



nashoba
LEARNING GROUP
Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2024

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Mission Statement

Our mission is to create the best available programs to allow people more affected by Autism to achieve their full potential and participate as fully as possible in family and community activities.

We are dedicated to improving the methods of treatment and sharing that knowledge.

Our vision encompasses people with autism, regardless of age.

A LETTER FROM OUR CEO



Dear Friends,

Thanks to your support, Nashoba Learning Group had a successful year of providing high-quality services to individuals with Profound Autism or other unique challenges.

Profound Autism is a newly created clarifying category to describe the estimated 26% of the individuals on the Autism Spectrum whose Autism is coupled with Intellectual Disability, severely impaired language, and the need for 24/7 supervision.

NLG has always excelled at serving this segment. We are happy that the scientific community now recognizes this group of individuals whose needs differ from others on the spectrum.

We look forward to continuing to focus on those in this segment and advocating for dedicated research and differentiated funding to support their needs.

NLG continues to provide excellent services to over 200 individuals served at our School and Adult Programs.

We have enhanced our retention and achieved full staffing by increasing our salaries and benefits, including funding graduate school tuition for direct care staff. This has allowed us to compete for skilled and compassionate staff.

However, rates have not caught up to the costs of providing competitive compensation. We continue to advocate for increased adult rates and for an enhanced tuition rate for our School program.

NLG's strategy reaffirms our commitment to serving those with the greatest needs throughout their lives. The goal of the current phase is to ensure that NLG attracts and retains the best staff to provide the best available service. We have also been working on finding additional space to expand our programs. The market environment has made this more difficult, but we are hoping to add expansion space in the upcoming year.

Our strategy also calls for us to expand our reach. Last year, we brought in Katherine Johnson, an experienced behavior analyst, entrepreneur, and training expert, to serve as Director of Training and Business Development. In addition to working with Lauren Savioli and our Training team to ensure NLG provides outstanding training to our staff, she has worked with us to also develop and implement business extension ideas to bring our services to a broader audience.

With assistance from The Profound Autism Alliance, we hosted The Profound Autism Summit, a one-day conference on April 5, 2024. The Summit brought together clinicians, scientists, advocates, teachers, service providers, and parents/guardians to advance the state of treatment and care. We were thrilled to have 561 attendees from 35 states and two countries at the Summit. The event was a great success, and we are planning a two-day Summit to be held on April 10 and 11, 2025, at the Boston Sheraton. Additionally, we launched an online community, Profound Village (profoundvillage.org), at the Summit. We will use this platform to provide relevant curated content on Profound Autism to a broad audience. Over the next year, we aim to expand this community to help improve the treatment of those with Profound Autism throughout their lives.

As we work towards a future of enhanced and expanded services for those who need us most, we are incredibly grateful to you, our leadership donors. We look forward to sharing our plans as they take shape. We appreciate you! Thank you for enabling us to persevere and continue to deliver on our mission.

We are pleased to present this Annual Report, honoring those whose generous support over the past year has allowed us to change the outcome for individuals with Profound Autism and their families. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for believing in our mission and investing in creating a successful and productive future for individuals with Profound Autism!

Liz Martineau

Liz Martineau
President and Chief Executive Officer



Profound Autism Summit

Sparking Collaboration | Advancing Treatment

The first Profound Autism Summit exceeded our Expectations!

561 Participants

35 States

2 Countries

All came together to learn from our incredible lineup of speakers and each other.

As a Profound Autism Community, we will work to enhance services, funding, research, treatment, and connection.



Save the Date: Now Two Days!

April 10 and 11, 2025

Sheraton Boston

PROFOUND VILLAGE

Profound Village is an outgrowth of the Summit.

This online community will provide information, resources, and connections to members of the Profound Autism Community.

Be part of the conversation by visiting profoundvillage.org.



Event Summaries

NLG Bike-a-thon

July 23, 2023 • \$43,330

Created and hosted by
Liz Martineau and John McClellan
and leveraged with a matching gift challenge
from Cesar Brea and Nan Leonard.

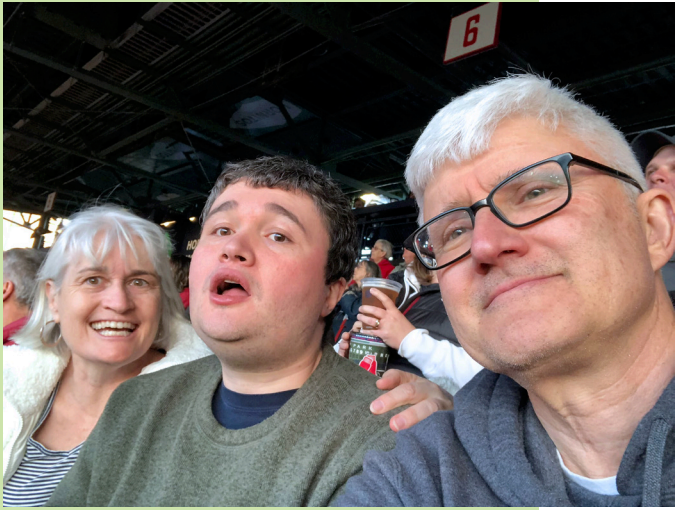


Fishin' With A Mission

July 30, 2023 • \$2,393

Hosted at the Mystic Wellington Yacht Club
by Jim and Ester DeOliveira.





