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**Short Form**

**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

**2014**

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**A** For the 2014 calendar year, or tax year beginning January 1, 2014, and ending December 31, 20 14

**B** Check if applicable:  
 Address change  
 Name change  
 Initial return  
 Final return/terminated  
 Amended return  
 Application pending

**C** Name of organization  
**The Shannon Foundation**

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite  
**1512 Larimer Street 730**

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code  
**Denver, CO 80202**

**D** Employer identification number  
**84-1284718**

**E** Telephone number  
**303-436-1224**

**F** Group Exemption Number ▶

**G** Accounting Method:  Cash  Accrual Other (specify) ▶

**H** Check  if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

**I** Website: ▶ **www.theshannonfoundation.com**

**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) –  501(c)(3)  501(c) ( ) ◀ (insert no)  4947(a)(1) or  527

**K** Form of organization:  Corporation  Trust  Association  Other

**L** Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . . ▶ \$

**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (see the instructions for Part I)  
 Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I . . . . .

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received . . . . .	1	45,696
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts . . . . .	2	
	3	Membership dues and assessments . . . . .	3	
	4	Investment income . . . . .	4	
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory . . . . .	5a	1,864
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses . . . . .	5b	2,015
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a) . . . . .	5c	(151)
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000) . . . . .	6a	
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000) . . . . .	6b		
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events . . . . .	6c		
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c) . . . . .	6d		
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .	7a		
b	Less: cost of goods sold . . . . .	7b		
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a) . . . . .	7c		
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	8		
9	<b>Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8 . . . . . ▶	9	45,545	
Net Assets	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O) . . . . .	10	58,345
	11	Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .	11	
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits . . . . .	12	
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors . . . . .	13	
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance . . . . .	14	
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping . . . . .	15	
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	16	
	17	<b>Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16 . . . . . ▶	17	58,345
	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9) . . . . .	18	(12,800)
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return) . . . . .	19	68,868
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O) . . . . .	20	809
	21	<b>Net assets or fund balances at end of year.</b> Combine lines 18 through 20 . . . . . ▶	21	56,877

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Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

Table with columns for question number, question text, and Yes/No checkboxes. Rows include questions 33 through 45b regarding organizational activities, financial reporting, and controlled entities.

		Yes	No
46	Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . .	46	✓

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only**

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

		Yes	No
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . .	47	✓
48	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . .	48	✓
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . .	49a	✓
b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . .	49b	

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
None.				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ -0-

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None.		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ -0-

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A . . . . . ▶  Yes  No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

**Sign Here** Signature of officer *Fritz L. Fisher* Date **4.9.15**  
 Fritz L. Fisher, President  
 Type or print name and title

**Paid Preparer Use Only** Print/Type preparer's name Preparer's signature Date Check  if self-employed PTIN  
 Firm's name ▶ Firm's EIN ▶  
 Firm's address ▶ Phone no

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . . ▶  Yes  No

**SCHEDULE A**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

OMB No 1545-0047

**2014**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Name of the organization <b>The Shannon Foundation</b>	Employer identification number <b>84-1284718</b>
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**Part I Reason for Public Charity Status** (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

- 1  A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2  A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E.)
- 3  A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4  A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5  An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6  A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7  An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8  A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9  An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 10  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11  An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box in lines 11a through 11d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e, 11f, and 11g.
  - a  **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B**
  - b  **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
  - c  **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
  - d  **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
  - e  Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
  - f Enter the number of supported organizations . . . . .
  - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
<b>Total</b>						

**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . . . .						
<b>2</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . . .						
<b>3</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . . .						
<b>4 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3 . . . . .						
<b>5</b> The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) . . . . .						
<b>6 Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4.						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
<b>7</b> Amounts from line 4 . . . . .						
<b>8</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources . . . . .						
<b>9</b> Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . . . .						
<b>10</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) . . . . .						
<b>11 Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10						

**12** Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) . . . . . **12** \_\_\_\_\_ %

**13 First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** . . . . . ►

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>14</b> Public support percentage for 2014 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) . . . . .	<b>14</b>	_____ %
<b>15</b> Public support percentage from 2013 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 . . . . .	<b>15</b>	_____ %
<b>16a 33 1/3% support test—2014.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 33 1/3% support test—2013.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2014.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2013.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>18 Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions . . . . . ► <input type="checkbox"/>		

**Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)**

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	37,375	38,405	44,413	58,281	42,501	220,975
<b>2</b> Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>3</b> Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>4</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>5</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>6 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 5 . . . .	37,375	38,405	44,413	58,281	42,501	220,975
<b>7a</b> Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons . . . .	7,100	6,000	8,232	13,722	11,762	46,816
<b>b</b> Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>c</b> Add lines 7a and 7b . . . . .	7,100	6,000	8,232	13,722	11,762	46,816
<b>8 Public support</b> (Subtract line 7c from line 6.) . . . . .						174,159

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2010	(b) 2011	(c) 2012	(d) 2013	(e) 2014	(f) Total
<b>9</b> Amounts from line 6 . . . . .	37,375	38,405	44,413	58,281	42,501	220,975
<b>10a</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources . . . .	167	184	196	103	-0-	650
<b>b</b> Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975 . . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>c</b> Add lines 10a and 10b . . . . .	167	184	196	103	-0-	650
<b>11</b> Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>12</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) . . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>13 Total support.</b> (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.) . . . . .	37,542	38,589	44,609	58,384	42,501	221,625
<b>14 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2014 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . . .	<b>15</b>	78.58 %
<b>16</b> Public support percentage from 2013 Schedule A, Part III, line 15 . . . . .	<b>16</b>	79.74 %

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

<b>17</b> Investment income percentage for 2014 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . . .	<b>17</b>	0.293 %
<b>18</b> Investment income percentage from 2013 Schedule A, Part III, line 17 . . . . .	<b>18</b>	0.329 %
<b>19a 33 1/3% support tests—2014.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 33 1/3% support tests—2013.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>20 Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>		

**SCHEDULE O  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on  
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

OMB No 1545-0047

**2014**

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

Name of the organization

The Shannon Foundation

Employer identification number

84-1284718

**Part I, Line 10**

See enclosed schedule for disbursements made for the benefit of children donees in 2014.

**Part I, Line 20**

The amount in Part I, Line 20 is comprised of the following.

1. The change in the value of shares of stock held by the foundation in 2014.
2. When the 2013 federal income tax return was prepared, the 12-10-12 disbursement for Antonio Torres in the amount of \$750.00 was mistakenly listed as a 12-10-13 disbursement in calculating the 2013 disbursements. This resulted in the total disbursements for 2013 being overstated by \$750.00 and the year-end assets of the foundation being understated by \$750.00. This amount, \$750.00, has been added in Line 20 to reconcile the prior error and bring the foundation's accounts back into balance.

The  
Shannon  
Foundation

THIS COPY OF THE FOUNDATION'S 2014 ANNUAL  
LETTER TO CONTRIBUTORS SHOWS HOW FUNDS WERE  
SPENT IN 2014.  
Helping to fund necessary medical care for children in need

November 12, 2014

Dear Family and Friends:

I'd like to introduce you to Katie, an eight year-old girl who lives with her parents and three siblings in Quincy, Massachusetts. About three years ago, she became sick and was admitted for what would be a three-month stay in the Intensive Care Unit at Boston Children's Hospital. Katie was eventually diagnosed with Febrile Induced Refractory Status Epilepticus Syndrome ("FIRES") with static encephalopathy. Children with the FIRES disorder require high doses of multiple medications and a ketogenic diet to control their frequent and severe seizures, and often require weeks or months in therapeutic coma in an intensive care setting.



Here's how Katie's Mom later described the situation: *"After her three months she had a difficult five months of recovery time. This has been a very difficult situation for our family. We had a perfect healthy child one day then a very sick child with a complicated undiagnosed disease the next. This condition (FIRES) has caused her to be unable speak, walk, or communicate with us. During this time our world has felt so black and hopeless."*

The doctors eventually prescribed Stiripentol, a very expensive drug. Katie's family had great difficulty, however, in obtaining this medication because it is not approved by the FDA. At one point, they were working with a pharmacy in France, but there were many challenges with customs when sending the medication to the family. They eventually found a drug company in New York that was able to provide the medication at a better price. Since taking this anticonvulsant medication, Katie has had better seizure control and the doctors have been able to reduce doses of other medication that Katie takes.

