

Answering Needs. Advancing Potential.



FALL 2024



Celebrating 40 Years of Bright Beginnings

Give and Take Child Care Center, located in the Schroth Center has been providing high-quality early care and learning for children from 6 weeks to 9 years of age for 40 years. This unique program offers services to children with physical and developmental disabilities or delays, as well as typically developing children.

The quality and durability of our program align with the dedication and longevity of our staff. Ellen began her journey with LADACIN in 1988 as an adult client. While there she learned of an opening in our Give and Take Child Care Center and began as an unpaid intern. In 1990, she became a paid employee and has been a caring and committed member of the child care team ever since.

Ellen especially enjoys seeing the children with special needs that could barely crawl now are running! She creates relationships with each child through story time, play and dance times. Ellen has watched many of our child care children grow into compassionate and capable adults, with some now working in the program alongside her.



Ellen with her students in the 80's and below today.



"I love to see how the kids click when they get what you're talking about, I love the whole process"

- Ellen

Seventy-five years ago, the foundation was laid for an organization built on the principles of service and compassion. We thank our past leaders for their vision and insight to creating an Agency where individuals of all abilities reach their fullest potential and highest level of independence.

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Patricia Carlesimo



As we mark our 75th anniversary, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the incredible experiences we have shared. This milestone is not just a celebration of years passed, but a testament to the enduring commitment and hard work of our community, families, friends and staff, both past and present.

Dr. Otto Lehmann led the first clinic in 1949, Charlotte Conlin was our first Executive Director, followed by Anita M. Kneeley, then K. David Holmes. I am proud to follow in their footsteps and continue this remarkable journey alongside our devoted Board of Trustees and staff.

The longevity of our Agency continues to grow, reaching new milestones each year. Our childcare program is celebrating 40 years of providing quality care to children of all abilities, ensuring every child has a nurturing and inclusive environment. LADACIN's Early Intervention program was initiated 25 years ago. Our school programs have been shaping young minds for 68 years, while our adult programs have been empowering individuals for 46 years.

Our commitment to residential services has only strengthened over time. Since the inception of Operation LIFE 41 years ago, we have expanded to include seven group homes, most recently, our new facility in Wall Township, and two supported independent living apartment complexes.

I hope you enjoy the collection of black and white historical photos featured throughout this newsletter. Thank you for being a part of our journey. Your support and dedication are the heart of our Agency, and together, we will continue to make a difference

Patricia Carlesimo

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Milestones & Memories

Proms and Graduations are two important milestones in a young person's life.

LADACIN's Proms are a glamorous, exciting event where our students create lasting memories, from selecting their outfits to dancing the night away. Prom night is a cherished tradition at LADACIN.

The triumph of Graduation at LADACIN is the culmination of years of hard work and the beginning of new adventures. It is a time to celebrate these young individuals' resilience and achievements. We applaud their accomplishments and look forward to their exciting journeys ahead.

The Schroth School Prom took place at the Renaissance Banquet Hall, where students, families and staff experienced a magical evening. Attendees donned their finest attire and enjoyed a lively night of dancing and great company.

Creating Memories at Spring Flings!

The Lehmann School was transformed into a vibrant, energetic space where students, friends and families had the opportunity to dress up and show off their moves on the dance floor.

Lehmann Adult, Access clients and families were treated to an "Out of This World" themed Spring Fling held at Georgian Court University. Everyone had a fantastic time showcasing their space-themed outfits, intergalactic dance moves, and enjoying delicious cosmic treats all while making cherished memories!

Schroth Adult and Access clients, families and staff came together to enjoy a day of joy, laughter, dancing, and fun activities at the Schroth Spring Fling at the South Wall Banquet Center.



“Words cannot express how much living in Operation LIFE means to me, because if I was not living there, I would be living in a nursing home. There is no place like Operation LIFE and no place I would rather be”.



Building Bonds and Growing Together

Operation LIFE (Living Independently For Everyone) is a 24-unit supported living complex located in Long Branch. Opened in 1983, it represents our longest-standing residential facility catering to individuals with disabilities. Operation LIFE offers a unique opportunity for adults with disabilities to enjoy independent apartment living with an option of receiving round-the-clock support. Since then, LADACIN has opened several additional residential facilities, including two supported and supervised apartment complexes and seven barrier-free group homes.

