Lekotek of Georgia

Making a Difference for Children with Disabilities

25 years

{2009-2010 Annual Report}

25 Years of Making a Difference

{ 1983 }

1983 Lekotek incorporates and conducts play sessions for 52 families in the basement of Easter Seals.

1986 Apple donates computers to be loaned to families.

1987 Lekotek initiates Compuplay and holds the first annual summer computer camp.

1991 Lekotek and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta establish the first Lekotek satellite in Duluth.

1993 The first Annual Lekotek Run is held.

1998 Lekotek initiates Computer Club and the grandparent support group.

2000 Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Lekotek establish a second satellite in Alpharetta.

1999 The Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities presents the Bobby Dodd Award to Executive Director, Helene Prokesch, for making a difference for children with disabilities.

2002 Lekotek of Georgia establishes the Cobb satellite.

2005 The number of computers loaned to families exceeds 100.

2006 Lekotek establishes the southside satellite.

2009 Lekotek becomes a certified Sibshop program to support siblings.The number of children for which Lekotek has made a difference exceeds 4,400.

{ 2009 }

Our Success Stories

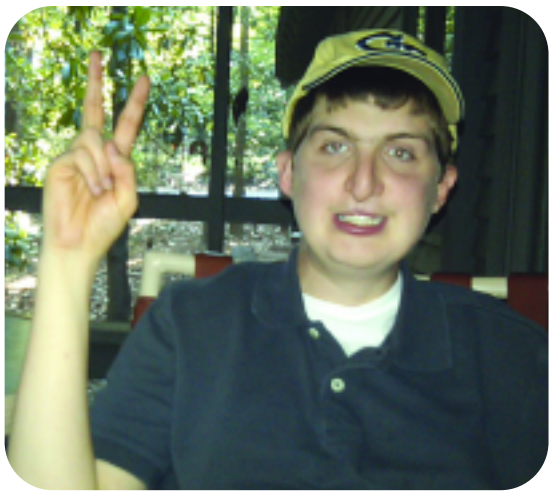
Carla was born with cerebral palsy. She's nonverbal and can't see or read the text in a book. But with a laptop, staff-written software and adapted computer input devices, she is in the community reading books to preschoolers.

Matthew has CHARGE syndrome and was born with a cleft palate. He has hearing and visual impairments and cognitive delays. But he has no difficulty navigating Atlanta's public transportation system to commute to his job at SunTrust Bank.

Nick, who has cerebral palsy, has always loved movies and dreamed of being a director. Nick was one of 24 students accepted to the University of Southern California's screenwriting program. He is living his dream.

Carla, Matthew, and Nick all benefited from Lekotek and exemplify Lekotek's mission of inclusion. When Nick's mother, Anna, called Lekotek Executive Director Helene Prokesch to let her know about his acceptance to USC, she said, "You're one of my first calls." Why was that so? Because when Nick was a preschooler, others were focused on what he could not do, while Lekotek believed he could be successful in a typical preschool, Anna said. And throughout the years, Lekotek encouraged Nick to realize his dreams, she added.

We applaud the accomplishments of Lekotek kids and are proud to be part of their progress.



Clockwise from above: Nick, wearing his Southern California t-shirt, and his brothers celebrating the holidays. Carla and her brother, Mark, at the Lekotek Run. Matthew, who still enjoys LekoPals, is an avid Georgia Tech fan.

Message from the Founder and Executive Director

Making a Difference for 25 Years

Throughout the past 25 years, I have heard parents comment, "I came to Lekotek for toys and software but stayed for much more." Many families have stayed for years, and even decades, because of Lekotek's mission of inclusion. We believe everyone is a player. The staff is expert in play techniques for children with disabilities and is adept at introducing parents to cutting-edge computerized educational tools. But our staffers are much more than technicians. They are caring, compassionate people. We are proud that parents see us as "a safe haven," where they can play and learn together with their children.

Let me share with you why I came to Lekotek and why I have stayed. In the early 1980s, I became familiar with the National Lekotek Center in Evanston, IL, which was helping my nephew, Jeremy, who has Down syndrome. A special education teacher by training, I was so impressed by the center's family-based approach that I became determined to start a similar program in Atlanta. Getting space and funding was anything but easy but I persevered, and in October 1984, Lekotek of Georgia conducted its first play session in the basement of the Easter Seals center.

