

DISCOVER & LEARN

Official Newsletter of DLC Nurse & Learn



August will now always remain with DLC

"Our son August attended DLC for twelve years, from 2001 until 2013, and benefited extraordinarily from the experience. In 1999, he experienced a botched birth at UCSF and, as a result, diagnoses and labels for chronic and disabling conditions became the small smooth stones on a string of worry beads: cerebral palsy, spastic quadriplegia, profound mental retardation, cortical visual impairment, microcephaly, seizure disorder, osteopenia—and the list went on. The most serious of his diagnoses was hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy or H.I.E.—a lack of blood and oxygen before or during his delivery, causing severe brain damage.

My wife Ilene and I named our new arrival August, which means “esteemed” or “venerable.” Despite his bad start, he was a blithe spirit. I don’t know how to account for his happiness except to attribute it to the indomitable exuberance of youth.

In July of 2001, Ilene, August, and I arrived in Jacksonville from San Francisco, moving here so that I could take a tenure-line teaching position at the University of North Florida. Back in SF, August had been attending a daycare facility for typically developing children, able to do so with the help of a personal assistant funded through the Medical (a.k.a. Medicaid) waiver. In Jacksonville though we could not find a single daycare facility that would let him in the door, much less admit him on a permanent basis. After several months of searching, Ilene found DLC Nurse & Learn, which offered Early Intervention services. He soon “aged out” of these services but stayed with DLC for the next eleven years, attending every weekday after school and all day during the summers.



August's Story continued on page 2

News You Can Use:

SPECIAL EVENTS

Nurse & Learn Open House
October 7th

Therapy & Care Open House
October 14th

Fall Festival
October 29th

Passport 2021
Saturday, November 13th
11 am - 6 pm

Thanksgiving Feast
Tuesday, November 23rd
@ 11 am

Christmas Party Nurse & Learn
Thursday, December 16th
@ 10:00 am

Christmas Party Therapy & Care
Friday, December 17th
@ 4:30 pm

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

November 11th
Veteran's Day

November 24th-26th
Thanksgiving Break

December 20th through
January 1st
Christmas Break

January 17th
Martin Luther King Day

August's story Continued

Though DLC he received occupational and physical therapy. The San Francisco therapists had directed us to only feed him PediaSure (a supplemental liquid) because they feared reflux and aspiration. However, the DLC therapists helped him transition to eating soft dishes. They showed us how to prepare them with textures, food finely chopped but not pureed. Banana mashed with a crushed graham cracker became one of August's preferred mid-afternoon snacks. For dinners, sweet potatoes with a pat of butter and a dab of maple syrup proved a preferred dish. To vary his diet, we produced thick, semi-pureed concoctions of enchiladas, lasagna, or chicken mixed with carrots, broccoli, and broth. Tasty food made him utter a soft, murmuring coo. Eventually, for dessert, we were able to feed him a cookie.

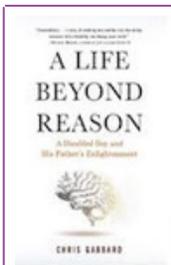


Whenever August was at DLC, Ilene and I could relax, knowing that he was in caring hands. Amy Bugge, the founder and, at the time, the chief administrator, and her staff treated him with respect and loving attention, recognizing his dignity as a human being. Nancy Frias and Eric Conger, both of them dependable and conscientious, spent a great deal of time with him, teaching, feeding, positioning, and repositioning him and providing him with hygiene care.

Having moved from California to Florida, we had no family in the region, so we had no kin relations to help us. Had it not been for DLC and the daycare services it provides, Ilene or I would have had to drastically cut back our work hours or stop working entirely, and that was something we could not afford to do. DLC proved to be a great boon because it provided therapy and attentive care to August and allowed parents such as us—parents of children with significant and multiple impairments—to continue working.

August passed away in October of 2013. Some of his ashes are now mingled with the roots of a small citrus tree that stands to the right of one of the DLC's two doors leading to the parking lot. August will now always remain with the DLC."

