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A message from the President of the Board of Directors.

Promoting Diversity, Empathy, Respect and Friendship

Tiny Tim Tales

Season's Greetings!

ISSUE NO. 2
FALL

Season's Greetings! On this late October morning I look out my office window at the first snow of the season. It is difficult to believe that the holidays are just around the corner and 2012 will soon go into the history books. As I reflect back on an eventful year that was filled with change, challenge and success, I cannot help but be filled with gratitude! The compassion and support for The Tiny Tim Center and its mission is second to none. I would like to take a moment to express my appreciation to everyone who makes The Tiny Tim Center such a special place.

First and foremost, I want to express my grateful appreciation to our compassionate, caring and knowledgeable staff whose daily work fills the rooms and hallways of the Center with smiles and laughter. Without you, the magic of The Tiny Tim Center is not possible!

I want to thank our past and present Board members who give generously of their time and resources to further the mission of the Center. Your contributions are invaluable to The Tiny Tim Center's ability to accomplish our mission.

Also, I want to thank the parents who have placed their trust in The Tiny Tim Center with the awesome responsibility of providing a safe and loving environment where learning is fun and every child is afforded the opportunity to reach for his or her highest potential.

Last but certainly not least: thank YOU! Your past and ongoing support of The Tiny Tim Center is integral in our ability to provide much needed services to many children in our community. The generous support we have received from individuals, groups and local business is an incredible illustration of compassion this community has for our children and their future.

I (we) have many things to be thankful for as we approach this holiday season. It is so very important every now and then to stop for a moment and count your blessings and reflect on all the wonderful things that are happening in our lives and right here in our backyard.

We hope as you reflect back on this past year and celebrate the holidays with friends and family, you will keep The Tiny Tim Center in your thoughts!

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes!

Marc Cowell
Executive Director

OUR MISSION:

The Tiny Tim Center provides comprehensive early childhood education and therapeutic services to assist each child in reaching his or her highest potential.



The Amazing Abby!

Tiny Tim Tales: I understand we have a current preschool student who has had an extraordinary journey here. Can you tell us about Abby?

Alyssa (Abby's mom): Abby was born with a rare disorder called OEIS (omphalocele-ectrophy of the bladder - imperforated anus - spinal defects) Complex. It is a rare birth defect affecting 1 out of 200,000 to 400,000 pregnancies. As parents, we knew ahead of time that there were going to be problems. Abby was born 5 weeks early. She was immediately taken to The Children's Hospital where she spent the next 2 months in the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit). She was sedated, paralyzed, and put on a ventilator for the first month of her life. She underwent her first surgery at 2 weeks of age. When Abby was 1 month old she was weaned off of the ventilator and it was the first time I got to hold and hear her. After a few more setbacks, we were finally able to come home with Abby on oxygen.

Tiny Tim Tales: How did you get involved with The Tiny Tim Center?

Alyssa: Abby qualified for Early Intervention services. Her service coordinator right off the bat said, "You need Shari Karmen (Occupational Therapist), but she is a busy lady." She said she would work to get her. Shari and Kathryn DiFrank, PT, came out to my house and our journey with The Tiny Tim Center began.

Tiny Tim Tales: What can you tell us about therapy in those early days?

Alyssa: Shari helped us with feeding. I remember calling her in a panic because Abby would not take a bottle with any of the bottle nipples we had at home. Shari got a handful for us and then helped us transition to others. When Abby turned 6 months old I was so nervous about spoon feeding her. Shari came one day, we did it together, and it really helped to ease my mind. Abby is my first baby and I was scared to death of her choking or having a major setback. Shari and I continued to work together on how to get Abby to eat foods with lumps, to chew, to swallow, and drink from a straw. In therapy we also practiced tummy-time - which Abby hated - but Shari and Kathryn kept encouraging me to do it with her.

Tiny Tim Tales: Can you tell us about a time that was frustrating?

Alyssa: Kathryn came with me to a doctor's (specialist) appointment. One doctor told me that Abby would never walk and another one wanted to fit her for a wheelchair when she was 9 months old. I was so mad. With Kathryn's help, Abby learned to crawl and walk! I will never forget the day Abby walked 10 steps by herself (before surgery) with Kathryn and me!

Tiny Tim Tales: Tell us about Abby's most recent surgery.

Alyssa: Abby had a second surgery at 9 months, a 3rd at 12 months and then in April 2012 she underwent major surgery for bilateral pelvic osteotomies. She came home in a spica cast (both legs with a bar in between and cast all the way up her body) and an external fixator (hardware to help hold her pelvis together). It was frustrating for Abby because she had become so mobile and independent and now she was unable to do much. Therapies continued and as soon as the cast was off we started working on getting Abby mobile again. She was really scared, but I trusted The Tiny Tim Center and together we helped Abby to overcome her fears. I was able to see all the hard work that her therapist's did with her pay off. She was able to use the patterns we all worked so hard on having Abby do crawling on her hands and knees instead of scooting on her bottom. She is now working on riding a tricycle!

