



Little Light House

2021-2022 Annual Report



Danny
Spina bifida /
Myelomeningocele

OUR MISSION

“To glorify God by improving the quality of life for children with special needs, their families and communities.”

OUR VALUES

**All Children
Stewardship
Innovation
Excellence
Teamwork
Faith**

From the Executive Director

Anne McCoy

“With man, this is impossible, but with God, all things are possible.” *Matthew 19:26*

We see God perform the impossible all the time at Little Light House! He brings forth victory from what appears to be defeat, bounty from little. We see this every time one of our students completes an unexpected new skill, when a parent embraces their child with words of thankfulness, or when a lack of funding for our services is met with overwhelming generosity.

Yes, God is and has been at work at the Little Light House for the last 50 years, using His faithful team of teachers, therapists, professionals, and supporters like you.

Our Little Light House future is filled with wonderful and growing possibilities to help children with disabilities in Tulsa, our nation, and world! We are currently developing training programs, conferences, and internships to meet the many requests coming in locally and from churches, schools, and organizations around the globe. We are thrilled with our two LLH affiliates in Mississippi and Kentucky and are looking forward to more in the coming years.

The world is waking to the beauty of our children with special needs, and along with you, we are here to help! We will do as we have always done: seek God’s goodwill and apply ourselves to it with love, determination, creativity, hard work—the possibilities are endless!



Lauren
Erbs Palsy

Conner
Cerebral Palsy, PVL,
Epilepsy, CVI

From the Board Chair

Kelly F. Monaghan

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” *Psalms 139: 13-14*

Little Light House views each child that comes through its doors as a gift from God - wonderfully and uniquely created. Through prayers and the blessings from our Heavenly Father, we are able to witness children walk for the first time, speak their first words, and accomplish far beyond what was thought possible. In working with these children, we rely on God to lead the teachers, the therapists and the professionals.

Since the opening, Little Light House has been able to thrive and expand through the generous support of donors, large and small. Their generosity is a blessing to the children and families that are served by the Little Light House, but our work is far from being done.

With a waiting list that continues to grow and the opportunity to expand not only locally but, in several states, and even around the globe, we continue to rely on God to provide what we need. Your continued support allows us to see each child reach for the stars and become a bright light of joy, love, and encouragement for the world to see.

1q43q44 Deletion Angelman Syndrome Aniridia Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita Amyoplasia Autism GRIA3 Gene Mutation Bilateral Coloboma Bilateral Optic Nerve Hypoplasia PDL Cerebellar Hypoplasia Corpus Callosum Agenesis Auditory Neuropathy Horseshoe Kidney Spastic Quadrapalegic Cri-Du-Chat Cerebral Palsy Epilepsy Cortical Visual Impairment PVL CMV Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome Smooth Brain Syndrome Cortical Vision Impairments Deletion of Chromosome 10Q26 Deletion of 8th Chromosome Down Syndrome AVSD Chronic Heart Disease Chronic Lung Disease Hirschsprung's Disease Hypothyroidism Low Muscle Tone Hypotonia Tricuspid Valve Regurgitation Duplicate Chromosome 17 Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Kyphoscoliosis Erbs Palsy EAS, ONH GERD Septo-optic Dysplasia Hydrocephalus Spastic Quadriplegic Atrial Septal Defect Mitral Valve Regurgitation Craniosynostosis Static Encephalopathy Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy Seizure Disorder Joubert Syndrome Lars2 Legally Blind Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome Lissencephaly Moebius Syndrome Nfia Related Disorder Noonan Syndrome Pierre Reubin Syndrome Pitt-Hopkins Syndrome Pyriform Aperture Stenosis Russell Silver Syndrome Malabsorption Cerebral Palsy Spina Bifida Myelomeningocele Trisomy 21 Trisomy 9 Mosaicism Tuberous Sclerosis Complex Unbalanced Chromosome Translocation Monosomy 12 / Trisomy 15) Williams Syndrome SVAS

More than a Diagnosis

When a parent receives a diagnosis for their child with special needs, it can be earth shattering. These hopes and dreams you had for your child, visions of their future and your own. Then, suddenly, you are given a diagnosis, and your whole world crumbles. It can be scary, sad, lonely, and difficult.

