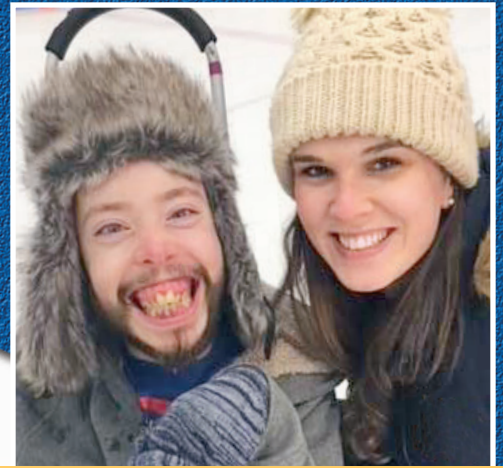


# KDC

Winter 2018

## connections

Supporting over  
10,000 children,  
adults and families  
annually.



“  
*The new administrative  
building was designed  
to accommodate existing staff  
and allow for KDC's  
future growth.*  
”

### Foxboro Administrative Offices Open House

Kennedy-Donovan Center officially held an Open House of its administrative offices on November 11, 2017. We welcomed many community leaders, donors, faithful KDC friends and even some new friends.

Tours were conducted to give everyone an opportunity to see the growth we have experienced and our newest program Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). The ABA Program provides support for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and their families, to pursue their personal potential and success in their homes and community. Individuals of all ages receive customized services using the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis, which is scientifically proven to be effective in the treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

With the growth and expansion of KDC's programs and services over the last decade, it became necessary to have more space than the old building could provide. The new administrative building was designed to accommodate existing staff and allow for KDC's future growth. Now that we are all settled in, we continue to focus on our mission to deliver services that are person-centered, innovative, and compassionate.

Thank you to all who attended and shared their heartwarming stories of our founder, Luella Hennessey Donovan as well as stories of the old building. We are deeply grateful for the overwhelming community support and excited about a brighter future.

KDC Connections is published by  
Kennedy-Donovan Center for volunteers,  
families, supporters, and those  
who receive services and supports.

Aubrey Macfarlane, President/CEO  
Maria Barbosa and Amy Chaunt, Editors

Administrative Offices  
One Commercial Street  
Foxboro, Massachusetts 02035  
508-772-1200 | kdc.org

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Left to right: Marietta Courtney, CPA in Franklin and alumni parent; Rep. Jay Barrows, Barrows Insurance; William Keegan, Jr., Foxboro Town Manager; and Aubrey Macfarlane, KDC President and CEO.

## Events Calendar

### APRIL 19

Board of Directors meeting  
Foxboro Office

### MAY 5

Blooming Arts: A KDC Community Celebration

Highfield Hall & Garden, Falmouth. 2-4 p.m.  
Proceeds benefit Cape Cod Programs.  
To learn more call 774-352-1325.

### MAY 5

KDC Spring Celebration Gala  
Lombardo's, Randolph. 6-11 p.m.  
To learn more call 508-772-1216.

### MAY 11

Special Education School Open House  
New Bedford. Noon to 3 p.m.  
To learn more call 508-992-4756 x4

### MAY 31

Swing Fore the Kids Golf Tournament  
Pine Hills Golf Club, Kingston.  
Proceeds benefit Greater Plymouth Early Intervention.  
To learn more call 508-747-2012

### JUNE 28

Board of Directors meeting  
Foxboro Office



## Marriott Celebrates John Stringfellow

On January 2nd, the Courtyard Marriott in Milford celebrated John Stringfellow's 20th work anniversary. John, who is a client at KDC's Transitional Job Supports Program, arrives at the hotel greeting fellow colleagues with a smile, and gives 100% effort every day.

John is responsible for cleaning a number of areas, and the Courtyard often receives compliments on the cleanliness of the hotel. To no surprise, John's favorite saying at the end of his shift is "everything is clean." He takes pride in everything he does and is always willing to take on extra tasks if needed. John's hard work makes him a valued team member and has made a difference with both customers and co-workers.

