

Opening the door to a brighter tomorrow

# **Together Again**

After a year and a half apart, in 2021 we reopened our doors and welcomed members and families back to our centers, to our virtual programs, and for many, a combination of both. Please join us in taking a look back at all we accomplished *together*.

20 21

**Annual Report** 







TEXT CHOCOLATES to 44-321









Dear friends of Stroke Comeback Center,

When we closed our doors in March of 2020, we had no idea that it would be a year and a half before we'd be *together* again. Looking back at 2021, there was no greater moment than reopening our Vienna and Rockville centers and once again sitting around the table *together*. We may have had masks and distancing, but we also had laughter and connection in our centers again.

During that time apart, we honed our skills in virtual services and expanded our geographic reach, resulting in a more robust Virtual Stroke Comeback Center than we could have imagined. A very fortunate outcome of a difficult time is that now we have three centers—Vienna, Rockville, and Virtual—that work *together* to meet the needs of our growing community.

We couldn't have made it through that time apart without you: our donors, volunteers, event participants, members, and families. *Together* you responded each time we asked and provided the support we needed to ensure that all families have access to affordable services throughout their recoveries. You got us to the point that we could *Re-open our door to a brighter tomorrow*, and be *together* again.

I hope you enjoy taking a look back at all that we accomplished in 2021. Please continue to follow us on our website and social media to see how your support allows us to celebrate being *together* in the future.

Many thanks,

Suzanne Coyle Executive Director

#### 2021 Leadership Team

Suzanne Coyle, MA, CCC-SLP Executive Director

Amy Georgeadis, MS, CCC-SLP Program Director

Brooke Hatfield, MS, CCC-SLP Rockville Center Coordinator Melissa Richman, MS, CCC-SLP Virtual Center Coordinator

Connie Dupuy Development Coordinator

Julie McGraw Financial Administrator

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**Founder** Darlene S. Williamson

## **Impact Report**



# 14,899

**Total Service Hours** 



**50** New Members



**209** Survivors & Families Served



**317** Distinct Classes



**26** Caring Connection Meetings

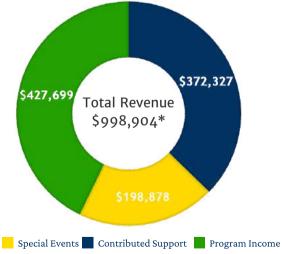


**\$56,604** Scholarship Dollars Awarded



**207** Free Virtual *Stay In Touch* Groups

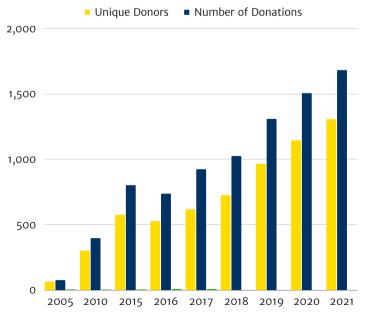
#### 2021 Revenue



\*Based on unaudited financial statement

Program tuition makes up less than half of our total income. We count on you to keep our programs running and our doors open!

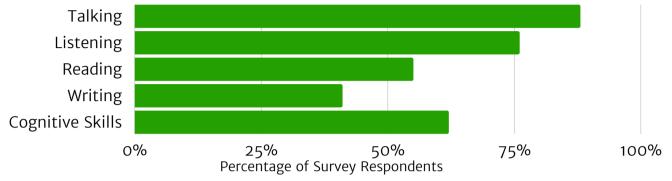
### **Growing** Together



# From our Members...

Stroke Comeback Center is a member-driven community. Development of programs and services depends on feedback from our members and their families. Here's what they had to say when they voiced their opinions together in our 2021 Annual Impact Survey.