“Our son Will wakes up every day hoping it’s an NLG day. It is such a gift to us as parents that we know he is happiest when he gets to be there. It’s also valuable to us because we know that it is the best place for Will to receive evidence-based treatment. Will has STXBP1 disorder, a genetic defect that impairs communication between neurons, resulting in epilepsy, intellectual disability, and movement disorders (tremors). Learning language is particularly difficult for people like Will, so the most effective therapy for him is a treatment that doesn’t require advanced verbal ability. NLG provides Applied Behavior Analysis treatment so they can laser-focus on the observable challenges Will experiences, rather than relying on him to be able to tell us how he is feeling. With ABA, NLG has been able to teach Will essential skills to communicate his wants and needs, allowing him to feel successful and less frustrated than he would be without those communication skills.”



Thank you to the Cummings Foundation for your continued support of Nashoba Learning Group.



Auction and Dinner

October 28, 2023 • \$612,314

With special thanks to Nicole Peppe, The Atamian Family, Doug Atamian and Seta Atamian, Nan Leonard and Cesar Brea, John and Susan Pittenger via Spout Foundation, Carol and Larry Rakers, and Ben Kahrl and Connie Mao for their generous Fund-a-Need match contributions.

Special thanks to Judith and Andrew Ursitti, Karen and Bob Forlenza, Liz Martineau and John McClellan, Holly Swan and Chris Pyne, Barb and Brad Baker, Una and Amit Basak, Jen and Walter Kelt and Ila and Rajeev Shah for their outstanding support during our live auction.







Full Court Charity Challenge

March 16, 2024 • \$ 83,260

Created and run by Bob Forlenza, the FCCC, raised \$166,520, and net proceeds were divided between The Lurie Center and NLG.

Profound Autism



Walk & Run Adventure
at the ZOO

June 2, 2024 • \$41,593

Held at the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston for the first time, this inclusive run/walk ran through the Zoo, amongst the animals, and was a perfect way to combine our beloved 5k and Family Fun Day in support of our Profound Autism community.

TOP SPONSORS:

Point 32 Health - Harvard Pilgrim
Ben Kahrl and Connie Mao
Atlantic Toyota
Cambridge Savings Bank

TOP TEAMS:

Jellis' Zoo Crew
Ella's Shining Stars
Team Loukoumi



DONOR LIST

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

\$50,000+

Concord Carlisle Community Chest
Cummings Foundation
Karen and Bob Forlenza
Jack and Mae Rosenberg Charitable Trust
Janet Parnell
Nicole Peppe
Carolyn and Harry Stoller
Marsha Stoller
Judith and Andrew Ursitti

COMMUNITY ENGAGER

\$25,000--

Lina and Stephen Andrade
The Atamian Family, Douglas Atamian and
Seta Atamian, Parents of Natalie
Barbara and Brad Baker
Peggy and James Burling
Mary Jane and Glenn Creamer
Miriam and Peter Daneker
Liz Martineau and John McClellan
Zehra Mooraj and Mamoon Yunus
Northern Bank & Trust Charitable Foundation
Ila and Rajeev Shah
Stratford Foundation
Holly Swan and Chris Pyne

EXCELLENCE TRAINER

\$10,000+

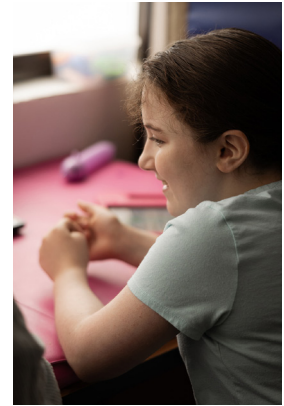
Zaven Ayanian
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SUSTAINER

\$5,000+

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Sandra and Gregory Boyle
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Richard Hamilton
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Allan Jones
Elizabeth and James Judge
Stacey and Sean Lannan
Rahul Mahna
Anne Melvin and Daniel Sullivan
Gail Nelson and Peter Tarr
Betsy and Paul O'Reilly
Point 32 Health - Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Amanda and Chris Rimmer
Carolyn and Jake Sabat
David Sandberg
Karla and Sean Slade
Mary and Don Woodward



“The staff and level of support, the flexibility of thought as to what will work for each particular child, and the data - driven approach- we are so grateful for all of it.”

“NLG provides our son with a stable academic life and experiences, which he has not had for years. We are very thankful for that.”