Courtyard Marriott is a supporter of KDC's Employment Supports Program which helps individuals with disabilities find jobs suited to their skills and interests. The program does not create jobs but it does connect employees with work opportunities which

benefits both employee and employer. For more information on this program please call 508-473-5700.

Congratulations to John from all of us here at Kennedy-Donovan Center, and thank you for your outstanding efforts!



## Read and Grow Book Campaign Success

KDC's Read and Grow Book Campaign was in celebration of National Family Literacy Month in November. More than 5,000 books were collected and distributed to children in our Early Intervention programs. We were able to fill the libraries, and gift books to families in need.

Early Intervention is one of our largest programs with continuous annual growth. The program serves children from birth to three years old that have, or are at risk of having developmental disabilities or delays. More than 4,500 children were seen by our staff in the past year and geographically we serve more than 50% of Massachusetts as well as a portion of Northeast Connecticut.

The goal of the campaign was to encourage parents to read with their children and help them become lifelong readers. Reading is a wonderful way for children and adults to form a greater bond and learn together.

The campaign greatly enhanced our Early Intervention program and helped children get ready for school. A special thank you to all who donated books to the campaign.



## Support KDC When You Shop Online

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way to support your favorite charitable organization at no additional cost to you. When you use smile.amazon.com, you'll get the same low prices, selection and convenience, but Amazon.com donates a portion of the purchase price to the organization of your choice. Make KDC your charity of choice at smile.amazon.com.



## Generous Grants Received by KDC

Since our last newsletter KDC has received eleven generous grants to help us enhance our programs and services. With the support of community foundations we are able to grow our existing programs and build new services to reach more people in need.

The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern New England (RMHC) granted KDC \$20,000 to support upgrades and renovations to our Therapeutic Sensory Room at our New Bedford Campus, serving both our School and Early Intervention Programs. A sensory room is used to develop children's senses and treat hyper/hypo-sensitivities with the use of specially-designed lighting, sound-proofing, and therapeutic toys and devices. Sensory rooms are a vital and effective part of treating sensory disorders in children. KDC's sensory room will be accessible to all children who visit our center, and to students at our school. With the support of the Ronald McDonald House, we will be able to expand the room, renovate and refurbish the space and furnishings, fill the room with the necessary items, purchase equipment, technology and materials needed for successful therapies.

The success of these sensory rooms at our other Early Intervention Program centers demonstrates that renovating and updating this space into a therapeutic sensory room will be ideal to meet the needs of children with developmental delays in the New Bedford area.

Several program grants were also received, including a \$2,300 grant from the New Bedford Day Nursery Fund to purchase wireless internet for KDC's Early Intervention Program in New Bedford; \$2,000 from the Edwin S. Soforenko Foundation, \$500 from the Staples Foundation and \$1,000 from Cornerstone

Bank, all three supporting our Therapeutic Outdoor Classroom at our Southbridge Early Intervention Program. KDC also received support from Middlesex Savings Bank, with a \$10,000 grant to support the renovation and expansion of our Family Support Center in Milford.

In addition, KDC received a \$5,000 grant from the Edward Bangs Kelley and Elza Kelley Foundation to support social and recreational activities on Cape Cod; \$3,100 from BayCoast Bank to purchase sensory equipment for our New Bedford Early Intervention Program; \$920 from the Attleboro Cultural Council to support the Youth 'n' Yoga Program at our Attleboro Early Intervention Program; \$6,795 from Bailey's Team for Autism to support our Applied Behavior Analysis Program (ABA); \$12,000 from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation to implement year three of "Fostering Early Connections," a specialized mental health program for families in twelve communities in Southern Worcester County.



## Spring Celebration Gala

Please join us for a fun-filled evening of great food, silent and live auctions, and inspirational stories as we strive to reach this year's goal of \$140,000.

**Saturday, May 5th from 6 to 11 p.m.**  
**Lombardo's in Randolph**

We are grateful once again to our Event Sponsor, Webster Bank, and co-hosts/KDC board members Anthony Karamas and Brad Pineault.

For ticket information or to learn more, please contact Maria Barbosa at 508-772-1216 or mbarbosa@kdc.org.



