



WINTER 2022-2023

DISCOVER & LEARN

Official Newsletter of DLC Nurse & Learn



Moving Forward

Thank **you**! We are so grateful for each of **you** and how **you** have helped DLC serve so many families. The activities listed in this newsletter are made possible by **YOU**! **Your** gifts, time, donations, support and PRAYERS! In this newsletter **you** will see **your** partnership with DLC has made a tremendous difference! Because of **you**, our VPK/Preschool graduates are prepared for the next phase of learning, the Fall Festival & Christmas celebrations were filled with joy, that new community members learned more about DLC's programs and services, **you** invested in the DLC staff's professional development, and so much more! **You** have helped miracles become reality for DLC's students and families. We cannot thank **you** enough for **your** involvement and investment in DLC!

Thank you!

Thank **you** for helping make 2022 a huge year for DLC. Many milestones were achieved throughout DLC and now we look to the future for greater successes. DLC is making some big changes in 2023 and we look forward to **you** being part of the next chapter. With all of our changes, I am most grateful for a fabulous team of staff members who work tirelessly to help all of our sweet babies, children and students grow, learn, achieve, succeed and laugh! The DLC staff are a blessing for current and future generations on many levels. The commitment, compassion and can-do attitudes continue to help DLC thrive. I ask that **you** pray for each of the staff every day as they lead and partner with our precious students. Stay tuned for more updates and the new opportunities coming soon for DLC. Again, thank **you** for all **you** do for DLC! We hope you enjoy our latest newsletter - happy reading!

Sincerely, Heather

Heather R. Corey, CFRE, Chief Executive Officer



DLC 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
Thursday, April 6th

Derby & Diamonds
Saturday, May 6th

VPK & Preschool
Graduation
Thursday, June 1st

Passport to Riverside &
Avondale
Saturday, November 18th

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Spring Break
March 13-17

April 7th
Good Friday

May 29th
Memorial Day

June 19th
Juneteenth

July 4
Independence Day

DLC Nurse & Learn Serving Over 34 Years of Hope & Miracles

DLC Nurse & Learn and DLC Therapy & Care continue to serve special needs and medically complex children and families. Over the past few 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 2021-2022.

88

Total Number of Children Served

339

Total Number of Goals Set

94%

Student Goals Accomplished or Had Improvement



OVER 183,000

Units of Services Provided

OVER 90,000

Educational Classroom Hours

362

Volunteer Hours

52

Volunteers

OVER \$43,000

In Scholarships

390

Therapeutic Hours

DLC Nurse & Learn Leadership Team

Heather R. Corey, CFRE
Chief Executive Officer

Annalaura Scott, CNA
Chief Programs Officer

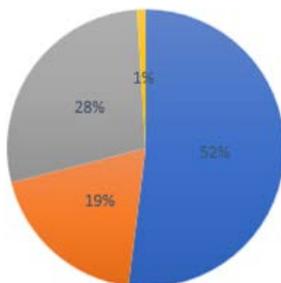
Sue Molina, RN
Director of Nursing

Carolyn Janzen, PT
Director of Therapy

Julie Roziers
Program Director
Therapy & Care

Elizabeth Goodrich, CNA
Assistant Program Director

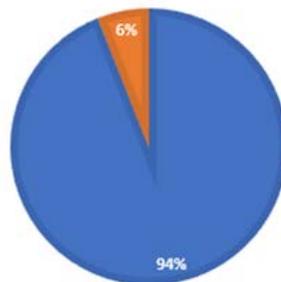
REVENUES



■ Government Grants ■ Contributions ■ Program Service Revenue ■ Events

EXPENSES

■ Program Services ■ Management & Fundraising



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

Autism



- Coffin Lowry Syndrome
- Gardner Syndrome
- Dysphagia
- Reynaud's Syndrome
- Noncompaction Cardiomyopathy
- PDA (Heart Murmur)
- Microcephaly

