

# LADACIN

N E T W O R K



formerly Cerebral Palsy of Monmouth & Ocean Counties, Inc.


Spring/Summer 2011

## Executive Director's Message



Each day, I see extraordinary challenges that are met with extraordinary courage, hard work, kindness and generosity. United by a vision to provide excellence in our programs, LADACIN Network's stakeholders have worked together to make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of the people we serve.

We are pleased to share that we have increased our capacity to serve with the completion of the new administration building and renovations to the Schroth Center. New technological upgrades now allow our students to participate in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment. Enhancements in our supported employment program will fulfill our clients' aspirations to find and retain meaningful employment. These accomplishments and many others were achieved through our many valued community collaborations.

 LADACIN Network has received our ninth consecutive, three-year accreditation by CARF, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. The surveyors were impressed with our programs and noted in their report, "LADACIN Network is respected in the community as an organization of great integrity and is seen as an integral part of the community in providing quality services to clients".

We have also earned our ninth consecutive Full Accreditation with Distinction from the Commission on Accreditation for Home Care (CAHC).

(Continued on page 3)

## Supported Employment Pays Off

Our ACCESS Unlimited workshops in Wanamassa and Lakewood help clients to develop real-world job skills and realize their full potential.

Historically, people with disabilities experience a higher rate of unemployment than the rest of the workforce. LADACIN Network strives to reduce or remove barriers to employment and increase employment opportunities for our adult clients who are willing and able to work.

The Agency has provided supported employment services since 1988 to men



Billy, a client at Schroth TEC, works at Burger King.

and women aged 21 and over living in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. The Technical Education Center (TEC) is the Agency's vocational skills training program. TEC operates an in-house supported employment training program called ACCESS Unlimited.

The Hi-TEC program provides services for clients to find employment in the community. Clients learn job-seeking, interviewing and employment skills, and receive assistance preparing resumes, completing applications,



L to R: Lehmann Annex clients Kristina and Crystal assemble dinosaur banks for OceanFirst Bank.

finding job opportunities, and setting up interviews. Job coaching services and evaluations of and adaptations to the work environment are provided.

The Career Development Program, funded by United Way of Monmouth County, provides a dedicated Career Developer who works directly with clients to secure appropriate job placement. United Way of Monmouth County awarded the Agency a grant as part of its Community Impact Program.

LADACIN recently welcomed Rebecca Tobin to our staff as Career Developer. Her responsibilities include job coaching, reaching out to the business community and working to secure employment for our clients.

(Continued on page 2)



## LADACIN Network

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### Administrative Offices

1703 Kneelely Boulevard  
Wanamassa, NJ 07712  
732.493.5900

### Schroth School and Adult Technical Education Center

1701 Kneelely Boulevard  
Wanamassa, NJ 07712  
732.493.5900

### Lehmann School and Adult Technical Education Center

1100 Airport Road  
Lakewood, NJ 08701  
732.905.7200

### Family Support and Early Intervention

1703 Kneelely Boulevard  
Wanamassa, NJ 07712  
732.643.9064

[www.ladacin.org](http://www.ladacin.org)



## Programs in our Schools...

### Assistive Technology Comes to Schroth

Students of the Schroth and Lehmann Schools are enjoying the benefits of technological upgrades and a new web-based curriculum. Computers and assistive technology are used extensively by the students to help them achieve their full learning potential.

Computers are an important learning tool for both the students and the adults we serve. Assistive technology equipment is used as part of our Agency's therapeutic and educational programs to increase accessibility to computers. Desk-mounted adjustable arms attach to a touch screen monitor to allow for vertical and horizontal positioning and can be adjusted to accommodate each individual's vision requirements. This affords all students and clients, regardless of their positioning or the height of their wheelchair, to have direct visual and physical access to computer activities. The arms may also allow several people to view the monitor at once during computer groups.



L to R: Schroth students Karveens, Janelle, and Jordan work at the SMART Table on a recycling project.

LADACIN received support from the Verizon Foundation to purchase the touch screens, adjustable desk mounts and literacy software, and the Fund for the New Jersey Blind provided funds for additional desk mounts. Their generosity allowed us to provide an accessible computer in every LADACIN Network classroom. Our educators and therapists report that the improvements have had an immediate and positive impact for our students. According to Marianne Forman, Associate Executive Director, "Technology has opened up the whole world to our students".



Melody, a student at the Schroth School, uses a Vantage augmentative communication device to answer questions on "Charlotte's Web".



Luis, a student at the Lehmann School, uses a touch screen monitor to access a lesson from the school's new reading curriculum.

