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### Dear Friends,

In a world marked by uncertainty and rapid change, Nashoba Learning Group (NLG) remained steadfast in our mission —providing exceptional, individualized support to Autistic individuals, especially those with the most profound and complex needs. Throughout 2025, our School, Adult Program, and outreach efforts continued to thrive, thanks to our unwavering focus on the people we serve, our adaptability to evolving challenges, and our commitment to advocacy where change is needed.

At NLG, we are recognized for our in-person, customized care. We excel in supporting individuals with Profound Autism, as well as others whose needs are intensified by the unique ways Autism affects them. In 2025, we continued to lead with innovation, compassion, and resilience:

- Expanded Adult Program Capacity: We secured a new, community-based expansion space that enables the
  continued growth of our Adult Program. This investment will allow us to welcome more adults in the coming years
  while enriching community engagement opportunities for all participants.
- Revamped Hiring & Onboarding: In response to a challenging recruitment environment, we overhauled our staffing processes to attract and retain compassionate, dynamic professionals. Our new system is successfully bringing in high-quality candidates—and getting them trained and working more quickly—ensuring the best support for those we serve.
- Navigated Funding Transitions: With dedication and determination, our team led a successful transition of Adult Supplemental Services funding from the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services to Medicaid. Through direct advocacy and collaboration with other agencies, we ensured continued support without disruption.
- Championed Effective Regulation: Partnering with MAAPS and peer special education schools, we worked to
  ensure that new DESE regulations reflect and respect the needs of our student population, continuing to
  safeguard access to appropriate, specialized treatment.
- Grew the Profound Autism Summit: This year's Profound Autism Summit expanded into a two-day event with nearly 1,000 attendees, doubling participation from the inaugural year. Clinicians, educators, scientists, caregivers, service providers, and advocates came together to drive progress in treatment and care. This growth marks a powerful step forward in building community, raising awareness, and advancing solutions for those with Profound Autism.
- Optimized Facilities Amid Market Challenges: Facing ongoing challenges in the real estate market, we made targeted capital investments to maximize the functionality of our existing spaces, ensuring that every square foot better serves our students and adults.

Thanks to your incredible generosity, NLG continues to provide life-changing services to more than 200 individuals across our School and Adult Programs. Your belief in our mission makes this possible.

As we look ahead to expanding and enhancing our services, we do so with deep gratitude for you, our dedicated and visionary donors. Your support empowers us to persevere, grow, and continue delivering on our essential mission: to bring help and hope to Autistic individuals and their families.

We are proud to present this Annual Report as a tribute to your impact. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for investing in brighter futures and believing in the potential of every person we serve.

With sincere appreciation,

Liz Martineau

President and Chief Executive Officer

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# **Profound Autism Summit 2025**

# A GROWING COMMUNITY, A SHARED PURPOSE

the event.



The Profound Autism Summit made a powerful return this year at the Sheraton Boston Hotel, growing from a one-day, 560-person gathering to a two-day event with 958 attendees! With over 60 speakers—including BCBAs, SLPs, researchers, medical providers, psychologists, caregivers, siblings, parents, and self-advocates—the Summit brought together a vibrant cross-section of the community. Attendees commented on the welcoming, collaborative tone of

With roughly one- third parents, one-third BCBAs, and one-third professionals from other disciplines, we learned side-by-side as equals. The content was as rich as the connections: sessions spanned medical topics (psychopharmacology, catatonia, access to care), long-term planning (guardianship, sibling involvement), and practical strategies for supporting individuals with profound autism in areas such as communication, sleep, safety, and sexuality.





We're thrilled to announce that next year's

Profound Autism Summit will be held on April 16–17, 2026, at the Boston Park Plaza.



# FISHIN' WITH A MISSION

\$3,571 Raised

Hosted by the Mystic Wellington Yacht Club &
Jim and Ester DeOliveira

# 2024 BIKE-A-THON

\$43,931 Raised

Thank you to all the incredible riders who participated in our Bikeathon!
Your energy, commitment, and support made the event a tremendous success.