Down Syndrome



- Learning Disability
- Trisomy 8
- Thyroid Disorder
- Gastro Complications
- KAT 6A Syndrome
- Hydrocephalus w/ VP Shunt
- Autoimmune Cerebritis/PANS
- Chromosomal Disorders
- Asthma
- Trisomy 21

Cerebral Palsy



Epilepsy



Treacher Collins Syndrome

Spina Bifida

- Dandy Walker Syndrome
- Coloboma (Nonperipheral Vision)
- Congenital Heart Defects
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Noonan Syndrome
- Bilateral Microphthalmia
- Retinis Pigmentosa

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



Pfeiffer Syndrome

DLC 2021-2022 Graduates



Jasiah

Jasiah started attending DLC when he was 2 years old in September of 2017. During his time at DLC, he has received ST, PT & OT services. Jasiah started receiving Applied Behavior Analysis sessions through our partnership with Keepsake Learning Behavioral Center. He has had so many accomplishments throughout his time at DLC and some of those include playing and interacting with peers, communicating with teachers or other adults by telling them what he wants/needs using his PECS book (communication tool), identifying letters and numbers, sorting colors, and attending to teacher led activities. Some other things he loves are bubbles, water play, shaving cream, and running (he likes to feel the wind on his face). Please pray for Jasiah and his family as they embark on his next adventure.



Micah

Micah was enrolled by his grandmother when he was 2 years old in September of 2019. Over the years, Micah has received OT & ST services at DLC. Throughout his time here, he has learned many new life skills as well as personal social skills through the dedication of the DLC team, his family, and Micah's determination. A few of his other accomplishments this year included writing his first and last name, writing numbers 1-30, spelling simple words, speaking in clearer sentences (all the time), and learning new sign language songs. Micah is also known for his willingness to help his teachers and friends as well as his love for all things letter related, play-doh, and his awesome brothers. Micah wants to be a doctor when he grows up so he can heal people... especially his brothers. Please pray for Micah as he continues to grow, learn new things and move on to his new school.



Amiyah

Amiyah enrolled at DLC when she was 17 months old in August of 2018. Throughout her time with us at DLC, she has made so many friends in every classroom that she has gone into. Each day she comes in with a big smile on her face ready to learn... and eat her breakfast. In October 2020, she received a tracheostomy. Amiyah shifted to DLC's PPEC program, where she would receive nursing services that monitor her airway, nutritional changes, and altered skin integrity from the trach placement. Since moving to the PPEC program, Amiyah has soared educationally and physically. A few of her favorite hobbies are to play beautician, complete art projects, run around on the playground, play picnic and take care of her baby dolls. She is also a big help to the teachers in the classroom and loves to learn. She has graduated from PT services, while also still receiving ST & OT services. Amiyah has overcome so many different obstacles that have been placed in her life and we are proud to say that the DLC team has been able to watch her grow and help her reach new goals. Please pray for Amiyah as she grows and moves onto a new school. Stay sweet and keep smiling!



De'Andre

De'Andre started with DLC when he was just 6 weeks old. We watched him grow and learn until he moved away to Maryland. Lucky for DLC, he came back to Jacksonville to attend our VPK program. We were so excited to have De'Andre back and see how much he had grown since he moved away. Since being back, De'Andre has learned so many new things. A few accomplishments this year have been identifying letters and letter sounds, identifying numbers, calculating simple math problems, counting large groups of items, as well as writing his first and last name. He is known as the "Teacher's Helper", he is always quick to lend a helping hand no matter what he is doing. Some of his favorite things are having fun with his brothers, helping his friends and teachers, playing outside, telling stories, cleaning, and sports. Please pray for De'Andre and his family as he moves on to his new school and helps his new teachers. Be on the lookout for the next basketball or soccer star.



