

# AnchorLine

*the newsletter for supporters*

**Fall 2014**

**Issue #2**

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**Anchor Center for  
Blind Children teaches  
visually impaired  
infants, young  
children and their  
families, providing  
hope and a nurturing  
environment where  
children reach their  
highest potential.**

## Where Are They Now?

Ever wonder how your support of our programs has influenced the children that have graduated from Anchor Center and what they have been able to accomplish?



### Carlie was featured in the 2010 fall edition of AnchorLine.

She was born with optic nerve hypoplasia (tiny optic nerves). She just turned 8-years-old in August and started 3rd grade at Wildcat Mountain Elementary School. Douglas County Schools moved her to a smaller elementary school this year so she could get more individual attention to help her be more successful. Carlie is a visual learner (she can read with her eyes, but her eyes get very tired, very quickly). The font gets smaller in 3rd grade and the kids need to read a lot more, so Carlie's Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI) thought she should learn braille to help her keep up with all the reading. "She started learning one handed braille in July and she is really doing great with it," say her parents Tami and Michael. She is also learning one handed typing using "Cowriter" and with technology apps available, she is starting to do dictation also. This winter she will try skiing with the Foresight ski program. Even though Carlie's left side doesn't work well and she is legally blind, her parents are always amazed when they give her the opportunity that she always wants to experience what it's all about!

### Claire was featured in the 2009 fall edition of AnchorLine.

Parents Marlo and Chic say, "Each Anchor Center teacher offered a unique insight into Claire's development from the first day she attended program there at 11 weeks old. With hands-on training, we were better able to understand ways of supporting Claire's development." Claire graduated Anchor Center in June 2013 and is now in 1st grade at Bergen Meadow Elementary. "Understanding what our daughter needed and being able to communicate that succinctly has been important for her in public school." Claire is independent, confident, and thriving, in large part to Anchor Center's early intervention. Marlo and Chic realize every day how big the confidence piece is for Claire. They are forever grateful that she has the courage to stand on her own. "When Claire was 2, I couldn't be out of her sight for five seconds. She would flip! Her teacher, JC, would play a game with us ...I would leave for stretches of time, each time a bit longer," remembers Marlo. Claire is doing well in school and participates in sports — soccer, skiing, and swimming.



# from the executive director



Dear Friends,  
One of the most frequently asked questions we get from foundations and visitors is whether or not we keep track of our graduates. We do our best and we were fortunate that so many of them came to visit for our 30th class reunion and for JC's retirement tea — rekindling wonderful friendships and recalling shared memories. We have had many of our graduates come back as ambassadors, public speakers, advocates and volunteers in our programs and in doing administrative work. Seeing them stirs up both pride and humility. We are grateful to have been a part of those early years — and to help get them launched. Please take a minute to watch our new video and hear one graduate's story. Thanks for the part you played in helping Johnnie Jean (shown far right) be the confident young woman she is today.

*Alice Appelhbaum*



## NEW Videos

We are proud to share our new organizational videos which capture the magic of our mission here at Anchor Center.

The first video tells the story of our children and families as they go through the darkness of a diagnosis to the light of all they learn about their future and their child and how Anchor Center gives them the tools and skills necessary to see life differently.

The second one shows what some of our graduates have been able to do after leaving Anchor Center. They are truly an inspiration to all of us. Please take time to go to the homepage of our website and watch these videos — you will be amazed and delighted!

[anchorcenter.org](http://anchorcenter.org)

PG 2



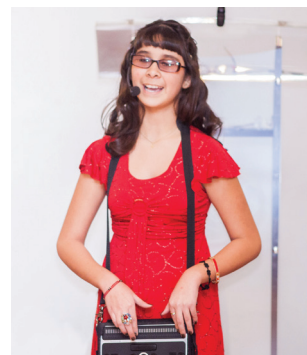
*Nicholas Tanaka, one of many graduates that attended JC's retirement party, wanted to share a story.*



*Derek Riemer, now a sophomore at CU Boulder also shared memories of JC at the party and he volunteered this past summer with the preschool program.*



*Melissa Licon, an Anchor Center graduate, gives back by volunteering in the kitchen.*



*Johnnie Jean was the featured speaker at the 2013 Dancing with the Anchors event.*

## ANCHOR NIGHT WATCH

New once-a-month respite program for Anchor Center families provides a wonderful night out for parents and a fun night in for Anchor Center children and their siblings. Anchor Center is partnering with Denver School of Nursing and board, staff and community volunteers have helped launch it!

