

Donors, Sponsors and Memorials
July 2024– June 2025

Platinum
Beam Construction
James & Dorothy Towery
Edgeway Pharmacy
NFP
Spectrumwise
Frances Towery
Toyota of Gastonia
Watson Insurance Agency
Gold
James & Darlene Hoyle
Sandra Ridley
Arandas Darrell’s Garage
Bowman Financial Group
Commercial Bank
Gastonia Sheet Metal
Loretta Horne
Stephen Lineberger
McKenney-Salinas Honda
Oakley Financial LLC
PME Painting
Julian Rauch
Southminster Presbyterian Church
Truist Bank
Silver
Darlene Norton
Joanne Mitchell
Tom Davis
Clegg’s Termite & Pest Control
Davidson, Holland, Whitesell & Co., PLLC
Kale & Janice Henry
Joseph Mayes, Jr.

Morris Mechanical
Sam Pierce
Charlie Funderburk Irrevocable Trust
Brintley Insurance Agency
Arleen Glover
Tonda Stillwell
Butler & Stowe
Spartan Tree and Landscape Inc.
Dean Huffman
Bronze
Gaston Community Foundation
Tammy Hopper
Bless Rider
Kasey Wing
Crystal Dowdle
Zed Bradley
Lynette Demperio
Joe Grigg
Susan Holland
Jan & Marc Newell
David & Irene Norton

In Memory of Shirley Bradshaw
Michael Bradshaw

In Memory of Veronica Dickerson
Darlene Norton

In Honor of Donnie White
Carolyn & Brad Howard

In Honor of Hunter Pressley
Jana Pressley

In Honor of Vencel Castro
Miguel Castro



Making a Good
Community Better

www.grsinc.org



Annual Report
2025

2025-2026 GRS Board of Directors

Dr. Paul Brintley, Chair
Mr. Zed Bradley, Vice Chair
Mr. James Hoyle, Sec/Treasurer

Mr. Larry Capps
Mrs. Alice B. Carpenter
Mr. Jim Kellogg
Mrs. Janet Layne
Mrs. Selina Lee
Ms. Joanne Mitchell
Mrs. Karen Morgan
Mr. John Russell

Executive Team

Darlene Norton, MA
Executive Director

Tom Davis, CPA
Finance Director/COO

Wendy Houser
Director, Supported Living

Dee Washington
Director, ICF/IID

Management Team

Annie Earle
Quality and Rights Manager

Krishna Dozier
Human Resources Manager

Kasey Wing
RN/BSN, Nursing Director

Byron Auten
CMG Manager

Our Mission

Gaston Residential Services, Inc. (GRS)'s mission is to support and empower persons with developmental disabilities and other disabilities so that they may live their lives as respected members of the community.