Bernard

This VPK year was our first year to get to know Bernard, or better known as BJ. BJ has been an awesome addition to our DLC family. BJ is a student who you can count on knowing the classroom routine. Each morning, BJ arrives to DLC and takes his lunch out of his lunch box, washes his hands, and is ready for the day. He is quick to help his teachers with activities as well as his friends when they need a little extra help. BJ tells us that he loves to help people, he loves his family, and he loves his friends. A few things BJ has accomplished this year include counting from 1 to 30, identifying the letters in his first name, memorizing songs and the sign language that goes along with them, and tracing letters in his first and last name. Please pray for BJ as he moves on to his new school and makes new friends. BJ, we will be praying for you and know that you will do awesome things!

DLC 2021-2022 Graduates

Abigail started attending DLC when she was 1 year old, April of 2018. Abigail was diagnosed with Spina Bifida and received spinal surgery at just 1 day old. When she first started with us, she was just attempting to sit up on her own for short periods of time. She was not crawling; mainly rolling around and sitting up slightly. On her very first day, you could tell she was sad once her mom left. However, she would give us the sweetest little smile and a slight head turn. Believe it or not, she still has the same sweet smile and that little head turn. She has received ST, OT & PT services throughout the years at DLC. A child whose family was told she could possibly never walk, NOW has sat up on her own, started crawling, pulling up to stand unassisted, utilized a stander with wheels, navigated a walker to get her where she needed to go, and utilized crutches (GoGo sticks) for independent walking. Just this year, Abby endured a double hip surgery where she was placed back into a wheel chair for 6 weeks of healing, to now walking again with one GoGo! All we can say is that God is good all the time and this sweet girl has so much determination. Abby's other accomplishments this year are writing her first name independently, as well as identifying letters in her first and last name. Some of her favorite things are playing dress up, coloring, painting, playing with babies, and having fun with her family, especially her baby sister, Brooklynn. Abby says she wants to be a Police Officer when she grows up because they keep us safe! One thing that you will never forget when you meet Abby is her sweet smile and personality. Please pray for Abby and her family as she continues to grow and experience new things.



Abigail



Markus

Markus started with DLC when he was 3 years old in May of 2020. Markus has received OT & ST services at DLC. He more recently started receiving Applied Behavioral Analysis services this year. Markus has made so many accomplishments this year. One large accomplishment is utilizing his PECS book (communication picture book) effectively to tell staff and teachers what his needs and wants are. He is able to locate his book anywhere in the classroom and can pick the appropriate picture and hand it to a specific person to obtain the object or action that he wants. Markus loves to jump, run, swing, play with friends in the kitchen center and solve simple problems. Other accomplishments he made this year are following along in his circle time book to identify colors, days of the week, months of the year, numbers, letters, and emotions, following one step directions, and performing signs to the corresponding song. Markus, we will be praying for you as you transition, meet new teachers, and new friends. Stay spirited!



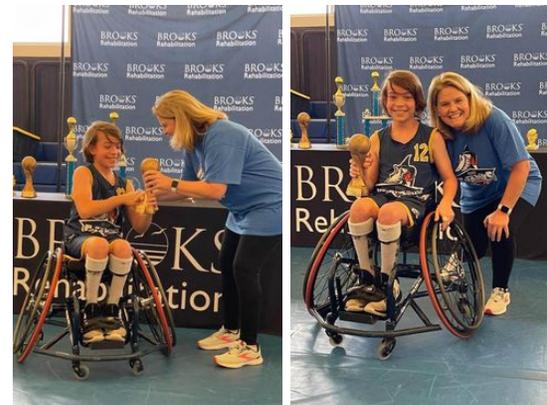
Nathaniel "Nate"