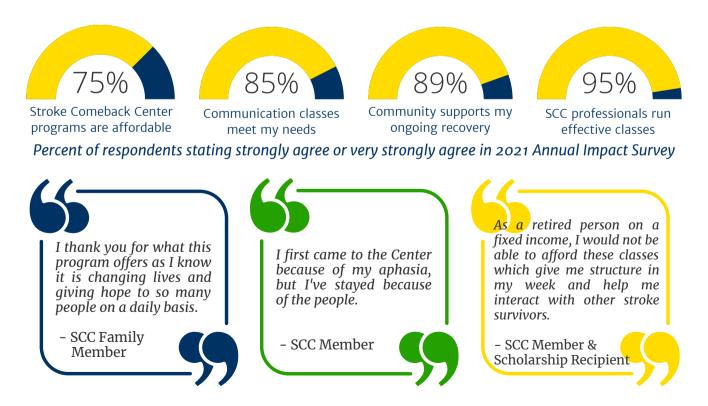
#### Stroke Comeback Center programs have improved my:



#### Stroke Comeback Center has helped me to...

### Be more hopeful about my future Be more independent Make new friends

Meet my personal goals



### 2021 Events

#### Do More 24



Thank you to the 600+ donors who made Do More 24 2021 a tremendous success. *Together* we raised over \$70,000 and took the top spot on the Do More 24 Leaderboard!

#### **Kalikie Classic Golf Tournament**

The 13th Annual Kalikie Classic continued its successful formula of combining fun and stroke awareness while raising funds for the Stroke Comeback Center. This special day of community brought *together* more than 70 golfers and raised \$26,000 in mission support.







A special thanks to Christie "Kalikie" Arnold and the Founding Fathers of this great tournament. Photos by Jenifer Morris Photography

#### The Benefit of Chocolate

Despite masks and social distancing, we gathered *together* to *Honor our Past and Celebrate our Future*. We were grateful to recognize our founder, **Darlene Williamson**, and honor her vision of supporting stroke survivors and families throughout their recoveries, regardless of their ability to pay. *Together* with our virtual silent auction, this event raised over \$65,000 to support her vision.



#### **Stroke Comeback Trail**

Our 2nd Annual Stroke Comeback Trail had over 200 participants ages 1 to 91, from 18 states, and our first international participants. We came *together* to support survivors and their families along the road to recovery. *Together* we raised over \$22,000 to support our mission and spread stroke awareness in recognition of World Stroke Day.

"Thank you for hosting the virtual Stroke Comeback Trail with such excellence. It is a terrific event and I am delighted so many people around the world supported the Center's cause and helped make this event such a success. Can't wait 'til next year!" – Survivor and participant Larry Dilworth, pictured with daughter Caroline



## Your Support, Together in 2021

**1,310** Donors

**1,682** Donations

**15** Grantors *together* contributed over \$200,000

**38** Known Workplace Giving donors (plus many anonymous)

250

Tribute gifts in honor or memory of a loved one

53 Volunteers

**676** Hours of volunteer service donated to direct program support

January 1 – December 31, 2021

Thank you for another year of support, connection and community.

A special thanks to those who give so generously to the Stroke Comeback Center through **workplace giving**, including the United Way of the National Capital Area and the Combined Federal Campaign, Benevity Foundation, America's Charities, Bright Funds, Blackbaud Giving Fund, YourCause's Global Good Network, FrontStream, Give Back Foundation, the BASF Corporation, and many others. *By giving where you work*, YOU make OUR work possible.

Our 2021 Grantors help spread awareness and fund our work toward long-term goals. *Together*, we are making a difference in our communities: Adventist HealthCare, Anonymous Independent Foundation, Anonymous Private Grantmaking Foundation, The Claude Moore Charitable Foundation, The Closet of Greater Herndon Area, Corina Higginson Trust, ExxonMobil Foundation, The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc., McLean Community Foundation, Philip L. Graham Fund, Randolph D Rouse Foundation, Inc., Rockville Rotary Club Foundation, Rotary Club of Vienna, Shrewsbury Foundation, and St. Mark Catholic Church.



The families of these individuals who passed in 2021 honored their legacy by designating Stroke Comeback Center to receive Tribute Gifts made in their memory.

We are so grateful for this meaningful support.

Marianne Coyle • James Forsberg • Thomas Gilbert • Thomas Keane • Nancy Parks • Ruth Paynter • Craig H. Robertson



*Partners for a Brighter Tomorrow* honors those who have chosen to make a lasting investment in Stroke Comeback Center, allowing us to meet the needs of our community now and in the future.