To the left: All the diagnoses LLH has served during the 20-21 School Year

Parents are often left to adapt to new routines and schedules, new therapies to attend, specialists to meet, and sometimes new medicine to administer. It's all very unexpected, and sometimes it's hard to think outside of your child's diagnosis.

And yet, we do because our children are so much more than their diagnosis! Each child with special needs is their own person, with likes and dislikes, interests, and desires. They all have things that make them tick, things that make them feel happy or sad, frustrated or surprised. Just like any other child, they desire to be loved and to be seen for who they are as a human, not as a medical diagnosis, made in His image and wholly loved.

Aimee Swift, Little Light House Parent

Student Growth

2020-2021 Developmental Center Statistics

44

increased tolerance
to sensory stimuli

33

began purposefully
playing with toys

31

began socially
playing with others

27

began independently
feeding themselves

28

began functionally
communicating

46

demonstrated a preschool
level of academics

32

moved from
diapering to toileting

23

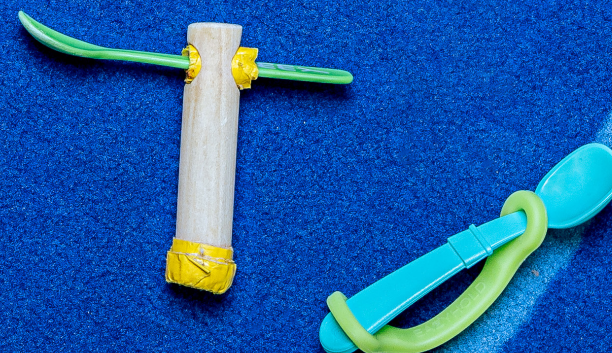
began using alternative
communication devices

61

began to engage in
classroom routines
and activities

19

gained independent
mobility



Transformation of the Heart

We have five amazing children. Like beautiful bookends, our first daughter Emma, and last daughter Norah, have significant special needs. We did not attend Little Light House (LLH) with Emma. She struggled terribly with a rare condition called Proud Syndrome. Not only was it hard to understand Emma, but we also struggled to understand her teachers and therapists. Life was painful for Emma and us. We learned the importance of parent education, proper early intervention, and communication through this long-suffering.

With an eighteen-year spread between our daughters with special needs and three typical children in between, we had time to think about what we would do if the unexpected happened again. When Norah arrived, we ran to a place that loves God and knows how to share God's love with families.

Norah, who currently attends LLH, has Trisomy 9 Mosaicism (T9m). She has difficulty walking independently, only says a few words, and is visually impaired. Norah has a feeding tube, a weak respiratory system, and a shunt to manage hydrocephaly. Among all this, Norah is the happiest girl you will ever meet!

“Norah couldn't walk in the doors on her first day, but she will be walking independently out the doors on her last.

She loves to impress a crowd and play with her big sisters and our family dog. Her cheerful and determined spirit overshadows her long list of challenges. There are about 300 T9m children worldwide, and we have a tight-knit community. Because of this, we can confidently say that going to a school like LLH is an extremely rare and excellent opportunity.

Education, integrity with safety, communication, parent education, and relationships are priorities at LLH. Norah receives speech therapy, feeding therapy, occupational therapy, physical

therapy, and interventions for her vision impairment. Therapists communicate what they are doing and why they are doing it in many creative ways throughout the school year. Teachers are constantly modeling fun and exciting activities relevant to our children.

This physical transformation is equaled by the transformation in her heart. LLH is truly unique in its approach to early education. God has used LLH to transform our daughter, equip us as parents, and prepare us for a bright future.