Even with the new provider, the cost of Stiripentol is prohibitive. Katie's family was able to afford the cost only for a short time. The family feared for Katie's future. When Katie's social worker contacted us, The Shannon Foundation stepped in and has been paying the cost of Katie's medication on an on-going basis. This has allowed Katie to continue her road to recovery.

The Shannon Foundation is a non-profit organization that I formed in September of 1994. It is named after my daughter, Shannon, who passed away as an infant in 1993. The purpose of the Foundation is to help pay for the medical care and related expenses of children from families in need.

Working through social workers from hospitals throughout the country to identify those in need, The Shannon Foundation has helped hundreds of kids by paying for medicine, medical tests and procedures, equipment (such as wheelchairs, ventilators and communication augmentation devices), hospital visits, surgery, medical co-pays, chemotherapy and physical therapy.

The Shannon Foundation has section 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service, so donations to the Foundation are tax deductible. One of the most important aspects of The Shannon Foundation is that 100% of the donations it receives are used for charitable disbursement; none of its revenues are used for administrative or any other purposes. For boys and girls like Katie, your contributions to The Shannon Foundation can make a world of difference. You can learn more about the Foundation by visiting our website, at [www.theshannonfoundation.com](http://www.theshannonfoundation.com).

In an effort to increase the reach of our message, we have also set up a Facebook page [www.facebook.com/TheShannonFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/TheShannonFoundation). Please visit and “Like” our page.

I am sending this letter to ask you to help us in our efforts to provide medical care and related equipment to kids in need. Every week, I receive requests from social workers from around the country, asking the Foundation to help out kids who aren't receiving necessary medical care because their families can't afford to pay for it. There are countless kids who are not receiving the medical care that they need. If someone doesn't step up to help these kids, they simply won't receive that medical care.

For those of you who have contributed to The Shannon Foundation in the past, thank you so much. I hope that this letter lets you see that your contributions have been put to good use.

#### Recent Foundation Disbursements

Here are some of the other children, in addition to Katie, whom The Shannon Foundation has helped over the past year:

- Jorge is a 14 year-old boy in Eagle, Colorado who has been diagnosed with a seizure disorder. Jorge lives alone with his mother, who is unemployed and does not have health insurance. The Foundation paid for Jorge's expensive seizure control medication.

- The Foundation paid the cost of surgery for Rosa, a 15 year-old girl in Austin, Texas, to remove a tumor from her back. Her indigent family, which has limited insurance coverage, had put the surgery on hold due to lack of funds. Rosa's parents also have five other children, two of whom have special health care needs.
- Ximena is a two year-old girl who lives in Memphis, Tennessee. She was diagnosed with retinoblastoma, a cancer of the eyeball; the cancer was so severe that she had to have extensive surgery to remove one of her eyes and the surrounding area. After the surgery, it was important for Ximena to wear specialized glasses to protect her eye socket and the remaining eye. Both parents have been unable to work since Ximena's diagnosis and they could not afford the specialized glasses, so the Foundation paid the cost.
- Logan is a 17 year-old boy Lafayette, Colorado who has muscular dystrophy. He has had multiple hospitalizations and spinal infusions over the years, and he suffers from chronic pain. His caregivers found that acupuncture was the most effective treatment for Logan's pain. Logan's family has insurance, but it doesn't cover acupuncture. Logan and his brother live with their mother, who is a special education teacher at an elementary school; his father is out of the picture and provides no financial support to the family. The Foundation paid for a series of acupuncture sessions for Logan.
- Cheyenne is a 13 year-old girl in Franklin, Kentucky. She has been diagnosed with epilepsy, and her condition requires treatment with an expensive drug called Opsolot,

"Have you ever wondered how it would feel to not be able to afford a medication that ensures your child's life is not at risk? I don't have to wonder, I know! I want to convey my heart felt thanks for the difference the assistance from the Shannon Foundation has made in Cheyenne's and our family's lives!" – Cheyenne's Mom

which is not FDA-approved. When Cheyenne was referred to the Foundation a couple of years ago, she had been taking Opsolot for about seven months, and the frequency of her seizures had drastically decreased as a result. The family could no longer afford to pay for the drug, though, so the Foundation has been covering the cost.

