Celebrating 60 Years

2015 ANNUAL REPORT
I am honored to present the 2015 Annual Report. This year, we began the celebration of the Center for Autism’s 60th Anniversary and continue to provide vital autism services to more than 1,000 individuals and families.

In reflecting on the organization’s 60-year history, I must acknowledge the lifelong work of our founder, Dr. Bertram A. Ruttenberg. His dedication to helping people with autism thrive in their community gives true meaning to the Center’s tagline of “better outcomes for life.” In 1955, few people knew what autism was, and even fewer physicians were dedicated to autism treatment. Dr. Ruttenberg was a visionary with a cutting edge treatment philosophy. His focus on incorporating the entire family and community in an individual’s treatment brought a unique component to a person’s therapy, one in which their success outside of a treatment center was considered. Dr. Ruttenberg’s commitment to empowering families to be involved in their loved one’s therapy and giving them the tools to do so is at the core of the Center’s programs to this day. We are honored to have Dr. Ruttenberg continue to serve on our Board of Directors and lend his expertise to the organization.

In celebrating this anniversary year, I would also like to acknowledge our Board of Directors, staff and donors. Without the support the Center receives from you, we would not be the successful organization we are today. Our Board of Directors provides strategic leadership that guides the organization’s growth. Our staff, whose expertise is unparalleled, is the reason for each child’s success while in our care. And to our donors, your financial support allows us to continually develop our services and serve more people in new ways. I thank each and every one of you for your loyalty and look forward to your continued support.

Best,

David M. Maola, Esq.
The Center for Autism sincerely appreciates the generous contributions that help us continue providing better outcomes for life. Each donor is extremely important to us, and we apologize for any errors or omissions on this list.

Our Donors
July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

The Center for Autism

**MISSION**
To improve the quality of life for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families.

**VALUES**
• Individuality
• Community
• Dignity
• Innovation
• Awareness
• Professionalism

**VISION**
To be a leading provider for individualized, evidence-based autism services.

**Services**
• Evaluation & Assessment: offered to people of all ages to determine an initial diagnosis or confirm a previous diagnosis, identify additional conditions/disorders, assess level of functioning, and make appropriate recommendations for services.
• Pre-K Program: an intensive program for children ages 2-5 years old that improves communication, disruptive behaviors, self-regulation and social interaction.
• First Friends Program: a treatment program that is focused on improving socialization and communication, particularly with peers, for children up to 6 years old.
• Early Explorers Program: a program for children ages 2 to 4 years old that have recently received an autism diagnosis.
• Social Competency Program: an afterschool program designed to develop and facilitate social competency skills in children and adolescents ages 6 to 16 years old.
• Outpatient Program: individualized one-on-one, family and group therapy for people of all ages.
• Saturday Program: a weekly program for teens and young adults that focuses on teaching pre-vocational and independent life skills.

**Quality of Care**
• Comprehensive and continual assessment of needs
• Individualized treatment plans
• Multidisciplinary, relationship-based approach
• Small treatment groups
• Experienced, dedicated clinicians

**Better Outcomes**
• Develop and improve communication
• Establish important relationships
• Build meaningful social interaction
• Improve behaviors that interfere with success
• Overcome challenges in sensory processing
• Learn skills to thrive in school and in the community

**Family Involvement**
• Participate as full partners in the therapeutic process
• Receive support and education
• Learn to navigate systems and advocate for the future
• Collaborate with agencies to ensure a comprehensive approach

**DONORS**

**Annual Fund**
Access Sports Experiences
Mrs. Elizabeth Acton
Mr. Chris Acton
Adventure Aquarium
Mr. James G. Allen
AmazonSmile
Mr. Anthony Ambrosini
Anonymous
Arey Institute of Executive Education
ATM Employee Giving Campaign
Mr. Michael Barilla
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Mr. Dave Caddick, Sr.
Caddick Construction Co., Inc.
Ms. Javell Cammisa
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Center for Foot & Ankle Disorders
Ms. Chimette R. Certea
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Combined Federal Campaign - Overseas
Combined Federal Campaign - Eastern PA & South NJ
Dr. Sean P. Conroy
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Ms. Jackie Cooper
Mr. Michael Costantini
Mr. George Costanzo
Ms. Ericka K. Crumbley
Ms. Priscilla Cushing Conrger
Dr. Ernest J. Dellheim
Dr. Ernest J. Dellheim
Ms. Ericka K. Crumbley
Mr. Jackie Cooper
Ms. Roger W. Conroy
Dr. David M. Ellis
Mr. Sir Guz Epps
Mr. Domenic Ezez
Mrs. Sana L. Farmer
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Ms. Lindsey Fox
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Good Charity, Inc.
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Homewood Suites by Hilton Newtown
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Mr. Joseph Minicci
Ms. Harlean Minster
Mr. and Mrs. James F. Mitchell III
Mr. John Mitchell
Mr. Alex Moise
Ms. Jose Juan Montoya
Mr. Robert J. Murphy, Jr.
Commonwealth Grants $1 Million

