



Children's TLC
THERAPEUTIC LEARNING CENTER

*Helping children
soar in today's world.*

**Meet Ater, a
2014 graduate of
our therapeutic
preschool program.**



3101 Main Street, Kansas City, MO 64111 • 816-756-0780 • www.childrenstlc.org

THE FLYER

SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER

The flyer is the official newsletter of Children's Therapeutic Learning Center. Our logo features the familiar bluebird as a symbol of our history of helping young children soar beyond their disabilities.

Ater Deng began attending Children's TLC as a 2-year-old. Now, as he is quickly approaching age five, Ater has made incredible gains over the past few years, including growing...he might actually be the tallest 4-year-old to have ever attended our program! Since beginning at Children's TLC, Ater has increased his communication skills dramatically. Ater's academic achievements include learning how to write his full name, recognizing his personal information, identifying all letters of the alphabet and recalling events in sequential order. He has also improved his social skills and is more successful at engaging in play with peers and adults. He especially enjoys seeing the new faces of classroom volunteers. Some of his favorite activities include singing and dancing to music, telling jokes, and using the classroom smartboard.

"The Children's TLC social worker, Tara, was instrumental in providing our family emotional support and outside resources. I was also able to reproduce techniques by sitting in on my son's therapy sessions." - Gieselle, Ater's mother

We are proud of Ater's accomplishments and are excited to see what his future brings for him. **Read more about our other graduates and the skills they obtained while attending our therapeutic preschool on page 4.**

Executive Director Note

Get the latest agency news from our Executive Director.

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What exactly is ABA and how does it work?

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Congrats, Graduates!

Meet our other six children graduating this spring.

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3 Ways to Get Involved

Simple actions make a big impact.

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NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Patti considers parents of young children with special needs to be her heroes.

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Throughout its 67 year history, Children's TLC has been known for high-quality therapy services for children and an evolving program structure that consistently meet community needs. We began as a service for just 12 children with a single disability housed in a tiny classroom at St. Luke's Hospital. Today, we are serving more than 300 children each year with a wide-array of disabilities and delays in multiple locations across the metro area. Children's TLC continually evolves and grows to serve Kansas City.

During this fiscal year we have continued that tradition by expanding program offerings in our outpatient therapy clinic to reach more local families. Extended therapy hours, a comprehensive team of highly skilled therapists and our central location at 31st and Main, make us even more desirable to families with busy lives. **Outpatient therapy clinic appointments are available from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. to serve a variety of schedules.** In addition to our exceptional therapy services, what sets us apart from many other programs is the fact that our physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists work together to form an inclusive therapy program for each child's specific needs. We also partner with parents to help them continue these important techniques at home.

Since expanding these services last fall, we have more than doubled the number of children served through this program. As interest in this program grows and demand for therapy sessions increases we will continue to evolve our outpatient clinic offerings to meet the needs of our community.

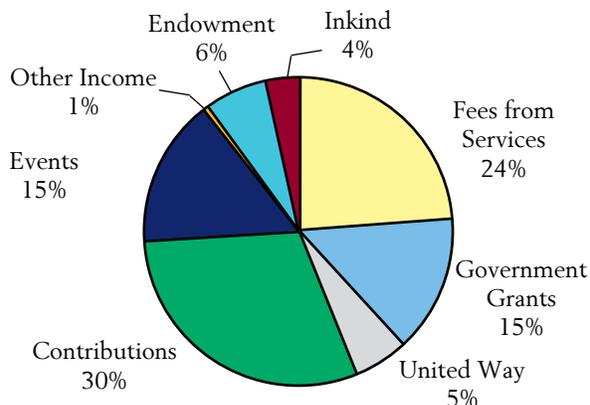
We are proud that through these expanded outpatient services we are able to provide unique, comprehensive and high-quality therapy to even more children in our community. If you know someone looking for a preschool and/or therapy services, please tell them about the programs available at Children's TLC. Learn more at www.childrenstlc.org.

