



THE BEACON

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE LITTLE LIGHT HOUSE



WE'RE RENOVATING!

Check out the update about our renovation on page 7.

2018 GRADUATES

Celebrate our amazing graduating class with us on pages 8-10.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Read about some of our graduates on pages 4 and 5.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

- 4-6 4th of July Break
- 11 Community Luncheon 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 12-13 Shining Light Conference
- 19 Volunteer Bash: 6 - 8 p.m.
- 25 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.

AUGUST

- 1 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- 22 First Day of School

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Labor Day
- 12 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- 15 Laps for Little Ones
- 25 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- 26 Community Luncheon: 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 8 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- 13 Mini-Laps
- 19 Fall Break
- 23 Volunteer Orientation: 12 p.m.
- 24 Community Luncheon: 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.



THE BEACON
2018 | Issue 3

Executive Director

Jean Winfrey

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Get Social!

 Little Light House

 @LLHTulsa

 llhtulsa

letter from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Faithful Friends,

The 2017-18 school year will come to an end with our last day of school on July 19th. This year has been one of many accomplishments as we have enjoyed our wonderful new building for a second school year. We are sending 22 delightful graduates out into the world to make an impact in their circle of influence. Each has their own unique story of what God has done and is doing in their little lives. Our hearts and prayers will be going with every one of them.



“God continues to open doors for us to work with other programs and activities that are making a difference in the world serving individuals with disabilities.”

This past year we again hosted approximately 1,000 college and university students, providing them with opportunities to learn more about children with special needs. Currently we have two young men in our international intern program who are Kenya natives. They are working at a school in Rwanda and by spending the entire summer session with us they will learn more about how to identify and serve children with special needs.

We have had the blessing, through designated donations, of sending our staff to several other countries to host training seminars and workshops this year as well. Those countries include Honduras, Estonia, Russia and Haiti.

In addition to our educational and therapeutic programs serving the children, God continues to open doors for us to work with other programs and activities that are making a difference in the world serving individuals with disabilities. Most of these opportunities are with local colleges and universities. These additional endeavors are allowing us to share what we have learned with others, while at the same time are giving us more information to assist our own children.

What a blessing it is for us to be able to serve the Lord by serving these precious little ones and their families. And you are a huge part of making it happen. We truly cannot thank you enough for your support of volunteer time, your special talents you bring to our ministry, and the financial support you give. Thank you for helping us help these precious children.

Jean Winfrey
Executive Director

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: GRADUATE STORIES

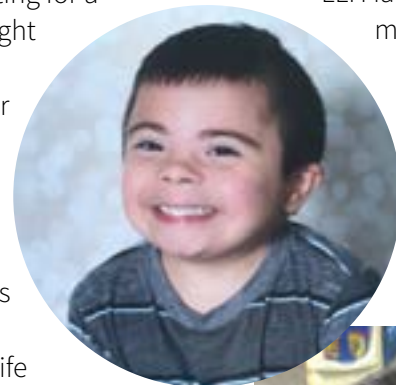


Ethan

Ethan was born on February 10, 2012 at St. Francis Hospital. We did not find out that he might have Down Syndrome until he was 3 days old. After the long 2 week wait we got the results that indeed he has DS. We were heart-broken and did not understand why but we loved him the same. He was perfectly healthy and very tiny at 4lbs 11oz. We did find out later he had a small hole in his heart which thankfully closed up on its own by the time he was 2.5. With the help of the Down Syndrome community in Tulsa and many new friends we made along the way we were able to grow and accept his diagnosis. In March 2012 he was

“Ethan has blessed our family beyond belief and we couldn’t be more thankful that he had this opportunity to come to LLH.”

signed up and waiting for a spot at the Little Light House. After what seemed like forever we finally got the call that Ethan had a spot and he would get to start at LLH. He was 2.5 when he started school and his life was changed and blessed forever. He had just started walking a week before school started so he was still wobbly and mostly crawling. Everyone just loved him and how fast he crawled everywhere! By the time Mini-laps came around he was practically running! I was so impressed. He has learned so much in the 4 years he’s been at LLH. He is able to play with his classmates now and communicate with them, he knows his colors and his name and is working on site words. He is the fastest runner



and so energetic and full of life. Ethan has great potential and is so smart. He has blessed our family beyond belief and we couldn’t be more thankful that he had this opportunity to come to LLH. He has had the most amazing and loving teachers. I couldn’t have asked for a better experience. We are excited for his new transition into kindergarten and a little scared as well but I know he will do great. He is very well prepared. We will miss our LLH family and community so much!