- Zoe is a 17 year-old girl in Tucson, Arizona. When the Foundation was approached by her social worker, Zoe had just completed her chemotherapy to treat Ewings sarcoma, a type of bone cancer, in her femur. Zoe and her younger sister live with their grandparents, who could not afford the cost of Zoe's needed follow-up medication, which is very expensive. The Foundation paid the cost of

Neulasta, a drug that helps support the body's natural defenses after a large number of white blood cells have been killed off by chemotherapy.

- The Foundation paid the medication co-pays for Aria, a three year-old girl in Brookfield, Illinois who has been diagnosed with epilepsy and developmental delay. Aria is taking four different medications to control her seizures and her family has been unable to handle the co-pays.
- The Foundation bought a CPAP machine for Alicia, a 16 year-old girl in Commerce City, Colorado who has been diagnosed with obstructive sleep apnea. Alicia is on Charity Care at the hospital to assist with medical appointments, and her indigent family does not have the resources to pay for the CPAP machine.

*"I received a phone call... with the incredible news that the Foundation would be able to help us. There was a huge weight lifted from our shoulders. I was able to breathe again and when I exhaled the tears fell. Thank You to the Shannon Foundation for showing us that there is help available and we are not alone in this fight to save our daughter. We are eternally grateful for your kind hearts and generosity." – Amber's Mom*

- Amber is a 13 year-old girl who lives in Walkerton, Indiana. She has been diagnosed with Dravet syndrome, which is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by intractable seizures. This is a drug resistant epilepsy that causes severe cognitive and physical disabilities. After the doctors had tried many other medications, all of which failed to help her, in 2010 Amber began taking Diacomit, a drug that is not FDA approved, to treat her Dravet. This medication reduced her seizures by half (something no other drug had been able to accomplish). Recently, however, Amber's family lost its insurance that was covering this medication. Their new insurance providers refused to cover the Diacomit because it is not FDA approved. The family could not afford the medication, which costs over \$2,000 per month, so the Foundation has been paying the cost of Diacomit for Amber.

- The Foundation paid for a CPAP machine for Fatima, a three year-old girl in Denver, Colorado who has been diagnosed with Down Syndrome, hypotonia, hypothyroidism, sleep-related hypoxemia and obstructive sleep apnea.
- Sophie is a six month-old girl in Omaha, Nebraska. She has numerous medical issues, including deformities of the skull, face and jaw. The Foundation paid the cost of helmet treatment to help her skull grow more normally. The family couldn't afford the cost and had been denied coverage for this treatment by Medicaid.

- JulieAnna is a 13 year-old girl in Cambridge, Minnesota. She has been diagnosed with autism and developmental delays. She has also had severe gastrointestinal issues since birth, resulting in various surgeries, tests, hospital stays and ER visits over the years. Her gastrointestinal issues remained uncured, however, and had recently intensified. The Foundation paid the cost of certain endoscopic procedures to evaluate and formulate a treatment to alleviate JulieAnna's severe abdominal pain.
- Dominic is a 15 year-old boy in Tucson, Arizona who had been diagnosed with a brain tumor. After undergoing treatment for the tumor, he needed follow-up MRI's and lab work to watch for a return of the cancer. Dominic's family could not, however, afford the cost of those follow-ups; as a result of the high medical debt incurred while Dominic received treatments for his cancer, the family had filed for bankruptcy in December 2013 and had lost its home in foreclosure. Dominic's father also lost his job at one point during this period. The Foundation paid the cost of an MRI and follow-up procedures for Dominic.