Our buddy, Nate, has officially graduated as a Senior from Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center and attends DLC Therapy & Care. Nate has been attending DLC since he was very young. He received ST, PT & OT services, and over the years, we have watched Nate learn new things and grow each day. His Senior class awarded him with the Most Handsome Graduate award and boy do we agree! He is always dressed well head to toe, and when we say toe... we mean he wears the coolest shoes! His shoes light up on the bottom so that he can match every outfit he wears! Nate loves to listen to music, watch movies with friends, and give high fives to his favorite teachers. Some accomplishments Nate has made this year at DLC are following simple directions during music therapy, holding the musical instruments and assisting the teachers when transitioning into different positions throughout the day. We also want to give a special recognition to his awesome family that go above and beyond for Nate. He has such an amazing family that takes the time to do special things with him. You guys are rock stars! Please pray for Nate as he transitions into his new class Post High School at Mt. Herman. Nate, we are proud of all the accomplishments you have made this year and we know you are going to continue working hard, learning new things, and being the best dressed at school!

Former DLC Student participates in Basketball Tournament!

Check out former DLC student, Liam, who recently participated in the inaugural **Brooks Borne to Play Classic Junior Wheelchair Basketball Tournament** for athletes from 6-18 years old. Last fall Liam also completed the 2 mile run at the **Gate River Run**.

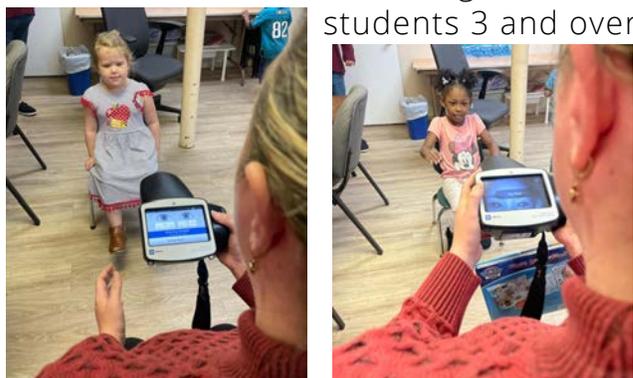
Not all heroes wear capes. Some have Spina Bifida whose parents were told he would never walk. Liam's mom Cinda was just 18 weeks pregnant when they diagnosed him with Spina Bifida. During her pregnancy doctors performed a spinal closure in utero (what a miracle). Liam was born at 33 weeks and stayed 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. Now, he is running 2 miles and competing in basketball tournaments. That's a hero!



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

Vision Is Priceless

DLC partners with Vision is Priceless to offer free vision screenings for our students 3 and over.



Connecting Thru Music



DLC partners with Connecting Thru Music for weekly music therapy for all ages.



DLC hosts Speech Therapy Intern



DLC recently hosted Ms. Lia, a Speech Therapy Intern, where she spent time with students working on speech goals and shared this with DLC staff:

What are you currently working on? I am currently a graduate student at New York University in the M.S. in Communicative Sciences and Disorders program.

What have you enjoyed the most at DLC? I have really enjoyed working with the students and getting to learn/ work alongside my supervisor Lauren (DLC Speech Therapist). She has a huge passion for the field and for the students here and it's definitely rubbed off on me. Overall meeting everyone at DLC has been a huge blessing, I could not have asked for a better first clinical rotation.

What do you want to do in the future? I'm not entirely sure what setting I want to work in, but I would love to continue working in pediatrics.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



- 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, the Valentine's Day Dance, Easter Egg Hunt and more!
- A regular and reliable reading buddy for during the week in the classroom (must be able to pass a background check).
- Quarterly or monthly volunteers to help maintain the DLC grounds (playgrounds, walkways, etc.)

Let us know how you can help!

Thank you to all of DLC's Volunteers who help throughout the year!



For more information or to sign up, contact Sarah Leitch by email sarah.leitch@dlcnl.org or by phone at 904-387-0370.

Fall Festival at DLC

Thank you to everyone who helped make DLC's 2022 Annual Fall Festival fun and memorable.