Together, we raised critical funds to sustain and grow NLG's programs.



# **GIVE THEM WINGS AUCTION**

\$528,672 Raised



Our Story



Starts with you...

This year's Auction was a heartfelt celebration of the NLG community—a night defined by connection, joy, and shared purpose. Guests were treated to an unforgettable evening filled with lively auction games, powerful storytelling, and moving speeches that brought our mission

vividly to life.

The event not only left a lasting impression on all who attended but also raised critical funds to support the students and adults we serve every day.



# FULL COURT CHARITY CHALLENGE

\$102,000 Raised

The Full Court Charity Challenge (FCCC) remains one of New England's premier charity basketball tournaments, bringing together exceptional talent—from standout former college players to retired NBA professionals.

But FCCC is more than just a showcase of athleticism—it's a powerful force for good. Through generous sponsorships, team entry fees, and individual donations, this high-energy event raises essential funds for Nashoba Learning Group and the Lurie Center for Autism. We're honored to be part of a partnership that drives meaningful change and strengthens support for individuals with autism throughout the region.



# **Profound Autism** Walk & Run Adventure at the ZOO

# **WALK & RUN ADVENTURE** AT THE ZOO

\$40,000 RAISED





For the second year in a row, our incredible NLG community gathered at Franklin Park Zoo—and not even the rain could dim the energy or enthusiasm! Runners and walkers crossed the finish line to cheers, high-fives, and heartfelt support, all united in their commitment to NLG and individuals with Profound Autism. It was a joyful, inspiring day that highlighted the strength, resilience, and unwavering spirit of our amazing





# Thank you Concord Carlisle Foundation

Nashoba Learning Group is grateful to the Concord Carlisle Foundation for their grant support of our Adult Program! Their allocation of \$40,000 helps cover the gap between costs and government funding for the four adults we serve who are residents of Concord or Carlisle.

Concord Carlisle Foundation is a community-focused organization dedicated to understanding critical needs, making grants to local nonprofits, and providing direct aid to individuals. Concord Carlisle Foundation has provided support to NLG's Adult Program for seven years, and we are deeply appreciative of the Foundation's concern for the well-being of those with Profound Autism in Concord and Carlisle.





Thank you to the Cummings Foundation for your unwavering support for NLG.

# NLG's amazing

Grandparents Tea



# **NLG at the State House**









# community



**Rock the Spectrum Gym** 









# THANK YOU TO OUR

# FOUNDER'S CIRCLE \$50,000+

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Grants **Concord Carlisle Foundation Cummings Foundation** Karen and Bob Forlenza Jack and Mae Rosenberg Charitable Trust Liz Martineau and John McClellan PayPal Giving Fund Nicole Peppe Carolyn and Harry Stoller Marsha Stoller

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### **EXCELLENCE TRAINOR**

### \$10,000 +

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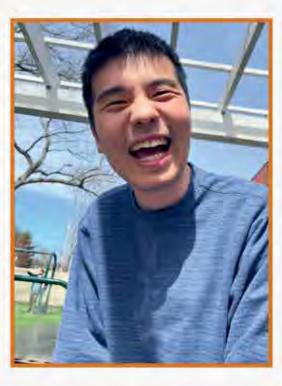
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# NASHOBA LEARNING GROUP BY THE NUMBERS



205 STUDENTS & ADULT PROGRAM MEMBERS

Empowering individuals across our School and Adult Programs



330 DEDICATED

A strong, passionate team supporting every learner, every day



42 BOARD CERTIFIED CLINICIANS (BCBAs)

Leading with clinical expertise and compassionate care



50 VOCATIONAL TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Preparing members for meaningful, inclusive employment



RESEARCH STUDIES
Published, under review, or
in progress—advancing the field of
autism education and care

Together, we're building brighter futures.







On behalf of our dedicated staff,

Thank You

for partnering with us to provide life-changing support for individuals with autism and hope for their families.







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# **NOTES**



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