Innovative Instruction Requires Cutting-Edge Curriculum

At LADACIN we are committed to providing our students with an exceptional education, tailored to meet the needs and learning pace of every child. The curriculum is multi-sensory in nature and supports the transdisciplinary model. Each student’s educational, social, recreational and life skills are developed through the modalities that best match his/her learning profile. We support the use of augmentative and alternative communication systems and assistive technology all day, every day.

Both Lehmann and Schroth Schools utilize Unique Learning System to address the rigorous demands of the Common Core State Standards. This System is an award-winning, standards-based curriculum specifically designed so that students with special needs can access the general education curriculum. They can interact with SMART Boards, switch devices and other adaptive technology to respond to lessons that the teachers present.

We evaluate the students’ progression in developing skills, early learning, basic reading, writing and math. Their benchmarks are assessed which leads to a personalized instruction and activity plan. This customized lesson plan allows us to spend more time engaging our students by providing differentiated lesson materials, detailed lesson plans, standards alignments and evidence-based teaching strategies with data-driven results.

Khaleesi (pictured right) started in the Pre-School in 2016. In that first year, she was frightened, defensive and would not respond to the lessons presented to her. In the last two years, Khaleesi has blossomed. She is vocalizing, identifying initial letter sounds, counting and open to different learning materials. She is now functioning on grade level and will be moving up to Kindergarten in the Fall.

Our curriculum is proving to make an enormous impact on our students’ progress and achievements.
Dear Friends,

At LADACIN Network, we pride ourselves on our ability to provide the framework for individuals with complex physical and developmental disabilities or delays to achieve and maintain their full potential. Our focus is on enhancing the quality of life for them and their families, providing hope and opportunity. We continue to make an impact on the lives of our students, clients and families through education, training, and supports that empower them to attain their maximum level of self-sufficiency and independence. We work together with our families, sharing progress and information, assuring them that we are on the best path to benefit the individuals we serve.

This past year there were significant regulatory and/or fiscal changes from our three largest funding sources: the Division of Developmental Disabilities (Adult and Residential Services), the Department of Education (School Programs) and the Department of Health (Early Intervention Services). Although these changes were and continue to be challenging, we strongly advocated for our families, programs and services. Our advocacy had an impact in many cases. I had opportunities to work with some of the new Commissioners of State government, new Legislators and the Governor’s office through our trade associations. We had the great pleasure of hosting the Commissioner of Human Services, Carole Johnson, for a tour in March. Typically when someone visits our programs, they are impressed with the quality of our staff and services and the amazing potential of our students and clients. That day was no different - I truly felt that LADACIN had a positive impact on her and she in turn shared her warmth and knowledge.

In the end it is the relationships with our stakeholders, be it our families, our friends, our dedicated staff, our funding sources, our Board of Trustees and the hundreds of volunteers who help us, that make the difference... that make the lasting impact on our community.

Patricia Carlesimo, Executive Director

The Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Carole Johnson, and Deputy Commissioner Sarah Adelman stopped by our Schroth Center for a visit. They had the opportunity to tour our facility, meet a few clients and get a glimpse of our programs and services.
Farm to Preschool

Our Give and Take Child Care and Preschool Center recently began participating in the Farm to Preschool Program, provided by the New Jersey Department of Health with funding from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This innovative program encourages Early Childhood Centers to help implement healthy eating practices with their students, families and staff members. As part of the program, a local gardener donated various vegetable plants and staff members have been incorporating healthy foods into cooking activities with the children. Home Depot generously donated vegetable plants which were given to the families to use at home. Through this program, we hope to teach and instill healthy habits in the children who attend our Child Care Center.

Stimulating the Senses with Exciting Technology

LADACIN’S sensory programs are impacting the lives of our students and clients by helping them reach their full potential. We recognize the particular challenges some of our students and adult clients face when they have sensory processing difficulties which might prevent them from participating in everyday interactions and activities. With the use of innovative equipment and techniques we have created customized sensory plans for those individuals.

Some people with developmental or behavioral disorders may have difficulties interpreting what they see, hear, taste, smell, feel and experience. A sensory program and environment can help address some of these concerns by incorporating a wide range of stimuli to help individuals engage and develop their senses. Stimuli can include lights, colors, scents, touch, taste, hand-eye coordination, sounds, massage, vibration and sensory soft play objects. We incorporate swings and trampolines for vestibular input, which helps to calm the body. Through this interactive sensory stimulation, our clients have improved their mobilization, creativity, communication and social skills, and general awareness of the world around them.

