



May 2013



The Treatment and
Learning Centers
TLC

TLC News

Early Intervention Opportunities at TLC

by TLC's Outpatient Service Directors

Early childhood is the time in a child's life when the foundational skills for cognitive, social, motor, behavioral, and emotional growth are in the process of developing. These foundational skills set the stage for later growth in many different areas. Research has found identifying early concerns within any developmental area and providing quality intervention has long-lasting and positive effects on many areas. The impact of early intervention is seen in academic performance, social competence, and later professional success. High-quality, intense, individualized intervention is crucial with well-trained therapists.

At TLC, we offer all aspects of early intervention, identifying areas of need and providing therapies across a range of intensities that support children so they get the best possible start in life.

Within our testing department, we are able to provide developmental evaluations to target a broad range of skills and processing strengths or weaknesses to help guide treatment choices for children as young as 2 ½. If a child is demonstrating signs of autism, we can conduct a comprehensive autism battery to more fully evaluate this area of concern. Our trained psychologists can provide family-based therapy to address any behavioral or emotional concerns for children of all ages. When more significant symptoms are identified and greater intensity is warranted,



Early Intervention continues on page 3.

Outcomes 6th CARF Accreditation

TLC's Outcomes Service earned a sixth consecutive three-year accreditation from CARF International. Surveyed programs included Community Employment Services: Employment Support, Community Employment Services: Job Development, Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation Services, Employee Development Services, and Transition Services programs.

CARF had great things to say about TLC in the survey report: "TLC is highly committed to promoting accessibility for consumers with a variety of disabilities. The organization not only is highly attentive to ensuring accessibility to its service but also strives to promote awareness and opportunities within the communities it serves...The enthusiasm with which staff members do their work is impressive and infectious."

TLC's Executive Director Patricia Ritter, PhD, commented, "I'm not surprised on the results of the survey. Congratulations to the Outcomes team. Their consistent dedication and caring are evident daily in their great work and the quality of services they provide."

TLC—The Treatment and Learning Centers

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As the Executive Director of a nonprofit I understand the value of volunteers to the strength of an organization. Recently I was asked to volunteer with another organization. As I considered the request it reminded me once again of the commitment involved in adding responsibilities in an already busy schedule. TLC is fortunate to have volunteers who have chosen to make this commitment despite many other obligations.

As we established the new Business Advisory Board (see below), I was grateful for the immediate positive response from the founding members. It demonstrated their strong dedication to employing adults with disabilities so they can be an integral part of the community.

I am thankful not only for the BAB members but for the many TLC volunteers that support our mission. Our various boards provide needed input to grow and develop programs that meet community needs. The members' perspectives help us evaluate our operations and make changes that sustain our success. Our student volunteers bring energy and enthusiasm to our programs. They not only help the children and students we serve but broaden their own understanding of individuals with disabilities to share with family and friends. Many professionals willingly offer their expertise that enhances our program quality.

TLC is connected to the community through the generosity of time, talent and resources of our many volunteers. This connection has enabled us to grow and thrive for over 62 years, improving lives and expanding possibilities for individuals with special needs. Thanks to all our volunteers who are a part of our TLC family for making our organization strong.



NEW FACES AT TLC

Board of Trustees Welcomes Mike Cogan



Welcome to new Board of Trustees member Michael R. Cogan, Attorney with Rubenstein and Cogan, an Association of Professional Corporations located in Gaithersburg. Mike served on TLC's Golf Committee and currently serves on the Facilities Planning Committee.

Michael earned a B.S. from University of Maryland. He attended The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law and practiced all aspects of Commercial Landlord/Tenant Litigation. Mike lives in Montgomery County with his wife and two children.