### Supported Employment (Continued from page 1)

The Business Advisory Committee is a volunteer committee of representatives of the business community who provide information and advice on community employment. Chris Pillotin, Volunteer Program Manager, has been instrumental in reconvening this committee.

In 2009-2010, 40 clients participated in Access Unlimited, and 13 others found employment in the community. Hiring LADACIN's clients benefits

an employer through tax incentives and leads to greater recognition in the community for good citizenship. Our clients are highly dependable, productive and loyal workers. Our business partnerships include OceanFirst Bank, Lakewood BlueClaws, Country Herb, Broad Waverly, Greater Ocean Township Chamber of Commerce, Brookdale Community College, Brick PAL, Seaside Park Fire Department and Investors Savings Bank.

## Ribbon Cutting Marks Opening of New Admin Building

Students, clients, friends, families, staff and long-time supporters of LADACIN Network celebrated the completion of the new 10,000 square foot administration building at a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The completion of the building marked the culmination of many years of planning and will increase our capacity to serve those who are in need of our services.

After Schroth School students Cinthia, Pablo, and Thomas led guests in the Pledge of Allegiance, Executive



Clients and guests at the ribbon cutting ceremony included Stephan Lowy, Billy, John, Thomas Hayes, Mayor William Larkin, Kelly Siegfried, Patricia Carlesimo, Emil A. Schroth, Jr., Liz, William Vogel, and Bob Lynch.

Director Patricia Carlesimo shared her gratitude to the many contributors who made the new building a reality.

Among the many friends of the Agency in attendance were Ocean Township Mayor William Larkin, Monmouth County Freeholder Amy Mallet and NJ State Assemblywoman Mary Pat Angelini, who read a proclamation from the State Assembly. Kelly Siegfried, Vice-President, Board of Trustees, presented a plaque to Chuck Buboltz who generously contributed to the success of the building project by volunteering his time and sharing his expertise in project management.

Guests toured the new building and enjoyed refreshments.

## Love and Learning at Child Care Center

LADACIN Network's *Give and Take Child Care Center* provides a safe, nurturing and healthy environment for children ages 3 months to 6 years. The center is state licensed with well trained, knowledgeable and caring staff, and nurses are available on site. Services are open to special needs children as well as typically developing children. Activities are planned to promote the development of language, thinking, curiosity, large and small muscle skills, self-esteem and cultural awareness.

The center is located at LADACIN's Schroth Center, 1701 Kneeleay Boulevard, Wanamassa (732-493-5900). Hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information, visit our website at [www.ladacin.org](http://www.ladacin.org) or email [childcare@ladacin.org](mailto:childcare@ladacin.org).



Teachers from Give-and-Take Child Care Center lead a group of children in a learning game.



Infants pose for a picture while getting ready for lunch.

## Local Legislators Meet Over Breakfast



Pictured at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Networking Breakfast on April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Schroth Center are (L to R) Executive Director Patricia Carlesimo, former Executive Director Anita Kneeleay, and Monmouth County Freeholder Amy Mallet.

## Empty Bowls Filled on Lunch Break



Students, clients and staff from the Schroth Center proudly display a check for \$660 which they raised in their annual Empty Bowls service learning project in March. The money was then donated to Lunch Break of Red Bank.

## Executive Director (Continued from page 1)

Finally, I am pleased to report that LADACIN has been recertified as a United Way of Monmouth County Agency.



I continue to be inspired by the devotion of our families and volunteers, the dedication of our staff, and the generosity of our community supporters. Even as we celebrate achievement, we are already looking to make today's aspirations tomorrow's reality with the help of LADACIN's many friends. -Patricia Carlesimo

## Rosebud Gala Marks Its 30th Anniversary

LADACIN Network celebrated the 30th Annual Rosebud Gala Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Sheraton Eatontown Hotel. The Rosebud Gala is the Agency's premier fundraising event, contributing vital operating support for our programs and services. This year, \$165,000 was raised to keep the Agency moving forward.

Rosebud Gala honorees were CWR



Above: Honorees and Committee Chairs. Back Row, L to R: Linda Gyimoty (United Way Ocean, Humanitarian Honoree), Kathy Vivona, Tim Hearne (United Way Monmouth, Humanitarian Honoree), Stephanie and Brian Swanke (CWR Electronics, Corporate Honoree), Maryanne and Mike Cohen (CWR Electronics, Corporate Honoree), Marilyn Shapiro, and Doug Sjonvall.