*"In ones life you never think "what would I do if my child gets brain cancer?" You just do your best to raise your children with good values and make sure they always feel loved. When they have a cut you clean it put a bandaid on it and kiss it all better. When they catch a cold you make soup cover them before bed and kiss them on the head. They look at you like your a hero. When Dom was diagnosed I had never felt more helpless and angry.... Many nights I sat up looking at my amazing boy praying for god to spare him and I watched all the machines making sure nothing Beeped or changed. I can't thank you enough for your charity's huge gift of paying Doms MRI bill. Thank you for letting me breathe and helping our family."*  
– Dominic's father
- Evelyn is a two year-old girl in Fort Collins, Colorado who has been diagnosed with hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy and neonatal hypertonia. She does not eat or drink anything by mouth and relies entirely on being fed through a g-tube. She has struggled with formula tolerance and her caregivers have only found success with a formula that is very expensive and is not covered by insurance. The Foundation is paying, on an on-going basis, for her needed formula.
- Savannah is a six year-old girl who lives in St. John, Indiana. She has been diagnosed with Stage 4 High Risk Neuroblastoma. The Foundation helped pay for Savannah's expensive medication; the family had been overwhelmed by the costs of her treatments and could not afford the co-pays.

- The Foundation has continued to pay for speech therapy for Anthea, a 12 year-old girl who lives in Burlington, New Jersey. She has been diagnosed with severe oral motor apraxia, which has made it very difficult for her to swallow, eat and speak. Her family cannot afford to pay for speech therapy for Anthea, partly because they have been overwhelmed by medical bills for Anthea's sister, who passed away from a seizure disorder three years ago.
- The Foundation has continued to pay for therapy sessions for Omar, a 13 year-old boy in Philadelphia, who has a history of physical challenges, including cerebral cortical dysgenesis and panhypopituitarism. He has developed neurological issues manifested by, among other things, a chronic tic disorder, head jerks, shoulder and limb jerks, and grunting sounds. The family, which is on food stamps, cannot afford his required treatment.
- Cyrvan is an 11 year-old boy who lives with his uncle and grandmother in Omaha, Nebraska. He has been diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a disease from which some of Cyrvan's immediate family members have died. On a recent visit to the clinic, his doctor noted that the weakness of his limbs seemed to be progressively worsening. The doctor concluded that Cyrvan would greatly benefit from genetic testing to assist in predicting the best course of treatment for Cyrvan. The cost of this testing is thousands of dollars, however, which Cyrvan's family could not pay, so the Foundation paid the cost.
- Mahki is a two year-old boy in Cape Mary Court House, New Jersey. He was diagnosed with Giant Omphalocele, which is a rare birth defect of the abdominal wall in which the bowel, liver and other abdominal organs protrude out of the abdomen and into the base of the umbilical cord. Surgical repair is performed primarily in stages, or after a period of waiting that can last several months. Mahki's surgeon recommended the use of a compression brace, which would help the omphalocele from worsening. The family's insurance denied coverage, and Mahki's family could not afford the cost, so the Foundation paid for Mahki's brace.
- Angel is an eight year-old boy who lives in Orlando, Florida. He has been diagnosed with Dravet syndrome, intractable epilepsy and developmental delay. When his social worker contacted the Foundation, he had been hospitalized for more than a month due to seizure exacerbation. The hospital tried a number of things, including pentobarbital coma, to get his seizures to abate. They finally found a drug, Diacomit, that would stop the seizures. Unfortunately, it's a very expensive drug and Medicaid does not cover the cost. The Foundation has been paying the cost of Angel's medication and he's been able to return home.

