



**PROVIDING QUALITY CHILDCARE TO
CHILDREN OF ALL ABILITIES SINCE 1989**



DLC NURSE & LEARN ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017

DLC Nurse & Learn provides year-round high quality education, nursing care, and therapies to children of all abilities so that children and families have the opportunity to reach their maximum potential.

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THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

The Year at a Glance



DLC Nurse & Learn and DLC Therapy & Care are thrilled to report another very successful financial year. DLC continues to fulfill their mission to provide year-round high quality education, nursing care, and therapies to children of all abilities so that children and families have the opportunity to reach their maximum potential.

DLC has served over 3,700 children and given away over 3.8 Million dollars in services to their families in need.

DLC had 30 employees on staff at both centers which included an Executive Director, Executive Assistant, Administrative Director, four Teachers, ten Assistants, seven part time employees, two Nurses, Physical Therapist, P.T. Assistant, an Occupational Therapist and Speech therapist. They work as a team along with parents, sharing ideas on how to serve each child best and use knowledge from each area of expertise. DLC gives the best care possible to over 140 children annually, and continues to grow each year.



DLC effectively maintains a low adult-to-child ratio, generally 1 adult to 3-4 children, including with their afterschool students. DLC has remained an inclusion program since 2003, so children can learn and play with one another, regardless of their disability. Their “typically” developing students get more one-on-one attention through our low ratios and often develop a compassionate outlook to their peers. Their children who may be a little behind developmentally, learn to play and grow with their peers as well, while also getting the care they need to help them become independent adults. **Their annual survey went**

out to all families and received 99% satisfactory feedback.

DLC is continually recognized as a pillar in the Jacksonville Community for their work providing family support, access to therapy services, free counseling and resources to help strengthen the financial stability of the families they serve. DLC continues to be rated a “5 Star Center” from the Guiding Stars of Duval since 2011, and has received various awards due to the success of the program and the dedication from Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Nurses, Therapists, Volunteers, Administrative Staff and their Founder and CEO, Mrs. Amy Buggle.

AWARDS

Awards



DLC Nurse & Learn was awarded \$25,000 from the Florida Blue Foundation as a runner up in the Organization Category during the 2017 Sapphire Awards Ceremony in Kissimmee Florida, recognizing excellence and innovation in community health. This is the second Sapphire Award that DLC has been awarded. DLC has also received The “Gifts of Service” award from the Child Development Education Alliance in 2011 and 2014, is a former IMPACT grantee and was a runner up in the category of Education during One Spark 2015 for the effective implementation of the Shared Therapy Program.

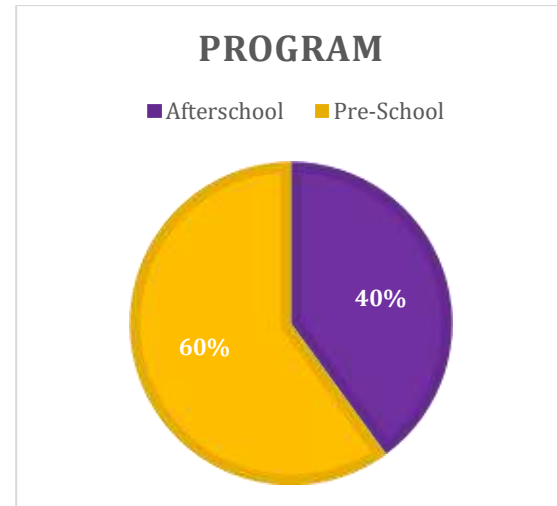
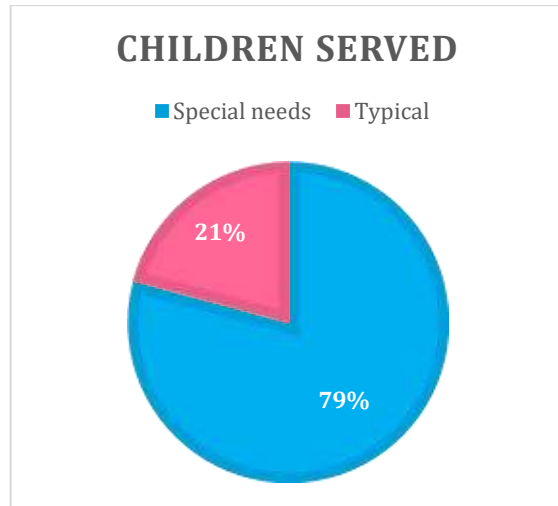
In 2016 DLC's Executive Director, Amy Buggle, received the American Graduate Award from WJCT for committing her time, skills and resources to helping young people succeed. Mrs. Buggle also received the Sherwood Smith Award for her 25+ years of service benefiting the children of Jacksonville, was a finalist for the EVE AWARD in the area of education and was also a finalist for the Mayors Commission on the Status of Women Award for the positive difference DLC has made for families in Jacksonville.

