

My name is Haley Minner and I am a pediatric speech-language pathologist currently working at UNC Healthcare's Center for Rehabilitation Care in Chapel Hill, NC. I specialize in the evaluation and treatment of children with developmental speech, language and communication disorders. I would like to share my story of how I first came to learn of the Scottish Rite Foundation.

While attending Appalachian State University for undergraduate and graduate school, I was very fortunate to have several rewarding observation and practicum placements at the Charles and Geneva Scott Scottish Rite Communication Disorders Clinic. This clinic allowed me to have personalized training with hands on clinical learning experiences in the field of speech-language pathology. This clinic is making an incredible difference in the community. Every day the faculty, staff and students are improving the lives of children and their families. Because of the Scottish Rite Foundation's generous support, more than 1,600 speech-language pathologists have been trained to provide these skilled services to individuals in need. The Scottish Rite Foundation played a significant role in my specialized training and education in becoming a speech-language pathologist.

It is because of my time at this communication disorders clinic that the Scottish Rite Foundation immediately came to mind when I began my search for funding to start the *It Takes Two to Talk*® The Hanen Program® for Parents of Children with Language Delays. Shortly after contacting the foundation, I met Mr. Michael May and Dr. Bill Brunk. Their positive response and enthusiasm along with unwavering member support, are what made it possible to complete *It Takes Two to Talk* for the first time this past spring. This funding allowed families to participate without financial burden and provided myself and another Hanen certified speech-language pathologist with the materials and compensation needed to operate the program. I am proud to let you know it was a positive and successful experience for the families and myself.

I am most grateful and thankful for the Scottish Rite members. Not only did they provide me with the teaching tools necessary to become a speech-language pathologist, but they also made it possible for me to bring a wonderful and important program to service children and their families in need. I express my sincerest gratitude to The Scottish Rite for the dedication they show in addressing this need and serving others.