



2024

ANNUAL REPORT

OUR THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT





FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Sarah Patterson, MSc, CCLS

As we approach the close of 2024, it is both an honor and a privilege to reflect on the milestones we've achieved together and to look ahead with anticipation to the opportunities awaiting us in the coming year. This has been a year of meaningful collaboration, growth, and progress, fueled by our shared commitment to advancing the mission and vision of

ACLP. Among our most significant accomplishments this year was the creation of our new strategic plan, crafted with insight and contributions from a diverse group of voices within our community. Through inclusive and thoughtful strategic planning sessions, we have created a roadmap that reflects the evolving needs of our profession and our members. Launching in 2025, this plan positions ACLP to build on our strengths and continue to innovate in the years ahead.

Another key focus this year was deepening our connection with our members through a series of member listening sessions. These conversations provided leadership with invaluable opportunities to hear directly from you—our members—about your hopes, challenges, and aspirations for the profession and the association. Your voices are at the heart of everything we do, and these conversations underscored the dedication we share to advancing our profession and supporting one another.



FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT CONT'D

As we celebrate these accomplishments, I want to acknowledge the unwavering dedication, passion, and resilience of our members and volunteers. Whether you're working directly with children and families, mentoring and teaching the next generation of professionals, or contributing behind the scenes to ACLP's work—your efforts make a difference. You inspire all of us at ACLP to keep pushing for progress.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to embark on new initiatives that will continue to strengthen our community. The launch of our new strategic plan will lay the foundation for even greater progress, and we look forward to working with all of you to achieve our shared goals.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for being the heart of this association. Your commitment, input, and trust make everything we do possible. I am grateful to walk alongside you on this journey as we continue to make a difference in the lives of children, families, and our profession.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Patterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sarah" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Patterson".

Sarah Patterson, MSc, CCLS
President, Board of Directors
Association of Child Life Professionals





FROM THE ACLP CEO

Alison E. Heron, MBA, CAE

Dear Esteemed Members, Staff, Partners,
and Supporters,

Reflecting on the past year and the final stages of our current strategic plan, I am deeply inspired by the dedication, collaboration, and progress demonstrated across the ACLP community. The accomplishments we've achieved together over the course of this strategic plan

represent not only hard work but also our shared commitment to advancing the child life profession and supporting each other through ever-changing challenges.

Over the last few years, we have made remarkable strides, including hosting the second Emotional Safety Summit, a pivotal moment for driving dialogue and innovation in the allied healthcare field. We launched the Internship Readiness Common Application as a fillable PDF, creating a more accessible way for aspiring professionals to obtain an internship. We also proudly earned NCCA accreditation for the Certified Child Life Specialist credential, a key objective included in the last two ACLP strategic plans. This recognition serves as an independent endorsement of the program's quality and reliability, representing a prestigious milestone in the advancement of our profession.

In response to our community's needs, we established new committees and task forces, such as the Child Life Leaders Task Force, which is developing essential resources for leaders in our field.

Our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) has been embedded into the foundation of our organization through racially conscious collaboration training, the development of the Introduction to Intersectional Relationships in Child Life Practice course, and a governance audit conducted with a DEI lens. These initiatives reflect our dedication to creating a more inclusive and equitable profession for all.



FROM THE ACLP CEO CONT'D

In addition to these successes, 2024 has been a year of growth, new milestones, and meaningful reflection. Our annual conference brought together over 600 attendees and 60 exhibitors, offering a space for connection, learning, and celebration of our shared mission. We were thrilled to see unprecedented engagement for next year's conference, with over 225 abstract submissions—a testament to the expertise and passion of our community. Furthermore, we launched a new needs-based grant program for child life programs, providing much-needed resources to those serving children and families in diverse settings.

This year also presented challenges, some of which were on social media, where conversations highlighted important member concerns. In response, ACLP hosted its first-ever member listening sessions, providing a platform for leadership and the Board of Directors to engage in direct dialogue with members. These sessions fostered open communication, allowing us to listen, learn, and take actionable steps to better serve our community.

These accomplishments reflect you—our members, volunteers, and supporters—who continue to inspire and drive our work. Your resilience, innovation, and commitment to the child life community have been the cornerstones of our success.