- Kia is an eight year-old girl who lives in Ethiopia. She has experienced progressive hearing loss since the age of two, as the result of nerve damage of unknown origin, and is now nearly deaf in both ears. This has led to severe language delay and Kia's withdrawal from social interactions. Her family could not obtain adequate treatment for her in their native country, so they saved up money for several years until Kia and her mother could travel to Denver, where they have family; Kia's family believed that maybe in America, where medical care is so much better, they would find help. They had used all of their savings to get to Denver on a short-term visa, but they had no money left to pay for Kia's treatment. When they arrived in Denver they contacted many charitable agencies and medical providers but could not find help until they were finally put in touch with Dr. Suzanne Belibi, a Denver pediatrician who is a friend of mine and a long-time contributor to the Foundation. As the person from the charitable agency that put Kia in touch with Suzanne stated before she knew that Kia would be provided with help, "I am certain being deaf will sentence the child to abuse and poverty when they return to Ethiopia." Suzanne was able to get a hearing specialist evaluate Kia. It was determined that Kia has 10% residual hearing that would be enhanced by hearing aids and a short course of steroids. Suzanne paid part of the cost of two new hearing aids for Kia out of her own pocket and the Foundation paid the balance. After Kia was fitted with the hearing aids, Suzanne reported, "The mother is on a cloud of joy as she knows that her daughter is given a chance to communicate with her world: on behalf of Kia, her mom and entire family "thank you"!"
- The Foundation has been paying for psychotherapy sessions for Kazi, a 12 year-old boy in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania. Kazi has multiple congenital heart defects and a history of open heart surgeries. He recently developed a condition known as Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (often referred to as PANDAS). For Kazi, this condition manifested itself by very severe and debilitating tics on a constant basis that prevent him from attending school, sleeping or eating. Kazi's family makes a very modest income from running a small retail shop, and they cannot afford the cost of Kazi's needed treatment.
- Isabella is a nine year-old girl in Littleton, Colorado who has been diagnosed with Steroid Dependent Nephrotic Syndrome. This is a serious condition in which the kidneys allow high levels of protein to pass from the blood to the urine. Isabella's doctors had prescribed Prograf, an expensive immunosuppressive drug, as an important part of her treatment. Isabella had responded well to the Prograf. Due to changes associated with health care reform, though, the family's coverage was terminated in June of this year. The family could not afford the cost of Isabella's needed Prograf, so the Foundation paid for the medication.

- Mya is a 14 year-old girl who lives in Chesterton, Indiana. She underwent radiation therapy and chemotherapy after being diagnosed with cancer identified as rhabdomyosarcoma. Mya's doctor then prescribed a very expensive growth hormone, Omnitrope, to try to resolve the side effects of her treatments, which have affected her normal growth and development. The Foundation paid the deductibles, of well over a thousand dollars per month, for this medication. Mya's single mother could not afford the costs of the medication.
- Malik is a 16 year-old boy in Round Rock, Texas. He has been diagnosed with agegenesis of the corpus collosum (a birth defect in which the left side and right side of the brain fail to connect at gestation) and epilepsy. Malik lives with his divorced mother. When she changed insurance companies, she had to meet a high deductible before the insurance would cover the cost of Malik's anti-seizure medication. Malik's mother could not afford the out-of-pocket cost, so the Foundation paid for Malik's anti-seizure medicine until insurance coverage kicked in.
- Saniya is a two year-old girl in Columbus, Mississippi. She wears protective eyewear after having been diagnosed with retinoblastoma. When her eyewear was recently stolen, Saniya's unemployed mother, who lives with her two children in the home of Saniya's grandmother, could not afford to replace it; the family lives on meager income and government assistance. The Foundation paid for new protective eyewear for Saniya.
- Austin is a 15 year-old boy in Tucson, Arizona who was diagnosed with B-Cell Lymphoma. He underwent chemotherapy to treat the lymphoma, but this treatment suppressed his body's defenses and eventually led to a serious colon infection. Here's how Austin's father later described the situation: *"In April of 2013, my 13 year old son Austin was an active soccer player and starring in the lead role at his Jr High play (Horton Hears a Who). April 10, he felt a lump on his head. By April 12th, we were aware he had stage 4 Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. It was in his heart, lungs, back bone, Kidney and skull. It wasn't in the brain or spinal cord yet. His Chemo regiment started April 12 and it was very strong. C Diff set in and he lost a lot of weight, dropping from 121Lbs to 80lbs. (C Diff is a bacteria in his digestive tract that causes extreme and constant diarrhea.) He was too emaciated to walk. Austin began to learn to walk again in late June 2013 by the help of a walker."* While the chemotherapy helped in his battle against lymphoma, Austin had to be re-admitted to the hospital to battle the C-Diff (Clostridium Difficile). A C-Diff infection is a very serious condition; treatment is made more difficult due to the bacteria's ability in some cases to morph over time and learn to fight mainstream antibiotics. The doctors concluded that the only option to stop Austin's C-Diff was a new medicine that costs thousands of dollars and is not covered by the family's insurance. Austin's parents had already maxed out their credit cards paying for Austin's medical care and they couldn't afford the needed medication, so the Foundation has paid the cost.