Both the Schroth Center and the Lehmann Center are equipped with sensory rooms. Sensory rooms are multi-sensory environments that provide a specialized selection of sensory equipment and materials that allow individuals to explore and interact in a safe environment. These areas provide a relaxing and soothing space to help calm agitated students and clients, and have been shown to increase concentration, focus attention and improve alertness. Interactive therapy rooms allow for the development of skills including switch access, cause-and-effect, color recognition, language development and hand-eye coordination.

With generous support from The Kennedy E. Kowalski Charitable Foundation, we have recently purchased a Deluxe Mobile Sensory Cart for the Schroth Center, containing everything needed to turn any space into a relaxing and empowering multi-sensory room. The mobility of this exciting and innovative new tool enables staff to create meaningful sensory environments in many different areas and classrooms, thereby maximizing our ability to impact the lives of a greater number of students and adults.
For the families, students and clients who are a part of LADACIN Network, impact can be described as the powerful effect the Agency has had on their lives. From a child using an Eye Gaze device for the first time to communicate, to a client having the independence to move from a group home to her own apartment, LADACIN changes the lives of so many, every day.

The lives that are touched by LADACIN extend beyond the infants, children and adults we serve. When Wyatt’s parents were looking at schools for their son who is non-verbal, they came to the Schroth School for a tour and knew they had found the right place when they saw him in the classroom. Two years later he has come farther than they thought possible.

“We felt so comfortable. He wasn’t drinking and he now uses a cup. He moved up to chopped foods, takes steps in his walker and is using some words,” said his mom. “Wyatt is also learning to voice what he does and doesn’t want. This has all brought us closer as a family.”

LADACIN Network has been a part of some families for over 40 years, watching their children grow into adults and supporting them throughout their lives. “LADACIN has made a life for my family. I don’t know what we would have done without them,” said one parent. “LADACIN made a life for my daughter Liz. They made her independent. They are a part of our family.”

When you walk through the doors of any LADACIN facility, you will see countless success stories. You will see a student who never spoke recite the morning announcements and the Pledge of Allegiance over the loud speaker. You will see a family who is wiping away tears as their son or daughter graduates and receives their high school diploma. You will see the joy in a mother’s face as she sits in her living room during an Early Intervention session and watches her baby roll over for the first time. You will see the excitement and pride in a client’s face as he decorates his first apartment.

The impact that our programs and services have had on these families is priceless. From the everyday triumphs to the monumental milestones, LADACIN is there every step of the way. Our hope for the future is that this impact continues to reach as many families as possible, for years to come.

“When our son, Stephen, started in the preschool program at the age of 3, we had no idea what the future held for him. He cannot walk or talk and we didn’t know how a group of strangers would ever be able to care for him. Those strangers are all now family to us and over the past 28 years they have provided not only Stephen, but our whole family, with guidance and support. The LADACIN staff learned to understand Stephen and his needs, while helping him reach his full potential.”

“Lehmann truly embodies the ‘It takes a village...’ philosophy; loving and caring for our son, James, through sickness, health, and unforeseen obstacles, to help him grow in special and unique ways. Thank you for all that you do, day in and day out!”

“LADACIN made a life for my daughter Liz. They made her independent. They are a part of our family.”

“After Gavin started Early Intervention, we definitely noticed improvement – he says more words and responds to his name. Before EI, we couldn’t go outside with him. We didn’t know how to deal with his behavior if he can’t express himself. Now we can bring him out without the fear that he is going to have a meltdown. The therapies helped us utilize tools so we can understand what he wants. It’s been very helpful for our family.”
2017-2018 Grants Received

BlueClaws Charities
The Gannett Foundation
Innovating Worthy Projects Foundation
The Kennedy E. Kowalski Charitable Foundation
Monmouth Park Charity Fund
Nordstrom Foundation
OceanFirst Foundation
The Provident Bank Foundation
Sam’s Club
TD Charitable Foundation
United Way of Monmouth and Ocean Counties
Wells Fargo

SMART Boards

Our Schroth and Lehmann Centers are enjoying their new SMART Boards! The clients have been using the newest addition to their classrooms for education and therapy. Thank you Provident Bank Foundation for giving LADACIN the opportunity to expand the clients’ learning by providing funding for these SMART Boards.

