Established in 1976, Eden II Programs began with just six students and one special education teacher. Today, the not-for-profit organization serves over 500 participants in New York City and Long Island. The mission of Eden II Programs is to support people with autism through service, science, and passion so they may achieve their full potential throughout their lives. Eden II Programs provides a variety of services using the evidence-based principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) to treat the delays and challenges associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Eden II is recognized nationally as a leader in working with individuals across the autism spectrum, including those with the most significant challenges.

Currently, over 130 families participate in full-day education programs from early childhood through adulthood on Staten Island. In 2015, Eden II opened a new, state-of-the-art autism center – the Honorable James P. Molinaro Center for Autism – which serves 68 participants, ages 8-21, in elementary and secondary education programs. The Autism Center also serves as the Agency’s main headquarters for the administrative team. Eden II Programs educational programs in Staten Island also includes a preschool program, Special Education Teacher Support Services (SETSS), Special Education Itinerant Teacher (SEIT) services; The Staten Island Adult Day Habilitation program serves over 90 individuals; and 39 adults with ASD live in our five community residences located on Staten Island.

On Long Island, Eden II’s Genesis School program serves 30 individuals, ages 5-21, in elementary and secondary education programs. The Genesis Outreach Autism Center assists over 50 individuals across all programs. The Adult Day Habilitation program serves 34 individuals; and 12 adults with ASD live in our two community residences.

Hundreds benefit from a variety of other services such as Community Habilitation, Respite, Afterschool, and a number of Family Support programs. Eden II also provides consultation support locally, nationally, and internationally. Learn more at eden2.org.
EDEN II PROGRAMS
Early Childhood
CAMPAIGN

Where the little things are never little,
and every milestone is a celebration!
Dear Friends:

Eden II urgently needs your support with the expansion of our early childhood program. Eden II’s Little Miracles serves over 100 children with preschool and elementary schooling, as well as children who receive services such as Special Education Itinerant Teachers (SEIT) and Special Education Teacher Support Services (SETSS).

We are embarking on a capital campaign to renovate and outfit a new preschool building. The goal is to provide durable and safe furniture for children in early education so that they can have the best learning environment to support their development.

Little Miracles offers a highly structured, intensive learning environment using Applied Behavior Analysis. Our individualized programs focus on learning-readiness, academics, social behavior, play skills and self-help. They are certified by the New York State Education Department and mostly funded by the New York City Board of Education.

Today, we are asking for your support as we continue to serve children with autism.

Sincerely,

Ralph Scamardella          Joanne Gerenser, Ph.D.
Chairman of the Board of Directors       Executive Director, Eden II Programs
announcing our Early Childhood Capital Campaign

We are proud to share the exciting news that Eden II Programs will be expanding our Early Childhood Program, also known as Little Miracles! The new building is located on St. Paul’s Avenue in the Stapleton neighborhood of Staten Island, and is right up the block from our agency headquarters at Beach Street. The new building has the opportunity for growth, improved classrooms and technology, a full size gymnasium, playground, teacher’s lounge, nurse’s station, and much more.

Our goal to renovate and prepare the building is $800,000. To date, over $100,000 has been raised. We need your help! In order to meet our goal and soon occupy this amazing school, we are counting on family, friends, staff, local businesses, elected officials, and the Staten Island community to support us.

thank you
At an early childhood level, we consider success for our core participants to be the ability to move forward with their education. For many, that goal is ultimately to return to a mainstream educational setting in an inclusive environment. For the remainder, they continue in a setting like Eden II, where they have an intensive ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) educational setting, often throughout their entire lifespan. A participant’s success is always defined on an individualized basis. An important component of any participant’s success is teaching them how to learn and how to manage their behaviors. We provide them with tools that enable them to have incremental steps toward success in a very personalized plan, which always supports their goals as part of their NYC IEP (Individualized Education Plan).

