



**LAKEMARY
2015 ANNUAL
REPORT**



Dear Lakemary Friends,

In three short years we will celebrate our 50th anniversary and I will have the honor of being the third CEO in the organization's history. The stability of leadership, first with Dr. Patrice Schmitz Hall and then Dr. Bill Craig, is not something I take lightly, and following in their footsteps is an exhilarating challenge.

Daily I am reminded of the tremendous commitment others have made to this organization and to the people we serve. Despite the challenges, numerous employees have articulated their job satisfaction to me, and continue to express love for their work. The longevity of the staff is impressive, and this year we celebrate the 40th anniversary of our head of housekeeping and the 35th anniversary of one of our Lakemary School teachers. Caring for our special population of adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities is truly a calling.

As I close out my first year at Lakemary, I find myself impressed by the past, influencing the present, and excited about our future possibilities.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gianna Gariglietti".

Gianna Gariglietti, M.Ed., LCPC
President/CEO

LAKEMARY'S IMPACT IN 2015

This booklet provides an overview of some of the most significant accomplishments at Lakemary over the course of the last fiscal year (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015). A summary of the number of children and adults engaged by our services is listed below.

For more information about any of these services, please visit www.lakemaryctr.org or contact Lakemary's Corporate Headquarters at (913) 557-4000.

Children's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility & Special Education School:

- Total Residential Students: 148
 - Out-of-State (of 148): 63
- School: 50 day students

Adult Services

- Total Served Miami Co. 100*
- Total Served Johnson Co. 222*
- *Includes the following:**

Day Services

- Miami Co. 61
- Johnson Co. 140

Residential Services

- Miami Co. 57
- Johnson Co. 72

Case Management

- Miami Co. 98
- Johnson Co. 164

Community Outreach

- Infant Toddler: 130
- Supported Family Living: 22
- Outpatient Therapy: 61
- Targeted Case Management: 102

Health Services

- Miami Co. 1,187 Appts.
- Johnson Co. 1,199 Appts.

Community Employment

- Miami Co. 15
- Johnson Co. 46

Lakemary School

198

Students served

238 days

Average length of residential stay

Lakemary's newly renovated school just celebrated its first anniversary. While the bright and cheery surroundings provide a warm welcome to visitors, it is what is happening inside the school that is most appealing. Families from across the nation are taking notice. Lakemary School attracts students from all over the country and currently serves students from nine different states, including as far as Alaska and Hawaii.

Among the many attractive aspects of Lakemary for both students and their families, is the campus-wide award system known as PBIS – Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports. This innovative approach to reinforcing and rewarding appropriate behavior is welcomed by families, professional peers, and referring agencies.

While PBIS is considered on the cutting edge of special education, few schools have adapted the philosophy system-wide. At Lakemary, students are given points for appropriate behaviors – points they can redeem for special treats, unique opportunities or other rewards. This newly adopted system was quick to gain acceptance by the student body and staff and has proven extremely effective in reducing unwanted behaviors in the classroom and in residences.



Lakemary's Discovery Center is a big hit with children of all ages. Sensory exploration is an important activity for many of our children served and the center was specifically designed to engage all of the senses through play.



Building Essentials for Successful Transitions (B.E.S.T.)

From the first day of school at Lakemary to the day of graduation, students learn essential skills they will need as adults: meal planning and preparation, laundry skills, house cleaning essentials, telephone etiquette, economical grocery shopping, etc. In a program unique to Lakemary called Building Essentials for Successful Transitions or B.E.S.T. for short, students practice their skills in a newly renovated classroom equipped with a fully functioning kitchen and laundry facilities.

“The B.E.S.T. program is another distinguishing aspect of a Lakemary education,” said school Principal Amanda Martell. “Our goal is for each student to graduate with the knowledge and skills they need to live as independently as possible.”

It's hard to say who loves the B.E.S.T. classroom more, the students or the instructor, Donnia Hinrichs, who developed the program. It is safe to say that both children and staff enjoy the results of the cooking adventures... especially when cookies are on the menu!

Lakemary's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility

11 different kinds of therapy

Lakemary offers a wide range of therapies to students individually, with family members or in other group settings. One therapy is garnering interest and enthusiasm among students: animal therapy. Lakemary staff collaborates with Pet Partners for regular visits to the campus. Their volunteers bring miniature horses for both the children and adults served at Lakemary. "Working with miniature horses helps our residents in developing kind and nurturing relationships," said Dr. Courtnie Cain, Clinical Program Administrator for Lakemary's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility. "The minis are able to come into our facility and each resident is able to assist with grooming and feeding. This activity is beneficial for individuals from all backgrounds and functioning levels, as each person can provide nurturing and love at some level."

Additionally, Lakemary partners with a local stable to provide equine-assisted therapy for a group of students. "This group focuses on developing social skills and working together on building select character traits such as empathy," Courtnie said. "Working with horses is especially beneficial as horses sense different feelings and help teach our residents emotional identification and control."

Lakemary children enjoy spending time with horses through Lakemary's ongoing partnership with Pet Partners and New Horizon Ranch. Participants help feed and groom the animals.





Bob Dole Family Center

16	Families stayed in the Dole Center during its first 9 months
105	Overnight stays
Countless	Number of therapy sessions with students and families

Adjacent to the Lakemary School, the Bob Dole Family Center features observation rooms in which family members can look in on therapy sessions to learn how staff members address behavior concerns. Conversely, the observation rooms allow therapists the opportunity to observe family interactions and help coach parents on successful techniques.

