

NASHOBA LEARNING GROUP

PROVIDING HELP FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM, AND HOPE FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

NEWSLETTER



What an exciting summer we have had at NLG! We completed renovation work and opened our second School site at 170 Lexington Road in Billerica on July 13th with 15 students and 18 staff members making the move from 10 Oak Park. Everyone is settled in and enjoying the new space! Our Adult Program is pleased to have a new neighbor and to reap the cost savings from our ownership of the building.

We have already begun welcoming new students to both of our school sites and will continue to do so over the next several years until we reach a total School enrollment of 130! We are one school with two sites. We are reaping the benefits of the mechanisms, including Peer Mentoring for Clinical Directors and Behavior Council, that we have put in place to enable our Clinical Directors to collaborate effectively and provide the highest quality programming to each of our students. The skill of our staff and the quality of our Programs for those with autism were affirmed by our annual surveys of Parents/Guardians for the School and the Adult Program, School Districts, and DDS. All constituents gave us very high ratings for quality of our staff and our programming!

Our students and adult members continued the important work of developing lifelong skills all summer. They also celebrated summer with our first NLG Field day and our end of summer water balloon toss. As we look towards fall, we are busy planning our annual Give Them Wings Dinner and Auction to be held on October 24th. This important fundraising event is also a wonderful celebration of NLG's community and will feature parent, staff and young adult speakers. We look forward to seeing parents and friends, old and new, at the event!

On behalf of those we serve, thank you for all you do!

Liz Martineau
President



Coming Events

Comedy Night - October 8, 2015, 6PM at the Montvale Plaza in Stoneham, MA. Contact Paul Halloran at pkhcomm@gmail.com

Give them Wings Auction - October 24, 2015, 6 PM at the Doubletree Hilton, Bedford, MA

Tour 170 - November 13, 2015, 9:30 - 11:30AM at 170 Lexington Road, Billerica

Gift Cards - November

Annual Fund - December

For more information on events and ways to help, contact Emily Wheat, emily.wheat@nashobalearninggroup.org

September
2015 Issue



Celebrate Student and Adult Achievements!

- D. has learned to functionally communicate so many new phrases, including: not now, be alone, can I have a soda please, I need more time...!
- C. refrains from 'fixing' behavior at school!
- R. completes a morning routine with 100% independence!
- N. learned to cook 3 new complicated dinner recipes!
- O. has recently been placed at Logix Health!

Welcome to
amazon smile

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Field Day



On August 28th, NLG held our first Field Day for students, members and staff. It was a gorgeous summer day and everyone had fun. Students and adults were able to take part in the potato sack races, water sponge relay, marshmallow race and more.



13th Annual Give them Wings Dinner and Auction

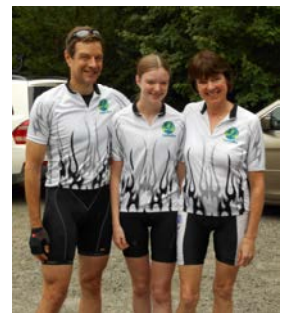
Don't forget to buy your tickets for this exciting event as NLG supporters gather to honor our wonderful teachers, gain inspiration from our young adult, staff and parent speakers, and participate in our lively auction. The event begins at 6 pm at the Doubletree Hilton in Bedford MA. Contact Emily Wheet at 781-275-2500 for more information and to RSVP. Or, go to the Events tab at www.nashobalearninggroup.org to order tickets and space in our Program Book.

14th Annual Bikeathon and Walkathon



NLG Adult Program Staff

NLG's Bikeathon/Walkathon was a great success! Over thirty cyclists rode for NLG, including an NLG student. Members from the Burlington Chamber of Commerce showed their support by completing the Bike-A-Thon. Many other NLG students, adult members, their families, and NLG staff walked the 2 mile walkathon trail. This event provided a great opportunity to support NLG and celebrate the dramatic difference NLG makes for those we serve.