Our goal is of the 100 participants requiring services, approximately 90% will master skills from their IEP with an 80% accuracy measured by performance task assessment and teacher observation/collection of data. Having an expanded, upgraded preschool setting will allow us to improve services for current participants that directly impact their ability to succeed, serve a minimum of 25 additional children, and continue to expand offsite services.
The growth and success of our early childhood participants is rooted in our/their ability to:

**Increase appropriate behaviors and decrease inappropriate behaviors;**

- Examples include sitting appropriately,
- speaking at appropriate times in a classroom setting,
- raising hand when appropriate,
- maladaptive and non-compliant behaviors such as verbal stereotypies, screaming, hitting, crying, and throwing himself/herself onto the floor.
(Serious behaviors require intense intervention and redirection, however in many cases these children are able to manage and/or overcome.)

**Increase pre-academic learning readiness;**

- Examples include waiting appropriately,
- visual tracking,
- responding to his/her name and auditory soundtracks,
- one-concept commands using objects,
- picture to word matching,
- expressive shape and color identification programs.

**Increase independent, appropriate socialization and play;**

- Examples include initiate and respond “Hi + name” to familiar adults and peers,
- initiative to play with friends in a group and while in the break area,
- engaging in various pretend play activities as well as appropriate play using games,
- using spontaneous and appropriate language,
- expanding his expressive language,
- strengthening turn taking during play activities.

**Increase/Master activities of daily living;**

- Examples include chaining the steps toward washing his/her hands and brushing,
- unpacking and packing his/her school bag,
- retrieving and opening his/her lunch box, unpacking lunch, putting it away,
- using a spoon independently and drinking appropriately from his/her cup,
- completing the toileting process independently,
- completing any interlocking puzzle up to 24 pieces,
- opening a workbook and writing independently (and turning to specific pages).

When appropriate, transition to a DOE setting or a less restrictive setting.
A custom donor recognition wall is being created to acknowledge gifts of $500 or more. The donor wall will have bronze, silver, and gold stars, each engraved with a donor's name or message.

Actual design may differ.

Pricing:
- Bronze Star: $500
- Silver Star: $1,000
- Gold Star: $2,500

Visit eden2.org/ECC to make your gift to support Eden II's Early Childhood Campaign.

Every gift is 100% tax deductible & greatly appreciated.

Make your gift online! Go to www.eden2.org/ECC

For more information on how you can make your gift, please contact a development associate at info@eden2.org or call 718-816-1422 ext. 1030.
With a new building, there are many opportunities to honor someone, continue a person or corporation’s legacy of care and compassion, or promote a business. Naming opportunities have been created, from technology-enhanced classrooms to the nurse’s station. The sponsorship costs range from $5,000 to $100,000, as well as donor recognition walls like the one on the previous page where gifts from $500 can be acknowledged.

Gifts can be made one time, or over a period of up to three years. For example, a gift of $5,000 can be divided into a plan that works for you. Perhaps a monthly or quarterly check, or an automatic credit card charge by our development staff on a regular schedule. You can also raise funds toward a naming recognition by creating your own Crowdrise page!

Our dedicated development staff will work to build the gift and payment schedule that best fits your situation.

Some namings can be found on this page.

- $100,000 Outdoor Site Naming
- $50,000 Playground
- $50,000 Indoor Gymnasium
- $25,000 Lobby & Waiting Area
- $25,000 Classroom
- $25,000 Lunchroom/Cafeteria
- $15,000 SmartBoard or SmartTable
- $10,000 Principal’s Office
- $10,000 Teacher’s Lounge
- $10,000 Conference Room
- $5,000 School Pantry and Kitchen
- $5,000 Nurse’s Station

Some namings are reserved at the following:

- $2,500 Gold Star on Donor Wall
- $1,000 Silver Star on Donor Wall
- $500 Bronze Star on Donor Wall

**SET UP YOUR CROWDRISE FUNDRAISING PAGE TODAY!!**

1. Set up your Crowdrise fundraising page
2. Go to: https://www.crowdrise.com/eden2campaign
3. Click the grey SET UP YOUR FUNDRAISER button on the right
4. Choose to CREATE or JOIN A TEAM
5. Add photos, your goal, and your story
6. Log into CrowdRise (or create an account)
7. Personalize your page via EDIT FUNDRAISER
8. Start raising money today!

