

Making Communication Possible

Thanks Mom & Dad!

Looper Speech and Hearing Center was honored to be awarded a \$5000 grant by the Thanks Mom and Dad Fund this past December.

The Fund was created to honor parents, grandparents, and mentors by supporting programs and services that target the aging population. They award grant funding to agencies that help fill gaps in services to older adults.

Funding received from the Thanks Mom and Dad Fund is being used to provide reduced-cost services to older adult patients who have financial need. Insurance often does not cover speech, language, swallowing, and hearing difficulties, and many of these communication disorders disproportionately affect the elderly. This funding helps to ensure that older adult patients with financial need are able to receive the care that they need.

Members of Looper's grant writing committee, Kathie Edwards, John Cowart, and Katie McCreery-Scarbor, attended Thanks Mom and Dad's grant writing workshop and awards ceremony on February 19th, 2020 at Nelson, Mullins, Riley, & Scarborough at Atlantic Station in Atlanta. We are deeply grateful to the Thanks Mom and Dad Fund for their support of Looper's mission to provide affordable, accessible services for the communities we serve.



Looper President/CEO Kathie Edwards accepts the grant at the awards ceremony in Atlanta on February 19th, 2020.

Better Hearing & Speech Month



May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

DID YOU KNOW...

...hearing loss is the most common congenital birth defect.

...almost 50% of adults aged 65+ have some degree of hearing loss.

...in a given year, 7.7% of kids aged 3-17 are affected by speech, language, and swallowing disorders.

...swallowing disorders affect 20% of the population over the age of 50.

...between 25-40% of stroke survivors have difficulty with speech and language requiring intervention.

Impaired communication affects our relationships with family, friends, and healthcare providers. It can limit our ability to engage in activities we enjoy. However, these disorders ARE treatable. Speech-language pathologists and audiologists are specialty-trained clinicians that help people reach their maximum potential. Improved communication can result in improved global health and quality of life. This May, put communication to work for you!

Looper's 10th Annual Charity Floral Demonstration was a "blooming" success!

With over 100 individuals in attendance at the October 22, 2019 event at The Farm, the audience was entranced by guest speaker and floral designer Christy Hulsey from Colonial House of Flowers in Statesboro, GA. She impressed spectators with her painterly designs incorporating local greenery while sharing her personal connection to Looper's mission.

Special Thanks to Our Floral Event Sponsors:



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in memory of Albert & Claire Follacio

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Rose - \$250+

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Making Memories With Flowers



Seven Teams, One Night of Fun and Feuding

On November 16, 2019, for the first time ever, Looper presented Game of Feuds at Walnut Hill Farm. Teams from across the community faced off in the "Family Feud" style event. Hosted by Sheriff Scott Chitwood, the night was full of friendly feuding and laughs, complete with a delicious dinner from Chef Jasa Joseph. Teams competed to both win the game and raise the most money for Looper. We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the teams, volunteers, and sponsors who helped make this event possible.



The Dazzlers (pictured above with host Sheriff Scott Chitwood) won the first ever Game of Feuds. The Shaw Side Effects (pictured left) took home the Spotlight Trophy for raising the most fundraising dollars.

Sincere Thanks to Our Game of Feuds Sponsors!

FAST ROUND SPONSOR:

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DONATIONS:

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Shaw Industries Helps Patients Hear



Shaw Industries donated funding for the development of a new hearing aid loaner bank for Looper patients.

Hearing aids from the loaner bank will provide a temporary solution for patients whose hearing aids are out for repair, ensuring that no one has to be without hearing while waiting for their hearing aids to be fixed.

Thank you, Shaw, for everything you do for our patients and our community!

Founded in 1969, LOOPER SPEECH AND HEARING CENTER is a private, not for profit 501 (c) (3) tax exempt organization, dedicated to meeting the speech, language and hearing needs of Northwest Georgia's children and adults. The Center is a direct service provider, an information resource center and an advocate for people of all ages who suffer from hearing loss, or have speech, swallowing and language disabilities.

In 2019, Looper Speech and Hearing Center provided over 9614 services. Of those services, 5409 were financially assisted to 512 individuals.

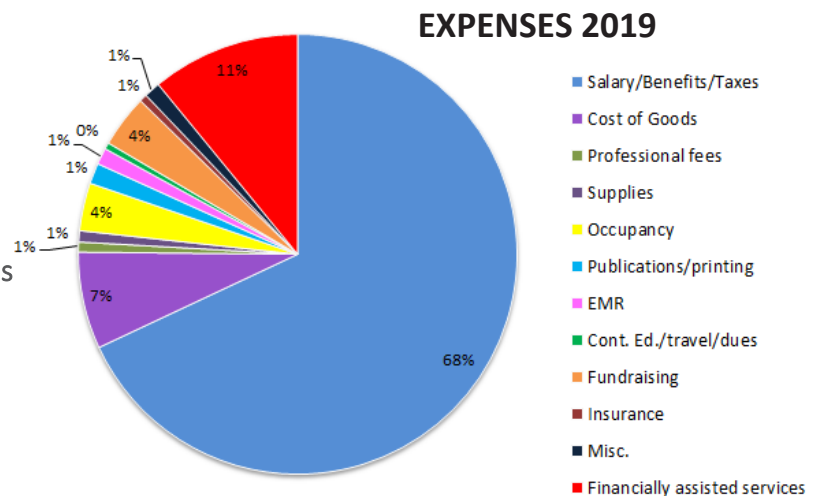
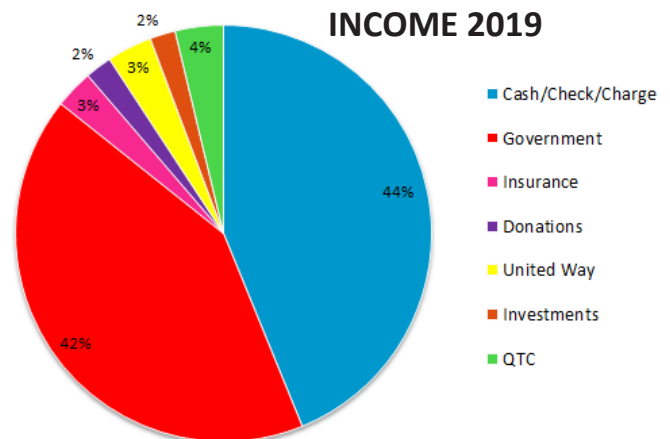
Of those served:

36% are infants or youth under age 18
 28% are adults under age 65
 36% are older than 65,
 67% are residents of Whitfield and Murray Counties
 17% are from the surrounding communities

Income produced from Service Fees and Sales:

70% from Speech Services
 15% from Audiological Services
 15% from Hearing Aid Sales

Looper Speech and Hearing Center's fiscal year is January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019.



In Memory of William Edwards



They say that people forget what you say, what you do, how you make them feel, but that is not the case with William Edwards. It is rare to truly have someone touch your life in so many different ways.

William was a gift to Looper Speech and Hearing Center and even more to me as a friend. William joined the board in 2008. He served for six years, took a year off, and rejoined the board in 2014 and continued until his passing in 2019. William was there to help, regardless of the task. He led by example and that drew people to him.

There were quiet moments when we would just sit and talk. He had a special way of telling you what you needed to do without ever coming out and telling you to do something. Whether it was business or personal, William had your best interest at heart.

During these difficult times, I am finding myself wanting to have those talks again. William, you are truly missed and loved. Thank you for coming to Looper and making a difference.

Kathie Edwards
 President/CEO

Friends Of Looper 2019 Donors and 2020 Donors to Date:

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Celebrating **50** Years of excellence
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