The DLC “Teacher of the Year“ was awarded to VPK Teacher, Ms. Aixa Atherton for her hard work and dedication to DLC and her students. Mrs. Atherton went above and beyond during her first year as the VPK Teacher, making sure every student in her class excelled regardless of their disabilities. She will be celebrating her 9th Anniversary at DLC in January 2018.



CHILDREN SERVED AND GOALS

Children Served and Goals



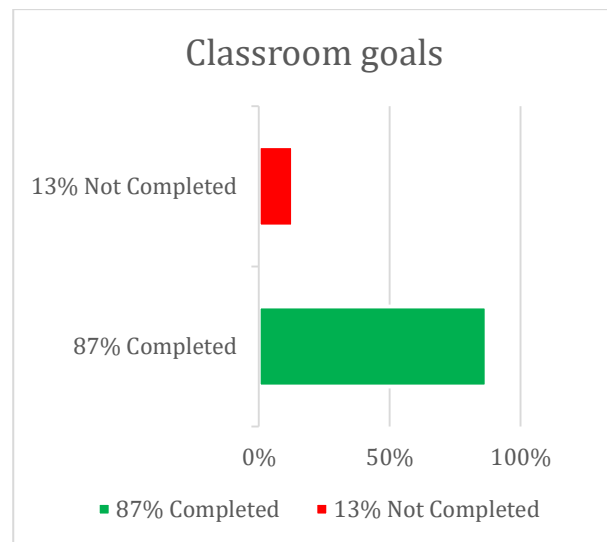
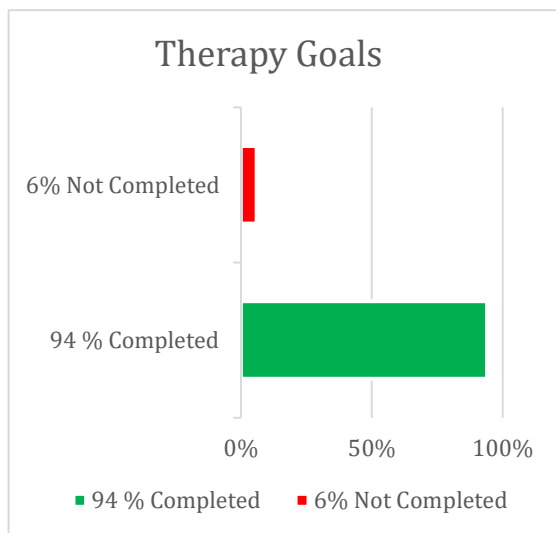
DLC had a total of 109 children enrolled between both centers with 81 students with special needs. DLC had a total of 55 after school students and 66 (*duplicated*) preschool students. The DLC Graduation Ceremony brought a huge crowd of family and friends, with well over 100 people showing up to see 17 children graduate from our Pre-K and VPK programs. They also had board members, volunteers and church staff members help out during the reception afterwards.

Each child from both DLC centers had 3-6 goals that were worked on in the classroom daily. Teachers charted progress on “Task Data” sheets showing improvements on smaller tasks that ultimately lead to the completion of the desired goal. Goals were individualized and based on therapy evaluations, the “Ages and Stages” questionnaires and valued parent input.

DLC considers their parent/teacher meetings a vital source of information for their students, and use it to ensure the DLC staff is giving their child the best possible care while they are enrolled in the program. This year DLC met their goal of having at least two typical children in each classroom. **94% of students also received 1 hour of approved therapy per month, which exceeded their goal of 90%. This totaled 31 students.** The most successful outcome was that of therapy goals reached.