Since then I have learned about technology, managing a nonprofit organization, board development, finance, and long-term strategy. However, I've learned even more from the siblings, parents, and grandparents of the children who came to Lekotek and from the children themselves. Of the many hats I wear, none is more rewarding than conducting a play session. Helping a child participate, learn new skills, and develop self-esteem and confidence is what Lekotek is all about.

The play session remains the heart and soul of Lekotek, which today offers a variety of programs at five locations. None of this would have been possible without the generous support of our donors listed in this report. I am also indebted to the talented and dedicated staff and board members, past and present, who have given so generously of their time, talent, and resources. It has been a privilege to work with them. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you in making a difference for all the children who need us.

What Is Lekotek?

Since 1983, Lekotek has made a difference for more than 4,400 children and families in thirty three Georgia counties and three states. Lekotek occupies a unique niche in the lives of children with disabilities. It's a welcome break from therapy. Through play, Lekotek facilitates inclusion and learning along the way.

Children receiving services have a wide range of disabilities including, but not limited to, attention deficit disorders, speech delays, cognitive delays, autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, hearing and/or vision loss, neuromuscular disorders, and spina bifida. Participants include families of all races and religions with varied economic and social backgrounds. While Lekotek charges minimal fees, no family is denied services due to an inability to pay.

Lekotek of Georgia's mission is to facilitate the inclusion of children with disabilities into family, school and community settings. To achieve this mission, Lekotek provides the following:

- Accessible play environments with specialized toys and computer equipment
- Information on resources outside of Lekotek
- Family support groups and social and outdoor activities
- Technical assistance to parents and professionals on play and technology
- Innovative software, technology, and educational solutions

The Nonprofit With a Funny Name

"Lekotek" is a made-up Swedish word for play library. Originating in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1963, Lekotek was the concept of two parents. These moms understood the role of families in helping children with disabilities reach their potential and become full participants in their communities. At Lekotek, parents are welcomed with encouragement and a listening ear. When families visit, they are provided with disability information, parent education, internet access, and referrals to additional resources. Following hourly play sessions, families borrow adapted toys, computers, peripherals and software designed to meet the needs of children with physical, cognitive, speech and/or sensory delays.

Lekotek leaders have backgrounds in education, child life, and music, recreation, and speech therapy. During a play session, they select toys designed to overcome a child's specific weaknesses and strengthen his or her abilities. Lekotek leaders encourage parents, siblings, and grandparents to participate in play sessions.

Affiliated with The National Lekotek Center in Evanston, IL, Lekotek of Georgia is one of 22 Lekoteks nationwide. Since the concept was brought to the United States in 1980 by Sally DeVincentis, an Evanston teacher, Lekoteks in the U.S. have made a difference for nearly 10,000 families.

Ready, Set, Play...
The Components of Lekotek

Toy/Computer Lending Library

Lekotek's toy/computer inventory is comprised of more than 4,000 select toys, software programs, adapted input devices, and computers. From rattles and drums to touch windows and adapted keyboards, seeing, hearing, and touching toys make it possible for children to master skills. During one-hour play sessions, Lekotek leaders model the creative use of the toys and computer equipment for each child. Families are encouraged to use the toys to create a playful and educational environment at home.

Computers and software which are possibly the most powerful toys in Lekotek's inventory, are essential to the Lekotek program. As the community has become aware of Lekotek's need for equipment, individuals and corporations have continued to donate Macintosh and PC compatible systems. These systems are also loaned to families. Before a system is borrowed, Lekotek leaders customize it and train parents to use it. This unique lending program provides an excellent opportunity for children with disabilities to experience technolgy and its benefits.

Resource Library

Through the resource library, parents have an opportunity to borrow books, magazines, periodicals, and videos on a wide variety of disability-related topics. Siblings and grandparents can also check out books that address their unique challenges.