Dr. Chris Gabbard
August's Dad
Member of DLC Board of Directors



Dr. Gabbard is also an author of "A LIFE BEYOND REASON: A Disabled Boy and His Father's Enlightenment. An unflinching and luminous memoir that explores a father's philosophical transformation when he must reconsider the questions what makes us human? and whose life is worth living?" Dr. Gabbard's book can be found at <http://www.beacon.org/A-Life-Beyond-Reason>

Director's Corner

Heather R. Corey, CFRE, Chief Executive Officer



At DLC Nurse & Learn we continue to maintain our Mission as a nonprofit Special Needs Child Care Center, providing 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. After 32 years we remain true to our tagline 'At DLC, anything is possible' and based upon the scripture: "Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." - Matthew 19:26. While our Mission and Scripture following is foundationally strong, DLC is working every day to grow and reach more families throughout the First Coast. We know the importance of DLC's Programs and Services to vulnerable and often neglected families. Because of so many of YOU, we continue to shine God's light on special needs and medically complex children. We are grateful and blessed to know we have YOUR support in helping the next generation succeed and be seen by their awesome abilities rather than a disability.

Since we know the great responsibility of our Mission, we are working diligently to add an additional operational location for DLC's Programs and Services. If you know of a facility, outside of the Westside, that is available or if you are interested in collaborating logistically with DLC, please contact me at Heather.Corey@DLCNL.org. Let's talk about how we can partner. Let's talk more about how we can serve more students. Let's talk more about making a difference in our community!

Sincerely, Heather

DLC Nurse & Learn Serving Over 30 Years of Hope & Miracles

DLC Nurse & Learn and DLC Therapy & Care continues to serve special needs and medically complex children and families. Over the past two years, even during a pandemic, DLC continued to serve some of the most vulnerable families in our community. Because of many of YOU, we look forward to serving many more children and families. Check out how you and DLC continued to serve our local community in 2019-2020.

107

Total Number of Children Served

248

Total Number of Goals Set

92%

Student Goals Accomplished or Had Improvement

53

Total Number of Scholarships



OVER \$106,000

In Scholarships

OVER 90,000

Educational Classroom Hours

622

Therapeutic Hours

508

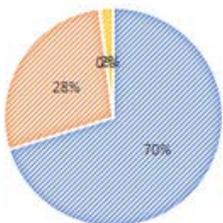
Volunteer Hours

72

Volunteers

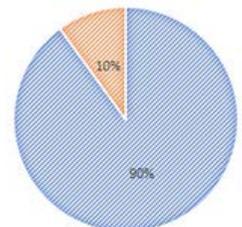
REVENUE SOURCES

- Contributions & Grants
- Program Service Revenue
- Investment Revenue
- Events



EXPENSES

- Program Services
- Management & Fundraising Expenses



Passport 2021



Sponsored By:

William & Tracy Crissman

ADD YOUR BUSINESS & NAME HERE

Check out who is on board so far

Avondale Gifts



It is time to start planning Passport to Riverside & Avondale 2021. Join us on Saturday, November 13th for Passport 2021: Shop, Sip & Stroll.

- Passport 2021 - Shop, Sip, Sample & Stroll is a fun event where you and a group of friends can visit stores, shop, sip & sample local fare, make new fall memories and support a great cause!
- Passport provides shop owners an opportunity to show off what their business has to offer, to over 150+ new customers before the height of the holiday shopping season.
- Passport ticket holders will show their passport ticket when they enter the store, and get their free gift or food/drink or receive a substantial discount.
- In previous years participating shops and restaurants had giveaways like: wine, beer, appetizers, coupons for return customers, or small gifts that were unique to their shop.
- Passport to Riverside & Avondale supports DLC's mission to provide year-round high quality education, nursing care, and therapies to children of all abilities, and have been providing these services in Jacksonville for over 30 years in Northeast Florida.



Join us as a Sponsor or a Shopper! To sign up TODAY, email Heather@DLCNL.org.

Eagle Scout Project for DLC Therapy & Care

We're in love! Thank you Ben (brother of Daniel - DLC Therapy & Care student) for making DLC the recipient of his Eagle Scout project. Ben built DLC a bench and 2 planters at the DLC Therapy & Care location in the Lake Shore Area. Our students will be growing a sensory garden and herbs this summer! Awesome job Ben and thank you!



Leave a Legacy

for the future of DLC

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

Music Therapy Services @ DLC

We are extremely grateful to the Kids Hope Alliance who makes available access to Music Therapy with Connecting Thru Music and First Coast Music Therapy for DLC Nurse & Learn and DLC Therapy Care! Music brings all of our kids alive with music enrichment.