### MISSION

Kennedy-Donovan Center supports people with developmental delays, disabilities or family challenges to pursue their personal potential and success in the community. We provide a wide range of effective supports to individuals and families through prevention, advocacy and intervention services that are person-centered, innovative, and compassionate.

## Annual Fund Update

Our Annual Fund appeal kicked off on Giving Tuesday, November 28, 2017, a day celebrated nationally to encourage philanthropy and acts of generosity. We are happy to announce that we have raised over \$82,000 to date, and we're not done yet!

KDC depends on community support to help the 10,000 individuals and families supported annually. The Annual Fund provides additional resources, flexibility, and allows us to respond in a timely way to the needs of the children, adults and families needing our services beyond what is covered in state contracts.

Here are a few reasons why people give to KDC:

***I give to impact lives.***

Aubrey Macfarlane, KDC President & CEO

***I like making a difference helping and supporting families and their children for a happier future.***

Healthy Families Program staff

***I give because Healthy Families equals healthy communities.***

Brad Pineault, KDC Board Member

***I have always found that I get more than I give. It's an honor to support our families.***

Robin Weber, Program Director, Southbridge EI Program

The Annual Fund continues through June 30th, so there's still time to help us reach our goal of \$100,000. You can make a tax-deductible donation online at [kdc.org](http://kdc.org), or use the form on the back of the newsletter. We encourage you to give, and be sure to let us know why you support KDC's mission.

## Healthy Families Program Visits Aderbrook Farm

KDC's Healthy Families Program in New Bedford had a great time at Aderbrook Farm in Dartmouth. Over thirty families and their children were able to participate in arts and crafts, pumpkin carving, and tractor rides.

Healthy Families is a state-wide home-visiting program funded by the Children's

Trust of Massachusetts available for first-time parents age 24 and under. Services are provided from the beginning of the pregnancy until the child's third birthday. KDC provides services out of Greater New Bedford and Greater Plymouth.



## New Location for Milford Programs Center

KDC's Milford Programs Center has moved to One Maple Street in Milford. The new space accommodates the staff of 40 and will be the home of our newly renovated Family Support Center. Special thanks to Middlesex Savings Bank for the generous grant of \$10,000 to fund the new space, which includes brand new furnishings, equipment, and state-of-the-art technology.

Milford serves 135 respite clients and over 200 families and their children annually. Services provided by Family Support Center focus on the entire family as well as the

individual with disabilities. The center is designed to assist children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families to attain a high level of independence through support, respite, education, advocacy and other flexible services. The goal is to assist families in their efforts to help their loved ones reach their maximum potential and quality of life.

KDC will be hosting an open house for the community to tour the new program space. We hope to see you there!



**Atlas Innovative Services**  
presents

**15th ANNUAL  
SWING FORE THE KIDS  
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Thursday, May 31 | Noon Tee-off**  
Pine Hills Golf Club, Kingston, MA

Benefits KDC's Greater Plymouth  
Early Intervention Program

For more information:  
508-747-2012

Registration:  
[kdc.org/swing-fore-the-kids-2018](http://kdc.org/swing-fore-the-kids-2018)



## KDC Welcomes Two New Employees

We are excited to welcome Erin Jerrett to the KDC family as the new Regional Director in our Milford programs office. A graduate of Assumption College, Erin has been in the field of human services for over twenty years, working with both children and adults. After a brief period of time, Erin is glad to be back working with programs where she can have the most impact on the lives of the individuals.



*Erin Jerret, Regional Director, Milford.*

We also welcome our new Applied Behavior Analysis Director, Courtney Keleher. She has been in the field of behavior analysis for twelve years and has practiced in different states including Georgia, Virginia and Massachusetts. One of Courtney's passions is helping to develop new ABA programs that create increased access to services for families.



*Courtney Keleher, Applied Behavior Analysis Director.*

## Thank You KDC

Throughout the month of January, we featured stories of people who have been impacted by KDC services, and went on to work here. Betsy Paras, Family Liaison and Teaching Assistant at the Attleboro Early Intervention Program shared her story.