Love,
Brian, Vicki, Taelem,
Kyler, and Ethan
Rodriguez



Lucy

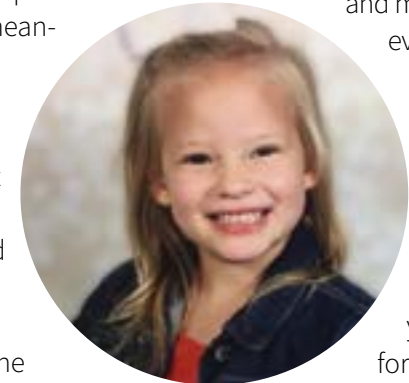
Our Lucy is six years old and although she may not fully understand, she has spent some of her greatest years behind the walls of the Little Light House. Lucy’s “story” begins in my belly around 20 weeks gestation. At our gender reveal ultrasound the technician delivered the exciting news that Lucy was a GIRL, however she also saw some irregular images regarding her brain. A radiologist, an OBGYN, and an Amniocentesis (long scary needle) later, Lucy was diagnosed with Spina Bifida Myelomeningocele and Hydrocephalus. Basically, a portion of Lucy’s lower spinal column did not fully close in the early days of conception allowing tiny precious nerve endings to be exposed and damaged. Nerve endings affecting bowel and bladder function, and lower extremity sensation and mobility. Lucy and I underwent a newly trialed inutero fetal repair surgery to close the defect. This closure would normally happen after the babies are born but we prayerfully made the choice to intervene with the thought of stopping any further damage from happening. Lucy’s little back side was born, nerve endings were placed back inside her spinal column and a water tight closure covering her spinal column was performed. Lucy was only the size of a soda can!! Three months of bed rest

later, the world shook and the sun got brighter because Lucy was here!

Lucy and our family were blessed to have spent four years at the Little Light House. Lucy started this journey at two years old with her raspberry walker and not a clue as to what was about to transpire. The LLH has opened our eyes to possibilities, a deeper meaning of family and a stronger relationship with our faith in God. Lucy is not the same kiddo that timidly walked into the confined yet cozy space of the Yellow Class. She got stronger, smarter, more aware, and more accepting of her normal. She laughed, played, interacted with her peers, and grew friendships. After her second year of school, Lucy never touched her walker again.

“The LLH has opened our eyes to possibilities, a deeper meaning of family and a stronger relationship with our faith in God.”

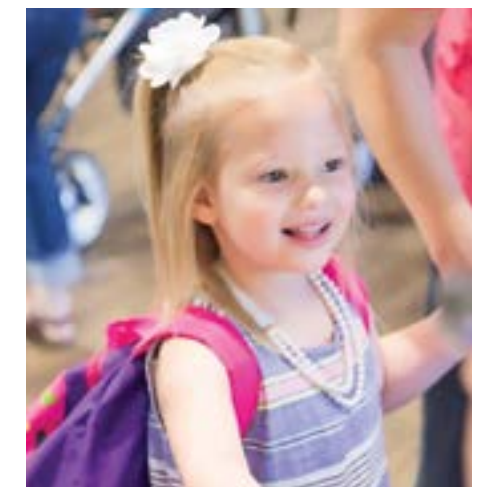
The Little Light House is a symbol for so many things for so many people. For families with a child with special needs, its a symbol of hope and comradery amongst a group of people who get one another and feel safe and cared for. For the teachers and staff, it’s a symbol of purpose and instruction. Always learning, inspiring, and being inspired. And for our community of Tulsa and the surrounding cities, the Little Light House is a symbol of charity



and favor. This school could not run and service our children without the support of the community. The Little Light House has been able to build a bigger facility with state of the art therapy equipment and technology to help kiddos grasp the basic of skills. Donations alone are what allow the Little Light House to grow and serve more and more kiddos each and every year, decreasing the waiting list and creating earlier intervention.

Lucy is a leader, a friend to everyone, and forever changed because of four short years spent at a school for kids with special needs. During that time Lucy and our family raised over \$100,000 and volunteered close to 200 hours. You’d think that would be payback enough but nothing ever will. Our family is eternally grateful to the leaders on the forefront and those continuing to pave the way for children who need a little extra help and deserve a whole lot of love. Lucy has graduated but she is will always remain loyal and never a stranger! God Bless the Little Light House!