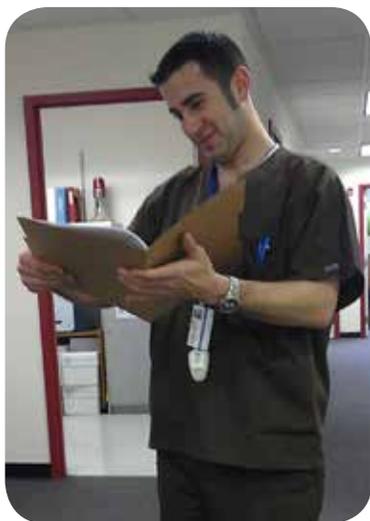
ANNOUNCEMENTS

TLC's New Business Advisory Board

TLC recently launched a Business Advisory Board (BAB) to provide input and assistance to Outcomes in our mission to provide employment opportunities for the consumers we serve. The BAB is a collection of leaders in the business community who value our mission and provide insight, assistance in marketing and introductions to potential employers. BAB members include LaVerne Albright Buchanan, TransCen, Inc.; Kaia Lenhart and Ashley Middleton, GMMB; Dean L. Porter, Alliance, Inc.; and Robert Solomon, Dave & Buster's Inc.

Ashley shares her experience on BAB, "GMMB has had an incredibly positive experience employing individuals with disabilities through Outcomes for the past six years. We joined BAB to share our perspective and help promote this opportunity to other firms in the DC area. It has been wonderful to see how TLC strikes such a strong balance between meeting the needs of the consumers they serve and the companies who hire them."

Spotlight



Hello, my name is Eddie. I am 30 years old and I work as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Shady Grove Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital of Maryland. In 2006 I suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury and I know that I can give hope to others who are recuperating from Brain Injuries. Just last week one of my patients called me a “ray of hope.” I believe that the greatest thing you can do is to make someone smile, and by making my patients smile I know I make a difference and that makes me happy.

I used to work at Safeway at King Farm as a deli clerk and a seafood clerk. I told my employment coach, Michele, that I really wanted to make a difference in the lives of others and made the decision to go to school to train to become a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). She saw that I was determined. I passed the course and began to study for the State of Maryland Geriatric Nursing Assistant (GNA) exam. I passed and now I am a licensed GNA as well as a CNA.

I am so happy that through outstanding job coaching with the Outcomes staff, I got my job at Shady Grove. If it weren't for their support I would never have gotten this job. I am a success story of TLC's Outcomes. I would just like everyone to know that if there is a will, there is a way, and I am proof of that. I wanted this job, worked hard, and kept my focus and did everything that I could do to get this job.

Note: Eddie has been an Outcomes consumer since 2009 and is currently participating in The Governor's Employment Program for Persons of Acquired Brain Injuries through MD DORS.

Early Intervention continued from page 1.

our Interaction Group is available. This is an interdisciplinary group (speech, OT, counseling) that provides intensive intervention to children with developmental concerns in several areas.

A child with delayed development may not show behaviors and abilities that are typical of the child's age. Our experienced pediatric Occupational Therapists (OTs) can observe and evaluate a child's level of performance in critical developmental areas including gross and fine motor skill development, sensory processing and visual spatial development. A treatment plan including parent/caregiver education can focus on helping the child achieve independence in feeding, dressing; understanding relationships between people, objects, time, and space; and developing problem-solving and coping strategies. Occupational therapists who work with children are knowledgeable about stages of development and the appropriate milestones in a child's physical, mental, and behavioral development.

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) are able to determine what challenges a child will “grow out of” and what challenges

will require treatment. The SLP will evaluate the interaction-attachment, pragmatics, gestures, play, speech, language comprehension and language expression skills of your child. SLPs may also assess feeding, swallowing and mealtime challenges. Parents are an integral member of the treatment team and will learn how to work with your child at home to help achieve the best outcome in the shortest amount of time.

Our Audiology department specializes in evaluating children beginning at birth. Newborns and infants can be objectively screened with Otoacoustic Emissions to rule out hearing loss. As a child grows older the audiologist will use a test procedure referred to as Visual Reinforcement Audiometry or Conditioned Audiometry to obtain detailed information about their hearing. Identifying hearing loss at an early age is particularly important due to its impact on speech, language and learning.

Families are an integral part of any child's treatment, but this is even more true during early childhood. That is why we involve parents in their child's treatment. This can take the form of parent groups, parent coaching, family therapy, parent consultation, or the creation of home programs.