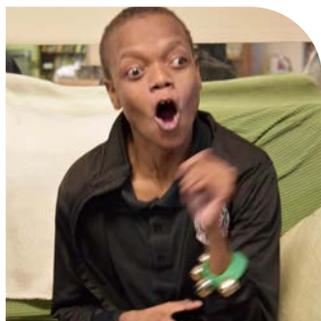


Thank you to the Volunteers, Parents, Families, DLC Board Members, Connecting Thru Music, and Staff who helped make DLC's Fall Festivals a great success. Special thank you to the **501st Florida Garrison Star Wars costuming organization** for joining us and making it a great festival.



Christmas at DLC

Thank you to everyone who helped make DLC's 2022 Annual Christmas Parties a magical moment.



Thank you to all of the groups who helped make Christmas at DLC an exciting time for all: **Trevor & Marissa Lawrence, the Jacksonville Jaguars, Amazon DJX2, Cathy Rushing, Agape Baptist Church, Baileys Medical Equipment** and **Tracy Crissman** who donated gifts to make Christmas at DLC a wonderful time of year. Thank you!



Thank you to **Joe and Suzanne Honeycutt** who stopped by DLC to help Santa and the elves with Christmas this year. We are extremely grateful for them volunteering their time with DLC. Check out the photos of DLC's Christmas celebrations on our Facebook page.

Stressed Out Children **By Ashley Dallis, DLC Teacher**



Stress, by definition, is tension or pressure of an object. Everyone will have to deal with some sort of stress throughout their lives and they will be expected to know how to overcome it. We can all recall a time we were stressed; how it made us feel and how we dealt with it. Now, let's think about children. Can children effectively communicate they are stressed? Young children cannot tell us they feel stressed; they show us in various different ways.

According to MedlinePlus, stress in childhood can be caused in any setting that a child has to adapt to or in a setting that causes a change. We often think of stress as all negative, although some positive changes can cause stress as well. For instance, starting a new routine, such as the first day of daycare or preschool. Negative changes cause negative stress; such as a death in the family. Even very small changes can cause stress in children. These changes can directly affect how children feel, act, think and process information.

Stress can be both a motivator and also overwhelming. Some studies show there is a link between children who attend childcare facilities and stress. Childcare providers should be aware of stressors or possible stressors that may affect the children in their care. Being proactive and having a plan to help and support the children will assist in reducing stress in childhood.

Some signs of stress in childhood are:

- Sadness
- Emotional outburst: crying, tantrums, aggressiveness
- Illnesses: stomachaches, headaches, vomiting
- Changes in appetite or bowel movements
- Changes in sleep patterns
- Avoidance
- Thumb-sucking or other self-soothing techniques

Tips to help children cope with stress:

- Have a schedule and establish a routine
- Stay calm
- Allow the child to have breaks (or a calm down/ quiet area)
- Give extra hugs and smiles
- Try to decrease stressors (if known)
- Communication and reassurance
- Maintain healthy eating habits
- Maintain a healthy sleep routine (preschoolers need about 10-13 hours a sleep a day)

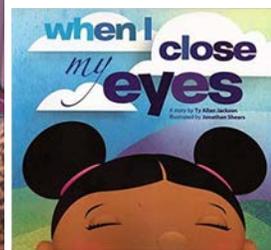


References and for more information:

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<https://kidshealth.org/en/kids/stress.html>

Children's Author visits DLC

This past summer, in partnership with the Kids Hope Alliance, author **Ty Allan Jackson** visited DLC and read his book "When I close my eyes."



VPK Registration is now open Sign up your 4 year old today for VPK in the Fall

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 2023/2024. License #C04DU0129



Tummy Time Isn't Just for Babies Shared by Carolyn Janzen, PT, DLC Director of Therapy

It is recommended that babies spend supervised play time on their tummies to help decrease the risk of plagiocephaly, encourage reaching and increase muscle strengthening in the shoulders and arms. Prone positioning also increases core stability. Try laying on your belly in prone with both arms extended (aka cobra pose). Let me tell you not only will you get an excellent stretch, upper extremity weight bearing and strengthening but you will also be tightening your core muscles to maintain the position. Tummy time isn't just for babies.