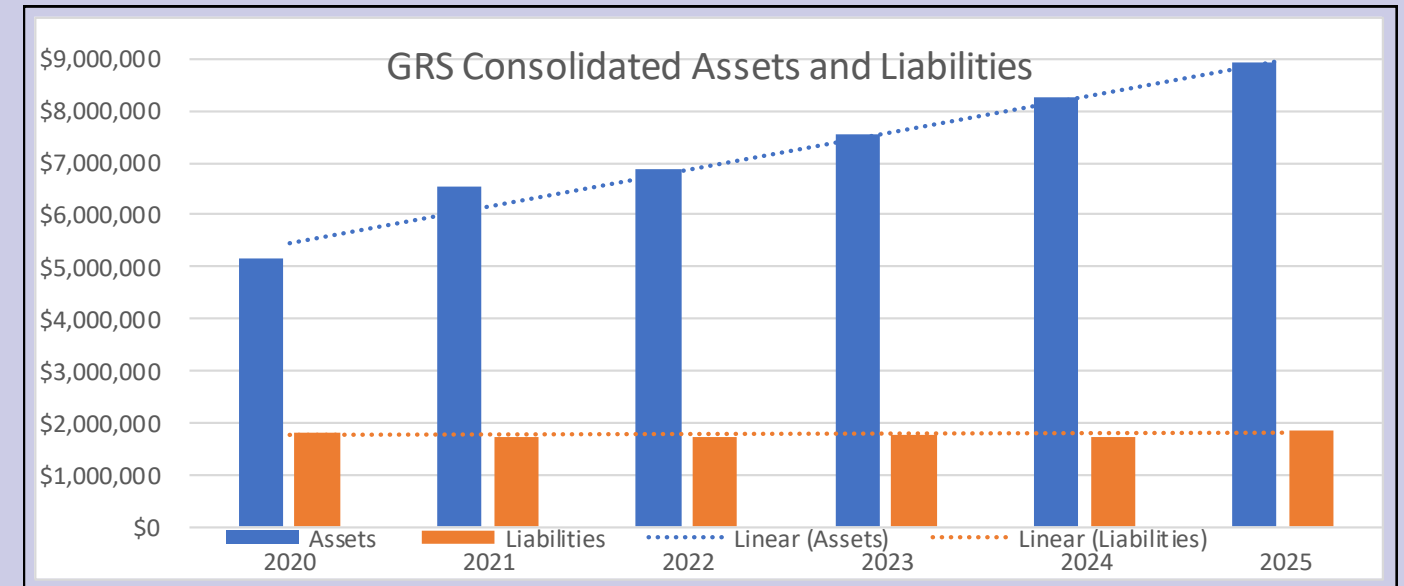
It is our belief that people with disabilities, including those persons with the most severe disabilities, are integral and valued members of our society.

We believe that in order to achieve our mission we must listen to each person served by GRS to help him or her build positive relationships with others.

We will support each individual in his or her exploration and development of personal, employment, recreational, and spiritual pursuits to achieve self fulfillment.

GRS Finance

We celebrated our 50th year with another very strong year financially at Gaston Residential Services in 2025! Total revenue increased for the third straight year due to record high daily reimbursement rates, greater than a 96% billing rate for the fifth straight year and another year of strong investment returns on financial investments. We also had a very successful Viva Las Vegas fundraising event in 2025 commemorating our 50th anniversary.

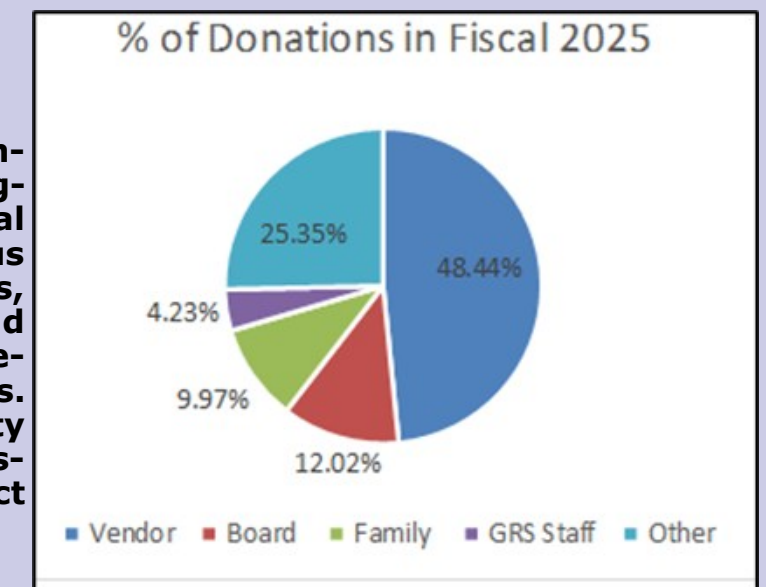


While revenue grew at 1.8% in 2025, expenses grew at 3.3%, primarily due to payroll expenses and related benefits. Payroll expenses grew for the sixth straight year as we put a high priority on staffing all homes adequately to serve all needs of the people served and pay a competitive wage that allows us to attract and retain the best staff in the industry.

Nearly all financial metrics reached record positive levels in 2025 including-

Cash as a % of liabilities
Debt to Equity ratio
Liabilities as a % of assets
Total revenue
Net assets

In fiscal year 2025, our organization invested \$102,272 in donated and designated funds to advance mission-critical initiatives. These resources enabled us to expand person-centered services, enhance safety in our homes, and strengthen organizational capacity beyond what traditional funding allows. Every dollar reflected the generosity and trust of our supporters—and translated directly into meaningful impact for the individuals we serve.