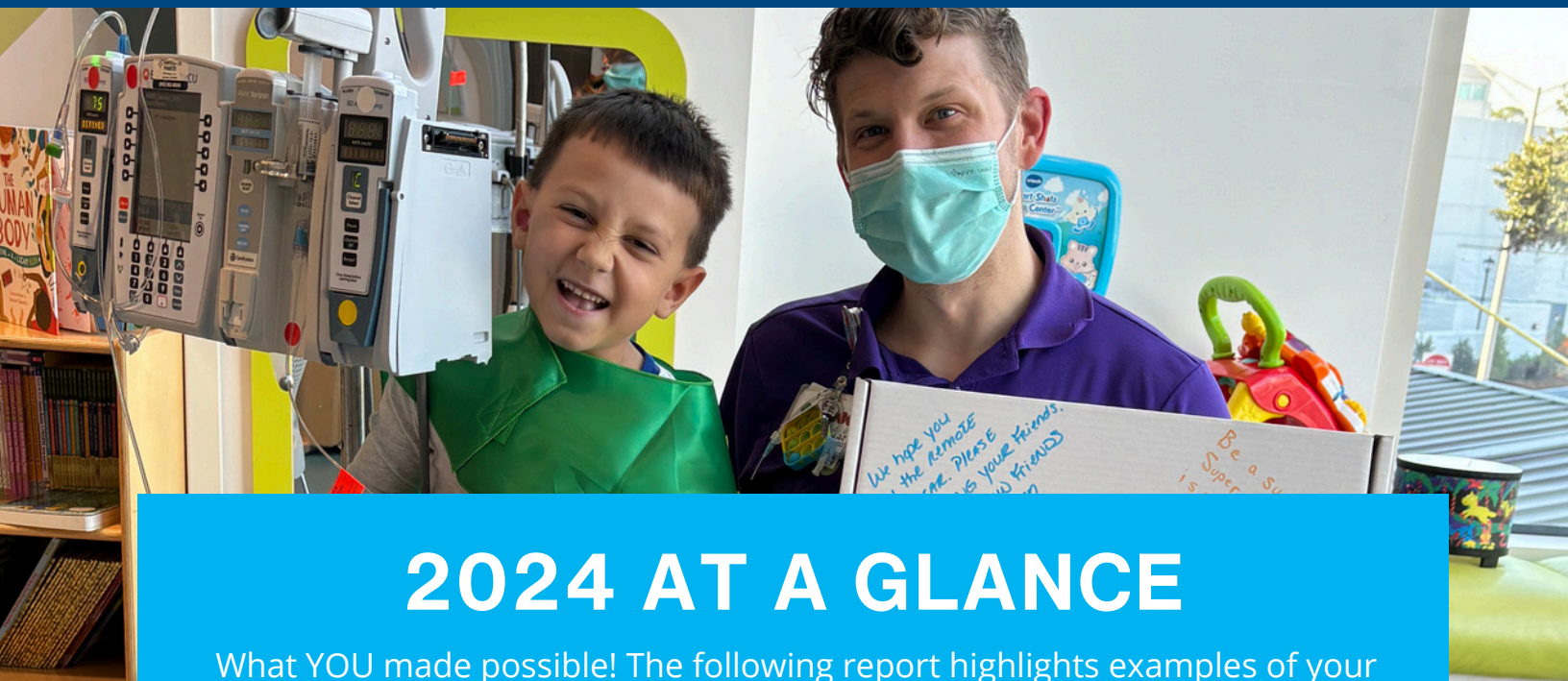
As we prepare to embark on a new strategic plan in 2025, I am filled with excitement and optimism for what lies ahead. Together, we will build on the foundation we've created and continue to shape a brighter future for the child life profession.

Thank you for your trust, dedication, and unwavering belief in the transformative power of child life. I am honored to walk alongside you on this journey and look forward to all we will accomplish together in the coming year.

With gratitude and hope,

Alison E. Heron, MBA, CAE
Chief Executive Officer
Association of Child Life Professionals





2024 AT A GLANCE

What YOU made possible! The following report highlights examples of your impact from membership and volunteer hours with ACLP.



Education

- **23** webinars hosted with over **6,206** registrants
- **Over 600** attendees at the 2024 Child Life Conference
- **Top 2024 Webinars:**
 - Supporting Children with Autism During Medical Visits and Procedures
 - Pain Theory and Non-Pharmacological Pain Management
 - Trauma: Beyond the Basics



Membership

- **4,473** ACLP Members
- **436** new ACLP Members
- **18** Affinity Group Meet-Ups
- **17** Class Calls with aspiring professionals



FINANCIAL REPORT

Riley Hammond, MS, CCLS
ACLP Treasurer

ACLP remains steadfast in its commitment to financial health, integrity, compliance, and transparency with our members. The Finance Committee continues to monitor the organization's financial health by ensuring that assets are protected, resources are utilized effectively, and all applicable laws and reporting requirements are met. This includes regular and detailed reviews of financial documents, budgets, tax forms, and the annual audit.