Here are 5 tips to encourage tummy time for all ages:

1. Since its easier to prevent problems before they occur, it is very important for babies to spend supervised time on their bellies each day. Get down on the floor and play with baby. Talk, smile and model how to use toys. Hold your baby whenever possible. Have the baby sit on your lap, lay on your chest, or lay on his/her belly over your lap. Try holding your baby in different positions instead of just in a cradle hold such as up on your shoulder or in a football hold. All of these positions and interactions will benefit baby to increase muscle strength, emotional bonds, socialization and overall motor skill development.
 2. During the toddler years, encourage the child to play simple games on his/her belly or even on all fours. Set up obstacle courses where the child has to crawl from station to station.
 3. For preschoolers, introduce some simple yoga poses. The cobra, downward dog, plank, cat/camel and crab pose are a few to start with that will encourage upper extremity and core strengthening. Perhaps the pre-k teacher can have the children listen to a story laying on their bellies on the floor.
 4. For school aged children, try reading in prone on elbows. Watch a television show leaning on your forearms on your belly instead of slumped on the couch. Do wheelbarrow walking over a big ball.
 5. Adults need belly time too! Trust me, if you lay on the floor in prone on extended arms you will feel an amazing stretch. Try reading on your belly. Take a break from the phone or tablet in sitting and lay on your belly on the floor to use it. I am convinced we are going to change the human structure of the spine if we all continue to stay so hunched over our phones or computers.
- Tummy time isn't just for babies!



Source: <https://www.yourtherapysource.com/>



Leave a Legacy

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 or would like more information, please contact at Heather@dlcnl.org or 904-387-0370, ext. 103.

If you have already made arrangements for DLC in your estate, let us know! Email Heather@dlcnl.org to share your DLC story.



Sign up to be a monthly partner with DLC! Make a monthly gift to DLC to help provide support for scholarships for special needs and medically complex children. You can sign up to give monthly on our website at www.DLCNL.org.

Preparing for Easter 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 Lenten Box! The kids at DLC have decorated a Lenten Box just for YOU to collect change for scholarships at DLC.

Three easy steps to get started:

1. Email or call today to reserve your box (boxes) to Heather@DLCNL.org or at 904-387-0370, Ext 103.
2. Arrange for a Lent Box pick up from DLC (4101, 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 3rd to DLC or for bulk box collection, arrange for pick up.

Did you know you can designate DLC in your workplace United Way Campaign?



If your company participates in the United Way employee giving campaign each year, you can designate DLC Nurse & Learn as your preferred charity. During the annual enrollment period you can identify DLC as your charity of choice on the back of the form or in the UW portal. You can also designate DLC to receive your Company's matching gifts, if available. Check with your HR department about company matching gifts and when your next UW enrollment season is open. For any questions, contact Heather at 904-387-0370 or at Heather@DLCNL.org.

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, Jax., 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.



Students love summer at DLC

Since our inception we have hosted fun in the sun summer care at DLC. This past summer was no different! Students enjoyed the petting zoo, horse & buggy rides, water day, bubble time, sno-cones and more!



DLC continues to celebrate our annual Easter Egg Hunt and the birth of our Lord and Savior.



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
 - John 3:16

DLC continues to celebrate our annual Thanksgiving Feast with Friends and be grateful for all of our blessings from the Lord.

I will give thanks
to you, LORD,
with all my heart;
I will tell of
all your
wonderful deeds.
- Psalms 9:1



Fill the Classroom Campaign Leaving the love of literacy for the next generation.

Join DLC Nurse & Learn and Board Member Tracy Crissman as we honor Lauren Marie Ashley in her legacy to make a difference for the next generation.