SCHOOL NOTES

NEWS FROM THE KATHERINE THOMAS SCHOOL

KTS Parent Auction a Success

At this year's KTS Annual Parent Auction, our wonderful KTS Parent Association out did themselves! There were fantastic auction items, good food and company. Parents raised money for a mobile computer lab in the live auction. KTS Lower School Director Cathy Burgess spoke passionately about the value for our students and started the bidding with her own donation of the first laptop! Many KTS staff and parents joined the bidding and the money raised will support a full mobile lab of technology for our students. The PA raised over \$31,000 and to date has purchased 90 laptops to contribute to classroom technology for KTS students.



Fun and Learning Beyond The Classroom

KTHS Teen Culture Club students are investigating global culture and dining in restaurants serving food from around the world. On Friday afternoons, students and an advisor get together and so far have visited Ambrosia, Thai Cuisine Restaurant, Pho 75 and Bucca di Beppo. Students are encouraged to use their tech devices to navigate to the restaurants, find coupons, check customer reviews and preview menus. One week students prepared their own dinners and learned to make dessert crepes and grilled chicken.



KTS high school students can also join the KTS Teen Club where engaging activities are planned every week to give the students an opportunity to socialize in a fun, safe environment. Planned future trips include a trip to a bowling alley, a ceramic studio, a dance studio (including a dance demonstration), karate and yoga demonstration, a trip to Cheeburger Cheeburger restaurant, and a picnic and stroll in a local park.



Mrs. Hartley's Class Corresponding With President Obama



Kathy Hartley's class sent letters to President Obama at the White House at Inauguration time, wishing him well and sending suggestions for President Obama for his next four years. One student suggested that President Obama could visit KTS and suggested that he use the landing pad at Shady Grove Adventist for the Presidential helicopter! Students received a letter and picture from Mr. Obama in response.

The KTS Family Reaching Out to Soldiers In Afghanistan



KTS Students, Families, and Staff collected contributions for U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan. Four boxes of toiletries, snacks, and letters written by our 2nd and 3rd graders were collected and sent overseas where Educational Director Chrisy Bernabe's brother Lieutenant Colonel Sean C. Bernabe is stationed in Forward Operating Base Arian, located in Ghazni Province in Eastern Afghanistan with soldiers of 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division. In a thank you letter to KTS, Chrisy shared, "Most soldiers were at a point where they are starting to run out of toothpaste, deodorant, etc. Plus, their food rations have been delayed due to weather hampering air delivery. So the extra snacks brought lots of smiles. Please see the attached for a picture and a letter about the items. Thanks to all that helped out for your generosity!!!"

tions have been delayed due to weather hampering air delivery. So the extra snacks brought lots of smiles. Please see the attached for a picture and a letter about the items. Thanks to all that helped out for your generosity!!!"

Sean also shared a thank you letter including a photo of his Brigade (shown at left). Thank you to Sean and 10th Mountain Division. We wish we could reach all of the soldiers.

CHAMPIONS FOR TLC

What Legacy Will You Leave?



The Legacy Club for TLC includes individuals who have chosen to include TLC in their estate plans to ensure that future generations will continue to benefit from our programs and services. With careful planning, your family can also reduce estate taxes on the assets they receive from your estate. Learn more about how you can become the next member of The Legacy Club for TLC online at <http://ttlc.org/support-tlc/planned-giving/>.

If you have already included TLC in your estate plans, please contact Director of Development Debbie Ezrin at dezrin@ttlc.org to ensure your name appears on our growing list of members. Your generosity will inspire others to give and help our community for generations to come.

Calling All Golfers!

It's not too late to register for our 22nd Annual TLC Golf Classic on Monday, June 3rd at Bretton Woods in Germantown. Whether or not you are a golfer, you can help us raise more than \$60,000! Foursomes are \$1,500, and sponsorships range from \$500 to \$5,000 with options for golfers and non-golfers to support our largest fundraising event of the year. Golfers will enjoy a barbecue lunch, cocktails and dinner, during which time they will bid on fantastic auction items. Thank you in advance to all of our golfers and volunteers for another successful event!

