

DISCOVER & LEARN

Official Newsletter of DLC Nurse & Learn



Moving Mountains Meet Cherish as shared by her mom:

"Cherish has always been a smiling, loving and adventurous girl who never let anything get in her way of doing what she wanted to do. Cherish was diagnosed with exotropia also known as strabismus [a condition in which both eyes do not look at the same place at the same time] in August 2018. In November 2019, Cherish would have surgery to correct her vision, soon after we noticed she wasn't reaching normal milestones. She was then diagnosed with Hypotonia [a medical state of low muscle tone, often involving reduced muscle strength] and Global developmental delay in 2019.

Cherish previously received therapy at Wolfson's Children Rehab where one of the Physical Therapist referred us to DLC. We visited many different day cares and none of them seem to be the perfect fit for Cherish. We finally tried DLC in hope that Cherish would get the time, attention and help needed and we couldn't be happier!

Since starting DLC, Cherish has developed more confidence in herself. When Cherish first started at DLC, she could only crawl. While others doubted that she would walk, we always had faith that Cherish would walk on her own when she was ready because she always seems to do everything on her time. Cherish started walking using a gait trainer and is now standing and beginning to take more and more steps everyday independently.

We are exited to see how she will grow everyday and we will continue to be grateful for each inch stone and milestone she accomplishes . We always stick by the quote that "You were assigned this mountain to show others it can be moved.""







Mission Statement

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.

News You Can Use:

SPECIAL EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt @ Nurse & Learn Thursday, April 14th

Star Wars Day @ Nurse & Learn Wednesday, May 4th

Muffins with Mom @ Nurse & Learn Friday, May 6th

DLC VPK & Preschool Graduation Thursday, May 26th

DLC Nurse & Learn Closed for Training Friday, May 27th

> Summer Camp @ DLC May 31st - August 5th

Donuts with Dad @ Nurse & Learn Friday, June 17th

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

April 15th Good Friday

May 30th Memorial Day

> June 20th Juneteenth

July 4 Independence Day

Community Partnerships in Works Serving the Students of DLC with Community Resources



DLC partners with Vision Is Priceless to offer students yearly vision screenings.







DLC partners with Connecting Thru Music for weekly music therapy.









DLC partners with Keepsake Learning Behavioral Center for ABA therapy. This partnership is made possible due to the support from the Kids Hope Alliance!





Director's Corner

Heather R. Corey, CFRE, Chief Executive Officer



How are you doing? Seriously, how are you doing this New Year? I am reminded of an old Yiddish adage - "Mann Tracht, Un Gott Lacht" meaning, "Man Plans, and God Laughs." Many of us believed that by 2022 things would be back to normal but now we are left to wonder what normal is and how do we prepare for the future with so much uncertainty. Then I am reminded of God's word about seasons: Ecclesiastes 3:1-12 "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to

heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet[a] no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live" and Galatians 6:9 "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

While making short or long term plans may not always be feasible, we do have certainty in our seasons - whether in the valley or on the mountain top - that with God our plans can be directed when doing good for Him and in His timing. At DLC our tagline of "where anything is possible" [derived from Matthew 19:26] is more than just an adage or a catchy phrase, it is God's plan for DLC, our students, families and staff. Every day we see children take multiple steps who were not expected to walk. We hear children speak who were told they would never talk. We experience the impossible each day; miracles are not in short supply at DLC. In spite of any doubt of the future we may hold, we do have big, long term plans for DLC and we hope you will travel along this journey with us. We hope you will laugh, cry and have joy with our miracles as we are directed through these seasons of change. I cannot tell what the rest of 2022 holds but I know we have a big God who does everyday big things every day. His proof is evident at DLC. Let's see what this year holds - together.

Sincevely, *Heather**

The Holidays at DLC Here are just a few photos from DLC's Thanksgiving Celebration and Christmas Parties.