Planned gifts are as simple as naming Stroke Comeback Center in your will or living trust, as a beneficiary of your IRA or life insurance policy, or gifts of stock and appreciated assets. These gifts enable you to create a meaningful philanthropic legacy and will help us to support stroke and brain trauma survivors and their families for years to come. To discuss planned giving opportunities, please contact Connie Dupuy at 703-255-2950 or connie@strokecomebackcenter.org.

### Why We Give



**Mary Valder** 

As a long-time friend of Stroke Comeback Center's Founder Darlene Williamson, Mary Valder chooses to support the center with a monthly gift. Mary donates each month because she believes the Center makes a positive impact on the lives of stroke and brain trauma survivors. All gifts, no matter the size, make it possible for Stroke Comeback Center to provide services, regardless of ability to pay.

"I've known Darlene Williamson for over 40 years. Besides being a friend, she helped my dad with his swallowing when he was in Hospice in 1993. The Center's work with individuals with aphasia and other speech issues has been so impactful and I'm glad I can do what little I do."

Among the many dedicated Stroke Comeback Center donors, Paul Berger and Stephanie Mensh have supported the Center since the very beginning. Stroke survivor Paul values the opportunity members have to choose classes and set a schedule that works for the individual. His wife Stephanie appreciates the support care partners and family members give and receive from one another. They both enjoy social activities, where survivors, care partners, and family members have the chance to get to know each other in an informal setting and become part of a community. Paul and Stephanie choose to continue supporting the Center year after year because they believe in the Stroke Comeback Center's model of service.

"We both feel the staff of the Center is extraordinary in their commitment, support, inclusion, and respect for the members. It provides a place for those who have survived stroke and brain injury and want to be part of a supportive community."



Paul Berger & Stephanie Mensh



**Jennifer Lee** 

Jennifer Lee's grandmother had a stroke years ago. It was a confusing and challenging time for her family. They did not live in the area but often wished there was a place like the Stroke Comeback Center to help them navigate the journey. As a volunteer, Jennifer sees the gains that members make in their communication and lives. It is a place to come together for peer support, for encouragement, and for a sense of community.

"I share with the Stroke Comeback Center in honor of my grandmother who passed away and for families like ours who need camaraderie and support to engage in life and communication."



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Every donation makes a difference. Supporters listed contributed \$100 or more in 2021.

### 2021 Supporters

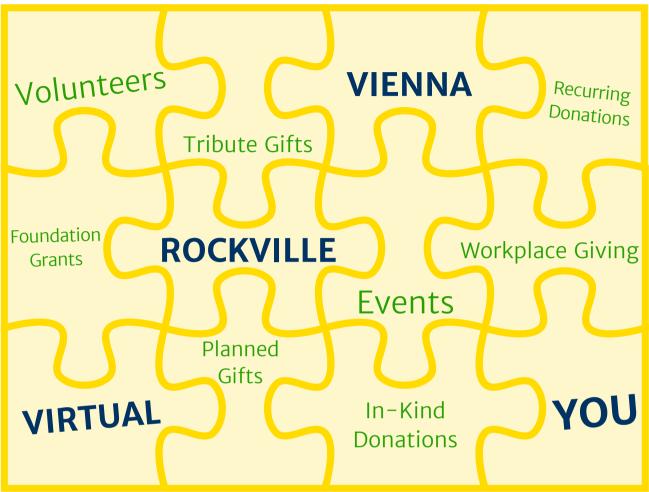
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## **Together Again**



Thank you for your support during 2021. *Together* we ensured that all stroke and brain trauma survivors in our community had the opportunity to continue their recoveries and participate in meaningful services – regardless of their ability to pay.



Opening the door to a brighter tomorrow

Visit us at www.strokecomebackcenter.org Vienna Center 145 Park Street SE, Vienna, VA 22180 Rockville Center 50 W. Edmonston Drive, Suite 301, Rockville, MD 20852 Virtual Center vscc@strokecomebackcenter.org