As always, this event would not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors. We appreciate the generosity of the following sponsors!

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Telesis
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Please visit our website for event details and on-line registration.



Would You Like to See The Next Redskins vs. Cowboys Game at FedEx Field in a Luxury Box?

It's the hottest ticket in town every football season, and a very generous TLC supporter has donated an entire box to us for their next meeting at FedEx Field on December 22, 2013!

Raffle tickets can be purchased online for \$200 per ticket or three for \$500. We are only selling 300 tickets, so your odds of winning are excellent. One lucky winner will receive:

- 22 seats in a luxury box at FedEx Field
- Food and drinks
- 5 parking passes
- 4 guest passes for regular ticket holders to enter suite
- 2 on-field pre-game passes

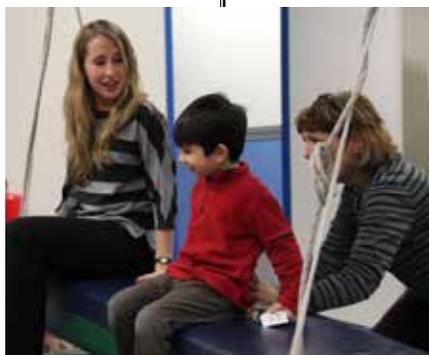
ttlc.org/support-tlc/redskins-raffle

100% of the ticket sales will support children and adults with special needs in our community who receive services at TLC. Share this great opportunity with colleagues, family and friends.

Good luck, and thanks for your support!

2013 Annual Fund Drive

Our Annual Fund Drive provides critical support for more than 2,200 children and adults with special needs who rely on TLC to improve their lives and expand their possibilities.



Please help us reach our goal of \$15,000 with your generous gift to the 2013 Annual Fund Drive at ttlc.org/support-tlc/donate-now or mail your check payable to TLC to 2092 Gaither Road, Suite 100, Rockville, MD 20850. Thank you for supporting our community!

Highlights

What is happening around TLC...

Since 2008 we have raised nearly \$110,000 for The Help Others Hear Program, providing free hearing aides for individuals who could not otherwise afford them.

17 students are graduating from KTS on June 10th! Next steps for seniors include: working on a Kibbutz in Israel through the Kibbutz Program Center, Davis & Elkins College, Lesley University's Threshold Program, Montgomery College's Programs through Workforce Development and Continuing Education including the Challenge and Pathways Classes and Graduate Transition Program, College Living Experience, Howard Community College and Project Access, and Nova Community College's STRIVE Program.

Wendy Epstein's Running Club at KTS trained for "The 5th Annual Bullis Gives Back 5K/2.5K Run/Walk" and the "Inaugural Bullis Buddy Run"! Thank you to the Bullis Parent's Association for supporting KTS! *(Photo to right.)*



TLC and Artstream have partnered (supported by a Montgomery County Council Grant administered by the Department of Health and Human Services) on an inclusive after school drama group for students with special needs.

Toy company TOMY donated Chuggington Wooden Railway play tables and train sets to preschools who serve children with autism totaling \$250,000. TLC was the recipient of three play tables and train sets!



Students in Mrs. Colton's reading class at KTS have been working on a wonderful project in partnership with The Smithsonian Center for Learning and Digital Access (SCLDA) designing a series of handmade heritage book projects. Videos of students reading their books are on the SCLDA website.

During April's Occupational Therapy Month TLC's Occupational Therapists provided 27 free screenings to the community and a free workshop. *(Photo to left.)*



In May, for Better Hearing and Speech Month, TLC's audiologist and speech language pathologists are offering free screening to the community and free workshops.

The Maryland Association of Community Service honored Outcomes consumer Kathryn Clem for her hard work and perseverance to set and meet her goals despite adversity with a "Personal Accomplishments" award. *(Photo to right.)*

Social Worker Joy Thibeault and Job Placement Specialist Marta Bohorquez both appeared on Montgomery Cable Access TV shows highlighting TLC's programs!

TLC now has eNewsletters for all outpatient services and KTS!
Email BLawhorn@ttlc.org to be added to TLC's email list.



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