Stanley, pictured above, was one of the first tenants to move into Operation LIFE in 1983. He enjoys the location of the residence and Op-LIFE helps him maintain an active lifestyle. The apartment complex feels like home to him as he grew up with most of the tenants.

Billy has been a part of LADACIN's family since 1986. He graduated from Schroth School in 2008 and then joined the Adult Program. In 2022 he moved into one of the Agency's supported and supervised apartment complexes, Asbury Avenue Apartments. Billy was overjoyed with the new apartment, as he exclaimed

“I finally got my own bachelor pad. I am living the dream.”



LADACIN Network has been committed to integrating innovative technology solutions to meet the diverse needs of our clientele for over 40 years.



LADACIN worked with the Bell Labs Pioneers in the early '80s to create electronic communication systems for non-verbal clients. In 1990, United Cerebral Palsy of Monmouth and Ocean Counties (now LADACIN Network) was involved in a national project with Apple Computers and UCLA. Following a national training in California, the Agency was designated as the Northeast Training Center for this project, hosting several UCP affiliates for a one-week training course on adaptive computer technology.



25 YEARS

El Special Education Teacher providing Developmental Intervention in the child's home using individualized strategies to support cognitive, social, and emotional development.

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY



We were state of the art then and we continue to be now. Our Rehab Technology program has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) since 1987. This is a national "good housekeeping seal of approval" for Rehab programs. Today we provide cutting edge supports to ensure our students and clients have all the tools they need to access their environment, be it through powered mobility, augmentative communication, adaptations for computer access,

environmental controls or simple adaptations for utensils or paint brushes.

During COVID we pivoted to remote services overnight. Our students and clients had access to a myriad of learning opportunities and socialization during an unprecedented time. LADACIN realizes the power of technology, it is the door to independence for those we serve.

First Steps to Bright Futures

For 25 years LADACIN's Early Intervention (EI) Program has been providing early identification, evaluation, and comprehensive EI services in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. EI helps families meet the developmental needs of children birth to age three who have delays or disabilities by providing quality services and support. Our EI practitioners engage and exchange with families, supporting parent-child dyadic relationships.



Elevating the Ride with Accessible Transportation



The Agency has a fleet of vans used to transport clients between home and program, to job and volunteer sites, to medical appointments, on recreational and leisure trips into the community, and to other organizations, schools, grocery stores, malls, etc. Field trips during the Adult Day Program are part of the curriculum and are an integral part of residential life for the clients in the Agency's housing facilities.





Lifted by Service, Hand in Hand

Throughout the years, LADACIN's volunteers have been vital to our Agency's success.

Our volunteers' dedication and passion not only enhance our ability to deliver essential services to our infants, children and adults with disabilities but also bring varied perspectives and skills that enrich our work, while helping to manage costs and maximize resources. Whether they are stuffing envelopes, helping at events, maintaining the grounds, providing entertainment to our

students and clients or overseeing and guiding our Agency effectively as a Board member, every one of our volunteers are key players in advancing our mission and creating lasting and positive impact on those we serve. We thank all our volunteers for the selfless work they do to help us achieve our goals and enable us to continue our work for another 75 years.



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 at least 70 ½ years old, you can make a tax-free distribution (up to \$105,000) from your IRA as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to LADACIN. If you are 73 or older this year and are taking Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from your IRA, a direct distribution of your RMD to LADACIN Network will also be tax free. Exceptions may apply, please consult your tax advisor for specific guidance.

For more information,
call the Director of Development at:
732.493.5900 ext.1200
or email:
directorofdevelopment@ladacin.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

To our many supporters, donors, and volunteers, we thank you for helping us sustain and enhance the vital programs and services we provide to more than 3,500 individuals with disabilities.



The 43rd Rosebud Gala was held on March 23, 2024, at the Eatontown Sheraton Hotel.
2024 Rosebud Honorees:

Corporate Legacy Honoree: New Jersey Natural Gas
Legacy Honorees: The Schroth Family, Marian Hartnett and the Hartnett Family
Legacy Leaders: Anita M. Kneely (posthumously), K. David Holmes



Our 16th Casino Night was held on November 7, 2024, at Eagle Oaks Golf and Country Club, Farmingdale.



