

NASHOBA LEARNING GROUP

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



Thank you everyone for all your support for NLG this year! 2015 was an exciting year of growth for each individual we serve and for NLG! We are so pleased that we have been able to launch our second site and that we are already adding students and adults to our programs at both sites.

We are so proud of each and every one of our students and adult members for their hard work and all they have achieved! We have highlighted some achievements in this issue. These success stories are all the more remarkable because most of those we serve were making no progress in their prior placement.

We are so proud of our amazing NLG staff and their talent, skill, dedication and professional growth! We are a team at NLG and the contribution of every member is vital. Thank you for being part of the NLG team! Together we can do so much for those who need us! Your support means so much to the 122 individuals we serve in our School and Adult Programs and to those who will be able to join us over the next year as we expand.

All of us at NLG wish you joy and peace in the New Year.

Liz Martineau

President and Clinical Director



Upcoming Events

Annual Appeal has mailed. Donate at www.nashobalearninggroup.org

March 12th FCCC Basketball Tournament

March 20th Leprechaun 5K

April 18th Boston Marathon

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

**December
2015 Issue**



Celebrate student and adult achievements!

D. has acquired 58 new vocabulary terms and loves to use them throughout the day!

O. has learned to navigate the T from Alewife into Boston with minimal assistance!



A. has increased natural social interactions with teachers, peers and family and is now interacting with customers at his first worksite!

R. acquired her very first paid job at Triton Systems!

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Go Green! Email

emily.wheet@nashobalearninggroup.org to join our emailing list!

Annual Fund

NLG's Annual Appeal was mailed in mid November. If you have not received it, or you would like additional copies, you can access it online at www.nashobalearninggroup.org or call Emily Wheet at 781-275-2500 to request one. We thank you for your support! The Annual Appeal is the kick off for our Annual Fund, now in its second year.

There has always been a need for philanthropy at NLG because the tuition payments from our cities and towns, Department of Developmental Services and MassHealth do not fully cover our costs. Annual Funds are ongoing drives throughout the year to raise unrestricted support. For instance, the professional development and training that staff members receive is funded through donations. The specialized staff who are so critical to students' success in learning to manage their behavior so they can participate in learning, the community, work, and life activities, are funded through philanthropy.

NLG thanks our hardworking Annual Fund Co-Chairs, Cynthia Reed (Adult Program) and Brendan Cheever (School Program) for leading our Annual Fund efforts.. We welcome Carol Rakers who will join them as an additional co-chair for the School. We would love your help! Please contact us at 781-275-2500 or Emily.wheet@nashobalearninggroup.org if you are interested in joining the team.



Halloween at NLG



Student, adults, and staff had a blast dressing up and trick-or-treating for Halloween!



Give Them Wings Auction

NLG's 13th annual Auction and Dinner was a wonderful night of inspiration, community, and support for NLG! Parent speakers Barbara Baker and Michele Vroman, student speaker Justin O'Reilly and Adult Program Director Lauren Savioli gave eloquent testimony on what NLG means to the individuals and families we serve. Our 300 guests bid on an exciting variety of items and enjoyed the evening. We are happy to report that we raised over \$100,000, net of costs! Thank you to all who participated, your support enables individuals with autism to soar!



Celebrate Student and Adult Achievements!

- D. learned to take pictures of his surroundings and text them to his teachers so he can be located if he gets lost!

- S. mastered folding washed cloths, hand towels, bath towels, and 6 articles of clothing!

- P. has mastered taking out his wallet when being told the price by a cashier!

- J. is able to count the number of days until a special event on a calendar!

- C. is able to complete a showering and exercise routine all by himself; he is working hard to run 2 miles at the NLG mile next spring!

- L. increased her communication with therapists by requesting different foods!

- B. is able to use his list of needed groceries to estimate how much money he will spend while grocery shopping!

- S. is quickly transitioning from 1:1 staffing to 1:3 and being a part of the group!



An easy way to finishing your holiday shopping while giving back.

- By choosing NLG as your charity Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support NLG by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

PAC Corner



Hello NLG Families~

Our thanks to all of you for your generous donations to our neighborhood auction baskets! The baskets raised \$3,200 for the school. It has been great to see so many of you this fall -- either at our PAC meeting, a parent lunch, the Auction, or at the parent coffee. We are building a strong and thoughtful parent community and we thank you for your support and participation! For those of you who have not yet joined us, watch your email for upcoming opportunities! It is very nice to spend time with parents who understand one another!

Please watch backpacks and emails for information about the annual holiday collection for purchasing gift cards to thank our NLG staff! Also, the staff cookie swap will be held again this year, so please plan to bake something for this. It will be held the last week before the winter break. We wish you all a wonderful holiday season and look forward to seeing you often in 2016!

Barb and Una

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