Patti Glass, Children's TLC Executive Director

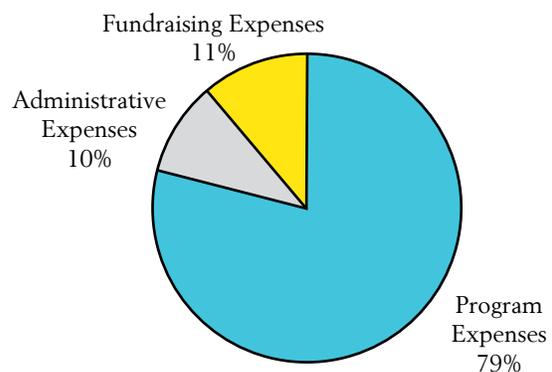
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The charts below highlights information from the audited financials of Children's TLC for the 2013 fiscal year (September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013). The complete audit report is available upon request.

2013 Sources of Revenue

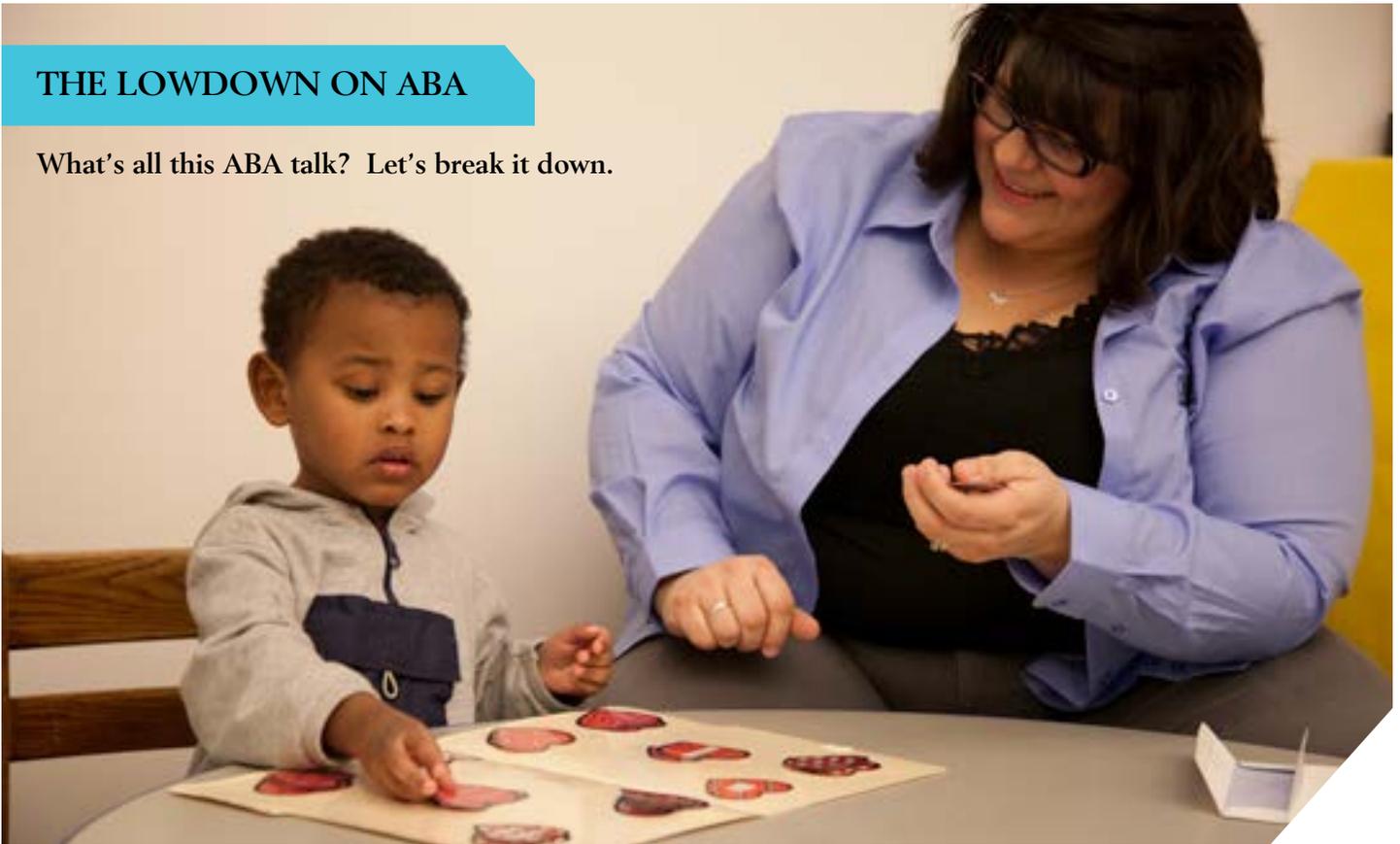


2013 Total Expenses



THE LOWDOWN ON ABA

What's all this ABA talk? Let's break it down.



The launch of our autism services has dramatically impacted many children and families living in our community. Below are some of the most commonly asked questions we hear about this new program with answers to help the community understand how this therapy can transform the life of a child with autism.

What is it?

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is the only evidence-based practice proven effective in treating autism. Principles and techniques are used to improve communication, social relationships, play, self-care and school performance in children with a variety of needs and diagnoses.

What is the goal?

Our goal is to prepare children with a foundation of skills that will allow them to participate successfully in a group learning setting by reducing each child's dependence on one-on-one direction.

How does it work?

An average ABA session at Children's TLC is three hours long and broken down into three sections.

- 90 minutes of intense one-on-one individual programming outside of the classroom where specific skills are broken down and taught in a systematic way.
- 50 minutes of therapy is spent in the child's natural environment: the classroom. ABA implementers integrate techniques into circle time, art activities and even recess. This allows children to work on skills along-side their peers and peer mentors.
- 40 minutes of the session is spent focusing on self-help trainings. This includes building skills to work towards independence for daily living activities, such as using the restroom and eating.

How can I help?

The most important thing you can do to support our autism services is to spread the word. You can help us reach more children and families in need by sharing our posts on Facebook, forwarding our e-newsletter and reminding your friends and family about our focus to help all children in our community soar in today's world.