AS OF OCTOBER

SEVEN

Friday nights

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY  
child attendees

FIFTY EIGHT  
student nurses

FOUR  
nurse supervisors



# Graduates Participate in Sunset in the Country 2014

Anchor Center graduate, Maddie Stallman (age 13) and her mother, Paula Landry, shared their family's story at the 18th Annual Sunset in the Country. The sound of clinking glasses and laughter hung in the late July air as nearly 500 guests gathered on the beautiful grounds of Jim and Pam Crowe's Cherry Hills Village home. The dinner gala brought together both loyal and new friends of Anchor Center, whose generosity and support was overwhelming.

We're thrilled to report that this year's Sunset in the Country was the most successful ever for Anchor Center for Blind Children, netting a little over \$370,000. Our deepest thanks go to the table hosts who filled and beautifully decorated 45 tables; to Jim and Pam Crowe for their tremendous generosity hosting the event; to Dayle Cedars for being our fabulous emcee; to Dinah Sink and Deb Harris for coordinating site arrangements; to Marlo Naumer's dedicated leadership chairing Sunset; and to the guests, committee and volunteers for making this an event that only keeps getting better! Our new videos, produced by Postmodern Company, were showcased for the first time at Sunset.

Maddie Stallman (r) wows the audience while Casey Schueler (below) imparts her knowledge to guests at Sunset in the Country, letting them know that their contributions go towards helping children learn early braille skills.



PG 3



## Supporting Our Present, Charting Our Future

**Anchor Angels** and **Navigators** were honored for their commitment to the children and families at an appreciation dinner at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. They received a special tour of the Morgridge Family Exploration Center, including the new Discovery Zone where activities help build a strong foundation of science skills for very young children through hands-on, highly experiential experiences. Anchor Center's Executive Director Alice Applebaum was on an advisory committee for the Discovery Zone and two Anchor Angels, Michael McNeill who works for the museum, and Maria Cole, who was the architect for Anchor Center's Stapleton building and for the new addition to the museum, gave tours of the new space. It was exciting to be some of the first people to see it!

Angels are leadership donors who are dedicated to Anchor Center's present programs and make a financial commitment of \$1,000 to \$20,000 per year for two consecutive years. To get your wings, call Kristine at 303-377-9732 or download the Angel Pledge Form from our website, **How You Can Help**, and **Anchor Angel Circle of Giving Club**.

Navigators are those supporters that have included Anchor Center in their will, estate plan or other gift of future provision. Our deepest gratitude goes to these friends that are supporting our present and charting our future. If you would like more information about planned gift options, please visit our website under **How You Can Help, Gift Planning**. Information is updated monthly so check back often!



(top) Past Anchor Center board president, Curt Brown and his wife Natelle along with Mary Rogers enjoyed the party at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. (bottom) Angels and Navigators gather in the Schlessman Lobby before dinner.



# through



*Lighting helps us  
navigate safely.*

*Music is even better  
with friends!*



*The Greenhouse  
is home to tactile  
outdoor adventures.*



*"Boom! Boom!" goes  
the drum.*



*Kid-sized windows  
let us observe.*



*We love to jump, run, and play!*



# our eyes



*Fall is a time  
for fun costumes  
and classroom  
activities.*



*Field trips teach us about the world.*



*Splish, splash! From water fun at the  
Botanic Gardens to harvest photos, our  
smiles are everywhere.*



*We enjoy literacy time!*



# Colorado Gives Day

*Help us get our share of the Colorado Gives Day \$1 Million Incentive Fund*

For the fifth consecutive year, Community First Foundation and FirstBank are partnering to present Colorado Gives Day. All Anchor Center supporters (you don't have to live in Colorado) are encouraged to join the movement on Tuesday, December 9, 2014, by supporting us (and other favorite causes) online through [ColoradoGives.org](http://ColoradoGives.org).



For the first time ever, Colorado Gives Day features a **\$1 Million Incentive Fund**, one of the largest gives-day incentive funds in the country. This means every nonprofit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day receives a portion of the Incentive Fund. For example, if we receive 10 percent of the total donations made on Colorado Gives Day, we will receive 10 percent of the \$1 Million Incentive Fund. Your gift to us on Colorado Gives Day increases the value of every dollar you donate.

PG 6

**3** There is no better time than now to protect your wealth with valuable and often overlooked tax deductions. First, estimate how much income you expect to bring in by the end of 2014. Knowing this information can help you decide how much you may want to give to favorite causes, such as Anchor Center for Blind Children, reducing your income tax hit.

