

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



THE TREATMENT AND LEARNING CENTERS
2092 Gaither Road • Suite 100 • Rockville, MD 20850
301.424.5200 • www.ttlc.org

From Executive Director Dr. Patricia Ritter



It is my pleasure to present the highlights from 2014, following this exciting year at TLC. I am proud of how our staff strives to improve lives and expand possibilities for individuals with special needs, every day. We met the challenges of a continually changing environment by focusing on TLC's mission and responding to the changing needs of the community, which has been a successful strategy for 65 years. We ended our fiscal year with a surplus by strengthening our current services, creating new programs and managing our resources well. While running our day to day operations, we must also plan for our future. We began a strategic thinking initiative in the fall that will be completed this spring establishing organizational goals for the next five years.

At TLC, we are guided by our vision to be a *highly visible, quality leading edge* organization with *strong collaborative and advocacy relationships* and *plentiful resources*. Our efforts directly support our vision. I am honored to share some of our many accomplishments from this year at TLC.

Highly Visible — We engaged the community through a variety of activities. This year we hosted 24 community events with a total of 337 workshops attendees. We provided 68 free occupational and speech therapy screenings. We visited 129 physician offices and/or private schools and distributed a total of 14,000 materials to 17 MCPS schools. Our social media reach continues to grow. We have a total of 758 followers/fans on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. We distributed 76 electronic announcements and newsletters that have been viewed by thousands of readers.

We have strengthened and created many community partnerships. Staff participate in three committees for the Rockville Chamber of Commerce including a CEO Roundtable. The Family Hearing Center co-hosted two events with the Silver Spring Fire Department, providing fire safety instruction and assistive technology for attendees. Ingleside at King Farm is a wonderful friend to the organization. They continue to host Katherine Thomas School's (KTS) interns and facilitate on-site workshops with The Family Hearing Center. This year Ingleside invited KTS high school students for a prom with residents complete with a DJ, dance floor, Fox 5 news and CBS radio coverage. Outcomes DDA Coordinator Nick Heynen was honored as the agency partner at the Sunflower Bakery Event and Outcomes staff collaborated on a video project with communications firm GMMB. I was interviewed by Kimberly Suiters, reporter for CBS Radio/All News 99.1 WNEW regarding employing individuals with disabilities and the impact of Rule 503 on employers with federal contracts.

Quality Leading Edge — Staying at the forefront of our field is how we provide the best possible services and education. Faculty and staff attended conferences and workshops increasing their knowledge in areas of expertise. KTS Lower and Middle School was awarded the Silver Recognition Award for PBIS after receiving an excellent score on the evaluations. The BOOST Program was developed at KTS to serve middle school students in need of more intense supports to succeed academically and socially. KTHS students participated in the national *Poetry Out*

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Loud recitation competition. Three KTS students submitted art into *Maryland's Eighth District Congressional Art Competition* sponsored by Congressman Van Hollen. Senior Max D.'s painting was juried into the exhibition. Outcomes supported 151 individuals in paid employment position jobs and 291 individuals to keep their jobs and live independently in the community. A center wide Diversity Team was formed with the goal of expanding knowledge for furthering a culturally competent organization. We spent the year implementing a new database system that brought electronic medical records (EMR) to the organization.

Collaborative and Advocacy Relationships — TLC/Outcomes signed an agreement with CVS to collaborate on training individuals with disabilities for jobs and promoting job opportunities. I am currently serving my second year as the Maryland Association of Nonpublic Special Education Facilities (MANSEF) Board President advocating for all non-public school students. For the second year, TLC was a recipient of the Bullis 5k. We received a generous donation and a video about our services was played at their event, raising visibility in the community. Outcomes Assistant Director Karen Morgret is serving as a member of the Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities.

Plentiful Resources — Development is a critical part of our business. We are grateful for the support of the community as well as each and every donor. Together we raised over \$630,000 to provide services to our community. For example, TLC received a \$25K grant from a new anonymous donor for a new car to better support Outcomes consumers. Thanks to many generous donations we were able to provide 14 students with nearly \$100,000 in scholarships. The parents' association funded nearly \$35,000 for STEM and IT purchases, field trips, fitness equipment and assemblies. The Trawick Foundation and Evan's family's gift enabled a \$40,000 matched gift challenge through our *Help Others Hear* program, that purchased hearing aids for 10 individuals who would not have been able to afford them. This is just a sample of generosity we have seen from our partnering organizations. Events included the golf classic and the 5K run which raised over \$83,000 toward services at TLC.

In October, we celebrated the 20th school year of KTS Lower and Middle and the 10th school year of the KTS High School with a marvelous celebration. Pulitzer Prize winning author, Ron Suskind, served as keynote speaker and brought a rewarding message to all. We look forward to celebrating our 65th anniversary in the fall. We will be reaching out to invite you to share in this event and hope you will say "yes" to celebrating with us. I am thankful for your contributions that allow us to be a strong provider and a voice in the community for individuals with special needs. Our success is a team effort. Our achievements would not be possible without the support of board members, staff and all the friends of TLC that give so generously.

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Continues on page 5

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The Legacy Club for TLC

The Legacy Club for TLC honors and recognizes those individuals who have chosen to include TLC in their estate plans. Legacy gifts ensure that we can continue to improve lives and expand possibilities for children and adults in our community. If you have already made a charitable bequest to TLC, please let us know so we can add you to this list of visionary supporters. Your participation may inspire others to join The Legacy Club for TLC.