Ways to Give

♥ 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.

♥ Create a Facebook fundraiser for LADACIN. Notify LADACIN’s Community Relations Department.

♥ Make a donation in lieu of favors for a special event/wedding. We will make cards for your guests upon request.

♥ Make your donation go even further by initiating or participating in a matching gift program. You can challenge donors to give by promising to match up to a certain amount. Some companies will double or triple employee donations – check your company’s policy.

♥ Become an Annual Corporate Sponsor. The Corporate Sponsor is given premier recognition at three major fund raising events and complimentary seats/players for these events, as well as year round recognition.

For more information, call the Director of Development at: 732.493.5900, or email: directorofdevelopment@ladacin.org.

OceanFirst Grant

Targeted Evaluation Teams

Thanks to a generous grant from the OceanFirst Foundation, our Targeted Evaluation Team (TET) now has laptops to use in families’ homes for their web-based assessments. Early Intervention Services provide comprehensive services for babies and toddlers aged 0-3 who show signs of developmental delays. The Team (TET) determines eligibility for Early Intervention Services. LADACIN Network is the assigned evaluation team for Monmouth County and this past year evaluated over 2,000 children. We are so grateful for your support and for this necessary addition to our program!
For the 12th year in a row, The Turning Point Restaurants hosted the annual “Eat, Drink and Be Caring” fundraiser on November 4 and 5, 2017. Six of their restaurant locations in Monmouth and Ocean Counties participated in the weekend’s event and helped to raise over $21,000.

On March 10, 2018, the 37th Annual Rosebud Gala was held at the Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune. Honorees were Suburban Transit/Coach USA, Asbury Park-Wall Elks #128, MODC and the Brick Township High School Interact Club. This year’s event raised $156,000.

Over 135 participants jumped into the freezing water at our annual LADACIN Plunge, which was held on January 13, 2018 at Manasquan Beach. The event was a success and raised over $89,000.

On October 12, 2018 our Casino Night and Gift Auction was held at Eagle Oaks Country Club in Farmingdale.

LADACIN Network was chosen as one of the beneficiaries for the 2018 Rumson St. Patrick’s Day Parade, which was held on March 11, 2018. A donation of $7,500 was presented to the Agency.

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On April 28 and 29, 2018, Team LADACIN ran in the annual NJ Marathon and 5K in Long Branch and a fundraiser party was held afterwards at The Headliner raising more than $32,000.

The 16th annual WRAT Rock Open Charity Golf Classic was held on June 18, 2018 at Eagle Ridge Golf Club in Lakewood. 105 golfers spent the day on the green and helped to raise more than $43,000.

On November 18, 2017, the New Jersey State Policemen’s Benevolent Association Hockey Team played NY Fire Department EMS Hockey Team to benefit LADACIN. The event was held at the Jersey Shore Arena in Wall and raised $9,000.

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Many thanks to our donors, committee members and volunteers for helping to make this year’s fundraising events so successful! You truly make a difference in so many lives!!
Mark Your Calendars...

**LADACIN Plunge**  
**Saturday, January 19, 2019**  
Leggett’s & Main Beach, Manasquan

**Rosebud Gala Dinner Dance**  
**Saturday, March 30, 2019**  
Sheraton Eatontown Hotel, Eatontown

**NJ Marathon**  
**April 28, 2019**  
Oceanport/Long Branch

**Rat Rock Open Charity Golf Classic**  
**June 17, 2019**  
Eagle Ridge Golf Club, Lakewood

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We are pleased to announce the Honorees for the 2019 Rosebud Gala...

**Corporate Honoree**  
Preferred Home Health Care & Nursing Services

**Humanitarian Honorees**  
Rosebud Legacy Volunteers  
Marlene Bell  
Jean Catlin  
Rosemary and William P. Collopy  
Marian Hartnett  
Thomas F. Hayes  
Bonnie Hogan  
Donna Macaluso  
Kathleen Vivona

**Young Leaders Award**  
Brick Memorial High School National Honor Society

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For more information on LADACIN Network’s Special Events, contact Community Relations at 732-493-5900 ext. 263 or email CommunityRelations@LADACIN.org.

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You Can Impact Lives - One at a Time

**LADACIN’s Mission**

The mission of LADACIN Network, a non-profit Agency, is to provide a continuum of care, including educational, therapeutic, social, residential and support services to infants, children and adults with complex physical and developmental disabilities or delays.