Thank you to all of the groups who helped make Christmas at DLC an exciting time for all: **Baileys Medical Supplies, Mandarin Share Circle** and **Mandarin UMC Women, Joe Honeycutt** and **Ms. Cathy Rushing & Friends** for all of the wonderful toys and gifts for DLC students. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers, **Mr. & Mrs. Claus (Joe & Suzanne Honeycutt)** and **Board Members** who joined us at both DLC parties. You all are such a blessing for so many families!

Valentine's Day at DLC

Thank you to everyone who helped make DLC's Annual Valentine's Day Dance a fabulous time.















Thank you to so many Volunteers, Friends and the Staff who helped make DLC Nurse & Learn's Valentine Dance a memorable event! Very special thanks to Paula Long (Sonja Chapter 601B), John Short (AFLAC), Mandarin Share Circle (Mandarin United Methodist Church), Tracy Crissman (DLC Board Member) and Youth Volunteers from The Bolles School (our Disney Princesses and Prince) for donating their time and items for DLC students and staff. Such a blessing!

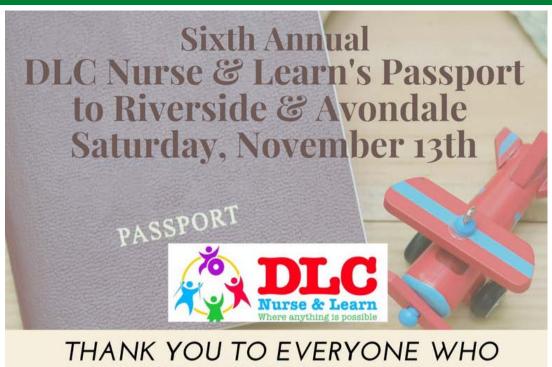
Fall Festival at DLC

Thank you to everyone who helped make DLC's Annual Fall Festival fun and memorable.





Thank you to the Volunteers, Parents, Families, DLC Board Members, Connecting Thru Music, First Coast Music Therapy, and Staff who helped make DLC's Fall Festivals a great success. Special thank you to the **501st Florida Garrison Star Wars costuming organization** for joining us and making it a great festival.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE PASSPORT 2021
A SUCCESS!





Crissman





































Are you interested in volunteering to help plan and organize Passport to Riverside & Avondale 2022? Email Heather@DLCNL.org to sign up.















VPK Registration is now open

DLC offers Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) classes for children with special needs and medical complexities. We are conveniently located in Murray Hill and provide onsite nursing and therapy care. Families can obtain a FREE VPK certificate from The Early Learning Coalition (for Duval County) at www.elcduval.org/voluntary-pre-k. Sign up NOW to reserve your child's spot for 2022/2023.



Enroll your child today in VPK at DLC!











Special Needs & Medically Complex VPK Center.

FREE to all 4-year-olds living in FLA.

Give your Child a Jump

Start to Learning







- Event volunteers are needed to help organize, set up, clean up, snack time, arts & crafts in the classroom during special events like the Thanksgiving lunch, Christmas Parties at both DLC locations, the Valentine's Day Dance, and the Easter Egg Hunt.
- A regular and reliable reading buddy for during the week in the classroom (must be able to pass a background check).

For more information or to sign up, contact Chelsey Briggs by email Chelsey.Briggs@dlcnl.org or by phone at 904-387-0370.

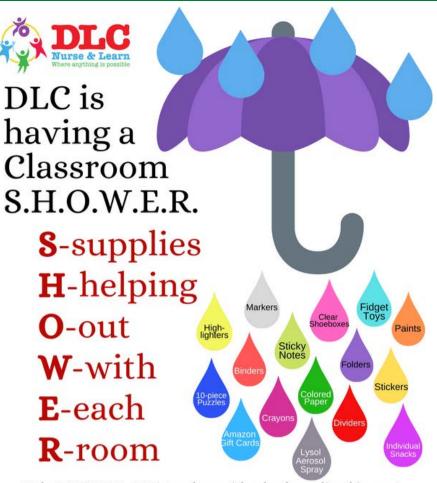






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www.DLCNL.org



Help S.H.O.W.E.R. DLC's teachers with school supplies this year!