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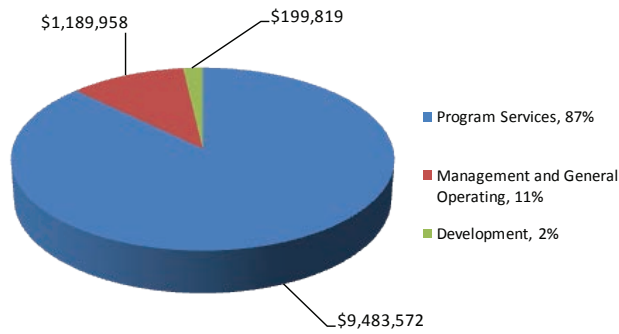
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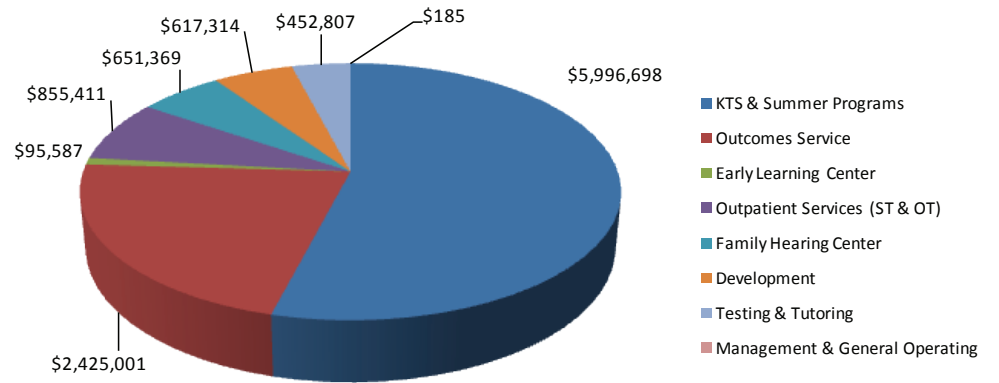
Selected Audited Financial Information for Fiscal Year 2014

Complete audited financials and Form 990 for year ended June 30, 2014, are available on request.

Operating Expenses



Public Support and Revenues



Note: Operating Expenses do not include depreciation and Public Support and Revenues do not include investment income.

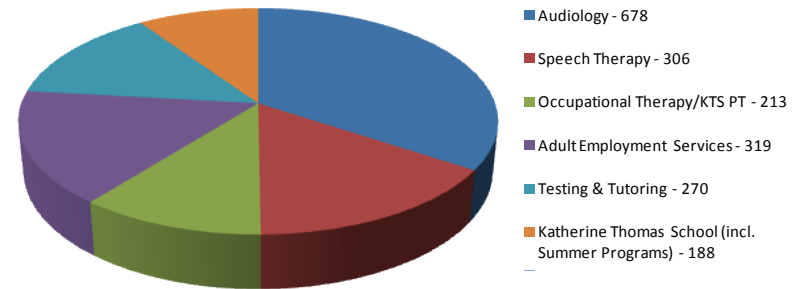
OUR MISSION

To improve lives and expand possibilities for individuals with special needs.

OUR VISION

To be a highly visible, leading edge organization with strong collaborative and advocacy relationships, and plentiful resources that support quality programs, staff, and facilities for individuals with special needs.

We served nearly 2,000 individuals in 2014.



Numbers may include duplication as some consumers receive multiple services.

Alex

In 2008...

It is hard to believe that our son Alex is just a few months away from earning his high school diploma from The Katherine Thomas School (KTS). Like most KTS students, Alex has multiple special needs – ADHD, dyslexia, Tourette’s syndrome, fine motor skill delays, and short term memory problems. Alex went to another private school in kindergarten where they assured us they could meet his special needs, but couldn’t. We began searching for another school and that search led us to KTS.

Alex loved KTS immediately. The warm, nurturing staff did not dwell on his weaknesses; they focused on his strengths. His teachers’ attitudes helped him develop great self-esteem and KTS’ occupational therapy services staff have had an enormous positive impact on Alex. To prepare Alex for his future, KTS’ internship program provided Alex with real world work experience. Today, Alex has two part-time jobs and both require him to interact with the public, skills he learned at KTS. Alex is also an avid guitar player, which never would have been possible without the years of therapy he received at KTS. As parents, what we value the most about KTS is that it is a safe place where no child is ridiculed because they are different. The kids are made to feel successful for who they are and learn to be strong self-advocates. KTS has forever changed Alex’s life and ours, and we will be forever grateful.

And now...

An update on Alex: Alex graduated from college with a Bachelor of Science in 2013 and did his internship at KTS high school as a Teacher’s Assistant (TA) and then worked as a substitute TA at KTS. He recently accepted a full time position as a TA at The Frost School in Rockville. Alex is very active and plays hockey as well as lacrosse year round on recreational and tournament teams. He is in a long-term relationship with a young woman (Katie) who is a CPA accountant for Earnst and Young.



Celebration Keynote Ron Suskind

On October 23, 2014, The TLC/KTS community celebrated our 20th school year for The Katherine Thomas School lower/middle and the 10th year for the high school program. Keynote speaker Ron Suskind spoke eloquently and shared many emotional moments with humor, detailing the journey of his family's experiences raising Owen, a graduate of KTS. A highlight of the evening was Owen joining his father on stage, addressing the crowd and touching the hearts of everyone in attendance. Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author, Ron Suskind, wrote about the family's experiences, including Owen's high school years at KTS in his latest book, *Life, Animated: A Story of Sidekicks, Heroes, and Autism*.



*KTHS Director Rhona Schwartz with
Corneila and Ron Suskind*



Owen and Ron Suskind



*TLC's Executive Director Patricia Ritter and
Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett*



Celebrating TLC Staff!

THE TREATMENT AND LEARNING CENTERS

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© 2015, TLC—The Treatment and Learning Centers
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