Connecting Thru Music



KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE
The Jacksonville Partnership
for Children, Youth & Families



The Miracle of Grant

DLC introduces you to Grant as told by his Mom:

'Grant is our miracle. Our special needs warrior. In March we celebrated World Purple Day. Purple Day is an international grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness about epilepsy worldwide.

Grant experienced seizures shortly after he was born, due to the stroke he had in utero. He was put on high doses of anti-seizure medicine after his EEG showed inconsistencies. When he came home from the NICU, he was able to ween off of one medicine, but has since been put back on a different one after experiencing infantile spasms at the end of 2019. Since then, he has not had any catastrophic epileptic episodes. His epilepsy is currently managed with two anti-seizure medicines he takes twice a day.



Grant was also officially diagnosed with Spastic Triplexia Cerebral Palsy. March is also Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month! Cerebral Palsy (CP) is a neurological condition that affects body movement and muscle coordination/tone. "Cerebral" refers to the brain and "palsy" refers to the impairment of motor function. CP is caused by a brain injury, often before birth. In Grant's case, it was the stroke he suffered in utero that "caused" his CP. The cause of the stroke is still unknown and we may never know, but as Romans 8:28 says, "...And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

In Grant's case, "spastic" means increased muscle tone - this results in stiff muscles which can make movement difficult or even impossible; "tri" means three - spastic movements in 3 limbs, typically both legs and one arm. Because the right side of his brain experienced "irreparable brain damage" and a large portion of the left side was also affected, the initial expectation was that he may never be able to move any of his limbs, much less have the function and mobility he has today.

He now can move all of his limbs, roll over on his own, and we are working on sitting without assistance! He loves standing in his stander and just received his first pair of AFOs to support his legs. We are also encouraging "Lefty" (his left hand/arm) to be more active through therapy and his new hand splint.

It has been a miracle to see Grant grow and we know there is so much more in store for our little Warrior at DLC!



DLC Nurse & Learn is now offering Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC)!



DLC Nurse & Learn - Where Anything is Possible!

100% Covered by Medicaid

<https://www.dlcnl.org/ppec.html>

DLC Teachers of the Year

Congratulations to our 2020 Teacher of the Year, Amanda Gay, and 2021 Teacher of the Year Aixa Atherton. Way to go on all of your hard work and dedication to the kids at DLC Nurse & Learn!



Amanda Gay
2020 Teacher of the Year



Aixa Atherton
2021 Teacher of the Year

DLC Volunteers of the Year

Congratulations to our 2020 Volunteer of the Year, Rob Meyer, and 2021 Volunteer of the Year, Tiffany Pellot. Congratulations Rob and Tiffany!



Rob Meyer
2020 Volunteer of the Year



Tiffany Pellot
2021 Volunteer of the Year

Welcome to the DLC Team

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



Ms. Amelia,
Teacher Assistant



Ms. Breanna,
Teacher



Ms. Josefina, RN
PPEC Nursing
Director



Ms. Leslie,
Teacher



Ms. Amari,
Teacher Assistant



Mr. Scott
Finance & HR
Director

Congratulations



Congratulations to DLC Founder and Former CEO, Amy Buggle, for her new book and memoir of her time at DLC. "Taking Care of Angels Unaware" book can be found online on Amazon and Barnes & Nobles.

Amy Buggle Scholarship Fund

Are you interested in helping special needs families have access to quality care? Here is your opportunity to do so! Make a gift TODAY to the Amy Buggle Scholarship Fund! Gifts made to the Amy Buggle Scholarship Fund will be designated to help low income special needs families with tuition to attend DLC Nurse & Learn and receive onsite therapy and nursing care.



Gifts can be sent to:
DLC Nurse & Learn
Attn. Amy Buggle Scholarship Fund
4101-1 College Street
Jacksonville, FL 32205

You can make your check payable to DLC Nurse & Learn and in the Memo section of the check, list "Scholarship Fund" and send to the aforementioned address. To make an online gift, visit our website at www.DLCNL.org. For any questions, contact Heather Corey at 904-387-0370 or email Heather.Corey@DLCNL.org.

VPK Registration is now open

Now enrolling! 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 at www.elcduval.org/voluntary-pre-k. Sign up NOW to reserve your child's spot for 2021/2022.

VPK & Preschool Graduation 2020 & 2021

Congratulations to both the classes of 2020 & 2021 of DLC's VPK, Preschool and High School Graduates! COVID did not prevent us from celebrating this milestone and honoring DLC's graduates.