In addition to the therapy space, the Dole Center offers overnight accommodations to families visiting from any distance. The comfortable home-like environment allows families a private setting to reconnect with their child, while also providing the reassuring presence of Lakemary's team of therapists ready to assist should the need arise. When family members visit in the middle of their child's stay, therapists help parents implement strategies which have been successful at Lakemary and integrate those techniques into communication with their child.

With the addition of the Dole Family Center, Lakemary has further distinguished itself from its peer organizations. "Complimentary, overnight accommodations for families are virtually unheard of in our industry. The fact that Lakemary encourages and facilitates family visits is further evidence of our commitment to fostering healthy relationships among family members," said Gianna Gariglietti, President and CEO. "Parents know Lakemary cares about them as well as their child. It is another way Lakemary goes the extra mile to assist the children and families in our care."

Children and staff enjoy spending time together in and around the Bob Dole Family Center for individual, group, and family therapy sessions.

Careers & More

Lakemary is gaining attention from the education community about an innovative new program called Careers & More. This unique initiative provides a college-like experience for high school graduates to build the knowledge and skills needed to transition from home to independent living and from school to the workplace. The four-semester program teaches students the characteristics of exceptional employees and incorporates lessons in time management, business etiquette, interview skills, and work ethic. In the later semesters, students explore varied career options through internships and job shadowing opportunities. Once a career path is selected, the Careers & More team refines the specific skills needed for success in the chosen field.

Started in January 2015, current students are in their third semester and have identified potential career matches as retail salespersons, child care workers and pest control technicians.



Careers & More is a new initiative that helps young adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities develop skills they need to succeed in their chosen career.



Adults served in both Miami and Johnson counties rarely miss an opportunity to volunteer. One of their favorites is delivering Meals on Wheels to homebound individuals in the community. Both the volunteers and the recipients enjoy each others company and sharing stories.



Adult Residential & Day Services

13 agencies served by Lakemary adult volunteers
582 total volunteer hours logged in the last year
235 Johnson County
347 in Miami County

Whether it is with community employment, a job within the workshop or the ever-expanding recreational activities and special events, the adults served through Lakemary lead active lives with a multitude of socialization opportunities. Although there is an element of fun in most activities, there are important tasks they take very seriously. One of those is their heartfelt commitment to supporting local non-profit agencies – devoting time, talent and resources to the very communities that support and encourage them.

Adult residents in Olathe and Paola have ongoing commitments to several different non-profit organizations including Meals on Wheels, pet shelters, senior living communities, food banks and others. For more than a decade, Paola adults have delivered Meals on Wheels three days per week, often taking additional shifts when other volunteers cancel. “The group is extremely reliable and an absolute joy to be around. We are very fortunate they volunteer with our program,” said Wymetta Barnett, site manager for Paola’s branch of the Meals on Wheels program.

“In addition to delivering a delicious meal, Lakemary adults spread smiles wherever they go,” Wymetta said. “It’s easy to tell they enjoy their work and I know they look forward to seeing the clients.” Ned Kelsey, a recipient of Meals on Wheels for over two years agreed, “I enjoy seeing the Lakemary team every week. The feelings are mutual.”

Tae Kwon Do

Exercise and physical activity is a staple throughout much of Lakemary's programming. Activities are chosen based on the needs of participants and appeal to individuals with varied levels of physical ability. All have common goals: increase cardiovascular health, promote healthy living habits and of course, include elements of fun, interest and challenge.

Just over a year ago, Lakemary partnered with Tae Kwon Do instructor Robert Johnson. Robert had seen the strengthening and confidence building components associated with Tae Kwon Do and invited Lakemary's adults to try a class. Since then, Instructor Robert, as he is affectionately called by his pupils, has gained a loyal following. Classes have grown from just a few people to 30 regular attendees in both Olathe and Paola combined. Students have competed in local tournaments – two of Lakemary's own winning Grand Champion.

For Mark Harper, Recreational Coordinator for Lakemary adults, the class is a meaningful addition to the list of available activities. "All of the students have shown improvement in balance, flexibility and knowledge of the sport," Mark said. "But the best part for the students is the confidence they gain when they test for the next belt level. It's always rewarding to see the broken board indicating success and a smile from ear to ear."



LAKEMARY RANCH



Students and adults are thrilled with the newest initiative, a project fondly called Lakemary Ranch. Located on the south side of our main campus in Paola, Lakemary Ranch will incorporate educational, therapeutic and vocational experiences for the children and adults we serve. Currently featuring a chicken coop which is home to three baby chicks and three hens, Lakemary Ranch will soon include a greenhouse offering year-long gardening lessons and activities. Eventually, we hope Lakemary Ranch will grow to include a number of different animals and a variety of outdoor gardening experiences. All of these projects have been fueled by our students' interests in animals, their appreciation for outdoor activities and the inherent educational and therapeutic value of caring for animals and plants.

Pictured above, Jaxon enjoys learning about goats at a field trip to Overland Park's Deanna Rose Farmstead.

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*Lakemary's mission is to provide
choices and opportunities for children
and adults with special needs to
maximize the freedom and control they
can bring to their lives.*



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