THANKS TO SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU, WE'RE GRADUATING!

Summer is officially here and with it comes the excitement of warm weather, playing outside, family vacations and for many, the end of school. It is hard to believe we are quickly approaching the conclusion of several student's time at Children's TLC. You already met Ater, but we want to introduce you to our other graduates, Alena, Brendan, Brooke, Kenley, Oliver and Tzhoire. Below are a few highlights on each child and the progress they have made while enrolled in our programs. We are incredibly proud of these children and celebrate their success as they move on to their next school environment.



Alena

"My daughter loves this place, she is always talking about all the new friends she has and all the things she's learning."

- Angie, Alena's mother

Alena is truly all heart. Her parents have loved seeing her nurturing side blossom, as well as her love of learning, her growing "big girl" independence, and her willingness to open up to her teachers and peers. She's appreciated at school for her encouraging ways—modeling what to do and say, sharing kind words, and showing the other children how to do activities she's mastered.



Brendan

"His social skills have dramatically improved, including turn taking, manners, sharing and most of all-caring about the feelings of others!"

- Sarah, Brendan's mother

Brendan is an outgoing, fun-loving boy with a lot of energy. He has gained a variety of new and valuable skills during his time in our therapeutic preschool, which he attends along with his younger sister. A few of his achievements include excellent recognition of letters and becoming very close to writing his own name without assistance from his teachers or therapists.



Brooke

"She has learned that no matter how different we are we can most definitely find a way to get along and play!" - Lucia, Brooke's mother

Over the last two years, Brooke has mastered multiple skills while attending our therapeutic preschool program, including her ABC's and learning to spell her own name. Brooke is no longer shy as she has grown into an outgoing leader in the classroom and she loves to share her daily school experiences with her mother. Brooke is ready to go to a new school where we know she will continue to shine.

