

NEWS & NOTES

PROVIDING HELP FOR THOSE WITH AUTISM
AND HOPE FOR THEIR FAMILIES

A Letter from the President

Happy Summer! As Nashoba Learning Group begins our third decade, we are making exciting strides in implementing our Strategic Plan! Our goal is to provide the best services to children and adults with Profound Autism* over the coming decades by continuing to focus on each person as an individual, with unique strengths, challenges, and desires, and by customizing state-of-the-art teaching methodologies to that individual. Doing so requires outstanding Clinicians and excellent, highly trained staff. We are pleased with our progress in achieving our plan of being the best place for the best staff to work. We have put many initiatives in place, even though it meant incurring additional costs before we had funding secured to support them. In particular, we have substantially improved recruiting and staff retention by offering the wages and benefits needed in today's job market to attract great staff and allow them to stay and build careers with us. We are also excited that Katherine Johnson, a BCBA with 20+ years of experience, has joined us as Director of Training and Business Development. She is working with our Leadership Team to make our training even more effective and to set the stage for future service offerings to expand our scope.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bike-A-Thon

July 16th

Fishin' With A Mission

July 30th

NLG Auction

Charter Oak Country Club

October 28th

Questions?

Email events@nashobalearninggroup.org

We are so grateful for your support as we work to deliver on our mission and enable those we serve to reach their full potential throughout their lives. The economy remains challenging, and navigating the workforce crisis and rising costs is an ongoing effort. Fundraising is more important than ever. Thank you for your continued support during our Spring Annual Fund drive and for our upcoming events.

2023 has been a year of renewed community engagement and we have been thrilled to host live events that bring our families and friends together to support NLG. Enclosed you will see highlights of several events we hosted this winter and spring. We are looking forward to hosting our 21st Annual Bike-a-Thon on July 16th. I am training for the ride and I hope you will join me!

Thank you for allowing us to persevere, position ourselves for the future, and help those who need us. On behalf of our staff and the amazing individuals that we serve, thank you for your support!



Liz Martineau
President and CEO

* The term "Profound Autism" has been adopted by the CDC to help differentiate those with significantly higher levels of need. Profound Autism includes Autistic people with substantial intellectual disabilities, and limited language abilities, who cannot be left alone and require 24-hour access to a caregiver. It is estimated that 25-30% of those with an Autism diagnosis meet the criteria for Profound Autism. The vast majority of individuals served by NLG have Profound Autism and we have designed our organization to deliver the level of support they need.



Adult Services Program 10th Anniversary

10 years ago, on March 4th, 2013, Nashoba Learning Group opened our Adult Services Program to serve adults more challenged by Autism. Our innovative program was designed to provide the trained staff support that would allow those we serve to live lives of satisfaction and purpose in the program, at home, and in the community. Over the past 10 years, our Adult Services Program has become a beacon of hope for Members and their families.



WELCOME KATHERINE JOHNSON, MA, BCBA



Katherine Johnson, MA, BCBA
Director of Training and Business Development

Katherine Johnson is a clinical leader with nearly 30 years of experience in the field of ABA. She founded an ABA home services agency (Advances Learning Center) and directed it for 16 years. Most recently, she worked for a large national organization where she led major clinical development and training projects, developed university partnerships, and built internal coalitions in government relations and person-centered ABA. She is past president of MassCAP and has taught behavior analysis at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Katherine has long admired the quality of services provided by Nashoba Learning Group and is thrilled to have joined such a dedicated group of practitioners.

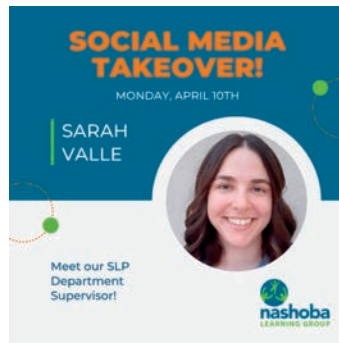
ADULT SERVICES PROGRAM CARF ACCREDITATION

Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, CARF International is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services in the following areas; Aging Services, Behavioral Health, Child and Youth Services, Employment and Community Services, Vision Rehabilitation Services, Medical Rehabilitation, and Opioid Treatment Programs. The CARF International group of companies currently accredits more than 65,000 programs. When Nashoba Learning Group's Adult Services Program was re-accredited by CARF in January of this year, NLG was in the top 3% of all programs audited and received 0 recommendations from CARF.



AUTISM AWARENESS & ACCEPTANCE BUZZ

During Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month, Nashoba Learning Group created some social media buzz by hosting several "Social Media Takeover Days" to give followers on our Instagram and Facebook accounts a chance to peek behind the scenes and experience NLG through the eyes of our staff. We also featured "Day in the Life" posts that gave followers a glimpse into a typical day for some of our students, members, and staff. Check out our Instagram account (@nlgautism) to view all of the fun and informative content!