We engage financial experts to manage ACLP's accounts and investments, conduct an independent audit, and prepare tax filings. The Board of Directors and ACLP staff provide additional oversight and support for budgeting and tax compliance. To assess ACLP's ability to meet its obligations, we use tools such as the current ratio, which measures liquidity through current assets like cash and investments.

In 2024, ACLP continues to demonstrate financial stability, with a current ratio of 5.3, reflecting our ability to cover expenses without incurring debt. ACLP's primary revenue sources include grants, membership dues, educational offerings, and investment income. These funds enable ACLP to support its mission and cover organizational expenses such as human capital and annual conference.

As of 10/31/2024

Revenue

\$1,930,000

Up 6% from this time last year

Expenses

\$2,030,000

Down 8% from this time last year



GIVING BACK

ACLP is proud to offer scholarship programs designed to increase access to education, support, and resources within the child life field. These programs reflect our commitment to fostering growth and opportunity for aspiring and current professionals alike. Below is a look back at the scholarships awarded in 2024.

64

Child Life Needs-
Based Grant
Program
applications*

10

Diversity
Scholarships
awarded in
2024*

8

International
Conference
Scholarships
awarded*

18.5

Free PDUs for
ACLP members

57

Membership
Hardship Fee
Waiver program
awardees*

69

Memberships
granted
through the
Membership
Access
Program*



2024 HIGHLIGHTS

The 2022-2024 Strategic Plan has served as a powerful framework for progress, driving ACLP's mission to support the child life community and advance the profession. Over the past three years, this plan has inspired meaningful change, shaped new opportunities, and strengthened our collective impact.

Guided by our shared vision, we have made significant strides in key areas, from fostering inclusion and accessibility to enhancing education and resources. These accomplishments are a testament to the dedication, collaboration, and passion of our members, volunteers, and leadership. Thank you!

Strategic Priority Area 1: Communicate Value and Raise Awareness

- Developed comprehensive Public Relations advocacy toolkits featuring resources focused on gun violence prevention and safety policy, empowering stakeholders with actionable guidance.
- Designed and implemented a strategic plan for updating and maintaining ACLP resources, including conducting a thorough website audit and spearheading a redesign project to enhance user experience.
- Facilitated global access to Emotional Safety Initiatives by translating key documents into multiple languages, ensuring inclusivity and broader reach.

Strategic Priority Area 2: Partnerships, Collaborations, and Connections

- Coordinated and executed the Emotional Safety Summit II, implementing outcome-driven strategies, including a comprehensive review of the framework with a focus on race and health equity.
- Revamped the committee volunteer interest process by introducing leadership and orientation training, streamlining the experience for volunteers and committee members.
- Redefined member meet-ups and affinity groups, organizing the first-ever in-person gatherings for Members of Color and LGBTQIA+ affinity groups during the 2023 conference, fostering stronger community connections.



Strategic Priority Area 3: Optimizing the Pathways to the Profession

- Conducted a thorough review of pre-internship and internship modules through a DEI lens, ensuring inclusivity and equitable access to resources.
- Developed a standardized common application and launched the Internship Readiness Project, accompanied by comprehensive supporting resources to enhance the internship process.
- Introduced the Internship Equity and Access Pledge and completed the development of a clinical supervision course, promoting equitable practices and professional growth.
- Organized the 2023 Staffing Crisis/Pathway to the Profession Think Tank, facilitating critical discussions and actionable strategies to address industry challenges.

Strategic Priority Area 4: Excellence in Professional Practice

- Identified key scientific indexes and successfully launched the Publications Committee to advance scholarly contributions within the field.
- Secured NCCA Accreditation by completing a comprehensive self-study, addressing identified gaps, and meeting rigorous certification standards.
- Developed impactful resources for the child life community, including the Professional Advancement Model Resource Guide, the Community-Based Toolkit, and additional tools to support professional growth and practice.

