

# **RECONNECT - REFRESH - RECHARGE**

**FALL 2022** 



# ECONNECTING WITH

Team Home Depot has been a generous supporter of LADACIN for many years.

Prior to COVID-19 restrictions, they visited regularly with various holiday and craft projects for our students and clients. Our students, clients and staff looked forward to their visits and spending time together. We are excited that some restrictions are being eased and we are able to reconnect with our friends in the community.

Recently, through the efforts of Home Depot Store Manager, Kim Vignola, the Home Depot Foundation awarded us a \$10,000 grant for a beautification project at the Schroth Center.

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truly grateful

friendship.



### LIFE IS COOL BY THE POOL

For over 10 years our clients have been enjoying the therapeutic benefits of aquatics at Rising Tree Tops at Oakhurst (formerly Camp Oakhurst) We are throughout the summer.

The program paused in 2021 due to for this wonderful the pandemic, and in June 2022 we received approval to resume support and renewed participation and reconnect with our friends at Rising Tree Tops. Clients have reported that being able to participate in therapeutic aquatics allows them to move easier with the influence of water. Our clients are smiling, laughing and very vocal during the aquatic sessions, overall, it is a fun activity with positive results.

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### **SOME THERAPISTS HAVE** FOUR LEGS AND FUR

Therapy Dogs have been boosting the morale of our students and clients since 2009.

After two years of separation due to COVID precautions, we were finally able to reconnect with our canine therapists for weekly visits. We have worked with many of the canine therapists and their handlers for several years, and both the handlers and the dogs have developed a wonderful relationship with our staff and the clients we serve.

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Patricia Carlesimo

These past two years have been challenging yet we continue to work tirelessly to provide education and support services to our babies, students, and adults with disabilities. We are reconnecting with our friends, families and our community refreshing our outlook on the future. As we recharge our spirits, we find that we have so much to be thankful for.

I am proud

to say

LADACIN

Network's staff is

first-rate!

In March of 2022, we were able to purchase an existing accessible group home in Wall Township primarily using funds from the Schroth Family Foundation. Thanks to the County of Monmouth, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), we were awarded a \$434,507 grant to help renovate the property.

We are excited about launching our new LADACIN Network website as well as two new Lehmann and Schroth School websites. We are confident these new websites will enable us to improve our close lines of communication.

Our Early Intervention services are gradually coming back to pre-COVID levels. LADACIN's Give and Take Child Care and Pre-School received accreditation from Grow NJ Kids with a 4-star rating! We are pleased to see considerable increases in our school enrollment.

Our advocacy efforts were successful this year! Thanks to

our legislative and government partners our program rates for Early Intervention were increased by 7.5 percent, the first increase in 16 years. We have also seen significant increases in Adult Day Services provider rates.

Our successes could not take place without the hard work and dedication of our staff. They are

truly devoted to the well-

being of our babies, students and clients and the high standards of LADACIN. Our progress depends on the quality of our staff members, and I am proud to say LADACIN Network's staff is first-rate!

LADACIN Network is truly grateful to our many donors, grantors, community partners and volunteers. It is because of this generosity that we are able to ensure the sustainability of our programs and help enrich the lives of the people we serve

Patricia Carlesima

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#### A Special Thank You to Our Generous Grantors

**BlueClaws Charities Boye Foundation Burlington Stores Foundation** 

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**Home Depot Foundation Investors Foundation** Jules L. Plangere, Jr. Family Foundation The Kennedy E. Kowalski Charitable Foundation News Corp Philanthropy Committee

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# **LADACIN's Early** Intervention Team provides Positive Child Social Emotional Development, Training and Support

As leaders in providing quality services and support to families and their children, our El team is collaborating with New Jersey Early Intervention System (NJEIS) and The Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health (CAECMH) at Montclair State University, in the creation of Parents Interacting with Infants (PIWI) training specific to our Early Intervention program.

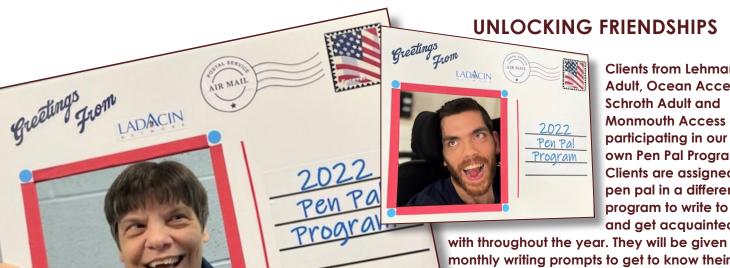
The training emphasizes parent-child interaction as both the focus and context for understanding and promoting children's development. The PIWI philosophy's three major elements of social emotional wellness in infants and toddlers are Experiencing, Expressing, and Regulating Emotions.