Tiny Tim Tales: How is Abby involved with The Tiny Tim Center now?

The Tiny Tim Center will always be a part of our lives! When it was time to think about preschool, there was never a second thought. We knew Abby would always attend The Tiny Tim Center. We feel so welcomed and supported here. Everybody knows Abby and says "Hi". She talks about Miss Mary Beth and Miss Mia, she still sees Kathryn for PT, she sings school song at home, and even though she doesn't have therapy with Shari anymore, she still gets excited when she sees her. Abby loves school. The kids and experiences have helped her to develop more interactions with friends, motivate her to walk, and she is more outgoing now. Abby loves to bring her art work home and have it displayed.

"The Tiny Tim Center will always be a part of our family." Alyssa Violet

Colorado Gives Day 2012!

On Tuesday, December 4, 2012, Colorado citizens will come together again to raise millions of dollars for nonprofits like ours in **Colorado Gives Day— 24 hours to give where you live.**

Your generous support of The Tiny Tim Center in the first Colorado Gives Day last year raised just over \$5,900 and we are very grateful. Our goal for this year is at least \$10,000, and with your help, we can get there!

Presented once again this year by the Community First Foundation and FirstBank, when you give to The Tiny Tim Center through GivingFirst.org at any time on Colorado Gives Day, 100 percent of your donation will come to us to help fund the vital programs we provide to the community. Plus, the value of your donation will be increased by the FirstBank Incentive Fund. Mark your calendar and plan to donate online at www.givingfirst.org/TinyTimCenter/overview on December 4th.



Employee Recognition!

The following staff members are having an anniversary! We are appreciative for their years of service to The Tiny Tim Center.

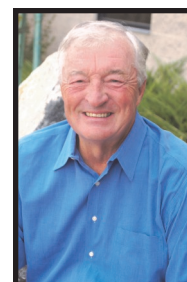
1 year of employment :
Jackie Murphy Beth Cady
Lisa Landman Elisa Prichard
Krista Nolen Rachel Welch
Mary Dinkel

15 years of employment :
Kathy Willyard

20 years of employment:
Tavita Grimaldo



A Message from the Board President



I am writing as your Board President for the first time, having succeeded Vicki Schlager in June of this year. We owe a large debt of gratitude to Vicki for her able leadership of the Board over the last two years.

The autumn of 2012 finds The Tiny Tim Center a busy place! New classes, a private kindergarten, Qualistar accreditation, and cutting-edge new therapeutic services are all hallmarks of the great work The Tiny Tim Center staff accomplishes each day.

The Tiny Tim Center has experienced solid growth since 2011. Enrollment has increased, resulting in families with children of special needs receiving more beneficial services than ever before. The full day preschool program has

added a third class this fall as a result of the success of the program in 2011 and increasing demand for high-quality preschool education in our community. The Tiny Tim Center's new Kindergarten program is proving to be a success as well. As mentioned, The Tiny Tim Center Therapeutic Services is steadily growing, having served nearly 300 children in 5,000 visits for the first half of the year. We now feature a certified Brain Integration Technique therapist on staff. This places The Tiny Tim Center on the cutting-edge since, at present, only 50 therapists possessing this skill are practicing in the U.S. The Tiny Tim Center received its Qualistar rating early this year, the result of hard work and organizing by a number of staff. We earned a Four Star rating on our first attempt. A shining example of the quality of the people and programs at The Tiny Tim Center! All of this was accomplished while we renewed our national NAEYC accreditation.

Our Center strengthened its relationship with Social Venture Partners (SVP) during the past year. The Tiny Tim Center's strategic plan was completed at the end of last year and numerous key initiatives are underway as a result. SVP continues to assist in many areas with their expertise and advice.

A final note to all who love and appreciate The Tiny Tim Center, we need your help to make the year-end fundraising campaign a success. We need to meet our goals for donations-please help with any contribution you can. Also, please support our annual Christmas Tree Festival this year. We need you!

As always thank you for your past support and for providing the kids lots of hope for the future.

Rick Kellogg
Board President



*Miss Beth, "Shahe, I like your mom's hair cut!"
Shahe "Yep, she's a rock star!"*



The Tiny Tim Center's 31st Annual Christmas Tree Festival

December 1st & 2nd, 2012
**Don't miss out on this
spectacular event!**

Save the Date!
April 27, 2013
30th Annual Auction!
**A new and exciting evening is
on the horizon...**



*"Mom, When I grow up I want to work at
The Tiny Tim Center!" Carlitos*

"The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision."

~Helen Keller