Raise money on your crowdrise page, reach your goal, and get recognized with your naming opportunity!
Why Did You Decide to Work with Young Children with Autism?

I have been working with children with autism for over 21 years. I decided to complete an internship at Eden II during my undergraduate studies in 1995. I acquired a deep sense of pride in the accomplishments of my students, so much that I have stayed for over 21 years and never looked back. Not many people can say that they love going to work in the morning, which reminds me of a quote saying, “Choose a job you love and you will never have to work a day in your life.”

What Makes Eden II’s Early Childhood Program Unique? What Sets It Apart?

We are a full ABA program that combines education and lifespan support that focuses exclusively on autism. We form unique bonds with our families, working together to improve the quality of life for our students and their families.

Why Is This Early Childhood Campaign Important to You?

This campaign will give us the ability to be able to expand our services to so many more children and families throughout Staten Island. With the autism rate consistently increasing, the need for a program like Eden II’s Early Childhood program is essential to our community.

What Will Be Some of the Biggest Benefits of an Expanded Early Childhood Program?

With having an opportunity to expand and continue to grow, we will be able to positively affect not only our current student body and their families, but also the lives of so many more in need of our services.

What Would You Look Forward to the Most in a New Early Childhood Building?

The biggest thing is having classrooms that are bigger and able to be adapted to the needs of our students. Other things like a large gym and playground area, bathrooms where the students can complete their Activities of Daily Living (ADL) goals and recreational spaces for the students to take their breaks are very exciting to look forward to.

Where Do You Hope to See the Early Childhood Program 10 Years From Now?

I recently received a letter from a former family whose child we serviced at our early childhood program. They were so grateful for our help throughout the years and wanted to express their gratitude for making their child’s life better.

“You, Nicole and the other SEITS who have worked with him have saved his life. THANK YOU. Due to your hard work...you have changed another child’s life.”

With that being said, 10 years from now can mean so many more children’s lives touched and changed for the better.
“Little Miracles”
Where the little things are never little,
and every milestone is a celebration!

Little Miracles Early Childhood Program has done amazing things for our daughter, Brianna, in the short time that she has been there. She is more verbal then she was when she started and her self injurious behavior is nonexistent. A new building would give this school the capability to bring their amazing program to more children who so desperately need it.”

~ Toni McNally, Brianna’s Mom

PLEASE SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF EDEN II’S EARLY CHILDHOOD AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAM, LITTLE MIRACLES.
Help our children reach for the stars...

“Our daughter Emmaline, has Rett Syndrome - one of the most severe known causes of autism. Not many schools would be willing to accept a child with so many challenges, but Eden has welcomed her with open arms. They have given Emmaline a structured, supportive and loving environment, and they have given us peace of mind. Every morning when we send her off to school, we are grateful that she is going to a place where she will be well taken care of and where she will be pushed to reach her full potential.”

~ David Glick and Kristin Polizzotto, Emmaline’s Parents

“I remember like it was yesterday when I was told Nicky was accepted into Eden II. It felt like hitting the lotto! Nicky started Eden II non-verbal, no social skills, no eye contact. The staff and teachers knew the perfect recipe of love and discipline that helped Nicky make strides I could not imagine. They taught us how to carry over everything in our home and it made such a difference in his progress. We are truly blessed to have had Eden II in our lives for so many years.”

~ Lisa Caldarera, Nicky’s Mom
The discovery that a child has a disability, can have profound effects on the family. The type of emotions parents experience, as intense and overwhelming as they may be, were also normal and acceptable at Little Miracles. They understood how hard it is to send a child with autism to preschool. Thankfully my son made the transition from in-home therapy to the classroom fairly easily due to the help at Little Miracles and their entire staff. He was welcomed to the school. It was his second home. His teachers were patient and understanding with him. They nurtured him, took time with him; and he learned, and grew so much. You get to witness miracles that you otherwise would have been too busy to have noticed at home, and I am grateful for that time. My son is now going to be 18 years old! He has accomplished a great deal at Eden II.”

~ Denise Bianchi, Andrew’s Mom