

# OUTPATIENT FEEDING THERAPY PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Mary Free Bed 

Service Dates: April 2020 - April 2021

## OUR APPROACH

Our team's focus is on improving your child's ability to eat, taking into account physical abilities and medical and nutritional needs.

## OUR MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM

- Occupational therapists
- Speech-language pathologists
- Registered dietitians

We assess and treat children from birth through adolescence with a wide variety of diagnoses and causes for feeding disorders, including:

- Chewing and swallowing difficulty
- Developmental delay
- Selective eating, autism, ARFID
- Oral aversion
- Breast- or bottle-feeding difficulty
- Tube-feeding support or weaning

## STANDARDIZATION OF CARE

Our goal is to create a therapeutic environment that's positive and nurturing, where your child can achieve favorable outcomes.

## COLLABORATION

When appropriate, we work closely with health care providers and community resources (health departments, WIC, school administrators, etc.) to provide your child with appropriate resources.

## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

*"Thank you both (OT and Nutrition) for all your work and advice. It has made such a big difference in our lives and meals are so much better now. We are so happy we came here!"*

*"I learned so much in this one hour about feeding and nutrition. You have answered so many of my questions, and I am so grateful!"*



## OUTCOMES Data sourced from REDCap, using PediEAT tool

81%

IMPROVEMENT IN  
OVERALL FEEDING  
ISSUES



85%

IMPROVEMENT  
IN MEALTIME  
BEHAVIORS



88%

IMPROVEMENT IN  
ORAL PROCESSING



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Mary Free Bed *kids*

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## GIFT IMPACTS OUR PROGRAM AND OUR COMMUNITY

Feeding problems during infancy and early childhood are prevalent and rising in number due to increased survival of infants with extreme prematurity and medical complexity, and a growing population of children with developmental disabilities, such as autism spectrum disorder.”

Source: Thoyre et al. “The Pediatric Eating Assessment Tool,” Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition, Volume 66, Number 2, February 2018, pp 299-305

A generous gift from Amway last year enabled us to provide support staff for the Feeding Therapy Program’s registered dietitian.

We continued to supply Circle Plates and nutrition resources for our families. With Amway’s gift, we were able to purchase new bottle systems, straws, cups, spoons and game plates for children with feeding difficulties.

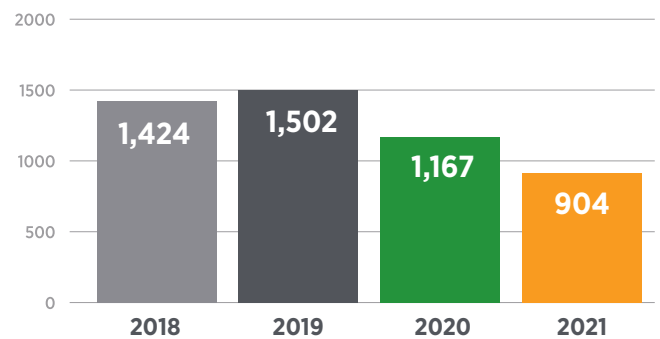
We also partnered with the Vitamix Foundation, which provides free or discounted blenders to children who need a blended diet by a feeding tube or by mouth.



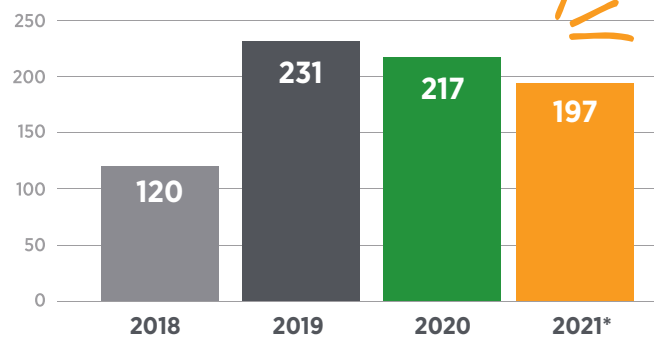
## NUTRITION CONTACT STATISTICS

**NOTE:** The program served 197 patients from April 2020 - April 2021. The graphs below reflect the number of total encounters. For example, a child who visits two times a week for eight weeks would represent 16 contacts or encounters.

### TOTAL ENCOUNTERS



### KIDS SERVED



\*Visits were limited March-June 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# 15%

**INCREASE IN GROWTH IN CHILDREN FOLLOWED BY A MARY FREE BED KIDS FEEDING THERAPY PROGRAM TEAM.**  
(Z-score data)



This program is sponsored in part by a gift from Amway.