Our training team, along with NJEIS trainers, have been certified to provide this training to Early Intervention practitioners statewide. Our Early Intervention practitioners are engaging and exchanging with their parent partners providing support, encouragement, and strategies to families in helping them understand and support their children's Social Emotional Development.



LADACIN Network's Early **Intervention Program** (EI) provides early identification, evaluation, and comprehensive services in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Last year, between evaluations and direct services, over 3,000 infants and toddlers were served.

This program equips families to assist in their child's growth and development through the education and training they receive from our practitioners.



Clients from Lehmann Adult, Ocean Access, Schroth Adult and Monmouth Access are participating in our very own Pen Pal Program. Clients are assigned a pen pal in a different program to write to and get acquainted

monthly writing prompts to get to know their pen pal. The program will end with a pen pal celebration next summer!







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Almost 50 volunteers from Home Depot, Behr Paint and Tuff Shed, arrived at our facility, and transformed it into a beautiful oasis of plants and flowers. The Center's front lobby was completely renovated and an area in the great room was freshly painted for our adult clients to use as a café. A new shed was installed on the grounds for much needed storage.

While this amazing work was being completed, Home Depot volunteers organized an arts and crafts project for our students and adults, refreshing their friendships and bringing smiles to all.

We are truly grateful for this wonderful support and renewed friendship.

# Reaching for the stars



LADACIN Network's Give and Take Child Care has successfully completed a rigorous, research-based Grow NJ Kids provisional rating process and has been awarded 4 Stars!



Grow NJ Kids, New Jersey's quality rating improvement system gives child care and early learning programs resources to assess and improve their programs, while providing parents with information that allows them to evaluate the quality of programs for their child. The goal is to create a system that encourages ongoing improvement.

We are proud to give your child the very best in early education. Our 4-star rating conveys our staff and leadership's commitment to providing high quality services to our families and children.

# LIFE IS COOL BY THE POOL



Continued from page 1

We are so happy to reconnect with our friends in the community. refresh our spirits in the pool and recharge our energies.

#### SOME THERAPISTS HAVE FOUR LEGS AND FUR

Continued from page 1

Our clients receive many therapeutic benefits from the therapy dogs through play and interaction. The simple act of picking up and throwing a ball, placing a treat beneath one of the canine puzzle pieces or grooming the dogs with a brush helps to hone fine motor skills and improve upper extremity movement. One of the dog's handlers created a chute out of a pvc pipe for our clients who are unable to grasp a ball, they can now drop a ball in the chute and join in on playing fetch.





The most significant benefit of the therapy dog sessions is the relationship our clients have developed with the animals. Our clients are extremely relaxed when interacting with the dogs, simply petting the dogs or a friendly game of fetch brings smiles to all. It is great to see everyone refresh their connection and recharge the special bond they share.

# RECONNECTING WITH NATURE Gardening has been enriching the lives of Schroth and Lehmann school students. As the students reconnect with nature, they are excited to see the fruits of their labor grow and thrive. Lehmann School children are participating in the Toms River Field of Dreams by "adopting" two raised garden boxes in the Healthy Community Garden Box Program.

#### Ry Ry's Playground of Smiles

**School Children in Schroth** School have been reconnecting with friends since 2011 in Ry Ry's Playground of Smiles, a wonderful place where children of all abilities can interact with each other and play.

#### COMMUNITY SUPPORT POWER OF ONE

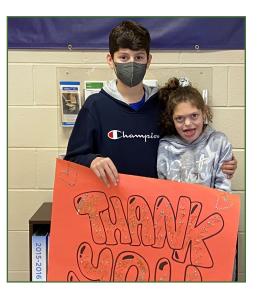
#### When a good idea makes promise for a good future



Denise Walker and Nancy Petrucelli have been supporting LADACIN for many years. They approached LADACIN with a new fundraising idea and had a plan to make

On August 6, 2022, LADACIN held the 1st Annual Cornhole Tournament. Denise and Nancy worked tirelessly on the event, locating a venue, recruiting tournament directors and participants, creating flyers, and coordinating an auction. Their plan worked and the tournament raised over \$9,500 for LADACIN.