Love,
Jon, Katie, Zoe, Lucy, and Rosie
Vandrell





Jackson

Jackson Doyal Wilkey was born full term in December 2011. A beautiful 6 pound 9 ounce baby boy, the first 5 months of Jackson's life were typical. He was meeting and exceeding milestones, smiling, cooing, and sitting up, and we were over the moon with our first baby.

Over Memorial Day weekend in 2012, we noticed a rhythmic twitching, similar the newborn Moro reflex. Friends and family tried to reassure us, but we felt something was wrong. Our baby who was rolling, sitting, and smiling only days before, had seemingly lost all those milestones overnight. On Saturday of that weekend, we took him to the pediatric emergency room. It was there that Jackson was admitted for extensive testing over a 5-day period.

Jackson was diagnosed with a rare and catastrophic form of epilepsy, infantile spasms. The root of his infantile spasms was determined to be a rare genetic condition called

Tuberous Sclerosis. Tuberous Sclerosis causes benign tumor growth on many vital organ systems and is the leading genetic cause of both epilepsy and autism.

After receiving Jackson's diagnosis, a follow up appointment with a local neurologist led us to get Jackson placed on the Little Light House waiting list. Jackson was 6 months old when he was placed on the waiting list, and we were thrilled when he was able to attend, at age 2, in August of 2014.

Jackson had been receiving PT, OT, and ST from the time of his



“We will be forever grateful for God’s miracles that have been bestowed on Jackson, and our family, through the Little Light House.”

diagnosis, but at the time of his enrollment in LLH he was still very delayed in speech, gross motor, and fine motor skills. He was also experiencing upwards of 100 complex partial seizures per day.

After his enrollment, Jackson began to develop social skills and interact with his peers. His gross motor skills began to dramatically improve, and he began to climb and jump. We were witnessing miracles each day.

At age 3, in February of his first year at Little Light House, Jackson underwent brain surgery at Le Bonheur

Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN. He had a right frontal lobectomy in order help control his refractory epilepsy. The surgery was successful, and through God's grace Jackson has remained seizure free since surgery.

In May of 2018, Jackson graduated from the Little Light House. During his 4 years Jackson has grown in so many ways. He can now run, ride a trike, and shoots basketball like a pro. He loves basketball and can easily shoot (and make!!) baskets on a 10-foot goal. He is now verbal, and my very favorite words are, “I love you Mama, I do, I do, I do.” He also loves to request chicken and fries or pizza for every meal. He has also started pre-writing and can draw vertical and horizontal lines and of course basketballs (circles).

Jackson has excelled during his time at Little Light House. We will be forever grateful for God's miracles that have been bestowed on Jackson, and our family, through the Little Light House.

Love,
Matt, Lindsay, Landri, Jackson, and Posey Wilkey



Our Renovation is happening!

We are so pleased to be able to share with you that our demolition began in June and we have a target date for completion of December 1st to be in our newly remodeled original building. A special thanks to all of our supporters that are making this a reality. Here are just a few pictures of what has been happening this past month.



REGISTER. RAISE. RUN.

JOIN US

9.15.2018

**Fun Run 9 am | Carnival 10 am
Cascia Hall Track**

**Register online at
www.littlelighthouse.org**





INTRODUCING OUR

2018 GRADUATES



Savannah Hefner

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

ISAIAH 40:31



Daniela Hernandez

And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

MARK 10:16



Jonathan Lincoln

And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

LUKE 2:40



Matthew Alspaugh

The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace.

PSALM 29:11



Grayson Arledge

And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

LUKE 2:40



Taylor Benanzer

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

PROVERBS 31:25



Campbell Mardis

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

ROMANS 15:13



Naydelin Mata-Hernandez

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

ISAIAH 55:12



Andrea Merida

Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

ISAIAH 64:8



Joshua Bougie

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

JOSHUA 1:9



Addison Bui

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

DEUTERONOMY 31:6



Ella Fleming

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13



Katharine Murph

But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

PSALM 5:11



Acen Murray

Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

JEREMIAH 17:14



Cohen Neckar

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.

JEREMIAH 1:5



Emery Nunnally

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

ROMANS 8:28



Ethan Rodriguez

It is God who arms me with strength and keeps my way secure.

2 SAMUEL 22:33



Olivia Sams

A happy heart makes the face cheerful.