"When my daughter Carly was born prematurely, diagnosed with Turner Syndrome, and expected to have developmental delays, Brigham and Woman's Hospital referred us to the Kennedy-Donovan Center Attleboro Early Intervention Program. Not knowing what early intervention was all about, my husband and I soon realized just how important this program would be in the early years of development. With the caring, assistance and expertise of service coordinators and therapists, Carly was able to meet many of the necessary milestones.

I expressed to her service coordinator how I would love to work for such a wonderful program that did so much for my daughter and family. Not long after Carly's graduation from Early Intervention, the Family Liaison position became available at KDC; I applied and was hired. Twenty years later, I am still fortunate enough to work for this wonderful program that helped my daughter in so many ways. It has been an honor to be a part of this team and have the opportunity to help support the families we serve." –Betsy Paras



*Carly, Betsy's daughter.*



### BOARD

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## Programs Overview

### ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY SERVICES

24/7 support for those with acquired brain injuries in a staffed community residence.

### ADULT FAMILY CARE

Finds homes for adults with medical needs with trained host families.

### APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Customized services for those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and their families.

### DAY HABILITATION

Provides adults with high needs a comprehensive program of services.

### EARLY INTERVENTION

Home services for children birth to 36 mos. with, or at risk of, developmental delays.

### FAMILY SUPPORT & RESPITE SERVICES

Supports individuals living with their families in receiving tailored services.

### FOSTER CARE SERVICES

Works to prevent out-of-home placements; places children in qualified homes; and aids young adults transitioning to independence.

### HEALTHY FAMILIES

Serves first-time parents age 21 or under until the child's third birthday.

### INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

Serves adults living on their own by providing drop-in support for daily living.

### SHARED LIVING

Finds adults homes with host families trained to address their specific needs.

### SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL

For ages 3 to 22 with multiple disabilities.

### SUPERVISED LIVING

24/7 support for adults living in groups of two to four in neighborhood homes.

### SUPPORTED LIVING

Provides on-going supports to adults with disabilities living in their own homes.

### TRANSITIONAL JOB SUPPORT

Assists adults in finding and maintaining meaningful paid employment.

## Loyalty Donors Club

This time each year, we pay tribute to our Loyalty Donors. These supporters have made a donation every year for six or more consecutive years. We are honored by their commitment to Kennedy-Donovan Center and their vision of continued services for the people we serve.

Advance Air and Heat  
Maria Oliveira Barbosa  
Bowdoin Construction Corporation  
Bristol County Savings Foundation  
Ray and Ann Buono  
Ted Carr and Tanya Bodell  
Casey Law Offices  
John and Jean Connors  
Robert J. D'Amelio  
Mark and Margaret Davis  
Kelly DiPersio  
Joseph and Kathy DiSabato  
Daniel and Cheryl Farley  
Mrs. Frances Fern and Family  
Arno Gartzke  
Joseph and Josephine Gomes  
Bill and Ellen Goodchild  
Rabbi and Mrs. Barry Hartman  
Rich and Diana Harwood  
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William and Theresa Taksar  
Technical Support International  
Donna L. Tiner  
William and Linda Travers  
Jack and Paula Vercollone  
Ed and Erin Walter  
Webster Bank  
Irwin Yanowitz and Ellen Role

## All "Fore" Kennedy-Donovan Center

Longtime supporter, Telamon Insurance, participated in the Chubb Charity Challenge held last summer at The Pelican Hill Golf Club in Newport, California. Over the past eighteen years, the event has raised more than \$14 million in support of charities of all kinds. Chubb provides commercial, personal, health, and life insurance to a diverse group of clients. Each year, they invite their agents to participate in the event, with winnings benefiting their chosen charity. Telamon donated \$8,500 in winnings to KDC. We are grateful for their generous donation and continued support.



**PLEASE SAVE YOUR  
BOX TOPS**  
for the New Bedford  
Special Education School

KDC School | Attention Stephanie  
19 Hawthorn Street | New Bedford, MA 02740  
508-992-4756





## Winter Events Highlights

### 1. Adaptive Skating Day

Staff and Day Hab participants had a great time in February at the Driscoll Skating Arena in Fall River. The afternoon was filled with smiles and giggles as individuals enjoyed adaptive skating. Some skated through the rink in their wheelchairs, while others sat in adaptive sleds pushed by staff.