Compuplay

The Compuplay program is designed to meet the needs of individuals between the ages of 2 and 22. Youngsters and parents attend five one-hour, weekly family sessions to enjoy and learn from computer play. Compuplay focuses on the use of adaptive peripherals (alternative input devices to the standard mouse), customized equipment and software to enhance speech, writing, reading, cognitive, and fine-motor skills. State-of-the-art technology equalizes the playing field making it possible for everyone to participate together. Staff-written software with large icons makes it possible for children with visual impairments and fine motor delays to use the programs. Adapted software that includes auditory and visual scanning for children who are blind or hearing impaired is available. With an array of color, graphics, music, and sound prompts, these programs provide opportunities for successful learning. Hardware options include adapted joysticks, head mice, touch screens, switch adapted trackballs, keyboards with keyguards, and switches for scanning. Children who cannot use a keyboard, see the screen, or read a printed page, can use these devices. During Compuplay, children enjoy reading and writing stories, playing music, learning math concepts, word processing, and problem solving. Computer assisted learning is making it possible for children with disabilities to participate with their siblings and peers.

Neonatal and Hospital Play Sessions

During the past decade, there has been a significant increase in premature births resulting in developmental delays and lengthy hospital stays. Conducting play sessions at the hospital helps to normalize the hospital environment as infants, parents, grandparents, and siblings interact with one another and learn through play. Parents frequently comment, "With each bag of toys, Lekotek brought hope and joy." In addition to neonatal play sessions, Lekotek leaders work with children with disabilities of all ages who are hospitalized. With a laptop and a Lekotek bag filled with developmentally appropriate toys, Lekotek leaders conduct hospital play sessions. Lekotek plans to expand its relationship with Atlanta-area hospitals and neonatal units.

Music Classes, Play Days, and Family Events

Music classes are conducted three times a year on Saturday mornings. Using instruments and computer sounds and graphics, children learn to follow directions and interact with family members. Play days are conducted throughout the year and include arts and crafts, music, and computer activities. Family events include an annual visit to the pumpkin patch, zoo day, and holiday party.

Summer Computer Camp

Lekotek offers an annual four-week summer computer camp for children between the ages of 4 and 13. Children with disabilities are asked to invite a sibling or friend to participate with them. Technology is an equalizer as children with and without disabilities participate together.

Computer Club

Computer Club was initiated for Lekotek "graduates," but youngsters above the age of nine who previously have not participated in Lekotek play sessions are also welcome. Just as typical nine to fifteen year olds participate in clubs, Computer Club provides opportunities for our youngsters to socialize and participate in a club activity. Few programs like these exist for children with disabilities. Atlanta-area high school and college students volunteer as peer tutors at Computer Club. Following Sunday afternoon computer activities, everyone enjoys dinner and birthdays are frequently celebrated.

LekoPals

LekoPals is a unique social program for teens with disabilities ages 15 and above. Lekotek staff and peer volunteers facilitate fun activities that include computer club, bowling, and age-appropriate outings.

Grandparent's Support Group

One of only a handful in the country, Lekotek's grandparent support group offers a forum for asking questions, expressing concerns, and socializing with other grandparents who face similar circumstances. Speakers are invited to address topics of interest, including financial planning, medical issues, working with the educational system, dealing with difficult behavior, sibling relationships, and other issues of concern. Grandparents often find the world of disabilities less formidable when shared with others.

Inclusion Project

Most teachers see great benefits for all students in having a child with disabilities in their class. But ongoing support is vital if the child and teacher are to be successful. Lekotek's inclusion project works with public and private schools to include children with special needs in typical preschool and elementary school classes. Lekotek of Georgia's staff provides training for regular classroom teachers. Suggestions are made on how to modify both the physical classroom set-up and work requirements for the student. Parents and teachers who have completed evaluation forms have been extremely positive about this project. Teachers are grateful for the support provided by Lekotek staff members. One parent wrote, "Lekotek's great support this year made us feel like we won the lottery." Inclusion makes all of us winners.

Finally, to promote inclusion and disability awareness, Lekotek staff frequently demonstrate adapted toys and computer equipment at schools. During Disability Week in Georgia, Lekotek leaders visit elementary schools in several counties. Students without disabilities use adapted toys and computers with switch adapted trackballs to understand how learning and play are made accessible to children with special needs.