Lauren Marie Ashley was born on June 13, 1994 and from the beginning with her first breath, her family knew she was going to make a difference. At the young age of five, Lauren began to complain of eye pain. During a stressful visit to the eye doctor, her family was informed of the worst fear. The family was initially told that Lauren had a brain tumor, yet the source of her pain shifted to the diagnosis of Pseudotumor Cerebri or Intracranial Hypertension (IH). This is a rare disease that causes the body to produce too much cerebral spinal fluid and pushes up on the optic nerves, causing severe headaches and damage to the optic nerves.

Lauren and her family had endured over 40 surgeries and hundreds and hundreds of days in the hospital in a little over 15 years. Rarely did a week go by that Lauren didn't have a doctor's appointment or emergency room visit. Throughout all this, Lauren kept a smile on her face and rarely complained. She was not going to allow her disease to "own her".

She was determined to live her life to the fullest as an example to others, even with such a deadly diagnosis! She made a commitment to share the gift of literacy and read to children who were inpatients at the Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Lauren also participated in two medical mission team trips to Mexico and attended Chrysalis, which is a spiritual journey for young girls. Lauren was on a mission for a servant's heart!

Lauren had just returned from a meeting for her next mission trip when she became ill and sadly, passed away at the young age of 22 from complications of Intracranial Hypertension on November 21, 2016. She had a heart of gold and never stopped trying to serve.

Before her passing, she shared with her Aunt, Tracy Crissman, DLC Board member, that her favorite verse was "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11. She knew her plans were to continue to serve others in the future but what she may not have realized at the time was who, what and where.

Lauren briefly lived in Jacksonville and knew how it felt to feel ill with such a debilitating disease but still wanting to do so much in life. Many of DLC's students know first hand about limitations placed on them but still just want to be a kid in all they do.

In honor of her love of the Lord, Learning and Literacy, Tracy and her family invite you to support DLC by contributing to our Classroom Campaign to help raise funds to purchase books for DLC's medically complex and special needs students through DLC's Lauren Ashley Scholastic Online Classroom Campaign. Go to <http://bit.ly/40GXSAL> to give.

DLC on the move and out in the community

Last fall DLC hosted the inaugural **Topgolf & Tacos** with new friends and familiar faces.



Thank you to our Sponsors!

<p>on the green sponsor</p> <p><i>Joe & Suzanne Honeycutt</i></p>	<p>ace sponsors</p> <p>City & Police FEDERAL CREDIT UNION</p> <p>iventure Business Friendly IT</p> <p>121 Financial CREDIT UNION</p>	<p>eagle sponsors</p> <p>GED LAWYERS, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW</p> <p><i>Chris Gabbard & Allison Sample</i></p>
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This December, DLC participated in the Avondale Luminary event. We continue to partner with the St. Johns Flower Market during the event with live music, chili and catching up with former students.

DLC Volunteers hosted a **Shop & Sip** with friends in collaboration with *Leila's Fashion* in San Marco. Guests shopped, sipped and socialized with new friends with a portion of the sales benefiting DLC.



YOU ARE INVITED

DEVELOPMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

INVITES YOU TO

Derby & Diamonds

a Kentucky Derby Watch Party featuring

drawing to win luxury diamond studs
top shelf bourbon pull
silent auction
race day chances to win, place or show

MAY 6, 2023 | 5 PM - 8 PM
SAN JOSE COUNTRY CLUB

HOSTED BY MIKE BURESH
ACTION NEWS JAX

\$100 PER PERSON
[HTTPS://WWW.DERBYANDDIAMONDS.COM](https://www.derbyanddiamonds.com)

LIVE MUSIC ♦ HAT & BOWTIE CONTESTS ♦ MINT JULEPS ♦ DERBY-INSPIRED BITES

Jacksonville's Developmental Learning Center is a faith-based nonprofit that provides on-site nursing, education and therapy for children with special needs and medical complexities.