Lori Anderson, *Little Light House Parent*

Norah
Trisomy 9 Mosaicism



National & Global Impact



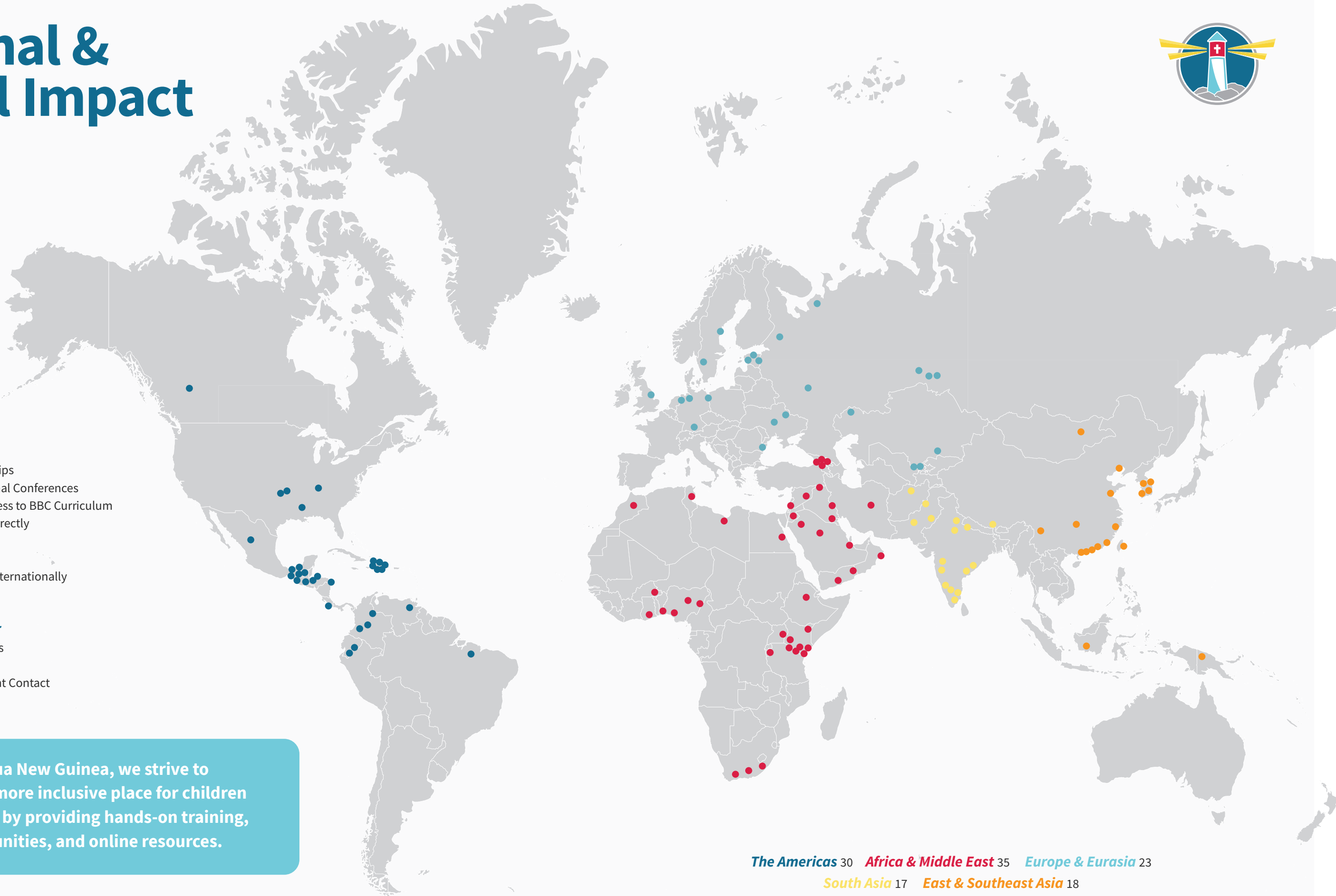
Total

- 38 International Training Trips
- 94 National and International Conferences
- 102 Organizations with Access to BBC Curriculum
- 108 Countries Influenced Directly
- 170 Church Contacts
- 246 National Contacts
- 275 Programs Influenced Internationally
- 528 International Contacts

2020-2021 School Year

- 2 Conferences and Trainings
- 29 Programs Resources
- 10 Countries with Significant Contact
- 50 People Influenced

From Tulsa to Papua New Guinea, we strive to make the world a more inclusive place for children with special needs by providing hands-on training, internship opportunities, and online resources.