Lekotek Sibshops

Sibshops create opportunities for brothers and sisters of children with special needs to meet other siblings and gain support in a fun atmosphere. Brothers and sisters who have the longest relationship with the person with special needs have much to offer each other. The Sibshop model intersperses information and discussion activities with ice-breakers, fun games, and computer activities. Sibshops are not therapy, although their effect may be therapeutic. Lekotek is extremely proud to be a registered Sibshop that has been certified by Don Meyer and the Sibling Support Project.

play

Collaboration with Other Organizations

Happy Tails, a nonprofit animal-assisted therapy organization, visits Lekotek regularly. Happy Tails volunteers have pets that have completed obedience and other specified training. Frequent guests include dogs, rabbits, turtles, cats, and guinea pigs.

Lekotek also works closely with statewide Babies Can't Wait, Georgia P.I.N.E.S. (a statewide program for children with sensory disabilities), FOCUS (Families Of Children Under Stress), Parent to Parent, The Marcus Institute, The Emory Autism Center, The Center for the Visually Impaired, Make-A-Wish Foundation, The Down Syndrome Association, therapists, physicians, public and private schools, statewide early intervention programs, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and other Atlanta area hospitals. Referral sources continue to expand, and partnering with the organizations mentioned above has helped Lekotek reach metropolitan, suburban, and rural areas.

An Approved Lekotek Training Program

Lekotek of Georgia is a nationally approved internship site that provides training to develop additional Lekotek leaders throughout the country. Staff members also conduct workshops on inclusion, assistive technology and adaptive toy use. Agencies, professionals, and parents benefit from a variety of consulting and support services.

Publications and Internet

To maintain contact with families and professionals throughout the country, Lekotek publishes a quarterly newsletter that includes Lekotek news, information on specialized toys and innovative technology, a guest editorial, profiles of Lekotek families, and an acknowledgement of sponsors. Lekotek's mailing list now exceeds 2,000.

Parents and professionals can learn about our services and products by visiting our website (www.lekotekga.org). The site is also linked to additional resources. Lekotek leaders are always available to help parents with internet searches. Additionally, families and friends of Lekotek can learn of upcoming activities and services through our LinkedIn and Facebook pages.

Product Design

Since Lekotek's inception, staff members have designed toys, computer devices and software to meet the needs of children with disabilities. Lekotek has a catalogue of products and all proceeds from the sale of products support direct services.

Lekotek Sites

Lekotek Locations

Now in its 26th year, Lekotek has made a difference for more than 4,400 children and families. On an annual basis, approximately 400 children participate in play sessions, camp, club, and computer evaluations. Lekotek's strength lies in the professional skills that its leaders bring to each site. Lekotek of Georgia funds four satellite operations. Children's Healthcare of Atlanta has generously donated space for both the Alpharetta and Duluth sites. This partnership benefits hundreds of children. The satellites make it possible for families to receive services closer to their homes. Unfortunately, waiting lists for Lekotek services exist. Children with special needs do not have time to wait and the board is committed to fundraising efforts to keep the wait to a minimum. Long range plans call for continued collaborations with universities, schools, recreational centers and hospitals to reach additional children throughout the state.

Main Center

Atlanta, Georgia—In 1983, Lekotek of Georgia began operations in the basement of Easter Seals on Maple Drive. Today, the main site is located on Cliff Valley Way near I-85 and North Druid Hills in Atlanta. This site occupies 3,000 square feet and has the space and resources to conduct five play sessions simultaneously. In addition, workshops, Lekotek leader training, computer evaluations, compuplay, play groups, music classes, summer computer camp, and Sunday afternoon computer club are offered at the Cliff Valley location.

Satellite Centers

Duluth, Georgia—Lekotek of Georgia's first satellite was established in 1991 with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Located at Children's rehabilitation center on Satellite Boulevard in Duluth, this site conducts monthly play sessions to 45 families. During the past 14 years, over 600 families from six counties have benefited from its services.

Alpharetta, Georgia—Families in North Fulton county requested that Lekotek offer services closer to their homes, and once again Children's Healthcare of Atlanta generously donated space to make a program possible. Initial funding from the Georgia Departnment of Human Resources has allowed 200 families to benefit from this site since it opened in 2000. Families at this site have participated in play sessions, compuplay and computer evaluations. This center is located at Children's rehabilitation center on Highway 9 off of GA 400.

