2015 ANNUAL REPORT
VISIONING A WORLD WHERE ALL CHILDREN ARE NOURISHED AND VALUED
SPoon is building a world where children living without permanent families and those with disabilities are seen, nourished, and given a chance to thrive.
Dear Friends,

2015 was an incredible year of growth for SPOON and for the children we reached with your support! We deepened our work in Russia and China, increased our reach in India and Vietnam, and launched a program in our own backyard with children in Oregon’s foster care. We also laid the groundwork for new partnerships and programs in Bulgaria, Mongolia, Ethiopia and Zambia in 2016, all while remaining deeply committed to our roots in Kazakhstan.

In order to continue this important expansion, we launched Count Me In™, an exciting initiative to streamline and digitize SPOON's unique feeding and nutrition tools so we can have an even greater impact on an ever-increasing number of children. The SPOON team now consists of 10 expert staff, and several volunteer specialists who travel the globe and work tirelessly in service of SPOON’s mission.

Our work wouldn't be possible without the strong community of individuals and organizations who bolster us and allow us to retain continued financial stability and growth. Support from our community comes in many forms, including the stewardship from our Board of Trustees and Portland Community Leadership Council, the expertise of our Medical Advisory Board, the selflessness of our many volunteers, and the generosity of our donors. And thanks to the generous pro-bono work from Zeus Jones in Minneapolis, we have a refreshed logo and website.

We are excited for the year ahead, and proud of what we have achieved so far. The children we reach struggle so unnecessarily with malnutrition and feeding complications, often in absence of a family or community to care for them. But with your help, we are changing their lives. Thank you for joining us in this journey.

With hope and gratitude,

Cindy Kaplan
Co-Founder

Mishelle Rudzinski
Co-Founder
OUR REACH
2015 was a transformative year. Thanks to the time, resources and dedication of our team, our partners, and our supporters we have deepened our impact, and reached more children in more places than ever before.
Our Impact

2015 was all about optimizing our impact. SPOON reached an ever-expanding number of children due to our strategy: teaching international and local partners how to feed children safely and monitor their growth. We optimized our impact and reached more children by delivering locally contextualized tools, sharing our expertise, and training our partners to teach others to provide optimal care in low resource settings.

Read on to learn details of SPOON’S impact in 2015.
Reductions in Malnutrition

Treatable and preventable forms of malnutrition, such as anemia, can be catastrophic for children without permanent families caring for them, and for children with disabilities who are often isolated from their communities. SPOON teaches caregivers and clinicians with limited training to screen children for malnutrition, track their growth, improve diets, correct dangerous feeding techniques, then monitor changes to make sure the new programs are having an impact.

The results have been dramatic in India, China and Vietnam where reductions in anemia are giving many children a new chance at normal, healthy brain development and overall health.
Bringing SPOON Home: US Foster Care

There are approximately 400,000 children in foster care nationally, with 12,000 in SPOON’s home state of Oregon alone - one of the highest rates in the United States. Children enter foster care at a disadvantage due to adverse childhood experiences and are at risk for malnutrition due to poor prenatal and infant health care, food insecurity, chronic stress, and the effects of abuse and neglect.

SPOON launched the Nourishing Oregon’s Foster Children project in January 2015 with local government services and University of Oregon. For the first time ever, a tailored nutrition and feeding training program is now offered for the foster care community (foster parents, child welfare professionals, and training service providers).
OUR TOOLS

Where We Started

SPOON complements traditional mainstream nutrition programs through our package of assessment and intervention tools that address what and how children are fed. Our experts are designing solutions to accommodate the crucial and unique nutrition and feeding needs of children impacted by disability and/or institutional care.

SPOON’s tools address many of the root causes of malnutrition, including:

- Feeding Techniques: Assessing and improving caregiver feeding practices for young children and children with disabilities;
- Nutrition Screening: Identifying children at-risk and prescribing individualized interventions for children with complex needs; and
- Diet: Evaluating and optimizing diet and supplementation, including food preparation in institutional settings.

Leveraging Technology

In order to respond to the demand to expand our programs to more sites and countries, SPOON launched Count Me In™, a comprehensive digital tool uniquely addressing multiple nutrition and feeding related risk factors for all children, including children with disabilities. We determined that the creation of this tool was an organizational priority because:

- Integration of our existing nutrition and feeding tools can result in highly impactful recommendations for each child. For example, if a child is determined to be underweight, we will be able to make immediate and customized recommendations based on multiple factors such as diagnosis, feeding techniques, diet, and nutritional status.
- Digitization resolves the many challenges presented by paper-based tools and allows us to reach more children more quickly, improving their quality of life and diminishing the risk of irreversible damage.
Spreading Life-Saving Techniques

Studies show that children living in institutions receive less than ten minutes a day of interaction with adults. Most interaction happens during mealtimes, and yet the feeding methods are usually rapid, rough, and even dangerous for children with disabilities who cannot chew and swallow easily. But with training, we are changing this reality.

In 2015, in partnership with Holt International, we trained master trainers in China, Vietnam, and India who went on to share their newfound expertise to many more caregivers throughout their countries. We carried out our second training in Russia with Drs. Tatiana (Tanya) Morozova and Svyatoslav (Slava) Dovbnya who are cascading training to caregivers supporting vulnerable children and families throughout Russia.
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The Nonprofit Association of Oregon
UNICEF Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities
U.S. Government International Assistance for Children in Adversity
University of Oregon
World Vision
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**REVENUE**

- Individual Contributions: $357,471
- Foundation Grants: $336,107
- Contracts Earned Income: $166,087
- In-Kind Contributions: $147,591
- Corporate Contributions: $19,771
- Realized Gain/Loss on Investments: $2,426
- Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments: $(21,098)
- Investment Income: $883
- Other Income: $(557)

**Total Revenue**: $1,008,683

**EXPENSES**

- Total Programs: $505,384
  - Domestic Programs: $45,039
  - International Programs: $236,254
  - Tools Optimization: $74,294
  - Program Development: $149,749
  - G&A: $109,149
  - Fundraising: $150,113

**Total Expenses**: $764,646

**Change in Net Assets**: $244,037

**ASSETS**

- Cash and Cash Equivalents: $437,892
- Accounts and Grants Receivable: $143,910
- Prepaid Expenses & Insurance: $11,301
- Furniture and Equipment, Net: $84,865

**Total Assets**: $678,048

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

- Total Liabilities: $14,589
- Total Net Assets: $663,458
  - Unrestricted Net Assets: $485,917
  - Temporarily Restricted Net Assets: $177,542

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets**: $678,048

SPOON undergoes an annual audit conducted by an independent firm. Figures above are based upon the report of McDonald Jacobs.
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We are grateful to the many volunteers who selflessly donate their expertise and time throughout the year. The following volunteers provided over 40 hours of their time.
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