The Americas 30 **Africa & Middle East** 35 **Europe & Eurasia** 23
South Asia 17 **East & Southeast Asia** 18



Lincoln
Cerebral Palsy

Life Changing Technology

At Little Light House (LLH), the more access we have to assistive technology, the more our students succeed. Our staff has a long list of technology-related accolades, including licensed Assistive Technology Professionals, staff trained in the Trexo Robotics system, and Language Acquisition through Motor Planning (LAMP) Certified Professionals. LLH teachers, associates, and therapists work together as a trans-disciplinary team to find the best tech solutions for each student.

LLH technology ranges from “**no-tech**” to “**high-tech**.” “No-tech” equipment, such as seating modifications, allow students to achieve optimal posture for learning and engagement. “High tech” equipment like the Trexo Robotics system allows students to learn and practice walking using a robot-assisted device connected to an app that tracks their muscle activation.

Each day in our classrooms, our students use simple switches to activate toys, turn the page of a digital book or take a turn saying our school prayer. These switches are life-changing and give our students a chance to engage and participate alongside their peers.

“Our staff’s ability to see an obstacle and find a creative solution is both impressive and a testament to their incredible abilities and God’s provision and wisdom.

LLH is blessed with technology that helps our students be more independent with daily activities and communication skills. You can walk into any classroom and see a child using LAMP - a communication app that is accessed on an iPad and generates a verbal output when a word or sentence is entered on the device. This technology gives our students early success with communication and helps them grow and develop independent communication skills. Many of our

students have obtained devices through grants our therapists submit so they can continue using this technology at home and in their everyday life.

At Little Light House, we combine our knowledge, passion, and creativity to make sure our students can benefit from all that the world of technology has to offer. When a student faces a challenge, our team is sure to find a technology solution that promotes independence, increased confidence, and improved quality of life.

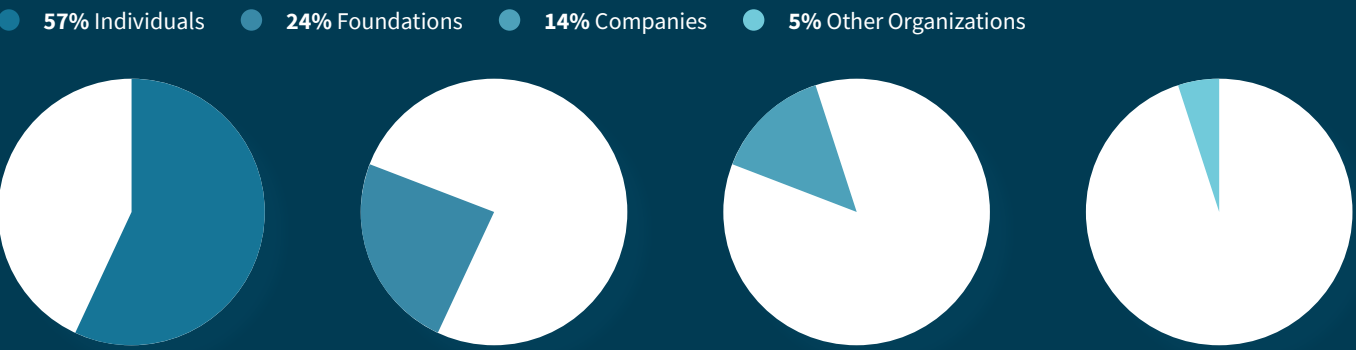
- Brittany Gartner, *Director of Therapy*

