

NONPROFIT

Spotlighting community connections and benefits

TLC Learning Center

Our Mission: Our mission is to provide comprehensive early childhood education and therapeutic services to assist each child in reaching his or her highest potential.

We Serve: TLC serves children in and around Boulder County with a fully inclusive preschool and a pediatric therapy program. Our classrooms historically served children 2.5 to 5 years old but is now open to infants and toddlers. Our pediatric therapy program serves children from birth to 12 years with physical, occupational and speech therapies. Our programs are deliberately diverse, serving both typical children and children with special needs.

Brief History: TLC Learning Center was originally founded as The Tiny Tim Center in 1956, a school for children with special needs that allowed them to live at home with their families. A pediatric therapy clinic was added as part of the Center in 1997. In 2013, the Center rebranded as TLC Learning Center to best represent our services to children of all abilities, and announced its intentions to open infant and toddler care, also for children of diverse abilities, following a renovation of two classrooms, a kitchen and the playground.

Proudest Accomplishment: Our most recent accomplishment has been completing our renovations to open our infants & toddlers program. Research states that 90 percent of brain development takes place before age 5, and we hope to deepen our impact in developing children's intellectual capacities and preparing them for success by extending our education programs to begin in infancy.

We are also proud that our staff is undergoing Pyramid Plus training, an



Jocelyn participates in a science experiment in her preschool classroom.

effective, team-oriented approach to addressing behavior, environmental and social-emotional struggles in the classroom and in therapy sessions by looking at the whole picture of a situation and having a clear, consistent plan to follow.

Our proudest accomplishments with children come every day though, as children reach milestones both in their classrooms and pediatric therapies. These milestones can range from learning to read and write their name to learning to walk.

Greatest Need: Part of our mission is to serve children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and to do this we rely on scholarship donations for both our classrooms and our pediatric therapy. Children who wish to attend our education programs are able to apply for tuition assistance, which we can offer based on the suc-

cess of our fund-raising efforts for scholarships. Children in need of pediatric therapy who are either without insurance or with too-little insurance can also apply for assistance to cover the costs of treatment, and this money is also dependent on our generous donors and grantors within the community.

Future Plans: Our future plans include a successful launch of our infants & toddlers program, and continuing to grow the number of children we are able to serve every day, especially those in need of financial assistance to attend our programs. To meet this goal we continue to increase our fundraising goals and enrollment goals for children from families able to afford full tuition.

Contact: 303-776-7417, mhenry@learningwithtllc.org, www.learningwithtllc.org.

Volunteer opportunities

Foothills United Way's Volunteer Connection connects people and strengthens communities through volunteer engagement. Below are opportunities available in our communities. Search the site for others at <http://volunteer.unitedwayfoothills.org> or schedule an appointment to meet with a volunteer advisor. Appointments are available in Lafayette or in Longmont on Thursdays at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. or noon. Contact us at volunteerconnection@unitedwayfoothills.org or 303-895-3420.

Youth Job and Career Fair: Greet attendees, conduct mock interviews, provide group orientation and more. 3-6 p.m. March 13 in Boulder. Workforce Boulder County. Marcy Campbell. 303-827-7438. Marcy.campbell@wfbcc.org.

Wildlife Master: Help resolve human-wildlife conflicts and other wildlife issues. Training 8:30-4:30 p.m. April 4 and April 11. Application due March 21, 2014, www.extension.colostate.edu/boulder/acreeage.shtml. Boulder County, CSU Extension. Sharon Bokan. 303-678-6176. sbokan@bouldercounty.org.

Sign Language Instructor: Lead or assist in teaching signing classes, conduct research and identify items required for the class and meet with support staff to organize activity and materials. Prior experience with teaching a signing class preferred but not required. Starts immediately and a six to 12 month commitment is requested. Friends of Broomfield. Jane Fouchey. 303-404-0123. info@friendsofbroomfield.org.

Call Bank: Join a call bank at the Project:

Return to Work offices or a community partner's facility in your area. Five hours of training provided, orientation, volunteer agreement and background check required. Every Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Project: Return to Work. Rob Brazell. 303-415-9187. rob.brazell@return2work.org.

Tree Planter: Pick-up, deliver and plant trees for those unable to plant their own trees. Planters must follow recommended planting, tree handling and safe tool use. Lifting and physical activity is involved. Saturday, April 19. The Park People. Kim Yuan-Farrell. 303-722-6262. kim@theparkpeople.org.

Bilingual Client Intake: Answer phones, schedule appointments, welcome clients, check them into our computer database and assist them with shopping. Computer database training provided. One or two two-hour shifts per week. A Precious Child. Emily Simones. 303-466-4272. emily@apreciouschild.org.

Technology Coach: Share your knowledge of your own technology device (iPhone, Android, iPad, tablet or e-reader) with seniors at the Senior Computer Tech Center at the Longmont Senior Center. Classes are designed for and led by seniors. Commit to six to eight hours/month. City of Longmont Senior Services. Barbara Wright. 303-772-6897. gbwright660@msn.com.

Grant Writer: Research and write grants for the Long-Term Flood Recovery Group. Work from home or Foothills United Way in Lafayette. Attend weekly meetings 1-3 p.m. in Boulder. Flexible schedule. Must have your own computer. Foothills United Way. Rosemary Arp. 303-444-4013. rarp@unitedwayfoothills.org.

Benefits

Magic Tournament Fund-raiser to Assist Mark Friman, who works in the shipping department of a Boulder company, has been battling a rare form of stomach cancer since fall 2012 and underwent surgery in early 2013. This fundraiser is to assist him with bills resulting from his cancer treatment, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Karliquin's Game Knight, 2085 30th St., Boulder, \$20 entry fee. A percentage of store purchases made during the tournament will also benefit Friman.

Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Center annual baby shower for the hundreds of orphaned mammals and birds that are coming. Items needed include bird seed, unsalted peanuts in the shell, baby cereal and paper towels. Go to www.greenwoodwildlife.org for a complete wish list or call 303-823-8455. Deliver between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily at the center near Lyons or at our Thrift Shop, 3600 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder.

There With Care, a local nonprofit group helping families and children facing critical illness, is in need of the following items this week: crib sheets, bath toys, wipes, 0-12 month baby clothes for boys and girls. Deliver the items to 2825 Wilderness Place, Suite 100, Boulder, any time between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Fri-

day. Details: 303-447-2273, www.therewithcare.org.

The Boulder Shelter for the Homeless is in need of vitamin C, hand warmers, cold tablets, cough drops, Kleenex packages, warm socks (men's and women's), ziploc bags, Tums, ear plugs, travel size lotions and body washes, brushes, wash cloths. Drop off donations before 10 a.m. or after 5 p.m., seven days a week. Bring dona-

tions to the west-facing door on the north end of the shelter, 4869 N. Broadway, Boulder. Details: 303-442-4646.

The EFAA Food Bank. Emergency Family Assistance Association is in short supply of the following items: peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit, tuna. Toiletries are also welcome, especially size 4 diapers. Deliver anytime we are open, 9 a.m. to 4:30

p.m. most weekdays, noon to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays, closed on county holidays, 1575 Yarmouth Ave., Boulder. Details: 303-951-7667 or efaa.org, call for large deliveries.

To submit items for this column, please post online at <http://calendar.dailycamera.com>; by email to community@dailycamera.com; or mail to Benefits, 5450 Western Ave., Boulder, CO 80301.



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