PROVERBS 15:13



Tytan Stone

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.

PSALM 69:30



Lucy Vandrell

And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

MARK 10:16



Chas Ward

The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.

PSALM 29:11



Jackson Wilkey

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

JAMES 1:17



CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS of 2018

Alumni Adventures

with Sullivan Barbour

by Monica and Tom Barbour



Late in 2003, our third child received a positive diagnosis for Down syndrome. Doctors and genetic counselors were in unison that an abortion was appropriate, but we reached out to those closest to us for help and prayers. Tom's dad, John Sullivan Barbour, put the whole situation in a very clear perspective. "I believe that you will do whatever's best for your family, which right now numbers five people: you, Tom and Monica; your kids, Joseph and Margaret; and your baby on the way," he said to us. If you ever wondered where Sullivan got his name, now you know.

Because of the early diagnosis, we were able to put Sullivan on the waiting list for The Little Light House before he was born. The application required a photo, so we sent in a copy of his ultrasound. He started in the Orange Class just after his first birthday and was one of the youngest children to attend the school in quite a while. The teachers and therapists took on the challenge of caring for

and educating such a young child and responded to Sullivan in magnificent ways. He would not be who he is today without their talents, ideas, efforts, and love.

Following graduation from The Little Light House, Sullivan attended Grimes Elementary and is currently enrolled at Thoreau Demonstration Academy. He has worked hard and has thrived in school; he reads as well as his classmates, spells better than many of them, and works out algebra problems on his own, with the help of a calculator. He can do pretty much anything he puts his mind to. Sullivan is on the honor roll and, just two weeks ago, became a member of the National Junior Honor Society. Much of his success can be attributed to The Little Light House. It is through their ministry that he developed as much and as quickly as he did and that he has the confidence he has today!

Sullivan is an energetic teenager preparing to enter the eighth grade. He is active in our church and volunteers in the community. He loves to sing and dance and has, in the last three years, been involved with the Clark Youth Theatre Penguin Project,



receiving an outstanding supporting actor award for his performance of the role of "Winthrop" in The Music Man. Sullivan is quite the athlete; he plays soccer, basketball, and tennis.

And he loves the outdoors! He enjoys camping, fishing, and kayaking. Perhaps his favorite camping activity is watching the sun rise and singing "Circle of Life" from The Lion King.



Sullivan is a gift from God, not just to our family, but to the entire community. Those he comes

in contact with express how much of a joy he is to them. The passage we chose for Sullivan during his time at The Little Light House perfectly foretold who he has become today: "...nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house" (Matthew 5:15). Sullivan is, and continues to be, the light of our lives.

Pups, Yups, & Food Trucks



Thank you to all who supported the first inaugural Junior Board Fund-raiser “Pups, Yups, and Food Trucks” event on May 5th! Little Light House established a Junior Board in an effort to engage, educate and inspire youth in philanthropy and begin a path to nonprofit leadership.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

Top Dog Sponsors

Miss Shelly's School of Dance
Jenni Burkitt, DDS
K Duffy Orthodontics

Gold Collar Sponsors

Chewy
City Veterinary Hospital

Silver Collar Sponsors

Mike & Sarah Ledbetter

Links for Little Ones

Our 31st annual golf tournament, Links for Little Ones, happened on June 4th and was a great day! Thank you to all who came out and supported the Little Light House! We would like to give a special thank you to our sponsors:

Premier Sponsors

Paradigm Realty

Presenting Sponsors

RL Hudson and Company
Mary K Chapman Foundation

Major Sponsors

AG Equipment
Saint Francis Health System
Matrix Service Company

Bonus Executive Sponsors

Flint Hills Resources
Phillips 66

Executive Sponsors

Lawn America
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US Payments



Summer 2018 Apprenticeship

Learn | Serve | Grow

The Little Light House hosted nearly 115 youth (ages 14 and up) as they participated in our one-of-a-kind Summer Apprenticeship Program June 12th–July 19th, 2018. Youth apprentices serve in our classrooms with children under the guidance of our certified special education teachers and therapy staff. This unique opportunity