Financials

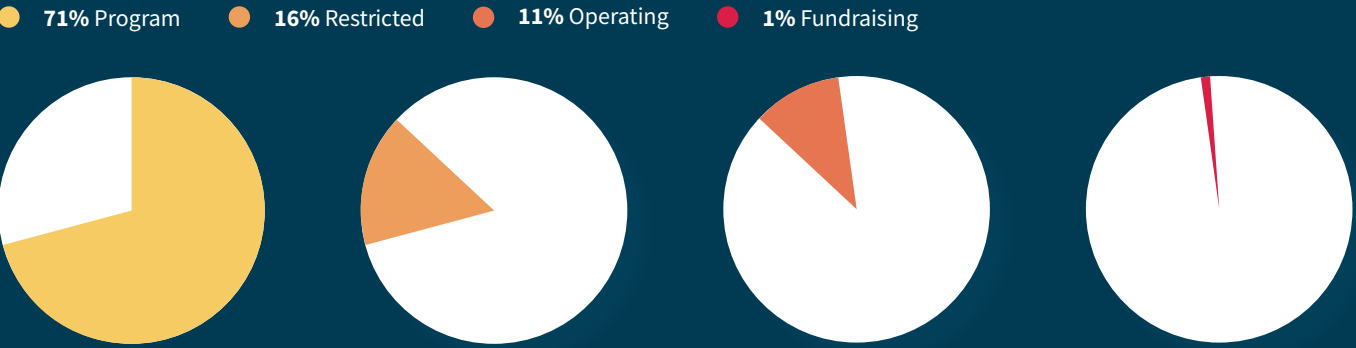
Statement of Activities

	2020	2021
Revenue		
Contributions	\$ 1,266,858	
Fundraising Events, net	\$ 1,453,910	
Donated Materials and Services	\$ 45,964	
Other Income	\$ 419,700	
Paycheck Protection Program Loan Forgiveness	\$ 96,921	
Net Assets Released and Restricted	\$308,832	
Total Revenue & Support	\$3,381,349	
Expenses		
Program	\$ 3,378,555	
Management and General	\$ 298,918	
Fundraising	\$ 175,281	
Total Expenses	\$3,852,755	
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	(\$289,085)	
Temporary Restricted Net Assets		
Contributions (A)	\$ 584,149	
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	(\$ 280,317)	
Decrease in Temp. Restricted Net Assets	\$ 303,832	
Changes in Total Net Assets	\$ 14,747	
Statement of Financial Position		
Assets		
Cash and Certificates of Deposit	\$ 2,614,893	
Pledges Receivable	\$0	
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	\$ 34,372	
Net Property, Plant, and Equipment	\$ 16,878,050	
Total Assets	\$ 19,527,315	
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	\$ 82,027	
Total Liabilities	\$ 82,027	
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$ 18,275,682	
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 738,746	
Permanently Restricted	\$ 430,860	
Total Net Assets	\$ 19,445,288	
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 19,527,315	

Funding Sources



Expense Mix



We are committed to upholding and achieving the highest level of excellence in our work, including our commitment to financial integrity and transparency.



Change is Happening

Sadly, this is a familiar story. While churches sincerely do their best to encourage members of their congregations, many ministries lack the training, understanding, or in some cases, the number of staff they need to support families of children with special needs. Sometimes a child's need is misinterpreted as misbehavior, or churches lack physically accessible classrooms, or a child's needs seem too profound to manage. Whatever the case, this severely limits where families of children with special needs can attend church, if they can attend at all.

But a change is happening, and church members are beginning to see the need, seek information, and become members of the Church Collective. Through the Church Collective, Little Light House partners with A Special Purpose, another non-profit helping churches, to offer trainings and tools for church ministries interested in accommodating all students.