DID YOU KNOW?

Each child's team of therapists and teachers along with our social worker, are continuously preparing children and families for the transition that comes upon graduation from Children's TLC. We collaborate with school districts, community partners and each child's family to ensure the transition is seamless. Whether it is a typical classroom in the school district or a specialized program for continued individualized learning, our families are prepared for the next step.



Kenley

“Choosing to send our daughter to Children’s TLC is one of the decisions we are most proud of as parents. She received competent medical care and unquestionable acceptance from her peers.”
- Karrie, Kenley’s mother

Kenley is a determined and enthusiastic student who loves to move. Every day, she arrives eager to play and engage with her peers. She especially loves the light-up toys and toy vacuum! Despite her multiple hospitalizations, Kenley continues to make inspiring progress.



Oliver

“The staff have become like family to us. We are forever grateful to all the amazing individuals that have helped Oliver along the way! We will miss you Children’s TLC.”
- Kathryn, Oliver’s mother

After starting at Children’s TLC over two years ago, Oliver was given an autism diagnosis. He did not speak, made zero eye contact and was emotionally over a year behind. We’re happy to share that he is now functioning above grade level, is a total chatter box, and will be starting school soon in a typical classroom.



Tzhoire

“I want to say thank you to our Children’s TLC family for all the effort and time they have given to teach my daughter. I could write a book about every single thing Tzhoire has learned.”
- Maricruz, Tzhoire’s mother

Tzhoire is a very creative little girl with a big imagination and even bigger heart. She started in our therapeutic preschool as a student with special needs, but through the support of her teachers and therapists she is now a peer model, leading her classmates in a variety of activities.

Annually, Children’s TLC must raise a minimum of \$7,650 per child to cover the costs associated with providing therapy and needed services.

As you can see from the stories above, each child’s range of progress is different but all have reached milestones as a result of intensive, early instruction and therapy. Each child has grown and blossomed at Children’s TLC from developing these essential skills, and they are now ready to move on to a new school environment. Our goal each year is to help the children we serve reach their full potential and develop the skills they will need to be successful later in life. The work we do with each child is important but it would not be possible without the support of friends, volunteers and community partners like you. **As we approach the end of another fiscal year, we ask you to consider making a donation to help us continue serving these incredible children.** No gift is too small and every dollar helps us get one step closer to another success story. Your contribution is not only an investment in the future of Children’s TLC but it is also an investment in the future of each child we serve. Thank you for your generous support!

A gift today will fuel our therapeutic preschool program for tomorrow’s children.

\$50

Classroom art supplies

\$100

One hour of therapy

\$200

A month of healthy meals

\$300

A classroom field trip

\$500

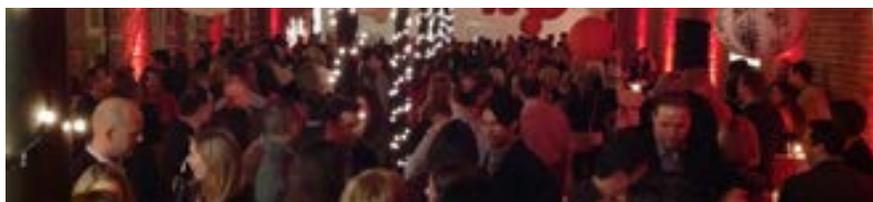
Tuition & therapy for one week

SAKE WITH FRIENDS: 200 GUESTS & GROWING

Sake With Friends, an event organized by the Children's TLC Friends Association, celebrated its third year on February 1, 2014. The fundraiser was held at The Event Space at Nara and had over 200 agency supporters in attendance. Three different types of sake and a variety of Asian inspired appetizers were available for tasting. Guests danced to music provided by DJ Ashton Martin. The evening raised more than \$29,000. **Mark your calendars for the next Sake With Friends, which will be held on January 31, 2015.** Special thanks to the Friends Association Board and committee for their incredible work on this annual event.