Kennesaw, Georgia—With generous support from the John Harland Foundation and the Children's Trust Fund, Lekotek of Georgia opened the Cobb satellite in 2002. Located near the intersection of I-75 and I-575, this site reaches families in Cobb, Cherokee, Bartow, and surrounding counties. During its first year, the Cobb site exceeded all expectations in providing play sessions to 55 families. To date, more than 200 families have participated in play groups, club, compuplay, computer evaluations, and play sessions.

Fayetteville, Georgia—In June 2006, Lekotek opened a southside satellite in Fayetteville, Georgia, and 45 families used it during the first year of operation. Seed money from the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta was used to purchase the initial inventory of toys, educational materials, and computer equipment. This same Foundation provided seed money to get Lekotek of Georgia off the ground in 1983.

Fiscal Year 2009 - 2010 Budget

Lekotek Finances

Lekotek of Georgia has been successful in raising funds from foundations, corporations, civic groups, individuals, and special events (an annual run, a silent auction, and a golf tournament). As a result, its financial condition is stable. And as of June 30, 2009, Lekotek's reserves were approximately 70 percent of its Fiscal Year 2009 - 2010 budget. These reserves are crucial for safeguarding the organization against contingencies, supporting new services, satellite development, and organizational growth.

Lekotek's board of directors is extremely proud of the fact that over 90 percent of donations support direct services to children and families. (In addition to providing their time and expertise in diverse fields, all of the directors contribute financially to Lekotek.)

Please consider a donation to Lekotek in your will and/or estate planning. Additional funding will help Lekotek meet the growing needs of children with disabilities and their families throughout Georgia. Near-term priorities include expanding summer camp, parent training, compuplay sessions, and family programs. In the longer term, Lekotek hopes to add more satellites in order to reduce the number of families who now have to travel hours to receive services. With community support, this vision can become a reality.

We thank everyone who has contributed to Lekotek's accomplishments. We appreciate your confidence and look forward to your continued involvement in the years ahead.

Budget for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2010

Personnel	
Director/Lekotek Leaders	
Contracted Services	
Consultants	
Total	$230,500
Operational Expenses	
Facilities	
Staff Development	
Professional Dues Subscriptions	
Total Operational Expenses	$105,000
Special Programs	
Technology Program	
Scholarship Fund	
Neonatal Hospital Play Sessions	
Summer Computer Camp	
Satellite Expansion	
LekoPals/Computer Club Inclusion Project	
Outreach to Diverse Populations	
Total Program Expenses	$114,500
Capital Expenditures	
Specialized Toy and Educational Inventory	
Technology Equipment - Adapted input devices and software	
Total Capital Expenditures	$25,000
Total Budget	**$475,000**

Projected Revenue Streams

Membership Dues/ Computer Fees	$20,000
Professional/Consulting Fees	$5,000
Family Program Fees	$3,500
Board Pledge	$12,000
Direct Mail Fundraising Campaign	$32,000
Special Events	$108,500
Innovative Products	$7,500
General Contributions	$263,500
Interest Dividends	$23,000
Total Projected Income	**$475,000**

Lekotek Special Contributors

Sky Scrapers ($10,000 and Up)
Anonymous
Anncox Foundation
Belmont Foundation
Boxer Foundation
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
DHR - Office of Birth Outcomes
Dunwoody Country Club
John Harland Foundation
Holly Lane Foundation
Scott Hudgens Family Foundation
Kaiser Permanente Foundation
The Billi Marcus Foundation, Inc.
The Marcus Foundation, Inc.
McKesson Foundation
Dr. Michael and Alaine Rothkopf
Rothkopf/Greenberg Foundation
Ida A. Ryan Charitable Fund
Stahl Family Foundation
Variety Club of Georgia
Waffle House Foundation
The Waterfall Foundation, Inc.