CHILDREN SERVED AND GOALS

DLC hoped to increase the ability to accomplish goals and for 85% of the students to reach at least one goal by the end of the grant year. **The goal was surpassed with 87% of students accomplishing at least one goal.**



Of the 295 goals worked on with students, 87% total were reached, which came out to 256 goals accomplished. Their Impact goal was for 55% of preschool students to maintain or improve to age appropriate levels of development. **Using the Ages & Stages developmental scale 73% of their students, infants to 6 years have reached age level development.** These results are above and beyond what DLC expected, and are excited to continue to see the achievements accomplished by their students.

DLC also met their goal of having each classroom spend at least 60 minutes on the playground each week with their students, for 90% of the days our students attend. Days that were missed were due to inclement weather.

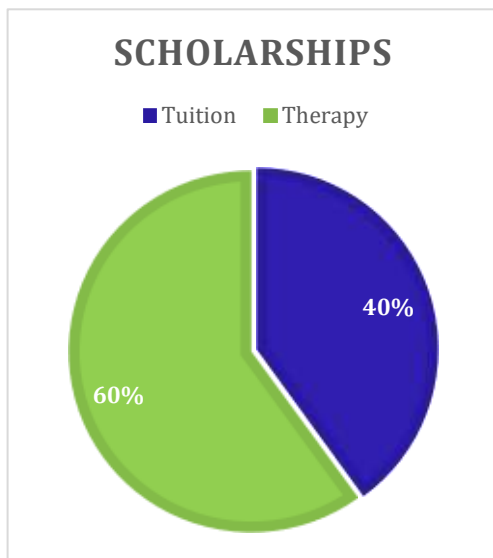
TUITION AND THERAPY SCHOLARSHIPS

Tuition and Therapy Scholarships



A total of \$37,304 was given for tuition scholarships, and \$49,271 was spent on therapy scholarships. A grand total of \$86,575 was used for scholarships at both centers. Their goal for 80% of parents with a child on a tuition scholarship to be working or attending school was also met. DLC awarded 42 scholarships this year, and 99% of parents are either working 20+ hours a week, or attending school/college.

DLC continued offering a Mental Health Program, “DLC Healthy Families” which provides free counseling once a month to their families at no cost, due to a grant from Baptist Health of Northeast Florida. The program was a huge success the last two years, providing counseling to 34 parents and caregivers, and touched a total of 216 people. A survey was sent to all participants. Of those returned, 99% agreed that the counseling was beneficial and 95% agreed or strongly agreed it improved their overall mental health.



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers



DLC had 228 volunteers at both centers this year, with a total of 2,846 volunteer hours. The DLC “Volunteer of the Year” was Susann Turner, a long-time volunteer and supporter of DLC Nurse & Learn. Susann has been a huge help to our school this year. She personally helped get new blinds installed in all of our classrooms and also helped raise funding to help pay for our classrooms to be repainted at Therapy and Care. She has been a blessing to our children this year and continues to offer a helping hand wherever needed. We greatly appreciate you Mrs. Turner and we thank you for your service!

The DLC volunteer Board of Directors meet every other month to vote on policy changes and work on fundraising events. Committee’s meet on off months. They also educate the public about the importance of early intervention and how DLC gives children the best chance at a healthy and productive life.



Many regular volunteers are DLC Board Members, as well as teen and high school students who need community service hours for entry into college and scholarship applications. Local college professors are now requiring students to work with children in the community who have special needs, and continue to recommend DLC as a community resource. This gave DLC students more one on one time, while also giving teachers extra help in the classrooms.

The Women’s Share Circle from the Mandarin UMC continues to volunteer every other month to deep clean classrooms and their therapy room. They are a volunteer group that DLC can rely on to help out, and they have also raised money for our program on numerous occasions.

