



# 2016 Annual Report

## Who We Are

RiteCare of Utah is a team of speech-language pathologists (SLPs), education professionals and early education enthusiasts dedicated to providing speech, language and reading therapy to children at no cost to their families.

We were founded in 1992 by Scottish Rite Masons, who have helped provide therapy for thousands of children for over 20 years. Today, there are learning centers all across the nation.



## What Makes RiteCare Special

- RiteCare has a collaborative care and family-centered learning approach. We invite the parents or caregivers into the session with their child and offer practical solutions to practice at home too. The child is more likely to make significant progress if therapy concepts are reinforced at home.
- Private therapy for one child per year costs around \$4,000. At RiteCare, we can provide that same level of therapy for only \$1,450, about 64% less than traditional private therapy costs. However, the family in need of services pays \$0. That's right. Nothing.



## How We've Grown

We have experienced another year of change and growth in both the Salt Lake and Ogden centers. There have been changes in personnel in both locations that have helped RiteCare become a highly regarded place to receive therapy.

The 2016-year also saw the addition of new programs in the Salt Lake center, a clinic move in Ogden and a drastic increase in our online presence through social media. Through diligent donor recognition and an increased focus on fundraising, RiteCare of Utah was able to increase their 2016 donations by 25%.

Finally, through our continued work with the Utah Non-Profit Association, we obtained two new badge credentials indicating our commitment to providing the best experience to our staff, board, donors and the families we serve.

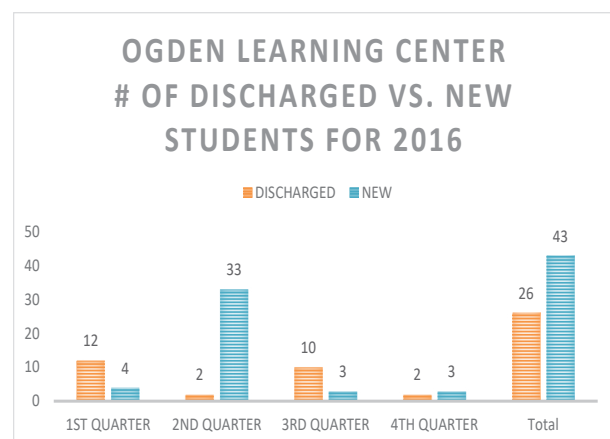
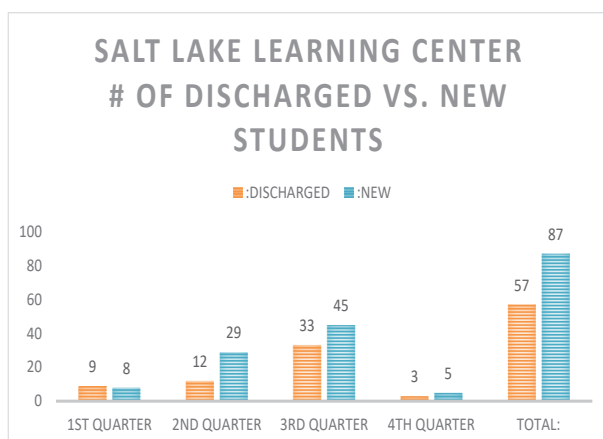
## RiteCare by the Numbers

**3,797** total visits

**1,372** total children serviced

SLC wait-time reduced by **2 months**

Ogden wait-time reduced by **3 months**



## The Need: Parent Testimony

My son and I had our evaluation with [RiteCare] the last week of May. I thought it went smoothly, but on the drive home, Oscar had a major tantrum. One of the nasty ones. Screaming and crying, throwing everything he could reach at me, trying to break the car window, trying **to use his head** to break the car window.

A freak-out; one where he loses total control, and he can't be brought back.

The only thing I could do was ride it out.

Oscar is six years old, has been in speech therapy for **four years** and we've been diligent, consistent, and dedicated. Still, no one is able to understand him.

I interpret for his SLP's (speech therapists.) True story.

How horribly frustrating and futile this must seem to him.