Castle Stackers ($5,000 to $9,999)
Anonymous
Atlanta Foundation
Raymond M. Cash Foundation, Inc.
Community Associations Institute
Friedman Supporting Foundaton
John and Mary Franklin Foundation
J. B. Fuqua Foundation
Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Foundation
Lockheed Martin Aero Club
Montag & Caldwell
New York Llfe Foundation
Newell Rubbermaid
Piedmont Construction Group

Tower Builders ($2,500 to $4,999)
CDC Federal Credit Union
Community Foundation for NE Georgia
Cox Enterprises
Greene-Sawtell Foundation
J & E Real Estate Investments, LLC
Joe E. Johnston Foundation
Kroger
Lipscomb Family Foundation
Lois and Lucy Lampkin Foundation
Maslia Foundation
Florence H. Maxwell Foundation
Publix Super Markets Charities
Rapid Reporting Verification Company
Rich Foundation, Inc.
Roswell Woman's Club, Inc.
Sciele Pharma, Inc.
Springlake Friends
Jane Smith Turner Foundation
Wells Fargo Foothill
West Foundation
Frances Wood Wilson Foundation

Building Blocks ($1,000 to $2,499)
Abbott Labs
May P. & Francis L. Abreu Charitable Trust
Alex Roush Architects
BB&T/Huffines-Russell & Assoc.
Beech Foundation
Capital Investments Advisors, Inc.
Career Sports & Entertainment
CEO Ventures
Chubb Group of Insurance Companies
Cliff Valley Office Partners
Community Health Charities of Georgia
Covenant Group
DeKalb School Employees Foundation
Deloitte Consulting
Ed Voyles Acura
Equifax
Ford Motor Company
FTI Consulting
Gannett-WXIA
Genuine Parts
Grant Thornton
Jals Family Foundation
Junior League of Gwinnett/N. Fulton
Kibler Foundation
Kurt Salmon Associates
Manhattan Associates
Marvin F. Poer & Company
Oneida Builders, Inc
Pfizer
Post H.O.P.E.
Pratt Holdings (USA) Inc.
QuikTrip
Shepherd Harvey & Associates
Snapping Shoals Electric Trust
Southern Regional Health Systems
Sutherland, LLP
Suwanee Realty
Taylor Bean Foundation
Tucker Optimist Club
John Wieland Homes

Toy Makers ($100 to $999)
A. & D. Painting
Aarons Grant & Habif, LLC
American Elevator
Argo Lead Charitable Trust
Atlanta Psychological Services
Atlanta Time Corporation
Attached To Me
B & M Auto Repair, Inc
Back To Back Chiropractic
Barnes, Broyles & Associates
Donald C. Beskin, P.C.
Blackhawk Builders
Bricco Construction Company, Inc.
Car Program, LLC
Center Neurology, P.C.
CGI
Charles Schwab Corp. Foundation
Cherokee Brick & Tile Company
Child Neurology
Cobb EMC
Family of Ross Cooper
Coram Healthcare
Cushing, Morris, Armbruster & Montgomery, LLP
Dig It Tees
Dunwoody Pediatrics
Dunwoody Women's Club
Eisenberg and Bogandoff, D.D.S.
Equival
Marie and Brad Foster Family Fund
Fulton School Employees
Georgia Natural Gas
Gwinnett Gladiators
Hennessy Lexus
IBM Corporation
Investment Penalty & Recovery Group
Ippolito's
Kid's Creek
Kiddos' Clubhouse
Knauf Insulation
Knights of Columbus Georgia State Council
Lexis/Nexis
David and Dorothy Markert Family Fund
McKenna, Long and Aldridge
New Utrecht Fuel Oil Company
Olansky Dermatology Associates
Optimist Club of Atlanta
Dr. Richard Patrick
Patrick Chiropractic Center
Pittman Construction Company
PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Push America
Rainmaker Consultants
Repro Products
Roush Family Foundation
Roy's Restaurant
The Schwarzkopf Family Charitable Fund
Security Bank
Shaw Industries
Dan Shim, Attorney
Smartwater
Sotto Design & Development
South Cobb Rotary
Thomas E. Suddes Family Fund
Szabo Associates
Thrasher Contracting, LLC
Towne Lake Optimist Club
Victor Realty
Vitaminwater
Weissman, Nowack, Wilco and Curry
Joni Winston Fund

Puzzle Solvers (Under $99)
Collective Good Inc.
Dynamic Therapy Associates, Inc.
James Ackerman
Northlake Kiwanis Golden K. Club

friends

Lekotek Scholarship & Special Gift Funds

These funds were created by parents and named in memory of children who benefited from Lekotek services. These funds continue to make a difference for Lekotek families.