SCAN THE QR CODES BELOW TO VIEW OUR INSTAGRAM TAKEOVERS!



Autism Advocacy



We were thrilled to welcome State Representative Simon Cataldo to Nashoba Learning Group's Adult Services Program. We are incredibly grateful that Representative Cataldo, Representative Sean Garballey, and State Senator Barry Finegold filed the Workforce Act, H. 171/S.83, which is under review. The bill addresses the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and MassHealth payment rates for workers who provide support and services for individuals with disabilities.

If passed, the bill would increase workforce pay scales for direct care staff in Adult Programs and provide funding for ABA services for Adults. NLG already provides competitive wages and ABA services but we are not being reimbursed for these expenses. These bills are essential to get rates closer to our costs. Hearings for both bills are scheduled for June 2023. The Workforce Bill will have a hearing on June 13th. The ABA for Adults bill will have a hearing on June 27th. Please contact liz.martineau@nashobalearninggroup.org to learn how you can help us advocate.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Preliminary Annual Report

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE **\$50,000+**

Bob and Karen Forlenza
Jack and Mae Rosenberg Charitable Fund
Rajeev and Ila Shah
Shah Charitable Gift Fund
Harry and Carolyn Stoller
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COMMUNITY ENGAGER **\$25,000-\$49,999**

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Martin J. and Tristin Mannion Charitable Trust
John McClellan and Liz Martineau
Northern Bank & Trust Charitable Foundation
Nicole Peppe
Holly Swan and Chris Pyne
Stratford Foundation
Andrew and Judith Ursitti

EXCELLENCE TRAINER **\$10,000-\$24,999**

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Dr. Zaven Ayanian
Brad and Barbara Baker
Baker Charitable Account at Schwab Charitable
Amit and Una Basak
Benevity, Inc.
Eduardo and Tracy Brea
Marilee Havel-Brew and Robert Brew
James and Peggy Burling
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Drs. Andrew Zimmerman and Susan Connors
Mark and Susan Dalton
Eduardo and Tracy Brea Charitable Fund
Fred and Gertrude Rakers Memorial Fund
Full Potential Charitable Fund at Morgan Stanley
Pamela Goldstein and Michael Gefers
John and Joanna Jacobson
James L. Robo and Meredith B. Trim Charitable Giving Fund
Catherine Cornell and Samuel Lipman

EXCELLENCE TRAINER (Continued) **\$10,000-\$24,999**

Jim and Gina McCaffrey
McCaffrey Family Gift Fund
One8 Foundation
Stephen and Jeryl Oristaglio
Oristaglio Family Foundation
Larry and Carol Rakers
Richard Ramsey
The Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc.
Stephanie Davidoff and Gerard Vaio
Zehra Mooraj and Mamoon Yunus

SUSTAINER **\$5,000-\$9,999**

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Adi and Amit Alon
The Atamian Family
Douglas and Annelise Atamian
Seta Atamian
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Bright Funds Foundation
Christopher Catanese Children's Foundation
Cisco
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Patrick and Katherine Gaughen
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Richard Hamilton
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Robert and Sally Huebscher
Sean and Stacey Lannan
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Peter Tarr and Gail Nelson DAF at Morgan Stanley
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Lisa Stoner
Christine Sylvester
Peter Tarr
Damon and Ashley Waring
Don and Mary Woodward

2002ER **\$2,002-\$4,999**

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Scott Anderson
William and Jill Anderson
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Charles and Christine Ball
Bike to the Beach Inc
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Francine Pillemer
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Carlos and Eileen Rodriguez
Peter and Michele Scavongelli

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Preliminary Annual Report

2002er (Continued)
\$2,002-\$4,999

Teresa Kadziewicz and Mark Silvestris
 Matthew and Susan Sotir
 Pansy Sai and Derek Tan
 Peg Thompson
 Matt and Zhanna Ullman

HOPE BUILDER
\$1,000-\$2,001

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 Ameriprise Financial
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 Stacey Stephens and William Beckett
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 Thomas and Suzanne Biga
 Kimberly Borgen
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 Robert and Debra Campbell
 Charles and Gloria Clough
 Cynthia Reed and John Collins
 Michael and Rebecca Corda
 John and Jeanette D'Amico
 Stephanie and Kurt Daniels
 Francois and Rosamond Delori
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HOPE BUILDER (Continued)
\$1,000-\$2,001