DLC also had a large group of volunteers come out from JEA, Blue Cross Blue Shield, United Way of Northeast Florida, TD Auto, General Electric, and Malivai Washington Youth Foundation, Brooks Rehabilitation and THE PLAYERS Center for Child Health at various times during the year to volunteer with the children and help with outdoor beautification, cleaning classrooms, helping with repairs and doing paint touch ups.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS & BUDGET

Fundraising Efforts & Budget



Many children attending DLC's program do so on tuition assistance scholarships at little or no cost to the family. For the amount of medical care provided, DLC operates on very limited funding with an annual budget 967,088 and expenses totaled 805,649. The majority of families that have a child enrolled at DLC are considered low-income.

DLC now partners with Baptist Health, Early Learning Coalition for School Readiness vouchers and United Way's Success by Six programs for funding our preschool and nursing services. They are supported by area United Methodist and Presbyterian churches, civic groups like the Jacksonville Mustang Club, Deerwood Rotary, Jacksonville Rotary and the City Police Credit Union that all do annual fundraising events to benefit our program.

Malivai Washington Youth Foundation continues to partner with DLC and brings youth groups who volunteer to read to our students and give tennis lessons. Malivai uses this as a reward for their students that have met academic goals in school, and DLC students benefit by receiving valuable one on one peer attention.



DLC strives to create a program that continues to support inclusion care, giving our students the best education possible. They received a \$45,000 grant from The Chartrand Family Fund at the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida in September 2014 to start our Shared Therapy program at DLC Nurse & Learn. This gave DLC therapists an extra 6 hours a week in the classroom to share therapy tips with teachers and parents, to strengthen

communications about therapy needs, even for children who do not have the insurance to receive therapy but truly need it. DLC continued this initiative through a grant from the Children's Lighthouse Fund in 2015, and they have continued to provide funding through 2017.

DLC once again partnered with The Jacksonville Police Credit Union this year to host the 18th Annual DLC Nurse & Learn Golf Tournament. This was a huge help to DLC because it allowed them to focus on other projects like wrapping up the school year and graduation as well as spend more time on their fundraiser "Passport to Riverside and Avondale".

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS & BUDGET

The golf tournament took place at the Golf Club at South Hampton on March 12, 2017 and was very successful with over 95 golfers raising nearly \$13,000.

Their 2nd annual fundraising event, *Passport to Riverside and Avondale*, took place November 5th. The event involved 22 shops and restaurants in 5 Points, Park and King and Avondale and



free shuttle rides to the three shopping districts. Tickets were sold for \$25 and participants rode the trolley to different shopping areas and stop in at participating stores for free samples and gifts. DLC received raving reviews from those that joined last year, and hope this will become a major fundraiser for DLC each November. This event should make DLC a charity that all of Jacksonville knows about and wants to support.

♥ *A Special Thank you to our Major Donors* ♥

Jacksonville Children's Commission - \$304, 588

United Way of Northeast Florida Funding & Success by 6 - \$62,500

Baptist Health of Northeast Florida - \$50,800

Lucy Gooding Foundation - \$50,000

Florida Blue Foundation - \$25,000

Thomas Petway III - \$25,000

Children's Lighthouse Fund - \$20,000

Deerwood Rotary - \$10,000

Chatlos Foundation - \$10,000

Publix Supermarket Charities - \$5,000

Crossroad UMC - \$5,000

Jacksonville Mustang Club - \$4,657

Lake Shore UMC - \$3,329

Jack and Betty Demetree Family Fund - \$3,000

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS & BUDGET

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida - \$3,000

Northeast Florida Chapter of Credit Unions - \$3,000

Troy Spurlin Interiors - \$3,000

Mandarin UMC - \$2,597

United Way for Northeast Florida (*donations*) - \$2,480

Schultz Center - \$1,500

CSX Transportation - \$1,364

City & Police Federal Credit Union - \$1,220

Spring Glen UMC - \$1,148

Susan Masucci - \$1,100

GE/Rob Meyer - \$1,000

Omnitrust Financial Group - \$1,000

Brunet-Garcia Advertising Agency - \$1,000

Mark Reichmann - \$1,000

Enterprise Leasing Company of Florida - \$1,000

Murray Hill UMC - \$960

The Fisackerly Family - \$900

Eileen & Henry Phelps - \$870

JM Family Enterprises - \$610

Maurice Lazenby III - \$500

Leslie Brickell - \$500

First Coast Security Services - \$500

Lakewood UMC - \$500

Jill Strickland - \$500