## Tax-Savvy Strategies to Use This Year

### Get an Immediate Tax Benefit

When you support Anchor Center for Blind Children, you not only make a difference in the lives of others, but you also receive a tax deduction. You can usually itemize and write off the amount you're donating, resulting in lower taxable income. If you are unsure whether your gift is tax-deductible, simply contact us.

### Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit

- If you live in Colorado please take advantage of this! Every gift given to Anchor Center in 2014 qualifies. If you gave gifts to Anchor Center in 2011 and/or 2012 and declared them on your tax return for those years, you will also be able to claim those on your tax returns in a graduated fashion: for contributions made in 2011, 2012 and 2013, no more than 50% of the total of the tax credits earned (plus any carry forward credits from years previous to 2010) could be claimed in 2013 (i.e. 50% of the 50% tax credit = 25% of donations made in those years).
- In 2014, no more than 75% of the total of the tax credits earned through contributions made in 2014 plus any accrued carry forward credits may be claimed (i.e. 75% of the 50% tax credits = 37.5%).
- In 2015, all total tax credits earned (50% of gifts given in 2015) plus all remaining accrued carry forward credits may be claimed.

Please consult your tax advisor with questions and see the *FYI Income 35* document from [colorado.gov](http://colorado.gov).

### Receive Lifetime Income From Your Gift

Whether you're still working or retired, you may decide after assessing your finances that you need more income. Consider setting up a life income gift to benefit Anchor Center for Blind Children. In exchange for your gift of cash or securities, or possibly real estate, you or your designated beneficiary receive income for life. Plus, you get a partial charitable tax deduction the year you make the gift. Once the payment period ends — or you or your beneficiary passes on — the remaining value of your gift goes to us.

Instead of cash, consider donating appreciated property. If you give Anchor Center for Blind Children property you have owned for more than a year, the amount you can write off is the asset's value on the day you make the gift. So if the property has increased in value while you've owned it, you won't owe tax on its appreciation.

If the property's value is now below your original purchase price, you can sell it to take a capital loss to the extent allowed by law, thus reducing your taxable income. Then donate the cash to Anchor Center for Blind Children. Either way, it's a win-win situation—you help us while smartly managing your taxes.



## 2014 ForeSight Golf Classic

The 18th Annual ForeSight Golf Classic at Sanctuary was certainly a tournament to remember on June 19! The summer day was marked by blue skies, warm weather and the generous spirit of nearly 100 golfers. A very special thank you goes to our parent speakers, Amy and Simon Engelbert. Before the shotgun start, golfers gathered in the outdoor pavilion to hear Amy and Simon, parents of preschooler, Asher, share their family's story and the impact Anchor Center has made in their lives. Sincere appreciation for the tournament's success goes to Mr. and Mrs. David Liniger, Sanctuary staff, committee volunteers and our title sponsor, Energy Corporation of America!



*Simon Engelbert holds his son Asher as his wife Amy tells their story.*



*Superior Drilling Products took first place.*

## 2014 Cherrity Pie Festival

The 4th Annual Cherrity Pie Festival was once again a great success — we couldn't have asked for a more beautiful September day. Adults and kids alike had a wonderful time riding the train, getting their faces painted and a cool balloon character. They jumped in the bouncy castle, made braille bookmarks, played games, took their turns in the hamster ball, and dressed up for a picture at the photo booth. Lunch was served complete with a piece of pie from Village Inn (who donated all the pies) and then people competed in the pie walks and pie eating contests. With the sponsorships, ticket sales, silent auction and the Manning jersey drawing, Pie Consulting & Engineering and Holland & Hart helped us raise over \$30,000 for Anchor Center children.

*Josi Heron and her daughters and mother enjoy dressing up! Josi represented Pie Consulting & Engineering on the event planning committee and did a lot of the leg work to make it such a fantastic event.*



*Kids had fun making braille bookmarks with a tactile symbol.*

## Upcoming Events

**Updated information about all Anchor Center events can be found at [anchorcenterevents.com](http://anchorcenterevents.com)**

### December 9, 2014

#### Colorado Gives Day

Donate at [coloradogives.org/anchorcenter](http://coloradogives.org/anchorcenter) and your donation will be increased by the FirstBank Incentive Fund.

### February 12, 2015

#### Visions of Love

An evening event at Anchor Center, pairing fine wine and chocolate. Sponsorship opportunities available. Contact [dschipper@anchorcenter.org](mailto:dschipper@anchorcenter.org).

visions of love  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2.12.15**



### June 24, 2015

#### Energy Corporation of America 2015 ForeSight Golf Classic

Sponsorships now available! Contact [savannah@anchorcenter.org](mailto:savannah@anchorcenter.org).



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[anchorcenter.org](http://anchorcenter.org)

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