LADACIN's 16th Plunge was held on January 14, 2024.



Our 22nd 95.9 WRAT Rock Open Charity Golf Classic was held on June 10, 2024, at Jumping Brook Country Club, Neptune.



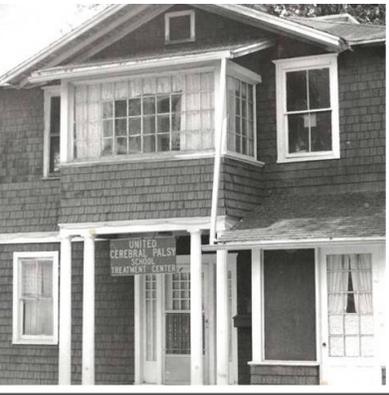
Our 17th Eat, Drink and Be Caring fundraiser at Turning Point Restaurants was held on October 5th & 6th, 2024.



Our 3rd Cornhole Tournament was held on July 20, 2024, at the Great American Center, Aberdeen.

75 Years of Service

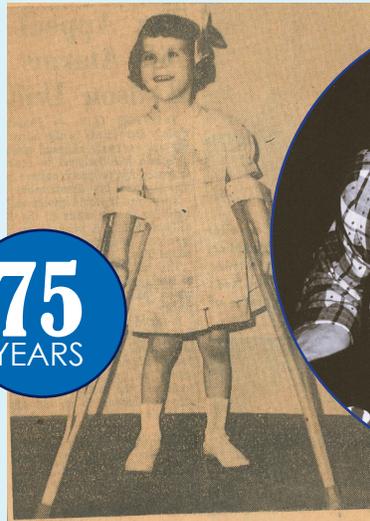
Our story began at a time when support for individuals with disabilities was scarce. Determined to make a difference, a small group of parents seeking therapy for their children with cerebral palsy laid the groundwork for what would become a highly respected organization, now proudly serving over 3,500 individuals with disabilities and their families.



Early Beginnings on Dewey Street, Long Branch

“Society back then still believed people like me belonged in closets. The vans didn’t have lifts, wheelchairs didn’t have motors, buildings didn’t have ramps or elevators, there were no curb cuts or accessible bathrooms. We’ve come a long way baby!”— Ginger

75 YEARS



‘Ginger’ Peters
LONG BRANCH — Virginia Peters has been named the “33 Minute Marcher” to officially represent the United Cerebral



Ginger Peters and Emil Schroth

“In the Kindergarten class of 1959, Em (Schroth) was the most popular and the heartbreaker. Every girl in class was after him including me.”
— Ginger Peters

We have made significant strides since 1949, but our work is far from over. LADACIN remains committed to advocating for the right and inclusion of individuals with disabilities. In the next 75 years and beyond, we will continue our dedicated efforts to promote community awareness, accessibility, and acceptance for those we serve.

Ginger Peters has been with us since our Agency’s early years. Her mother, along with Janet Schroth and other dedicated parents, helped establish the First Auxiliary of United Cerebral Palsy of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. This group started a nursery school for their children. Over time, the school expanded to include both children’s education and adult programs. This passionate group of parents were the catalysts for what we know today as LADACIN Network.

Ginger worked for LADACIN throughout the years. Since retiring, she travels the world yet continues to support the Agency today.



Our newest Group Home is located in Wall Township. Thank you to the Schroth Family Foundation and the Monmouth County Board of Commissioners for helping turn this vision into a reality.

OUR 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.



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS



LADACIN Plunge
Saturday,
January 18, 2025



Rosebud Gala
Saturday,
March 29, 2025



95.9 WRAT Rock Open Charity Golf Classic
Monday,
June 9, 2025



Cornhole Tournament
Summer 2025



Casino Night
Fall 2025



TURNING POINT
breakfast, brunch & lunch™
Eat, Drink and be Caring
Fall 2025



For more information on LADACIN Network’s Special Events, contact Community Relations at **732-493-5900 ext. 1201** or email **communityrelations@LADACIN.org**



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