How You Can Help

Over the past 20 years, The Shannon Foundation has provided assistance to hundreds of children throughout the country whose families who could not afford needed medical care. These children would not have received that medical care if we hadn't stepped in to help. There are a lot of kids out there who need our help. Whatever money you can provide to the Foundation will find its way to a child who is in need of medical care that he or she would not otherwise receive.

It is difficult to keep up with all of the requests that we receive to help families who cannot afford to pay for needed medical care for their kids. Please consider making a donation. Your contribution will be used to help children like those described in this letter, and can literally change a child's life. If we don't help these kids, no one else will.

Thanks very much for your support of The Shannon Foundation. Please help us to help more kids.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fritz".

Fritz Fisher

Schedule to Form 990-EZ (2014)  
(Part I, Line 10 and Part III)

Disbursements

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1-20-14	Anthea Xenakis	\$980.00
1-22-14	Anthea Xenakis	\$280.00
2-7-14	Anthea Xenakis	\$1,120.00
3-4-14	Anthea Xenakis	\$1,120.00
2-20-14	Zoe Montano	\$4,981.51
1-22-14	Aria Ford	\$240.00
12-29-14	Aria Ford	\$450.00
1-22-14	Katie Phan	\$1,800.00
2-27-14	Katie Phan	\$900.00
4-23-14	Katie Phan	\$900.00
5-22-14	Katie Phan	\$900.00
7-31-14	Katie Phan	\$1,035.00
2-20-14	Savannah Portis	\$500.91
2-20-14	Savannah Portis	\$116.68
3-20-14	Savannah Portis	\$116.68
4-16-14	Savannah Portis	\$116.68
2-26-14	Omar Traore	\$975.00
1-27-14	Logan Fry	\$350.00
2-14-14	Reese Schneider	\$937.50
3-12-14	Rosa Espinoza	\$90.77
5-21-14	Rosa Espinoza	\$586.89
3-14-14	Gustavo Baires	\$39.25
3-27-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$660.00
7-10-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$296.00
8-13-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$592.00
8-25-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$296.00
9-9-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$296.00
9-30-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$296.00
11-3-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$414.00
11-25-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$414.00
12-18-14	Cheyenne Horath	\$414.00
4-9-14	Kazi Tasseen	\$650.00
5-5-14	Kazi Tasseen	\$375.00
7-10-14	Kazi Tasseen	\$125.00
4-9-14	Ximena Rodriguez	\$125.00
3-11-14	Malik Bishop	\$455.93
4-23-14	Malik Bishop	\$455.93

5-14-14	Malik Bishop	\$455.93
6-18-14	Malik Bishop	\$265.49
5-28-14	Rene Gutierrez	\$980.56
5-28-14	Alicia Gallegos-Solorio	\$980.56
7-8-14	Eleanor Verzella	\$300.00
7-31-14	Eleanor Verzella	\$300.00
10-28-14	Eleanor Verzella	\$300.00
7-16-14	JulieAnn Sandys	\$3,200.00
7-18-14	Saniya Roby	\$125.00
7-25-14	Angel Paloma-Nonthe	\$3,006.00
8-15-14	Austin Thacker	\$2,932.09
8-19-14	Jorge Portillo	\$406.79
8-20-14	Mahki Godwin	\$723.95
8-27-14	Kia Beyene	\$1,700.00
8-28-14	Julio Venegas	\$167.20
8-20-14	Mya Lee	\$831.36
8-28-14	Mya Lee	\$656.17
7-22-14	Amber Urban	\$2,004.00
9-5-14	Amber Urban	\$2,004.00
9-12-14	Dominic Peranzi	\$5,030.00
10-7-14	Fatima Ruiz	\$850.00
10-15-14	Isabella Castro	\$664.79
10-28-14	Sophie Winborne	\$2,000.00
11-4-14	Danielle Stacy	\$2,343.00
11-11-14	Mauricio Lopez	\$828.00
11-11-14	Mauricio Lopez	\$387.75
12-30-14	Kaia Bleich	\$501.00
	Total:	\$58,345.37