Electronics, Inc., Corporate Honoree; United Way of Monmouth County, Farmingdale, and United Way of Ocean County, Toms River, Humanitarian Honorees.

William A. B. Ditto, III, Howell, retired Director of the NJ Department of Human Services' Division of Disability Services received the Ginger Peters Lifetime Achievement Award. Beyond his retirement, Mr. Ditto continues to serve. LADACIN welcomed him to our Board of Trustees in December, 2010.

Co-chairs of the event were Doug Sjonvall, Director of Marketing and Promotions, Greater Media New Jersey



Above L to R: James Klagholz (Board President) and Bill Ditto with Ginger Peters and Patricia Carlesimo.

- 95.9 WRAT and Magic 100.1; Marilyn Shapiro, Marlboro, friend of the Agency; and Kathy Vivona, Toms River, LADACIN Network Board Member.

Rosebud revelers were entertained by the music of Tim McLoone & The Shirleys. The lively wit of auctioneer Howard Cross made the Rosebud Live Auction a spirited success. Twin City Jewelers, Lakewood, donated a 14 kt white gold ladies diamond bracelet.

Talented florists from Monmouth

and Ocean Counties donated centerpieces for the floral centerpiece contest. Gala attendees voted for the winners. Flowers by Farrah, Tinton Falls, won first place. Kirk Florist, Farmingdale, won second



Winning Centerpiece designed by Flowers by Farrah.

place honors and third place winners were Flowers by Rhonda, Brielle, and Wegmans, Ocean Township.

Leading the event's underwriting efforts were LADACIN Network's Corporate Sponsors (page 6).

The Gala Event Sponsors were: OceanFirst Foundation, Invitation Sponsor; The Community YMCA, Ad Journal Sponsor; Phil and Marilyn Perricone, Awards Sponsor; Dr. and Mrs. Vincent J. Vivona, Cocktail Hour Sponsor; TD Bank, Souvenir Photos Sponsor; Asbury Park Press, Brookdale Community College, and Giordano, Halleran and Ciesla, Valet Parking Sponsors; Southern Ocean Medical Center and The Travel Center, Music Sponsors; Ansell Grimm & Aaron, Counselors At Law, 50/50 Raffle Sponsor.

## Eat, Drink, and Be Caring at



The Turning Point Restaurants hosted their fifth annual Eat, Drink and Be Caring Event on the chilly weekend of January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. This event has become a wonderful and flavorful way to support the Agency. This year, the Holmdel, Little Silver, Long Branch, Manalapan and Westfield locations participated.

The warmth of the Turning Point staff and outpouring of support from patrons was inspiring. We received a total of \$9,800 in donations this year. This event has raised more than \$37,000 over five years to support the infants, children, adults and families we serve.

## Artists Raise Money

R: Matthew, a student from the Schroth School, in front of a collaborative piece of art that he worked on with classmates. It was one of the pieces created by artists with disabilities which were



auctioned off at the Red Horse Gallery in Freehold Mall on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The event was a collaboration between The Arc of Monmouth, LADACIN Network, VSA New Jersey, Monmouth County Arts Council and the Freehold Borough Arts Council. Lou Russo of 94.3 The Point served as auctioneer.

## ...In Fundraising

### Polar Bear Plunge Raises \$86,000

Two hundred and seven LADACIN Network supporters embraced the chill of winter to make a big difference for the people we serve.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Polar Bear Plunge was held on Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at the Main Beach in Manasquan. \$86,000 was raised for the Agency's programs and services.

Joseph Russell of Manasquan once again coordinated the event hosted by Leggett's Sand Bar and Restaurant. Mary Ann and Bob Keller were the Polar Bear Plunge Event Sponsor, and Point Pleasant Distributors was the Shirt Sponsor.

Liz Hartnett, escorted by Howard Cross, a US Marine Color Guard from Eatontown and pipers from the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, Belmar, led the parade of plungers, some clad in festive costumes, to the beach.

Participants plunged into the icy Atlantic at 1:00 pm and recovered

afterwards with refreshments provided by Leggett's.

95.9 WRAT, a longtime LADACIN Network supporter and Corporate Platinum Guardian Sponsor, broadcast from the event. In addition to performing master of ceremony duties, radio personality, "Gotts", also bravely took the plunge. Prizes were awarded for the most creative individual costume and the most creative team costume.