### 2. Taunton SEPAC Fair

KDC participated in the Taunton SEPAC Resource Fair providing information to the community about the KDC School, Foster Care and Family Services, Children and Adult Services, and the Applied Behavior Analysis Program (Autism Services). Thanks to our staff members Courtney, Gina and Kelley for representing KDC and to everyone who sponsored, golfed, donated, and volunteered to make this another successful year!



### 3. Adaptive Therapeutic Gardening

Our Day Hab Program is excited to participate and manage KDC's Adaptive Therapeutic Garden. The garden was set up at the end of last year, but they're already getting a jump start this year. An afternoon was spent planting and getting seeds ready for the nice weather to come. In addition to our Day Hab program, our Special Education School and Early Intervention program will also be sharing the gardening.

### 4. Swimming with the Penguins

The Attleboro YMCA hosted this fun event led by the Aquatics Director, and the Assistant Program Director of our Attleboro EI Program. Children, parents and friends enjoyed swimming with the penguins followed by snack and story time!



### 5. Visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus

Santa and Mrs. Claus had a busy schedule visiting our program centers. Santa brought gifts for all the good girls and boys, while Mrs. Claus read stories, and played games with children waiting to sit on Santa's lap. Visits included our Cape Cod Program, Greater Plymouth and New Bedford Healthy Families, New Bedford EI, Day Hab, Special Education School, and the Milford After School Program.



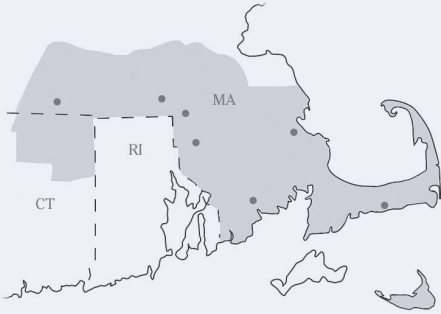
### 6. Little Yogis Program (no photo)

Youth N' Yoga is a six-week program for "little yogis" and their caregivers that takes place at our Attleboro Early Intervention Program. The classes include age-appropriate games, crafts, and storytelling that teach yoga poses to develop strength and flexibility, as well as patience, sharing and self-awareness. The program is funded by a grant from the Attleboro Cultural Council.



Kennedy-Donovan Center is committed to the full continuum of care for people with developmental delays, disabilities or family challenges in our region. We strive to provide this either by offering services directly to individuals of all ages and their families or by collaborating closely with community partners. Our growth will target programs that:

- Fill service gaps in the continuum of care for our clients
- Focus on individualized one-on-one services
- Are needed in our current service area or adjacent regions
- Build on our current expertise
- Respond to a need for innovative and flexible programming



Attleboro | Foxboro  
Kingston | Milford  
New Bedford | West Yarmouth  
Southbridge

## Help Us End the Fiscal Year Strong

Please support our Annual Fund to help us raise \$100,000 by June 30th. Your gift will make a difference and will enable us to continue to fulfill the needs of our families.

Simply fill out the donation form below, or donate online at [www.kdc.org](http://www.kdc.org). We'd also like you to let us know why you choose to give to KDC. Thank you!

Yes, I want to help jump start the Annual Fund.

I wish to make a difference with a gift of:

☐ \$250   ☐ \$200   ☐ \$100   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$25   ☐ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I'd like my gift to be anonymous   ☐ Company matching gift program; form enclosed.

This gift is: ☐ in memory of   ☐ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Method of payment   ☐ Check enclosed   ☐ MasterCard   ☐ Visa

Cardholder name \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to speak with someone about putting KDC in my will.

Please detach form and mail to: Kennedy-Donovan Center, One Commercial Street, Foxboro, MA 02035. **YOU MAY ALSO MAKE A SECURE DONATION AT KDC.ORG.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Exciting KDC News

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