“Caring team. Responsive. Always has our child's best interests in mind. Available to talk at any time. We are delighted!”



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2002er

\$2,002+

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Toyota - Matching Gifts

Zhanna and Matt Ullman

Ashley and Damon Waring

Tona and Bob White

Maureen Whitley and Jeff Singer

“The staff are some of the most amazing people I have encountered. The way that they care for my child is incredible.”

“The people. They are warm, compassionate, and knowledgeable. We feel fortunate to have a home there.”

“I love NLG's data-driven approach and the fact that they are always willing to listen and incorporate what we ask for.”



DONOR LIST

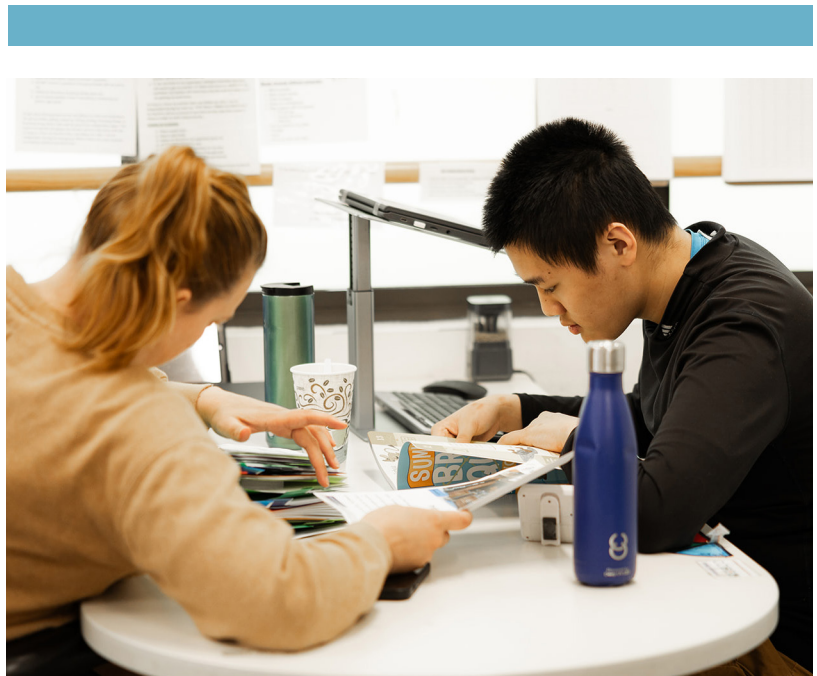
HOPE BUILDER

\$1,000+

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DONOR LIST

DONORS

\$500+

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Beverly Waring
Amy Weinstock
Maureen Whitley and Jeff Singer
David Whitney
Jackie Yu

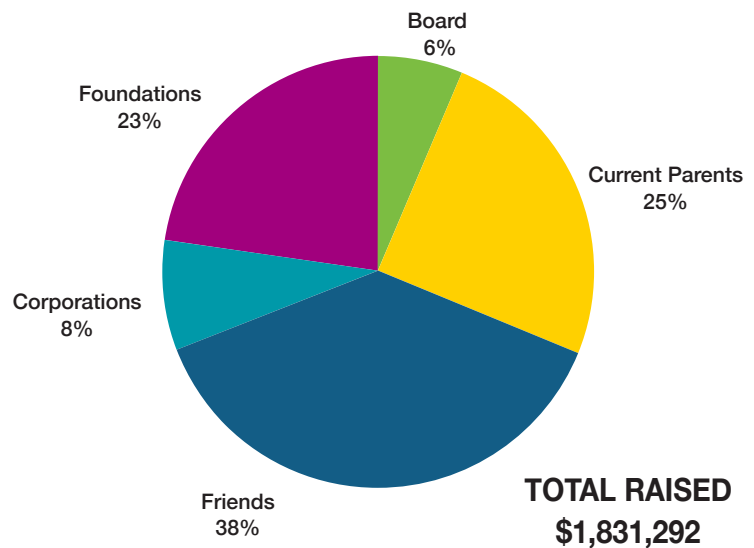
“It’s not one thing,
it’s the entire scope
of what NLG stands for
and provides for my
daughter.”

“I feel like we are part
of the family and are
accepted and cared
about in the best way.”

We are very grateful for all contributions.



DONATIONS BY SOURCE



Nashoba Learning Group By the Numbers

202

Students & Adult Members



304

Staff



35

Board Certified Clinicians



50

Vocational Training & Employment Partnerships



13

Published, Under Review, and In-Progress Research Studies



nashoba
LEARNING GROUP

“ The vision, the leadership, and the staff. ”

“ The commitment to providing quality and science-backed strategies and services to improve the functioning of members. ”





10 Oak Park Drive
Bedford, MA 01730
781-275-2500
www.nashobalearninggroup.org

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