From Executive Director
Dr. Patricia Ritter

We are proud of our accomplishments over the past year as we continued to pursue our mission and vision – to improve lives and expand possibilities for individuals with special needs as a highly visible, quality leading edge organization with strong collaborative and advocacy relationships and plentiful resources.

Highly Visible:
- Purchased our first bus to transport KTS students from Northern Virginia. We currently have 11 students giving us great visibility on the Beltway every day
- Hosted 31 events attended by more than 500 professionals in the community who refer families to TLC for services
- Visited over 100 physicians to increase referrals
- 12,000 monthly website visitors
- KTS high school students participated in the second round of the national Poetry Out Loud recitation competition
- Seven TLC staff members published articles in professional and consumer periodicals

Quality Leading Edge Programs:
- Creation of STRIDE and EXCEL programs at KTS to support students with more intensive needs
- Renewed accreditations and approvals from Maryland State Department of Education and Washington, DC’s Office of the State Superintendent of Education at KTS, and Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities for Outcomes in the areas of Community Employment, Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation and Employee Development
- 80% of consumers who received Employee Development Services and had employment goals were employed within 6 months of completing the program
- 87% of those consumers who received job coaching and were employed through the first 90 days of hire continued to be employed after six months

Continues on page 3.
Continued from page 2.

Collaborative and Advocacy Relationships
• Developed Business Advisory Board to provide input and expertise on hiring individuals with disabilities and promoting their experiences in the community to other employers
• Advocated for increased state funding in partnership with MANSEF (Maryland Association of Nonpublic Special Education Facilities) and InterACC
• Pat Ritter appointed as President of the Board of Trustees for MANSEF, allowing KTS to benefit from her increased involvement in advocacy efforts for all special education students in Maryland
• More than 25 university affiliations for placements of interns and graduate students to advance the education of the next generation of professionals
• ArtStream continued to provide after school drama programs at KTS
• Strengthened relationship at Ingleside retirement community in King Farm by having KTS students perform musical concerts for residents, as well as gain employment experiences by working as interns in the facility

Plentiful Resources
• Purchased 110 new laptops for KTS through the generosity of many donors
• Generous donors raised over $30,000 to support Help Others Hear program, which provided free hearing aids to 12 individuals who could not otherwise afford them
• Sixteen KTS students received $168,000 in scholarships
• Designated as a beneficiary of Bullis School’s 5k Run

Though the economy continued to challenge us, this year was a combination of stabilizing our budget, making strategic decisions to focus on our mission and pursuing new opportunities to strengthen the organization for the future and ensure our ongoing ability to serve the community’s needs. Notably, TLC’s Early Learning Center (ELC) was sold in the summer of 2013 to an organization whose primary mission is to provide child care and preschool programs. This allows us to focus on our primary mission is to serve individuals with special needs in the community and provided the ELC families and staff with continuity through an experienced child care provider.

We thank everyone who made this year possible – families that trusted us to provide the highest quality programs; staff who are dedicated and passionate about their consumers, patients and students; and supporters who enriched our organization through their time, talent and treasure.
The Legacy Club for TLC

The Legacy Club for TLC honors and recognizes those individuals who have chosen to include TLC in their estate plans. Legacy gifts ensure that we can continue to improve lives and expand possibilities for children and adults in our community. If you have already made a charitable bequest to TLC, please let us know so we can add you to this list of visionary supporters. Your participation may inspire others to join The Legacy Club for TLC.

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**Please note:** Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our lists which includes gifts made January - December 2013. If we have made an error, please accept our apologies and contact Debbie Ezrin, Director of Development, at dezrin@tlc.org. Due to space limitations, we regret not being able to list donors below $100. TLC is most grateful for all of our contributors. Thank you.
TLC Thanks Our Generous 2013 Donors!

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Ms. Anida Zesllari and Mr. Demetrios Boscas
Mr. and Mrs. Erik Zettler

In Memory of:
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Ace Barbara’s mother
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Bernice Harron
Bert Fried
Edith Rothchild
Eveleen Walsh
Gail Diamond
Gary Blau
Ian Wolfe
Jackie Wright
Jerry Sandler
Marcy Braude
Mildred Sternburg
Mildred Sternburg
Stacey Thompson’s father
Selected Audited Financial Information for Fiscal Year 2013

Complete audited financials and Form 990 for year ended June 30, 2013 are available on request.

**Operating Expenses**

- Program Services, 86%
- Management and General Operating, 12%
- Development, 2%

$1,401,293

$265,877

$10,429,638

**Public Support and Revenues**

- The Katherine Thomas School
- Speech and Occupational Therapy
- Audiology
- Development
- Adult Employment Services
- Childcare
- Testing and Tutoring
- Management and General Operating

$5,530,150

$2,292,491

Numbers may include duplication as some consumers receive multiple services.

Note: Operating Expenses do not include depreciation and Public Support and Revenues do not include investment income.

OUR MISSION

To improve lives and expand possibilities for individuals with special needs.

OUR VISION

To be a highly visible, leading edge organization with strong collaborative and advocacy relationships, and plentiful resources that support quality programs, staff, and facilities for individuals with special needs.

We served over 2,000 individuals in 2013.

We served over 2,000 individuals in 2013.
**Hunter’s Story**

Seven years ago Hunter came to TLC when he was three years old. Hunter began preschool in a two year old program and he was having a hard time. Hunter became overly excited around other children and could not self regulate. He was also not sleeping, often illogical, and exhibited very aggressive physical behavior. Hunter’s pediatrician recommended an occupational therapy evaluation at his three year old check up. TLC happened to have a cancellation and Hunter came to TLC.

After an initial evaluation, Hunter began occupational therapy. Hunter bonded with his OTs and mom Jennifer Polkes worked hard to understand his therapy to carry over treatment at home. Hunter’s autism caused serious regressions that resulted in agoraphobia. Even during the worst of times, Hunter has always been willing to continue services at TLC. “TLC’s therapists have been so wonderful in helping me understand Hunter... how to communicate with Hunter, how to get the most out of therapy, and how to structure his day at home. Hunter's success has been because of therapists who have been willing to partner with me.”

Over the years Hunter has also received speech-language therapy and counseling services at TLC. The communication between departments has been vital in Hunter’s progress. TLC’s therapists strong understanding of Hunter allowed them to foster progress while maintaining a safe, nurturing environment.

This year, Hunter is turning 10. After years of homeschooling, Hunter began at a private special education school 18 months ago. In the last year Hunter has advanced from a kindergarten level and is now at a 4th grade level in reading and math. Jennifer marvels at Hunter’s progress. “It has been unbelievable - he is a star in the classroom. Hunter is a very empathetic child. He knows everyone's name. He is completely comfortable around the other children. So often in special education, kids are put in a box. TLC’s therapists have removed Hunter from the box. His disability prevented him from becoming his true self. TLC’s therapies have helped Hunter to find his true self and shine.”