Melissa Novak and Katy Jennings



3 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

1

VOLUNTEER

Whether you would like to help in a classroom, assist with administrative duties, join in on the planning of a fundraising event, or have a special talent to share, we will work with you to make sure your experience is meaningful. Learn more at www.childrenstlc.org/volunteers.

2

ENGAGE

We post on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram daily from the halls of our agency. Help spread the word of our children's successes by sharing our posts and tagging @ChildrensTLC.

3

DONATE

Investing in Children's TLC means you're making an investment in the most critical years of a child's life.

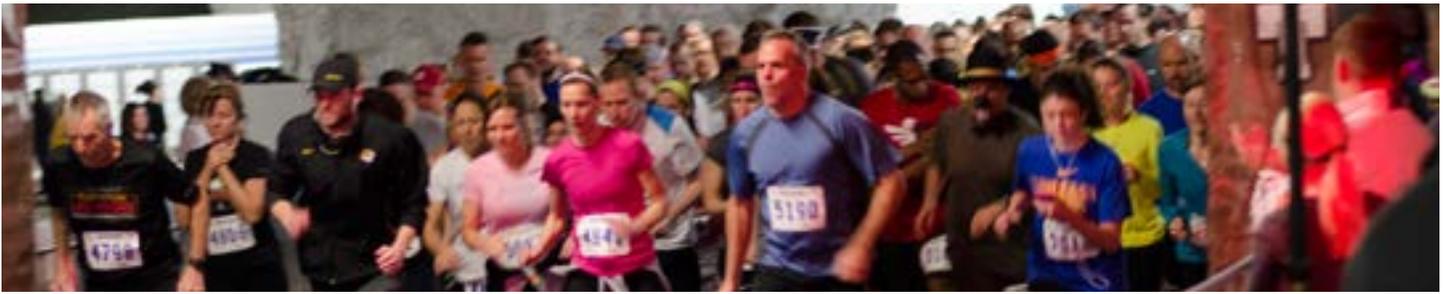
BLUEBIRD LUNCHEON SPOTLIGHTS AUTISM

This year's annual Children's TLC Bluebird Luncheon, held on April 9th, celebrated the launch of our autism services. Sharon Roberts, Children's TLC occupational therapist, and Hallmark Cards, Inc. were inducted into the Bluebird Society for their support and dedication for more than 40 years. Guests enjoyed a lively presentation by Linda Gund Anderson and her son, Brent Anderson, authors of *Unintentional Humor*. Their inspiring story gave attendees a unique look into the mind of a young man with autism. Special thanks to the event chairs, Al Mauro, Melissa Novak, David Power, Lori Rose, Chuck Sipple, and Wendy Zoog, as well as, committee members Jamie Kapke and Rory Welsh. Thank you to everyone who helped us raise \$59,000 for children in our community with special needs!

Thank you to our lead Luncheon sponsors:



Julie Forsyth, Sarah Pence Bloss, Al Mauro accept the Hallmark Card, Inc. Bluebird Society award.



\$230,000+ RAISED AT GROUNDHOG RUN
 The 32nd annual Children's TLC Groundhog Run was a huge success, raising more than \$230,000 for the agency. Nearly 4,000 runners, 200 volunteers and 68 corporate sponsors made this year's run the largest in the event's history. Held on January 26th at the Hunt Midwest SubTropolis, the Groundhog Run saw a large increase in 10k runners due to the new addition of the 10k finisher's medal. A special thank you to Hunt Midwest for their continued partnership, our Groundhog Run chairs Rob Hagg and Heather Wong, as well as our volunteer committee chairs Dana Mustard and Sara Lovins for their dedication to making the event a success. **The next Groundhog Run will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2015. Online registration will open on June 5, 2014.** In the meantime, remember to like the Children's TLC Groundhog Run Facebook page to stay connected.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Event sponsorships for Children's TLC offer many distinctive opportunities to connect with the community. We are grateful for the support of the following companies and organizations.