*Above Left: Enthusiastic plungers head for the water. Above Right: Organizer Joe Russell (center) with (L to R) wife Jeanette, Cousin Liz, and former Giants player Howard Cross. Photos Courtesy of the Coast Star.*

### Team LADACIN Makes Every Step Count

On a cool, sun-drenched day by the sea, the Agency was represented in the New Jersey Marathon by Team LADACIN. Longtime Agency supporter Joseph Walker was joined on May 1<sup>st</sup> in the run through Long Branch and surrounding towns by his mother Denise, his brother Conor, friend Nicola White and 39 enthusiastic LADACIN runners.

Team LADACIN raised over \$60,000 to advance LADACIN's educational and therapeutic programs and services.

Joseph believes, "These programs and services are essential to the well being of clients such as my brother. Patricia Carlesimo gives a "thumbs up".

For over 16 years, my brother Conor, who has both cognitive and physical disabilities, has attended the Schroth Center of LADACIN Network for education and therapy services. Through these programs Conor has flourished as an individual, allowing him to live his life to the fullest".

Sponsorships from the law firm of Kalac, Barger & Bacigalupo L.L.C., Running Shirt Sponsor, and Amerigroup, Mile 6 Sponsor, contributed to the success of Team LADACIN. 95.9 WRAT, a longtime Agency supporter and Corporate Platinum Guardian Sponsor, also served as Presenting Sponsor. The station promoted the event and graciously provided a tent for Team LADACIN on the day of the marathon. Morning radio personality, Carl Craft and 2011 Rat Rock Girl, Melissa, also ran in the race.



*L: Representing Corporate Sponsor 95.9 WRAT were Jessica, DJ Carl, and RAT Rock Girl Melissa.*



*Above: Runners Nicola White, Denise and Conor Walker, Siobhan Dunn, Organizer Joseph Walker and wife Jennifer Walker approach the finish line.*



*L: Conor proudly shows off his NJ Marathon metal.*

# Many Thanks...

## As Funds Move Up, Plans Move Forward



The Schroth Center Inclusive Specialized Playground Project is moving forward. LADACIN has committed to begin the installation of the new playground in the Fall of 2011. The playground will allow for children of all abilities to play together. The playground's specialized equipment, rubberized surfaces and wide ramps will enable Schroth School students to experience the therapeutic aspects and social benefits of play.

We are most grateful to supporters of the project. Funds from four annual [Ryan Bell Memorial Walk and Wheel-A-Thons](#), the [Jennifer DeSoucey Memorial Fund](#), the [Taryn Hogan Memorial Fund](#) and the [Katie Zimmerman Memorial Fund](#), totaling \$71,724, will support the project. In addition, [Nordstrom](#) has made a \$3,000 contribution to the playground and students from the [Perrineville Jewish Center](#) (below), collected



and donated \$1,300 as part of their Bar/Bat Mitzvah project. [Marturano Recreation Co. Inc.](#), Spring Lake, has

## LADACIN Network Corporate Sponsors

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New Jersey Natural Gas

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GM Ford Diagnostics & Repair  
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For more information on Corporate Sponsorships, contact the Director of Development at 732.493.5900 or email [directorofdevelopment@ladacin.org](mailto:directorofdevelopment@ladacin.org).

## Asbury/Wall Elks Remember Taryn



The Asbury/Wall Elks donated an apple tree and a garden stone in remembrance of Taryn Hogan, who attended Schroth School and Adult Program for many years. Above (L to R): Elks member Jacqueline, Taryn's brother Michael, father Bob, mom Bonnie, Elks member Roberta and Exalted Ruler Smith gather around Taryn's sister Nicole at the ceremony.

graciously provided a matching grant of \$42,522 for the cost of the specialized playground equipment. Altogether, over \$114,000 has been raised for this project. With input from LADACIN's administrators, teachers and therapists, Marturano's Playground Designer, Keith Davis, designed the playground to accommodate the needs of the Schroth School students.

## Eagle Scout Shares the Gift of Music

LADACIN Network is most fortunate to have friends in the community like Boy Scout Alexander Krall of Troop #180 in Manalapan, who envisioned a way for children with disabilities to create their own music.

His imaginative Eagle Scout project involved designing, crafting and then donating 17 kalimbas to the children of the Schroth School. A kalimba is an African percussion instrument



Alexander (R) shows a kalimba he crafted to John, a student at the Schroth School.

comprised of a sound box with metal keys attached to the top to produce different notes. Also known as a thumb piano, the metal keys can be plucked with the thumb and fingers.

Alexander will be awarded the rank of Eagle Scout at his Court of Honor Ceremony on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

## iPads for Lehmann

Below, members of the [Lakewood Lions Club](#) present a check for \$1,500 to Patricia Carlesimo and Dennis Rose, Lehmann School Principal, for the purchase of two iPads for the Lehmann School.