We look forward to continuing the event for years to come.



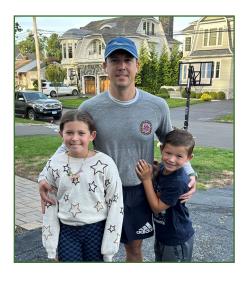
#### A meaningful Mitzvah project from brother to sister

Reid Weissman recently selected LADACIN Network for his Mitzvah project. The Mitzvah project is a popular Jewish custom where a Bar/ Bat Mitzvah candidate chooses a special service project to celebrate their Jewish coming of age. Reid's sister Emma is a student in Schroth School. Reid's idea was to raise money for sensory room supplies for the school. His project raised over \$7,600 which will benefit the children of Schroth School

#### **POWER of ONE Challenge**

The Power of One Challenge shows us how one person can make a difference. Joseph Walker has been running for LADACIN for 17 years and founded Team LADACIN.

This year, we encouraged everyone to start their own power of one challenge! Our students, clients and community were all challenged to run, walk, cycle, stroll or roll, set their goals and challenge others to meet or beat them!

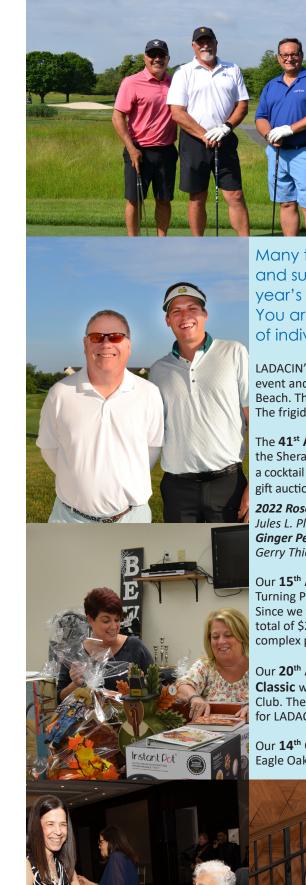




# **Ways to Give**

- ♥ 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 fundraising events and complimentary seats/players for these events, as well as year-round recognition.
- ♥ If you are 72 years of age or older and are taking Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from your IRA or other qualified retirement account, a direct distribution of your RMD to LADACIN Network can result in a tax-free rollover as a qualified charitable distribution.

For more information, call the Director of Development at: 732.493.5900 ext.266 directorofdevelopment@ladacin.org



Many thanks to our donors, volunteers, and supporters for helping to make this year's fundraising events so successful. You are making a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities!

LADACIN's 14th Annual Plunge returned to an in-person event and was held on January 15, 2022, at Manasguan Main Beach. The event was a huge success, raising over \$63,000. The frigid temperatures did not deter our supporters!

The 41st Annual Rosebud Gala was held on April 9, 2022, at the Sheraton Eatontown Hotel. It was a fabulous evening with a cocktail hour, gourmet dinner, dancing, awards ceremony, and gift auction. The highly successful event raised over \$166,000.

#### 2022 Rosebud Honorees:

Jules L. Plangere, Jr. Family Foundation and Sudie J. Burbage Ginger Peters Lifetime Achievement Award:

Our 15th Annual Eat, Drink and Be Caring fundraiser at Turning Point Restaurants was held on May 14th and May 15th. Since we first teamed up in 2007, we have raised a grand total of \$217,678 to support infants, children and adults with complex physical and developmental disabilities or delays.

Our 20th Anniversary 95.9 WRAT Rock Open Charity Golf Classic was held on June 13, 2022, at Jumping Brook Country Club. The event was sold out and raised over \$59.000 for LADACIN.

Our 14th Casino Night was held on October 20, 2022, at Eagle Oaks Golf and Country Club, Farmingdale.

















#### 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.

### LADACIN NETWORK SPECIAL EVENTS



**LADACIN Plunge** Saturday, January 14, 2023



Rosebud Gala Saturday, April 1, 2023

95.9 WRAT Rock **Open Charity Golf Classic** Monday, May 22, 2023



**Cornhole Tournament Summer 2023** 



**Power of One Challenge** Fall 2023



**Casino Night Fall 2023** 



Eat, Drink and Be Caring November 2023

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







