

Achieve Partners Backs Chicago-Based Pioneer in Pediatric Therapy

Achieve Workforce Fund II announces strategic investment in Westside Children's Therapy

New York, NY – AUGUST 25, 2025 – Impact firm Achieve Partners today announced an investment in the growth of Westside Children's Therapy (Westside), a provider of children's therapy with 30+ years of experience offering a range of services including physical, occupational, speech, applied behavior analysis (ABA), diagnosis, and counseling services. With locations throughout the Chicagoland region, Westside also operates a unique training program that provides select clinical providers the opportunity to achieve the in-demand BCBA certification offered by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

"For 30+ years, we've been focused on providing Chicago-area families with high-quality pediatric therapy, and the need for that support has only continued to grow," said Mark Cassidy, Westside's CEO. "What makes this partnership unique is that Achieve shares our commitment to workforce development as a driver of opportunity as well as patient outcomes."

Over the past 15 years, demand for pediatric clinicians has steadily increased. Between 2023 and 2024, the number of certified behavior analysts <u>increased</u> nearly 60%. Similarly, job growth for speech-language pathologists is expected to <u>far outpace the market</u>. To address the growing need for trained therapists, Westside already offers a pathway for Registered Behavior Technicians to earn their BCBA master's degree, helping to meet growing demand while also creating new career pathways

for RBTs. Through the new strategic partnership, Achieve and Westside aim to double the income for at least 100 RBTs through BCBA attainment by the end of 2026, as well as to expand educational benefits to other therapy disciplines.

"Westside's approach to training is tightly aligned with Achieve's workforce strategy as a driver of both business growth and economic mobility," said Cassidy Leventhal, Principal at Achieve Partners. "We're excited to join forces with them to not just help more children across Chicagoland access high-quality support, but also build strong and resilient career pathways for current and aspiring healthcare providers in the region."

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About Achieve Partners

Achieve Partners is engineering the future of learning and earning by investing in cutting edge technologies and novel business models to bolster skill development and secure the future of work for millions of Americans. By harnessing digital transformation to build new models for learning and new pathways to good jobs, Achieve is helping to level the playing field, improve socioeconomic mobility, and rekindle the American Dream. www.achievepartners.com

About Westside Children's Therapy

Westside Children's Therapy is a children's therapy provider offering physical, occupational, speech, applied behavior analysis (ABA), diagnostic, and counseling services. Westside has operated outpatient centers in the Chicagoland for 30+ years and has become an award-winning employer for industry leading retention and employee engagement.