Bring <u>new</u> S.H.O.W.E.R. items to DLC Nurse & Learn at 4101-1 College Street Jacksonville, FL 32205

For any questions, email info@DLCNL.org or call 904-387-0370. DLC Nurse & Learn - Where Anything is Possible!

Lent with DLC





Giving to others is at the heart of the Easter message, so it's the perfect time to help DLC Nurse & Learn with a Lent Box! The kids at DLC have decorated a Lent Box just for YOU to collect change for scholarships at DLC.

Three easy ways to help:

- 1. Email or call today to reserve your box (boxes) to INFO@DLCNL.org or at 904-387-0370.
- 2. Arrange for a Lent Box pick up from DLC (4101-1 College Street, 32205) and start collecting your loose change. If you are requesting 10 or more Lent boxes, we can deliver your boxes to a single address.
- 3. Return your full box the week of April 11th to DLC or for bulk box collection, arrange for pick up.

DLC "Adopt A Child" Opportunity for your Church or Civic Group

There is a very special way you can make a difference to a child in need. Many children at DLC are part of a family that is financially struggling. Having a child with medical needs is a financial struggle for any family.

Many families cannot afford tuition, therapy costs, special equipment, etc., that is essential for their child's development. If your church or group would like to help DLC in a very personal way, then the "Adopt a Child" opportunity is for you!

This provides an opportunity for DLC to serve more children when less funding is available for daily schooling and therapy.

How it works for churches, civic groups and organizations:

- Members add \$15 (or more) to their tithe monthly or collect donations monthly (quarterly or annually)
- Do a Fundraiser and collect donations:
 - 20 people x \$15 = \$300 towards tuition and therapy scholarships
 - 30 people x \$15 = \$450 towards tuition and therapy scholarships

And so forth. The options are endless!

• Send Adopt a Child donations to: DLC Adopt a Child, 4101-1 College Street, Jacksonville, FL 32205.

What your Donation can do:

\$15 = Art Project for a Classroom

\$20 = Classroom Snacks for a Week

\$25 = 1 Day of Nursing Care Support

\$25 = ½ hour Session of Physical, Occupational or Speech Therapy

\$50 = 1-hour Session of Physical, Occupational or Speech Therapy

\$2500 = Free Therapy a week for a year for a child with Developmental Delay

\$3500 = Free Tuition for 1 month at DLC for a child with Disabilities

For more information or any questions, please call 904-387-0370 or email Heather@DLCNL.org.



Renovations made a huge difference

Over the past two years DLC Nurse & Learn has received grants and contributions from the **Rotary Club of Deerwoood** and the **Jacksonville Mustang Club** to make program and capital improvements at both locations. With their gifts and <u>lots of volunteer sweat equity</u>, DLC was able to update classroom flooring and fully renovate 3 bathrooms with new flooring, paint, furnishings and repairs. Thank you to both organizations for their long time support and dedication to DLC.

Before









After















Do you Shop on Amazon?

If yes, when you use Amazon Smile to make purchases, a percentage can be designated back to DLC! Simply go to https://smile.amazon.com/, search for "DLC Nurse & Learn" in the charitable organization options, select DLC and start shopping! You can sign up for Amazon Smile on the app too.

DLC NURSE & LEARN'S

TOPGOLF & TACOS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

\$60

Topgolf Jacksonville

10531 Brightman Blvd., 32246 at St. Johns Town Center

5:00 PM CHECK IN + NETWORKING 5:45 PM DINNER

6:00 PM GOLF

\$100 **DINNER + GOLF**

Includes 3 hours of golf, door prize ticket & dinner.