Strategic Priority Area 5: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Facilitated multiple Racially Conscious Collaboration (RCC) executive sessions to support board leadership and members in fostering racially conscious practices.
- Implemented mandatory DEI training for committees, task forces, and workgroups, including tailored DEI workshops for the Nominating Committee to mitigate interviewer bias.
- Designed and launched ACLP's DEI course while ensuring active BIPOC member representation across organizational initiatives.
- Conducted a comprehensive governance audit and convened a job analysis panel with the inclusion of a DEI observer to uphold equity and inclusivity in organizational practices.





WE SALUTE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Current ACLP Committee Members

Patrice Brylske
Abby Baker
Abigail Horton
Abigail Luther
Adina Bodolay
Alanna Kanawalsky
Alicia Basmajian
Alison Chrisler
Allison Sharawi
Alyssa Friedberg
Alyssa Peralez (DeMoss)
Alyssa Sullivan
Amanda Honeyman
Amanda Auttonberry
Amanda Brown
Amanda Geist-Sanborn
Amanda Lockett
Amber Hill
Amy Ballin
Amy Lee
Angela Silveira
Anita Pumphy
Anne Born
Annie Jacobson
Annie Lawrence

Ashley Kane
Ashley Ochs
Ashley Semones
Ashton Hodge
Ayana Hamilton
Barb Romito
Bari Bates
Belinda Hammond
Brie McDaniel
Brittany Cumbie
Brittany Reed
Brittany Wittenberg Camp
Caitlin Klaras
Caitlin Leary
Camille Fraser
Camille Margot Holcomb
Cara Sisk
Carla Barrentine
Carlee Ray
Carolyn Schneiders-Fung
Cassandra James
Catherine Howe
Cathy Humphreys
Ceilidh Eaton Russell
Christina Dellibovi

Christine Mace
Christine Marcoux
Claire Jennings
Courtney Dill
Cristie Suzukawa Clancy
Danielle Spruill
Darian Rogers-Sysak
Debbie Spencer
Deborah Wheeler
Desiree Osguthorpe
Diane Rode
Diane Bales
Divna Wheelwright
Eden Barker
Eileen Clark
Elana Brewer
Elise Huntley
Ellie Armstrong
Elyssa Siegel
Emily Margolis
Emily Mozena
Emily Edmondson
Emily Freeborn
Emily Goldstein
Emily Kerska

Erika Croswhite
Erin Bailey
Erin Boswell (Brumfield)
Erin Baker
Erin Behen
Erin Egan
Erin Frost
Farya Phillips
Francine Gollub
Gabrielle Hukill
Genevieve Lowry
Gloria Mattera
Grace Therber
Hadley Trull
Hailey Wiegard
Haley Collin
Hannah Williams
Hannah Broussard
Hannah Knott
HeatherBurket
Heather Stohr
Hilary Bruno
Hilary Woodward
Holly Senn
Huma Moulvi



WE SALUTE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Current ACLP Committee Members Cont'd