### ...Providing a Solid Foundation for Learning



Shiny, new, durable floors have been installed at the Lehmann Center through the generous community spirit of the OceanFirst Foundation and the Gannett Foundation. Classrooms have been refurbished with new tile and carpeting with a \$30,000 grant from OceanFirst Foundation and a \$4,572 grant from Gannett Foundation.



Kelly Siegfried, OceanFirst Bank and Vice President LADACIN Board of Trustees, presents a check to Executive Director Patricia Carlesimo and Board President James Klagholz.

### Independent Living Gets a Boost

Amerigroup contributed \$2,000 to assist the residents of Asbury Avenue Apartments. Last fall, LADACIN Network received \$7,500 from TD Charitable Foundation for this project.



### LADACIN Recognizes Volunteers



Board Members/Volunteers at the May 6<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at the English Manor in Ocean Township. From L to R: Kathy Vivona, Joan Kreizman, Tom Hayes (NJ Natural Gas), Patricia Carlesimo, and Kelly Siegfried (OceanFirst Bank).

### Holiday Cheer Sustains Us Through the Year

The holiday season was brightened by many of our friends in the community.

Tim McLoone and the wonderful volunteers of Holiday Express shared their special gift of music and human kindness at the Schroth Center on December 13th. They also provided our infants, children and adults with generously-filled gift bags. Holiday Express Giving Partner, Melissa Marshall, hosted a luncheon to benefit LADACIN on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds of that luncheon provided our Agency with two much-needed computers.

The United Way provided gifts for our students and clients through their Snowflake Wishes program. Employees of the GAP and Banana



Republic outlet stores in Tinton Falls and Jackson also conducted gift drives in their stores to benefit our students and clients in both counties.

Prudential employees generously shared their time and many talents on December 10<sup>th</sup>. They completed projects including mulching, building shelves and sorting holiday gifts.



Sara, a client at the Schroth Center, sings along with Holiday Express at their annual show.

### Ways That You Can Give to LADACIN NETWORK

- ♥ Remember a loved one with a memorial or tribute by making a donation in memory of or in honor of that special person.
- ♥ Consider donations or bequests to LADACIN Network when planning your finances and your will.
- ♥ Make a donation in lieu of favors for a special event/wedding. We will make cards for your guests upon request.
- ♥ Host a fundraiser to benefit LADACIN Network, such as a car wash, bake sale, garage sale, walkathon, or 50/50 -- or come up with your own unique idea for raising money.
- ♥ Make your donation go even further by participating in a corporate matching program. Some companies will double or even triple employee donations -- check your company's policy.

For more information, call the Director of Development at: 732.493.5900, or email: [directorofdevelopment@ladacin.org](mailto:directorofdevelopment@ladacin.org).

# We Put the "I" in LADACIN

# Upcoming Events

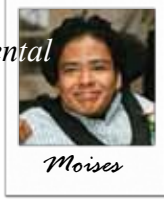
Lifetime Assistance for Developmental And Challenging Individual Needs



Martin



Taylor



Moises



Scott



Grace



Jacob

**Lakewood BlueClaws Baseball Game**  
Fundraiser for LADACIN Network  
Sunday, **August 7, 2011**  
FirstEnergy Park, Lakewood  
Ticket Price \$10  
For tickets call Community Relations at 732-493-5900




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**THE RYAN BELL MEMORIAL** **Walk and Wheel-A-Thon**  
Walk and Wheel-A-Thon  
Sunday, **September 18, 2011**  
Brookdale Community College  
Lincroft





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**Motorcycle Run** In memory of Christine Montalto  
**Fall 2011 (To be Announced)**  
Gregory's Seafood Restaurant, Manchester




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**95.9 WRAT Charity Golf Classic** to benefit LADACIN  
Monday, **October 3, 2011**  
Eagle Ridge Golf Club, Lakewood



For more information, contact Community Relations at 732-493-5900 Ext. 263, e-mail [communityrelations@ladacin.org](mailto:communityrelations@ladacin.org), or visit our website at [www.LADACIN.org](http://www.LADACIN.org).

**Also Coming Up...**  
The law firm of McKenna, Dupont, Higgins & Stone of Red Bank is organizing "The Ken Cup" a Charity Golf Tournament on August 11<sup>th</sup> at Peddie Golf Course in Hightstown. A portion of the proceeds will benefit LADACIN Network. For more information, call 732-741-6681.

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