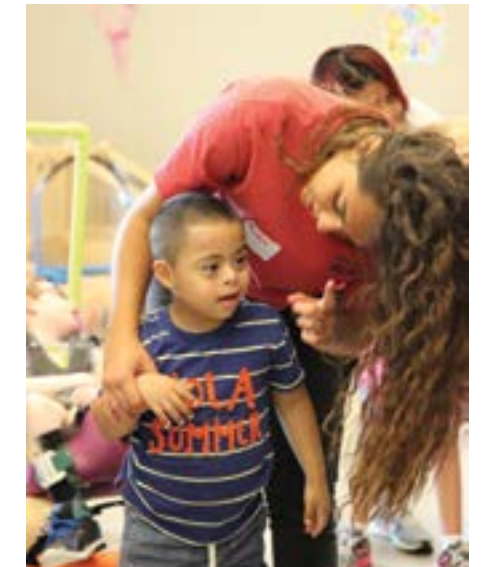
allows students desiring to learn more about vocation fields relating to caring for children with special needs.

These fields may include:

Special Education, Speech Language Pathology, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Low-Vision Therapy, Nursing, Event Planning, and Non-Profit Philanthropy.

Due to the high demand of this program, the selection process is competitive. It is our desire to create an atmosphere to allow each young person to grow in knowledge, understanding and passion to serve individuals with special needs at a high level of excellence.

Thank you for participating.



Do you have some spare time? Can you help?

Do you work well with kids, are you ready to serve and young at heart? If so, we need you! Volunteer from 1-25 hours a week...it's up to you.

JOIN THE TEAM!

VISIT www.littlelighthouse.org/volunteer
OR CALL 918-664-6746



Honorariums

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Langley Land Company LLC

Pamela Adams

Jack and Jo Babbitt

Terri and Gary Amstutz

Accent Realtors

Jacob Baird

Jo Anne Cronk

Henry Bell

Clay Bradley Day

Keith Boyd

Carol Holt

Scott Burnett

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Myrna J. Jones

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Susan Eck

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Charles Baker

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R. Anne Murray

James Hays

Judy Hays

Abigail Horne

Cathe Kehe

Jonah Hough

Amy Dodson

Judah Kahne

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Bethany Kettles

Shannon Van Hoose

Julia Ann Lawson

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Gracie Ledbetter

Cynthia Monaghan

John and Kathy Duffy

Shelly Ledbetter

Glenda Evans

Gary and Susan Belitz

Ruth Ann Hudspeth

Cheryl Nixon

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Debra Zumwalt

Jelena Stewart

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Keith and Jean Winfrey

Jack and Jo Babbitt

Emma Wolf

Bertron and Lois Groves

Disney Light House!

Mini-Laps 2018 | October 13th



Mini-Laps is one of our four major fundraisers. This one is super special though, because we get to celebrate our little ones' milestones! Each child gets to take a lap around our mini track to show off all they have accomplished! For more information or to donate, please visit www.littlelighthouse.org.



Memoriams

Darrell Barnes

Diana Barnes

Danny Bartlett

Will Rogers Methodist/Crusaders Sunday School Class

Dortha Blankenship

Dale and Sherry Kruggel

Deron Brown

Jack and Jo Babbitt

Beth Camille

William Camille

Tommy Childs

Marlene Waychoff

Cheyenne Collins

Kenneth and Debbie Collins

Jenna James Cunningham

Kelsey Pitts

Jack L. Dodson

Julie Dodson

Thomas Alan Dunn

James and Barbara Dunn

Jack Garrison

Bridget Hynes

Kyra Gregory

Ricky and Linda Gregory

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Keith Bulls

Dr. & Mrs. Jerry Hopkins

Stephen Hopkins

Harold and Judy Howland

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George and Barbara Jamieson

Cathe Kehe

Reed James Ledbetter

Cynthia Monaghan

Hadley Taylor Luse

Jaret and Terri Pirtle

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Barrett Studebaker

287 AG

Jack and Jo Babbitt

George Szabla

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Cleola Taylor

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Marlene Waychoff

Claudia Washburn

Richard and Hilda Wooldridge

Teddy Woolman

Travers and Laurie Mahan



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www.littlelighthouse.org

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A CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

-Romans 15:13

Non-discriminatory Policy

The Little Light House, Inc is a non-profit Christian Developmental Center for children with disabilities, age birth to six years of age. The Little Light House does not discriminate on the basis of religion, sex, color, race, national or ethnic origin, or medical diagnosis (unless the diagnosis affects the child's ability to attend school on a regular basis) in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, and other school administered programs. Some behavioral conditions may be evaluated on an individual basis. The Little Light House assures that all children's records will be maintained as confidential.