The Center for Autism was pleased to announce this year that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania awarded a $1 million Economic Initiative Grant (EIG) to help fund the expansion of its Northeast Philadelphia location at 2801 Grant Avenue. To honor this significant contribution, Governor Tom Corbett visited the Center for Autism on December 15 to accept a certificate of appreciation, tour the facility and give children in the program holiday gifts. He also met with the Board of Directors and employees of the Center for Autism and viewed the renderings of the plan for expansion.

“The funds from the Commonwealth will have a significant impact on our ability to serve the growing number of individuals and families who need autism services in the Philadelphia community,” said David M. Maola, Esq., Chief Executive Officer of the Center for Autism. “As we prepare to celebrate the Center’s 60th anniversary in 2015, Governor Corbett’s commitment to our organization’s future further supports the vital role we have in helping people with Autism Spectrum Disorder.”

The Center for Autism will use awarded EIG funds to renovate additional space in the facility, which will allow the organization to provide 350 more evaluations each year and serve 270 more individuals and families through its various treatment programs. The Economic Initiative Grant Program is administered by the Office of the Budget for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational and historical improvement projects.

Financial Report
July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

The Center for Autism had another great year ending June 30, 2015. The Center had total support and revenue of $14,984,977 compared to $13,971,842 for the year ended June 30, 2014. The Center’s largest expense item is personnel, which is directly related to our high therapist to client ratio within the treatment programs. Most of the Center’s support and revenue is fee for service, in addition to grants, donations and fundraising events. The Center for Autism showed an increase in net assets of $688,054 in 2015 versus an increase in net assets of $624,254 in 2014. The Center also paid down approximately $286,000 in bank loans.

SUPPORT AND REVENUE
Medical assistance and insurance 14,422,512
Services rendered 283,289
Fundraising & Donations 187,599
Investment returns 34,377
Grants* 57,200
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE 14,984,977

EXPENSES
Personnel expenses, including consultants 10,751,940
Occupancy 914,251
Office supplies and administration 218,959
Personnel expenses, including consultants 10,751,940
Communications/Equipment rental & maintenance 293,278
Depreciation and amortization 277,449
Bad debt expense 22,736
Interest expense 52,003
Administration & fundraising 1,563,667
TOTAL EXPENSES 14,298,923

INCREASE IN NET ASSETS 698,054
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR 4,683,164
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR 5,369,218

*The Commonwealth’s $1 million grant is not included in this year’s financial statement due to accounting rules. This grant will be included in the FY16 financial statement.

The unaudited financial information set forth above is preliminary and subject to adjustments and modifications. Adjustments and modifications to the financial statements may be identified during the course of the audit work, which could result in significant differences from this preliminary unaudited financial information.

The Center for Autism is a registered nonprofit organization exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the Center are tax-deductible as provided to the extent of the law. Official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.
8th Annual Golf Outing Raises $26,600

On Tuesday, June 9, 2015 the Center held its 8th Annual Golf Outing at RiverCrest Golf Club and Preserve in Phoenixville, PA. There were 80 golfers participating in the event, which raised $26,600 to support the Center’s evaluation and treatment services. Event highlights included a putting contest, Hole in One prizes, silent auction and more. A special thanks to all of our sponsors & donors, especially Firsttrust Bank, CBIZ MHM, Devon Construction, Caddick Construction, and Capital Solutions.

Thomas
H! My name is Thomas and I am 11 years old. I have been attending the Social Competency Program since September 2011. I am very friendly and I genuinely enjoy talking to others about all different types of things. Before starting the Social Competency Program, I didn’t really have friends that I could talk to or play with, but I did have my family. Now, I have a lot of friends with whom I can talk and play! I know the names of many kids and therapists in my program, and when someone is missing I’m the first to notice and ask about them. I have learned so many skills like sharing, waiting my turn to speak, trying new things, and that I can’t always just talk to the adults — now I want to talk to my friends too!