DLC Executive Director, Heather Corey, and DLC's Program Director, Annalaura Scott presented VPK graduates their certificates.



- 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, the Shamrock Scavenger Hunt 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 Elizabeth Goodrich by email Elizabeth.Goodrich@dlcnl.org or by phone at 904-387-0370.



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

Make a Difference in the Life of a Child with Special Needs!

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 a handicap 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.

DLC NURSE & LEARN
www.DLCNL.org
4101-1 College Street, Jacksonville, FL 32205
Office 904-38-0370



Pick up some extra school supplies for DLC when shopping this summer.

- Crayons
- Construction paper
- Color markers and pencils
- Glue sticks
- Pocket folders with 3-prongs
- Kids paint (washable) and brushes
- Baby wipes (unscented)
- NEW children books
- Clorox/Lysol wipes
- Healthy snacks (no nuts and (kid sizes/individually)
- 100% Juice Boxes (kid sizes/individually).

Items can be dropped off at DLC, 4101-1 College Street, Jacksonville, FL 32205. For questions, email Info@DLCNL.org.



- DLC Nurse & Learn continues to rate as a 5 Star Center (highest ranking) through the Early Learning Coalition (ELC) of Duval County!
- The Guiding Stars Program of ELC is Duval County's Quality Rating and Improvement System. It is a systematic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early and school-age care and education programs. Similar to rating systems for restaurants and hotels, QRIS award quality ratings to early and school-age care and education programs that meet a set of defined program standards. By participating in their State's QRIS, early and school-age care providers embark on a path of continuous quality improvement.
- Guiding Stars of Duval (GSOD) is THE quality rating improvement system for child care providers in Duval County. DLC is proud to achieve the 5-Star Center rating AGAIN!

Serving the Special Needs and Medically Complex Community

Every day DLC Nurse & Learn and DLC Therapy & Care serves special needs, medically complex and typically developing children. Listed below are the diagnosis of the children and families we serve:

- Rett Syndrome
- Developmental Delay
- Speech Delay
- Lymphangioma
- Seizure Disorders
- Expressive Language Disorder
- Hyperactivity/ADD
- Global Delay
- Coffin Lowry Syndrome
- Gardner Syndrome
- Dysphagia
- Reynaud's Syndrome
- Noncompaction Cardiomyopathy
- PDA (Heart Murmur)
- Microcephaly
- Learning Disability
- Trisomy 8
- Thyroid Disorder
- Gastro Complications
- KAT 6A Syndrome
- Hydrocephalus w/ VP Shunt
- Autoimmune Cerebritis/PANS
- Chromosomal Disorders
- Asthma

Autism



Down Syndrome



HIE Cerebral Palsy



Epilepsy



Legally Blind

Spina Bifida



- Dandy Walker Syndrome
- Coloboma (Nonperipheral Vision)
- Congenital Heart Defects
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- Bilateral Microphthalmia

- Tracheostomy
- Gastrostomy Tube
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Failure to Thrive
- 8P Inverted Deleted Duplication
- Allan- Herndon-Dudley Syndrome
- Hypotonia
- Typically Developing



Pfeiffer Syndrome



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DLC Nurse & Learn Leadership Team

Heather R. Corey, CFRE Chief Executive Officer	
Annalaura Scott, CNA Program Director	Elizabeth Goodrich, CNA Operations Manager
Scott VanSlooten Finance & HR Director	Elisabeth Federico Physical Therapist
Sue Molina, RN Director of Nursing	Debbie Kozloski Physical Therapy Assistant
Josefina Lynn, RN Director of PPEC	Carol Reaves Occupational Therapist
Julie Roziers Program Director Therapy & Care	Magaly Perez Speech Therapist

2019-2021 Board of Directors

Aaron Logue - President City & Police Federal Credit Union	Kevin Kuzel – Vice President United States Navy, Retired
Tracy Crissman - Treasurer Retired Civil Service	Rev. Haley Eccles - Secretary Campus to City Wesley Foundation
Christela Amonkou - Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Network Realty	Rev. Silas M'Mworio Murray Hill United Methodist Church
Chris Gabbard University of North Florida	Aaron Noles Prudential Financial
Joe Honeycutt Community Volunteer	Amanda VanLaningham Family Support Services
Christine Johnson Baptist Health	

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.