John, Julia and Liz



Burlington Chamber of Commerce Riders



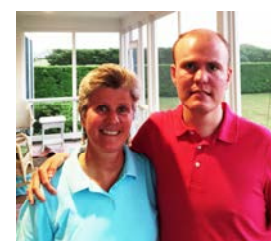
Annual Fund Update

Thank you so much to all who supported NLG's Annual Fund. The Annual Fund supports general operations and annual priorities of NLG. In our first year of the Annual Fund, 38% of families donated. This is a great start! We are looking forward to increasing participation in the coming year and including more friends of NLG! We are so grateful that across all of our fundraising efforts 92% of School Parents and 100% of Adult Program Parents made a donation to NLG in fiscal 2015. This truly shows the dedication of our parents/guardians to the achievement of our mission.

Brendan Cheever, father of Donovan, a student at NLG, was our Annual Fund Chairman for the School. Cynthia Reed, mother of Jantsen, a member of our Adult Program, chaired the Adult Program effort. Brendan, Cynthia and their team of volunteers worked hard this Spring to increase parent participation and reach out to as many parents/guardians as possible through the Phone-A-Thon. NLG thanks Brendan and Cynthia for their commitment and dedication.



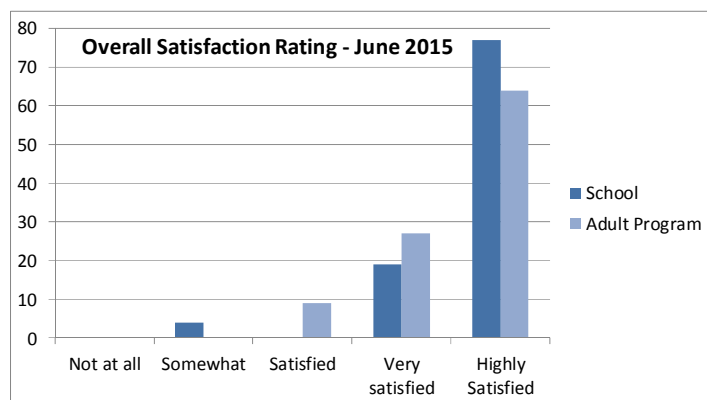
On left: Brendan and Donovan



On Right: Cynthia and Jantsen

NLG Constituent Satisfaction Survey

To assess NLG's performance and identify areas for improvement, we ask 4 groups of constituents to rate our performance across multiple categories each year. Surveys were sent out this past May. We are very pleased with the high overall satisfaction and we will continue to work to improve!



NLG School Parent/Guardian Survey Satisfaction Rating

Category	Average Rating on a 5 point scale
Care for individuals and families	4.59
Application of Applied Behavior Analysis	4.61
Satisfaction with Service Delivery	4.54
Administration and Facilities	4.49
Overall Rating	4.70

☀️ PAC Corner ☀️

Hello NLG community! Happy fall. Hope you all had an enjoyable summer. A very special welcome to our new families! -Every other month we have a **parent lunch** where we talk about anything! We swap resources, strategies and stories...it's fun! Our next one is on **Friday, September 18 at 12:30 p.m.** Place TBD. Look out for an email from Lisa Alexander, our lunch coordinator and mom of Kimberly in the older hood. She'll be sending details soon! Questions? Email Lisa at krisandlisa@hotmail.com.
-On Thursday, October 8, Paul Halloran, NLG parent, organizes a Comedy Night to Benefit NLG. We had an NLG parent table last year and it was a great-and funny-night! It takes place at 6:00 p.m. at the Montvale Plaza, Stoneham. For tickets and details, email Paul at pkhcomm@verizon.net.
-On Friday, October 9 we will hold our first **PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) Meeting** of the year at 9:30 a.m at NLG. All Parents/Guardians Welcome!! We will be talking about the caregiver role and how we can support ourselves while we support our families. Please email Una at ujbasak@gmail.com if you will attend and if you have any suggestions or ideas for the meeting!
-Finally, on Saturday, October 24, we will have our annual **Give Them Wings Annual NLG Auction** in Bedford. This event is essential to raising funds NLG needs! Liz kicks off the night with a wonderful update on NLG followed by extraordinary staff and student speakers. Amazing community event-hope you can join! Email Emily at emily.wheet@nashobalearninggroup.org for information.
 Looking forward to a great year!!
 Best, Una and Barb

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