Through a yearly conference and quarterly training luncheons, church members are gaining resources to use in their classrooms, training in recognizing a child's specific needs, and knowledge about what supports and interventions they can introduce in their programs to engage every student in the lesson.

“We were very nervous about attending a new church, fearing that the same thing that happened last time would happen again: Brielle had been kicked out of our previous church nursery for pulling hair and throwing toys each Sunday.

With simple interventions like a “social story” and more training for church members, stories like Brielle's are ending much differently! “Brielle has adjusted well to our new church and has only pulled hair one time. The social story included pictures of the new church building and Brielle's Sunday School teachers. It helped us talk to Brielle about what she could expect at church and how to treat our friends at church. We will continue to use this tool each Sunday before church.”

With simple adaptations and supports, we believe BIG changes are on the way where all our families can be a part of a church community!

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.” John Wesley

- Ann Chinworth, *National and Global Impact Assistant*



Brielle
Down Syndrome



Why I Donate...

Kevin Gillis

Having grown up in the Tulsa area, I had always heard about Little Light House. Still, I had never had the opportunity to learn about their program until a few years ago when I participated in the annual golf tournament fundraiser, Links for Little Ones. I was touched by the kindness I witnessed during the tournament from the LLH staff, volunteers, parents, and especially the students who came out to support all the golfers.

I attended a Community Luncheon and toured their state-of-the-art facility when the opportunity arose. Once the tour was over, I knew that I had found a place I wanted to be of service.

Many people who know me know I believe in paying it forward; many don't know that I have four boys, two of whom were born with severe cleft lip and palates. My wife and I have lived the emotions of searching for light when everything seems so dark. How do you move forward after such a life-altering experience? The love, support, and sense of the strength of community shown by Little Light House are why I love supporting such an excellent program.



Why I Volunteer...

Emma Linsenmeyer

During my freshman year of high school, I decided to work towards an award called the Congressional Award, which included a criterion of 400 hours of volunteering. With so many volunteer hours, I wanted it to be a place where I could see progress over time and one that would have a lasting impact. Little Light House was all of that and more!

The joy you experience when you walk through the door is unmatched. Each child at Little Light House is incredible and exceeds all of the world's expectations. The teachers at Little Light House care about each child in a way that genuinely

shares a glimpse of Christ's love for these children. What started as a goal turned into something I looked forward to weekly. I loved everything from helping a child eat lunch to getting covered in chocolate pudding for a sensory activity!

Now, as a senior in high school, having achieved my goal, with over 200 hours working at Little Light House, I can confidently say every hour was rewarding, and I would not have changed anything about it. If you want to be a part of something life-giving and joy-filled, come to Little Light House, you won't find such beautiful lives anywhere else.



Briggs
Down Syndrome

Thankful

If I could choose one word to describe how I feel about 2021, it is thankful. In Little Light House's 49th year we overcame obstacles, met new friends, and accomplished goals that prepared us to do something we've dreamed about for over 15 years.

On the year of our 50th Anniversary, because of you, we will open our last available classroom and serve at our maximum capacity, helping more children and their families than ever before.

Without the support of the community, we would not exist. Even after seeing 17 years of God's faithfulness firsthand, I still am blown away at how Little Light House operates. It operates because people like you care about our children. Your gifts are not taken for granted by our families or staff, and we are genuinely grateful for the part you play in changing futures here every day.

“It is because of you that we've come this far.”

Thank you for 49 years of miracles. We can't wait to celebrate our 50th Anniversary with you.

- Molly Smith, Senior Director of Advancement

From the bottom of my heart, Thank you for
what you have done to help my family
and families like mine.
With Gratitude,
Mikiko Hoidal

- Little Light House Parent



Little Light House

Matthew 5:16

16 In the same way, *let your light shine before others*, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

In loving memory of Trinity and Blakely

Non-discriminatory Policy

Little Light House, Inc is a non-profit Christian Developmental Center for children with Special Needs, age birth to six years of age. 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 individual basis. Little Light House assures that all children's records will be maintained as confidential.

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