\$60 Kids 12 and under

SPECTATORS Dinner Only



REGISTRATION + SPONSORSHIP Email Heather@DLCNL.ORG



DLC has immediate openings for full-time and part-time **Teacher Assistants. Send your** resume TODAY to info@DLCNL.org





for the future of DLC

The future is NOW at DLC. Please consider leaving DLC in your will, bequest, Donor Advised Fund, and estate to continue your family's blessings for the next generation. If you have any questions, please contact Heather@dlcnl.org.



Would your church, civic group or club like to have a speaker from DLC share our story at your next meeting or event? We have volunteer speakers available to share the good news of the DLC ministry to your group. Email Heather@DLCNL.org to request a speaker.



Today, and every day, is a good day to pray for DLC's students, families and staff. "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Welcome to the DLC Team! Join us in welcoming these new staff members to the DLC Team!





Mr. Reenard. Teacher Assistant Finance Manager





Billing Coordinator



Ms. Karen, RN PPEC Nurse

DLC Nurse & Learn Leadership Team

Heather R. Corey, CFRE Chief Executive Officer

Annalaura Scott, CNA Chief Programs Officer

Sue Molina, RN **Director of Nursing**

Julie Roziers **Program Director** Therapy & Care

Elizabeth Goodrich, CNA Assistant Program Director





Ms. Debbie, 15 Years



Ms. Aixa, 13 Years



Ms. Elizabeth, 7 Years

Join us in welcoming new DLC Board of Directors to the Team and thanking all of DLC's Board Members!



Aaron Noles, President. Prudential Financial



Tracy Crissman, Vice President, Community Volunteer



Rev. Haley Eccles, Secretary, Campus to City Wesley Foundation



larret Driecer, Baptist Health System



Chris Gabbard. University of North Florida



Amy Gibson, Regency Centers



Monica Gold, **Duval County** Public Schools



Joe Honeycutt, Community Volunteer



Christine Johnson, Community Volunteer



Rev. Silas M'Mworia. Murray Hill UMC



Chelsea Robinson. **RE-SMART**



Allison Sample, Community Volunteer



Terri Thomas. City & Police Federal VanLaningham, Credit Union



Amanda Family Support Services



The Lucy Gooding Charitable Foundation Trust











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Non-profit org us postage paid Jacksonville, FL Permit No. 881

Address Services Requested









Former DLC Student Finishes Gate River Run! Annalaura "Laura" Scott, Chief Programs Officer

Not all heroes wear capes. Some have Spina Bifida whose parents were told he would never walk, but ends up running 2 miles at the Gate River Run. That's a DLC Hero! When Liam started with DLC in August of 2013 he was just 21 months old, but he had a different birth story from you and I.

Liam's mom Cinda was just 18 weeks pregnant when they diagnosed him with Spina Bifida. During her pregnancy doctors performed a spinal closure in utero (what a miracle). Liam was born at 33 weeks and stayed in the NICU for staff to monitor his back/spinal incision. The decision was made at 5 weeks old for Liam to have a second closure surgery to correct the leaking spinal fluid.

Liam has always been an extremely bright child who loved to learn and interact with his friends and teachers. One of Liam's biggest hurdles was getting around the classroom independently. He was unable to crawl on his own but with support from his family, DLC Teachers, and Therapists, Liam was pushed to gain strength, balance, and independence.

Watching Liam grow and learn while at DLC was an amazing experience. Liam has more determination that most people. He finally started crawling, pulling up, utilized the stander, gait trainer, walker, and 'go-go' sticks to eventually walking independently. Liam also graduated from the DLC VPK program fully walking on his own.

Liam, I am so proud of the young man you have grown into. You have always amazed me with your determination and strength. I pray you keep doing amazing things and I am so glad I was able to see your miracle and be apart of your early years. Keep pushing, do great, and stay sweet.

Love, Mrs. Laura, your DLC Teacher