Jacquie Rahm	Kayla Black	Mary Ann Gill	Rebecca Meyers
Jaime Moran	Kayleigh Chang	Mary Lauren Furlong	Rechelle Porter
Jamie Gentile	Kelli Carroll	Megan Alvarez (Kariger)	Regan Muth
Janet Cross	Kelly Kemp	Megan DeFluri	Regina Gohr
JanisSmith	Kelsey Davis	Megan Kellett	Rene T. Assetta Guilbeau
Jayti Sud	Kelsey Gregorio	Megan Wallace Lenaerts	Robyn Langdon
Jenn Rodemeyer	Kendall Malkin	Meghaan Nguyen	Robyn Moyer
Jenna Read	Kim Stephens	Meghan Jacobson	Rose Seelenbinder
Jenna Zayat	Krista Naugler	Meghan Kelly	Sahr Said
Jenni Davis	Krista Stringer	Melissa Hernandez	Sam Martinez
Jennifer Holly	Kristen Johnson	Melissa Pulis	Sam Ochse
Jennifer Staab	Kristen Bishop	Melissa Racioppa	Sammi Starkey
Jennifer Truant	Kristen Lerma	Michael Attard	Sanasadat Marashi Shooshtari
Jenny Chabot	Kristin Blevins	Michelle Barksdale-Mathews	Sandy Baggott
Jessica Foster	Kristin Brown	Michelle Choromanski	Sandy Dietrich
Jessica Hotchkiss	Kristin Fowler	Michelle Cumber	Sara Ridenour
Jessica Liles	Kristina Richetts	Molly Gleydura	Sarah Barrientos Vaiksaar
Jessika Boles	Kyra Koehler	Monica Gibson	Sarah Daniels
Jill Mendez	Laila Ramji	Morgan Brinson	Sarah Davis
Joan McGeary	Laura Gould	Morgan Ford	Sarah Framarin
Jordan Horn	Laura Mitchell	Morgan Morgan	Sarah Keyes
Julie Piazza	Lauren Thomas	Natalie Arthur	Sarah Krewson
Kacie Webster	Lauren McCann	Natalie Chango	Shannon Lummer Aikey
Karen McHugh-Fornadel	Leslie Daniels	Nate Seroski	Shawn Brasher
Karen Sung Shin	Lindsay Heering	Nicole Rosburg	Shawna Grissom
Karyn Positano	Lindsey Murphy	Nicole Boik	Sherry Treichel
Katelin Jones	Lindsey Welch	Nicole Gandolfo	Sherwood Burns-Nader
Katelyn Dailey (Thomas)	Lisa Martinelli Beasley	Nicole Tanghe	Shira Zipursky
Katelyn Shellabarger	Lori Esch	Nicolle Bengtson	Sophie Apple
Kathleen Stein	Lucy Raab	Nikki Orkoskey	Stacy Sedlack
Kathryn Hamelin	Madeline Lehman	Nora O'Connell	Stephanie Barta
Kathryn "Kat" Davitt	Madison McVeigh	Pamela Norcross	Stephanie Harris
Kathryn Cantrell	Maile Townes Jones	Priti Desai	Stephanie Brink
Kathryn Kauffman	Mallory (Gutchall) Jensen	Qi Cheng	Stephanie Hopkinson
Katie Beard Smith	Marcy Kloster	Quinn Franklin	Stephanie Kilday
Katie Glass	Margaret (Kelly) Clark	Rachel Calvert	Stephanie Patel
Katie McGinnis	Maria Maggi	Rachel Suganuma	Stephanie Whitten
Katie Scarlett	Marisol Montilla	Rachel Thompson	Susan Gorry
Katie Walker	Martha Mwongela	Rana Post	Tammy Else
Katrena Froh		Rebecca Majerczyk	Taryn Wheelock

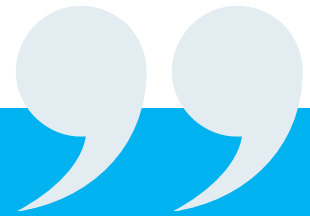


WE SALUTE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Current ACLP Committee Members Cont'd

Taylor Stathes
Teaghan Robinson
Teresa Schoell
Therese Kasper
Tracey Craddock
Tracey Kunj-Ramen
Tracy Akitt
Tricia Patterson
Victoria Heredia
Victoria Isaacson
Y. Renee Hunte
Zoe McCoy

What Members are Saying



"Being an ACLP member has enabled me to participate in a wide variety of webinars for free or at a discounted price. I really appreciated that ACLP provided me with a year of free membership when I was experiencing hardship."

"ACLP membership has been invaluable for me as I reconnected with the child life profession after several years, providing me with so many opportunities for networking and education to build upon my skills and knowledge."

"I commend the organization for making great strides to diversify our field with DEI initiatives and much needed research. I feel that all child life programs should ensure that every employee has access to ACLP membership in order for professionals to learn and grow together."





THANK YOU!

ACLP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible leadership team. We are deeply grateful to the members of the current ACLP Board of Directors for your extraordinary dedication and thoughtful guidance.

Your leadership is essential to the growth of ACLP and the continued advancement of the child life profession.

- President: Sarah Patterson, MSc, CCLS
- Immediate Past-President: Alisha Saavedra, MA, CCLS
- President-Elect: Elana Brewer, MS, CCLS
- Secretary: Rebecca Meyers, MS, CCLS
- Treasurer: Riley Hammond, MS, CCLS
- Director: Katherine Bennett, MS, CCLS
- Director: Nicole Gandolfo, MA, CCLS
- Director: Alyssa Luksa, MSP-I/O, CCLS
- Director: Janelle Mitchell, MS, CCLS
- Canadian Liaison: Emily Synnott, RECE, CCLS
- Child Life Certification Commission Liaison: Toni Crowell-Petrungaro, MS, CCLS
- Public Member: Stacy Palmer, CPXP
- Public Member: Jeffrey Salvon-Harman, MD, CPE, CPPS





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