raising awareness, expanding reach, and driving impact

73M
service hours delivered by UCP Affiliates, providing personalized, life-enhancing support to individuals and families across the network

$120k
in advocacy and research grants distributed across the network and beyond to ensure people with disabilities can live a life without limits

OUR MISSION IN MOTION
REAL PEOPLE, REAL ACHIEVEMENTS

At United Cerebral Palsy, our mission comes to life through the stories of individuals who redefine what's possible. These powerful examples of perseverance, resilience, and support show how access to the right resources can open doors to independence, confidence, and opportunity. Each journey reflects the heart of our work — building a world where people with disabilities are empowered to thrive.



LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD: MATT DOWNING'S STORY

From birth, Matt Downing defied expectations. Diagnosed with cerebral palsy, he was told he might never walk — but with determination, leg braces, and the unwavering support of his mother, Matt not only walked, but thrived. Sports became both his therapy and his passion, pushing him to grow stronger while forging a path others thought impossible.

Though his CP wasn't always visible, Matt often felt caught between worlds — his disability questioned by others, his place in the community uncertain. Rather than let that divide define him, he became a bridge-builder, using his experience to advocate for greater understanding and inclusion. He played on mainstream sports teams, led a college swim team, and completed five internships, including one with U.S. Soccer.

TURNING PASSION INTO PURPOSE

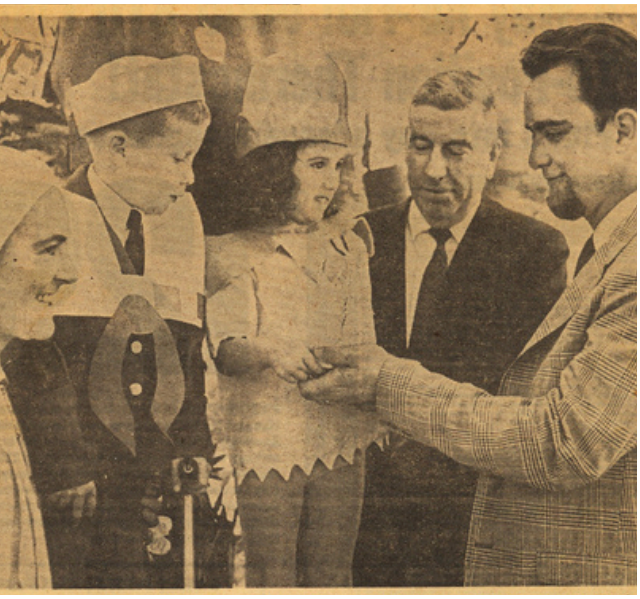
Today, Matt channels his passion for adaptive sports into advocacy. He believes athletics can be a powerful platform to challenge perceptions and advance disability rights.

Now married and living in North Carolina, he volunteers with UCP's development team, mentors others, and continues to speak out for early intervention and inclusive opportunities.

His message is simple: "Expect the unexpected. Stay open to new opportunities." In every step of his journey, Matt shows what's possible when you pair perseverance with purpose — and live a life without limits.



OUR MISSION IN MOTION
REAL PEOPLE, REAL SUCCESS



FULL CIRCLE: STEPHEN DANTZIG'S JOURNEY WITH UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY

From an early age, Stephen Dantzig's parents sensed something was off, though doctors dismissed their concerns as a simple delay. Eventually, they brought him to a UCP clinic in Port Jefferson, New York. There, clinicians immediately recognized the signs and diagnosed him with cerebral palsy.

His mother wept — not out of shock, but out of relief that her instincts had finally been validated. That moment marked a major turning point for the family, transforming their confusion into clarity and reshaping the way they supported their son.

TURNING PASSION INTO PURPOSE

Fueled by that foundation of support, Stephen built a remarkable career in service to others. He earned a doctorate in psychology and spent nearly four decades helping children with disabilities thrive in New York, New Jersey, California, and Hawai'i.

Known for his empathy, expertise, and lived experience, he also taught at the graduate level, wrote extensively, and published his autobiography, *Get Up, Your Bus Is Here*, capturing both the humor and grit of living with CP.

Today, Stephen has come full circle. After serving as a board member for ten years, he now works part-time as program and outreach manager at the UCP Association of Hawai'i. He's leading research initiatives to better understand the needs of adults with CP as they age.



Photo: Robert Hernandez

"Sixty years ago, I was a patient at a UCP clinic. Now, I'm working to expand the organization's impact in Hawai'i and maybe even across the entire UCP network."
—DR. STEPHEN DANTZIG, PROGRAM & OUTREACH MANAGER, UCP ASSOCIATION OF HAWAI'I

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY
SUPPORT THAT CREATES CHANGE

EVERY GIFT MATTERS. EVERY LIFE TRANSFORMED.

United Cerebral Palsy extends our thanks to the thousands of supporters providing gifts of all sizes.

Together, we can all help provide a life without limits for people with disabilities — one person at a time, one family at a time.



The **Circle of Promise** is United Cerebral Palsy's premier giving society for individual supporters who commit to an annual contribution of $1,000 or more. **Circle of Promise** members invest in and advance a life without limits for people living with a range of disabilities.

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United Cerebral Palsy extends our sincere appreciation to these members:

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Learn more about joining the Circle of Promise Society by contacting Pam Norman at PNorman@UCP.org.

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United Cerebral Palsy is proud to recognize the corporate partners whose generous support helps advance our mission of promoting independence, inclusion, and opportunity for people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities.

These organizations are more than sponsors — they are dedicated allies, investing in innovation, access, and community impact. Together, we're building a more inclusive future, one where everyone can thrive.



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Interested in partnering with UCP? Contact Pam Norman at PNorman@UCP.org to explore how your organization can help drive meaningful change.













Thank You

JOIN US IN SHAPING A MORE INCLUSIVE FUTURE

At United Cerebral Palsy, we're committed to advancing independence, equity, and opportunity for people with cerebral palsy and a broad range of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Your support can help drive meaningful change. Whether you donate, advocate, or collaborate with us, you contribute to a future where everyone belongs.

Together, we're stronger. Together, we're United.

800-872-5827

Info@UCP.org

UnitedCerebralPalsy

8401 Old Courthouse Road
Vienna, VA 22182

UCP.org

United-Cerebral-Palsy