www.dlcnl.org

~ Sponsors Committed to Date ~

Suzanne and Joe Honeycutt
Sang-Woo Pak, Pediatric General Surgery, Nemours Children's Health
The Hearn Group brokered by eXp Realty / First Coast Mortgage
The Haskell Company
Miriam's Jewelry
Satellite Evening Club of Southpoint Rotary
Addie Kasraeian, Dogtopia Jacksonville Southbank
The Tile Market of San Marco
Regina Runs Real Estate
Allison Sample
Heather and David Corey

Mr. and Mrs. William Crissman
Crown Pools
J. Riley Williams
Ashlea Joplin and Bradford Ezell
Anissa Harmon
Mae Cannon and Liz Page
Dr. Kristin Taylor, Program Director -
Musculoskeletal Imaging Fellowship,
UF Jacksonville, Radiology
Motto Mortgage Impact

Welcome to the DLC Team!

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



Ms. Sarah,
Program Assistant



Ms. Lauren,
Speech Therapist



Ms. Carolyn,
Physical Therapist,
Director of Therapy



Ms. Rylee,
PPEC Teacher Assistant

WE ARE HIRING

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

Happy Anniversary!

DLC Staff with 5+ years of service



Ms. Ashley,
18 Years



Ms. Aixa,
14 Years



Ms. Laura,
12 Years



Ms. Amanda,
10 Years



Ms. Gwen,
10 Years



Ms. Elizabeth,
8 Years



Ms. Julie,
6 Years



Ms. Aaliyah,
5 Years

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



New Board Member
Kalynn Franklin,
Miller Electric
Company



New Board Member
Ellen Light,
Baptist Health
System

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Dr. Chris Gabbard, DLC 2022 Volunteer of the Year!

Thank you for your time, commitment, advocacy, love, support and dedication to the special needs community.



Aaron Noles,
President,
Prudential Financial



Tracy Crissman
Vice President/
Treasurer,
Community
Volunteer



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



Dr. Chris Gabbard
University of
North Florida



Monica Gold,
Duval County
Public Schools



Joe Honeycutt,
Community
Volunteer



Chelsea Robinson,
RE-SMART



Allison Sample,
Community
Volunteer



Terri Thomas,
City & Police Federal
Credit Union





DLC NURSE & LEARN
 4101-1 College Street, Jacksonville, FL 32205
 Tel: (904) 387-0370 Fax: (904) 387-0156
 E-mail: info@dlcnl.org www.DLCNL.org

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Just like Me Meet Mr. Reenard, DLC Teacher Assistant

Mr. Reenard, DLC Teacher Assistant, knows first hand the impact DLC is making. As a Jacksonville native college student attending UNF, he is involved in over 10 clubs on the campus, working part time, oldest sibling of 3, with parents from Belize and **he was also born with Cerebral Palsy**. He is listed in the "Hall of Miracle Babies" at Shands, is currently studying International Studies in Spanish and is passionate about people, culture and where they come from. He learned about DLC through the *Campus to City Wesley Foundation*, through Rev. Haley Eccles (DLC Board Member) and joined the team to help others have a voice. Reenard had a hard time finding friends while growing up due to his cerebral palsy but feels like DLC is home because he loves how DLC is accepting of everyone and teaches 'where anything is possible.' He knows how it feels to have had multiple surgeries, wanting to grow up to be independent and be like everyone else. He knows his special need is apart of his identity and longs for everyone to treat him and other special needs kids just like anyone else - equal and not judged. Reenard is strong in his faith and really enjoys being able to worship raw and authentically and wants others to know that there is a home for special needs kids - just like him - at DLC. Reenard loves that DLC is "developing leaders" and hopes everyone knows that every "life is a gift" and that we shouldn't take it for granted. Please say hello to Mr. Reenard the next time you are on the DLC Campus.



*Petway Family
 Foundation*

The Lucy Gooding Charitable
 Foundation Trust



*Jack & Betty Demetree
 Family Foundation*