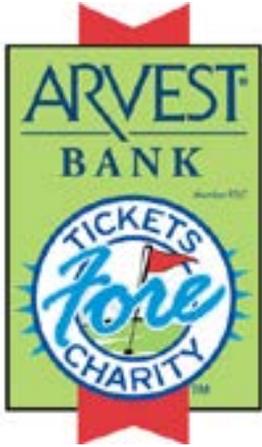
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| 3201 Consulting, LLC | Fleishman-Hillard, Inc. | Power Group |
| Altec Industries | Garmin | Quintiles |
| Anesthesia Associates of Kansas City | Geiger Ready-Mix | Randy Spalding Excavating, Inc. |
| Arvest Bank | GlynnDevins | RH Johnson |
| Atterbury Family Foundation | Hallmark Cards, Inc. | Robert Gibbs, MD |
| Bernstein-Rein | Helzberg Diamonds | Rose Design Build, Inc. |
| Bliss Associates, LLC | INTERCON | RubinBrown LLP |
| Block Real Estate Services, LLC | Intrust Bank | Ryan Transportation Service |
| Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City | JE Dunn Construction | Shook, Hardy & Bacon, LLP |
| BMO Harris Bank | Kennyhertz Perry, LLC | Sosland Companies, Inc. |
| Capital Management, Inc. | Kiewit | Spin It Quarterback Academy |
| Cerner Corporation | KPMG LLP | Sprint Nextel |
| Children's Mercy | Lee Jeans | Swagelok - Kansas City |
| Client One Securities | Lightedge | The Atterbury Family Foundation |
| Colliers International | Lockton Companies | The Mutual Fund Store |
| Commerce Bank | Mariner Foundation | The Scoular Company |
| Contract Furnishings | Mariner Wealth Advisors, LLC | Thomas Martin Foundation |
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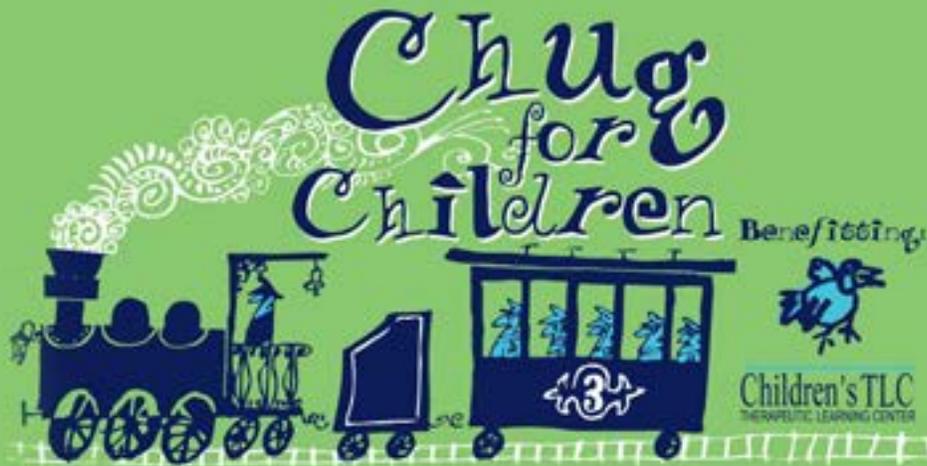


MIDWEST CLASSIC

JULY 21-27, 2014

**Purchase Tickets
Fore Children's TLC**

100% of the proceeds
from your Midwest
Classic ticket will go
towards supporting our
children! Learn more and
buy your tickets at
www.midwestclassic.com



**Saturday, June 7th from 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Martini Corner Entertainment District (31st & Oak)**

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$30 at the door and include a Chug for Children t-shirt and great drink specials at five establishments. Learn more at www.childrenstlc.org.

This fundraiser is organized and hosted by teachers and therapists at Children's TLC. 100% of the proceeds will benefit the 300+ children we serve annually in Kansas City.