We are Deeply Grateful to our Donors for their incredible generosity. Your support has made a lasting impact across our programs and homes:

Therapeutic Services Funded

Music Therapy – fostering emotional expression and connection through rhythm and sound

Recreation Therapy – promoting physical wellness and social engagement through play and activity

Equine Therapy – building confidence and trust through guided interactions with horses



Home Enhancements Made Possible

Generators installed in all homes – ensuring safety and comfort during power outages

Ceiling track lift system – improving mobility and care for individuals with physical challenges

Therapeutic bicycle – encouraging movement, independence, and joy



Life Enrichment Made Possible

Christmas Gifts and Holiday Meals Purchased

Vacation Trips Financed

Dental Work Financed

Clothing Purchased



Sincerest Thanks!

2025 GRS Advisory Council

GRS' Advisory Council is comprised of individuals served by GRS who advocate for individuals with disabilities and advise GRS leadership.



Over the past year, the Advisory Council engaged in a variety of educational and creative initiatives. Members explored topics such as pedestrian safety, astronomy, World Rainforest Day, country music, and baseball. Hands-on activities included making snow from cornstarch, painting rocks, crafting cowboy-themed and "wanted" posters, and designing cards to celebrate International Friendship Day.

The Council played a key role in community outreach, collecting and distributing 1,859 items for the Back-to-School Backpack Drive. In recognition of DSP Appreciation Week, each group home received a bouquet of flowers and personalized thank-you cards, delivered by members of the council throughout the week.

Looking ahead, the Council will conduct elections and participate in Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Drive. In 2026, the Advisory Council educational activities will focus on promoting healthy relationships. The council will help with facilitating satisfaction surveys for individuals served by GRS, reinforcing our commitment to person-centered engagement and continuous improvement.

2025 GRS ADVISORY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Debbie Poarch, President

Harold Conner, Vice President

Ellen Fulbright, Treasurer

Darrell Bennett, Secretary

Richard Woods, Immediate Past President

Chip Funderburk, Sergeant at Arms

Annie Earle and Zach Strong, Staff Facilitators

Catherine Bridges and Maggie Gray, Advocate Advisors

Bridgeat Lipscomb and Jim Kellogg, Special Advisors



**Back to School
Backpack Drive
2025**

Residential Services



Baseball!

83

People Served in
Homes and Apart-
ments



6

Supervised Living
Homes

11

Licensed
Homes

4

Apartment
Sites

5

ICF/IID
Homes



Vacation!



Employment and Community Services

CMG

38

Recreation and Other
Therapeutic Services



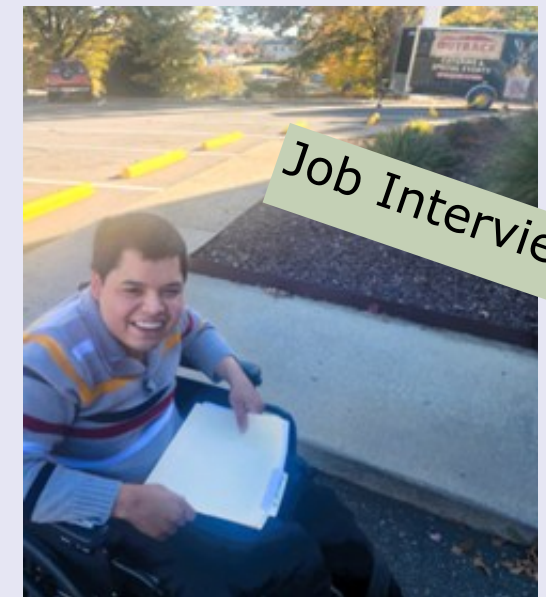
10

Community Employment and
Support Services



On the Job at
McDonald's!

Job Interview!



24

Community Support
or Community
Networking



Meals on Wheels
Volunteer