



# Annual Report | 2013-2014



## MISSION

Our mission is to be an organization of excellence that provides superior services to children and adults with developmental disabilities and other special needs to help them realize their full potential and maximize self-sufficiency.

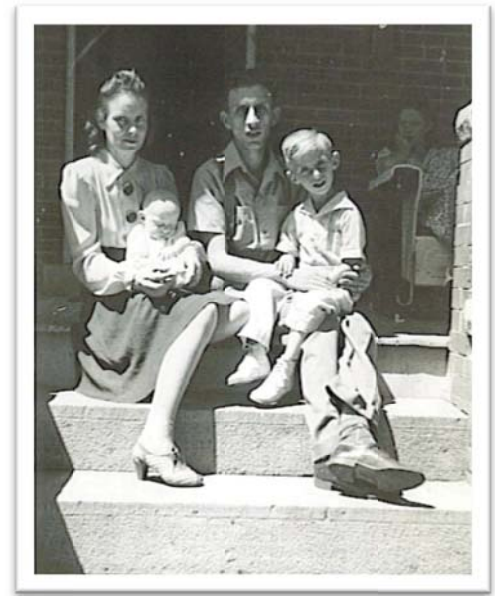


## ABOUT LARADON

The inspiration to create Laradon came after Joe and Elizabeth Calabrese's two sons, Larry and Donald, were denied admission to public school because of their disabilities.

In 1948, the Calabrese's invested their life savings into establishing one of the first schools in the Rocky Mountain Region for children with developmental disabilities. They suitably named the school, "Laradon," after their sons, Larry and Donald.

Today, Laradon continues to be a place for children and adults with disabilities to learn, grow and become contributing members of their communities.



The Calabrese Family

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



It has been a great privilege to serve as Chair of the Laradon Board of Directors and work to sustain the vision of Laradon's founders, Joe and Elizabeth Calabrese. We have seen great progress this year. Some of the exciting highlights include the growing momentum for the capital campaign to construct a new school building, and the offering of more unique programs and services that are tailored to meet each individual's needs, interests, and abilities. We continue to build upon the rich legacy of Laradon based on the Calabrese's core values and strengths, and we are becoming more strategic in defining Laradon's future.

Thank you for your support of Laradon and for people with developmental and other disabilities. With your assistance and support, we are able to help children and adults with developmental disabilities maximize their potential and achieve self-sufficiency.

*John Galvin, Chair*

## Board of Directors

John Galvin, Chair  
Frank Sommer, Vice Chair  
Mike Burns, Treasurer  
Suzanne Bradeen, Secretary  
Jason Adams  
Sandy Dino  
Frank Davila  
Jim Garcia

Sheila Heble  
Nancy Hodges  
Tom McKibbin  
Bill Mitchell  
Dennis Morgan  
Jeannette Rogers  
Arnold Salazar

## PROGRAMS

Laradon provides a variety of educational, residential, habilitative and employment programs designed to meet a broad spectrum of needs.

### Children's Services Division

The Children's Services Division provides services in two programs, the Alternative School and the Family, Infant and Toddler (FIT) programs. The FIT program offers therapeutic services for children birth to age three who have developmental disabilities or are identified as being at-risk for developmental delays. Services are provided in natural environments that include anywhere the child lives, plays or learns.

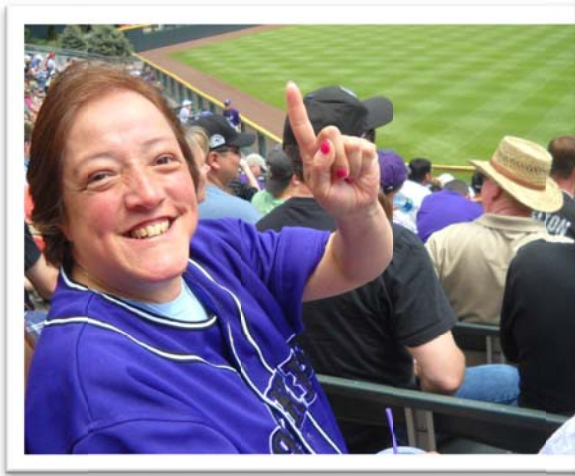
The Alternative School offers a specialized curriculum and therapeutic support designed to meet the needs of students from ages 5 to 21 years old who are dually diagnosed with a developmental disability and emotional/behavioral problems. This program helps students gain the necessary skills to transition to public school or a less restrictive environment.



## Adult Services Division

The Adult Services Division provides a broad array of programs for adults with developmental and other disabilities. The overarching goal of each program in this division is to increase independence and maximize each person's potential while providing choices and tailoring services to each person's talents, interests and abilities. Programs under this division include:

- Autism,
- Basic Skills,
- Behavioral Services,
- Community Participation Vocational,
- Community Participation,
- Host Homes,
- Individual Employment,
- Medically Fragile,
- Seniors and
- Ticket to Work.



## KEY SUCCESSES

- Adult Residential Services began serving people from the Colorado Choices Transition program. This program helps to transition Colorado Medicaid members out of nursing homes and long-term care facilities and into home and community-based settings. Participants receive home and community-based services plus enhanced supports and services designed to promote independence.
- The Alternative School successfully graduated 83 percent of students back to their home schools. The need for physical management was reduced by over 25 percent. All Teachers have been trained in the new Colorado Department of Education's electronic records system, ENRICH.
- Day Habilitation Services had the opportunity to partner with Vincentian Volunteers who provided a full-time volunteer who assisted, created and executed activities for the participants in the adult day programs.
- Community Employment Services shared stories of individuals in the program that are successful in their jobs. These stories were featured in the annual report to Governor Hickenlooper.
- Laradon supported supervisors and managers this year by investing in a series of trainings to enhance their management skills. The supervisors and managers reported that they enjoyed attending training that was focused on their needs and it helped them to be better leaders for the organization.

### *Executive Leadership Team*

Frank J. Lucero, Ph.D., Executive Director

Annie Green, Deputy Director

Paul Durack, Director of General Services

John Eisen, Director of Children's Services

Corey Kala, Director of Finance and IT

Heather Kijanka, Director of Quality Assurance and Human Resources

Karen Mayfield, Director of Residential Services

Carol Stephens, Director of Community and Employment Services

Loretta Tipton-Perry, Director of Medical Services



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