Demoulas Foundation
 John and Maura Dolan
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 Draper
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 Equitable Foundation
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 Bernard Gormley
 Richard and Jeanne Greenhalgh
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 Karen Kahrl
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 Ed and Kate McNierney
 Kenneth Michel
 Paul and Linda Monach
 Alison Moore
 Cheryl and Keeley Murphy
 Kelley Murphy

HOPE BUILDER (Continued)
\$1,000-\$2,001

Murphy Family Fund
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 Norman Foundation, Inc.
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 Pledgeling Foundation
 Putnam Foundation
 David and Karen Riggert
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 The Bandai Foundation
 The Karen and Dave Riggert Family Fund
 Bill and Anne Umphrey
 Sarah Valle
 Richard and Michele Vroman
 Bruce and Coleen Watrous
 Sandison and Terri Ann Weil
 Bob and Tona White
 Shannon Zollo

*Scan here to
 make a gift today!*



Nashoba Learning Group is grateful for all of the donors, corporations, and foundations who support us. **We need gifts of all sizes to do this important work.** This list reflects gifts and pledges of \$1,000 or more to date for this fiscal year (which runs July 1-June 30). Please review the list and contact us at development@nashobalearninggroup.org if you feel our records are not accurate or if you'd like to make a donation.

*Scan here to view the
 complete donor list*



NLG HIT THE GROUND RUNNING (AND WALKING!) AT OUR 5K SHUFFLE AND FUN RUN!



NLG's 5K Shuffle & Fun Run was a huge success and great fun for all despite the weather! Thanks to your generosity, we not only met our Matching Challenge of raising \$10k in 10 days, but we set a new record for total fundraising through our 5K event by raising over \$35,000!!

THANK YOU to all of our sponsors and volunteers who made the day possible, to all who participated, and to everyone who donated to support our members, students, and staff.

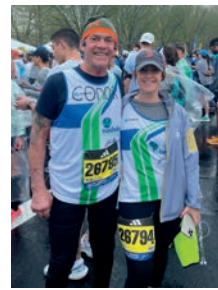
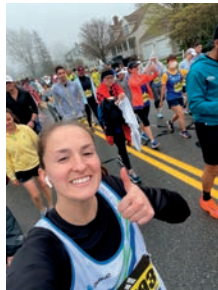


Full Court Charity Challenge

Hosted Annually by Bob and Karen Forlenza, the Full Court Charity Challenge supports Nashoba Learning Group and MGH's Lurie Center for Autism in their efforts to provide vital services to children and adults with Autism and support for their families. Players, spectators and volunteers had a great time at the Boston University Fitness and Recreation Center on March 11th for our 22nd Annual Full Court Charity Challenge. Competition was fierce this year with many returning and new players. Congratulations to team Max's All Stars who took home the Corporate Division trophy and team SCS who won the Open Division!

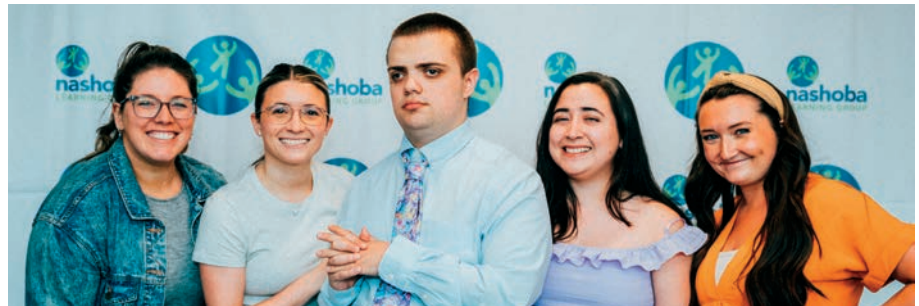


BOSTON MARATHON



Congratulations to the four runners who participated in the 127th Boston Marathon! Amy Ursitti, Emily Rakers, Ashley Hanson, and Peter Hanson raised a total of \$45,000 to benefit Nashoba Learning Group! We thank John Hancock for providing NLG with four bibs, all those who donated to our runners, and a huge round of applause to #TEAMNLG for completing 26.2 miles!

SPRING FLING





10 Oak Park Drive
Bedford, MA 01730

ANNUAL FUND

At Nashoba Learning Group (NLG), our goal is to be the best at serving those with Autism by becoming the best place to work for staff who are inspired by our mission and committed to excellence.

Donations to NLG's Annual Fund allow us to invest in staff recruiting, training, and retention – **critical costs** which are not funded by the tuition and payments we receive.

*We cannot do this important work without your support.
Please give as generously as you can!*

*Scan here to
donate online!*



NLG SWAG

Get your NLG clothing and swag from our two online stores - Lands' End and Squad Locker!



Lands' End



Squad Locker