His entire life that he can remember has strongly revolved around a process that has not demonstrated any benefit or improvement. Despite his work, involvement, effort, and all his energy, the only person that is able to understand him is his mother.

The first time we went, Oscar was a good sport, but not overly enthusiastic. I could tell he was resigned to repeating words, over-exaggerated enunciation and, if he's lucky, playing a game of Chutes and Ladders.

Therapy started.

Chris and Kaitlyn blew his socks off. Not only did they surprise him, they delighted him. They engaged him, listened to him, and asked for his participation. They wanted his involvement - with them as his mentors/instructors, **and** with peers.

He **loved** it. He responded so positively to this speech therapy approach that he was like a different child.



## The Need: Parent Testimony



With [RiteCare], in two months' time, with **less** daily practice time than what we've been doing for four years, his grandparents are able to understand him.

Conversations over the phone, even.

He spoke to a cashier the other day, and the cashier understood him. I did not need to interpret. That was the first time a stranger understood his conversation without outside help from me.

Oscar is for the first time, introducing himself as "Oscar." He has always introduced himself as "T-rex" because Oscar has been too difficult to say, and even more difficult to watch people go blank when he tries to say it and they try to figure out what he is saying.

I have also improved significantly in being able to help Oscar. I've learned to maximize our practice time into a process that is more engaging for Oscar and more practical for modern life.

[RiteCare] is the only speech Oscar wants, and frankly, so do I.

Sincerely,

*Devon Morgan, Oscar's Mom*

## Some of the Facts

### Developmental Delay

- The Utah Department of Education estimates that approximately 12% of Utah students have some form of speech or language delay. This means that tens of thousands of children across the state are in need of help.
- Left untreated, speech and language delay can have a significant effect on a child.
- Between 6 and 8 million people in the US have some form of language impairment.

### Vocab

- The average adult speaker knows 30 thousand words. Children need to learn 6 - 8 new words every day.
- Children from low-income families, on average, start school 16 months behind in vocabulary.
- Vocabulary before the age of 6 is the best single predictor of later academic success.
- To move from the 25th percentile to the 50th children need to learn 10 new words every day for three years.

### Autism

- Early behavioral, cognitive, or speech interventions can help children with autism gain self-care, social and communication skills.
- About a third to a half of individuals with autism do not develop enough natural speech to meet their daily communication needs.
- The number of people diagnosed has been increasing dramatically since the 1980s, partly due to changes in diagnostic practice.

### Stuttering

- About 5% of children age 2 - 5 years will develop some sort of stuttering during their childhood.
- Boys are 4 times more likely to stutter than girls.
- In the US, more than 3 million people stutter.

Learning problems should be addressed as early as possible. Many children with learning disabilities that are treated later, when language demands are greater, experience lowered self-esteem due to their previous academic frustrations and failures. Learning problems that go untreated can lead to a significant decrease in confidence, school phobia (i.e., not wanting to go to school, not wanting to do homework), and depression.





## Your Contribution

There are many ways you can personally help RiteCare of Utah pursue their mission of providing speech, language and reading therapy to children at no cost.

### Donate Without Spending Extra

Smith's Market Place will donate a percentage of your qualifying purchases to a non-profit of your choice. All you have to do is sign up your Smith's Rewards card with Smith's Inspiring Donations. It's easy!

1. Visit <https://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>
2. Sign in or create an account
3. Choose Scottish Rite Children's Learning Center Utah as your non-profit to support
4. Shop at Smith's



Amazon Smile is just like Amazon.com with one catch. After you sign up, you can shop online and a portion of qualifying purchases will go to the non-profit of your choice. Follow the steps below to enroll.

1. Visit <https://smile.amazon.com>
2. Choose Scottish Rite Foundation of Utah
3. Start shopping online



### Subscription Giving

- We have two levels of subscription giving at RiteCare of Utah. First, is the 365 Club. This means the donor gives \$1 per day to support child speech and language therapy.
- Next, is the Child Sponsorship Club. This subscription means the donor gives a total of \$1,450 over the course of 12 months. This is the cost for speech and language therapy for one child for one year at our learning centers. In comparison, private therapy costs around \$4,000 per child per year.