Felix
My name is Felix. I am 5 years old. I have been attending the First Friends Program since September 2012. I love super heroes and action figures and will excitedly share my collection with you! When I first started at the Center I had few words, I was not very interested in my peers and wasn’t really sure how to play with them. Now I have many words and lots of things to say. I am friendly, outgoing and could play for hours. This will be my last year in the First Friends Program because this fall I will start kindergarten. While I will miss my friends and therapists at the Center, I know that I am ready for this exciting transition. I’m off to learn new things and I know there’s nothing I can’t handle!
DONORS

3rd Annual Winter Classic Hockey Game continued

Santino’s Dragon Drawings presented its first donation to the Center on Tuesday, June 2, 2015. The donation of $2,500 represents the proceeds from Santino’s t-shirt sales and a matching donation from the Center for Foot & Ankle Disorders in Philadelphia. Pictured left to right: Bethany Barney, Manager of Outpatient Therapy Services, Lisa Stagliano, Santino Stagliano, Mario Stagliano, and David Maola, Chief Executive Officer.

Santino’s Dragons

In April, Santino Stagliano, a 10 year old boy with autism from South Philadelphia, started designing dragon t-shirts to sell to a few family and friends. Santino attends the Outpatient Program at the Center and previously attended the Social Competency Program. Drawing the dragon is a way for Santino to feel better about a bad day. When his mom, Lisa, posted about the shirts on Facebook the word spread quickly, and over the next few weeks orders were pouring in. Since then, his orders have grown into the thousands and have shipped all over the world. Santino’s Dragon Drawings presented its first donation to the Center on Tuesday, June 2, 2015. The donation of $2,500 represents the proceeds from Santino’s t-shirt sales and a matching donation from the Center for Foot & Ankle Disorders in Philadelphia. Pictured left to right: Bethany Barney, Manager of Outpatient Therapy Services, Lisa Stagliano, Santino Stagliano, Mario Stagliano, and David Maola, Chief Executive Officer.

Grateful for the progress he has made during his time at the Center, Santino and his family generously decided to donate proceeds to the Center and host community initiatives for families affected by autism. His mission is to help other children with Autism Spectrum Disorder “find their dragon.”

3rd Annual Winter Classic Raises $22,000

On Saturday, January 17, 2015 the Center hosted its 3rd Annual Winter Classic, a charity hockey game vs. the Philadelphia Flyers Alumni. Held at IceWorks Skating Complex in Aston, PA, the event drew more than 350 attendees who helped raise over $22,000 for the Center for Autism’s evaluation and treatment services. The Center for Autism Puzzlers, a team comprised of friends and donors, battled against legendary Flyers including Bob Kelly, Joe Watson, Brian Propp, Rob MacInnis, Ray Allison and others. The Flyers Alumni won with a final score of 5-3, and a great time was had by all who participated. Additionally, the Phillie Phanatic dropped the official puck at the start of the game, and the Flyers very own Lou Nolan was the event announcer. The event also featured a silent auction, 50/50 raffle, Chuck a Puck contest, autograph signing & player meet & greet. We look forward to seeing you at the 4th Annual Winter Classic on February 20, 2016.
By The Numbers

How Your Donation Helps...

$10 provides one week of integrated occupational therapy to a child in the Early Explorers Program.

$50 provides weekly Tasting Time program supplies for the First Friends Program. Tasting Time works to expose children to new healthy food with a variety of tastes, textures and colors.

$475 purchases an occupational therapy swing, which helps children in their sensory integration therapy.

$500 provides cutting-edge tablet technology to help a child in the Pre-K Program improve communication and build relationships with peers.

$1,000 sends the children in the Saturday and Social Competency Programs on a field trip to help practice new skills in a real-world setting.

$1,750 provides a critical diagnostic evaluation for an uninsured child.

$2,500 purchases safety mats for the gross motor rooms, which need to be replaced every 2 years.

$75 provides yearly curriculum and program supplies for an individual in the Social Competency Program.

$225 provides one year of integrated speech therapy to help a child learn to communicate his wants and needs.

...and Who We Serve

63 individuals and families received treatment in the Outpatient Program.

70% of the people we serve live below the federal poverty level.

79% served were male.

81% of the population we serve are ethnic minorities.

8 is the average age of an individual who received an evaluation.

58 is the age of the oldest person who received an evaluation.

275 phone calls each month from people seeking services or resources.

556 individuals received an evaluation.

104 children ages 2-5 years old were treated in the Pre-K Program.

36 children under the age of 6 attended the First Friends Program.

144 children and teens received treatment in the Social Competency Program.

24 young adults attended the Saturday Program.

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The Center for Autism is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and an equal opportunity employer and service provider.