The Joshua Shartar Scholarship Fund
The Katie Frongillo Memorial Fund
The Lauren Martin Scholarship Fund
The Rachel Mann Memorial Fund
The Corey Etkind Memorial Fund
Lindsay Kluglein Memorial Fund
The Kathryn Gillespie Memorial Fund
The Charlotte Zink Technology Fund

These funds are named in memory of Lekotek grandparents whose grandchildren benefited from Lekotek services.

The Beulah Beyer Memorial Fund
The Ulrich V. Solmssen Memorial Fund
The Pasquale Buchieri Memorial Fund
The John Kalinski Memorial Fund
The Joan Tebbel Memorial Fund

The Alex Cunningham Scholarship Fund — Alex Cunningham was a member of the Atlanta Optimist Club. During his lifetime and under his direction, the club designed and adapted toys for Lekotek kids. Mr. Cunningham's toys continue to circulate, making a difference for children with disabilities. Affectionately nicknamed "Mr. C.", his legacy lives on.

The Trevor Meek Memorial Fund — Trevor Meek was the nephew of Sharon Meek and the grandson of Robert and Frances Meek. Sharon was a staff member at Lekotek from 1984-1992. She helped establish Lekotek and its innovative technology program. For the past 20 years, Robert Meek, a retired engineer, has created unique products for children with disabilities and their families.

The Al Rothkopf Memorial Fund — Al Rothkopf was a cousin of Executive Director, Helene Prokesch. He and his wife, Sekie, have been long time advocates for children. Lekotek was honored by the family's request that donations be made to Lekotek in Al's memory.

The Kathy Couch Memorial Fund — Kathy Couch and daughter Laura, drove long distances to the Cliff Valley site. Despite a difficult illness, Kathy made great efforts for Laura to participate in weekly Compuplay sessions. Upon arriving both always had smiles. We hope their time at Lekotek meant as much to them as it did to us.

The Diane Wolpert Memorial Fund — Diane Wolpert was not only a friend to executive director, Helene Prokesch, but a friend to everyone. She was one of the first to visit Lekotek in the basement of Easter Seals. Diane secured corporate and individual donations. She volunteered at special events and never missed a Lekotek run.

The Clemens E. Prokesch Memorial Fund — Dr. Clemens E. Prokesch was Helene Prokesch's father-in-law. Dr. Prokesch was fond of Helene and her work on behalf of children with disabilities. The Prokesch children—Richard, Steven and Linda—created this fund in memory of their dad to provide scholarships to families in need.

The Dorothy Kay Memorial Fund — Shelly Kay, Lekotek board member and chair, along with his sisters established a memorial fund to honor their mom. The purpose of this fund is to increase services to families on the waiting list.

Chester A. Roush, Jr. Estate Bequest — Mr. Roush's grandson, Matthew, is featured in the annual report. This gift was designated by the Roush family in memory of Chester A. Roush, Jr. and in honor of Matthew.

To leave a bequest or create a scholarship or memorial fund, please contact the office at 404.633.3430.

Friends of Lekotek

Castle Builder ($1,000 to $2,500)

Evelyn and E. M. Couch
Perri and Rick Courtheoux
Joni and Charles Cushing
Kathleen and Anthony DiChiara
Nancy and Marshall Ford
Barbara and Sheldon Kay
Adrienne and Robert LoRay
Lenore Maslia
Dr. Marcus and Debra McElhaney
Sandy and Mike Moore
Mary Jane and Oliver Murray
Nancy and David Pegg
Lauren and John Seidl
Patricia and Scott Thompson
Rosemary and Don Weber
Angie and Skip Weiland

Tower Staker ($500 to $999)

Margaret Pumper and Simon Ahn
Anonymous
Gerrilyn and Walter Brill
Beth and Jon Burton
Martha and Mike deMarco
Katherine Hale
Zelda and Ralph Johnson
Christine and John Langone
Ellen and Bruce Lindemann
Kathy McMillon
Robert Meek
Audrey and Jack Morgan
Vicki and Tex Morgan
Erina Nichols
Leslie and Gary Null
Dr. Richard and Helene Prokesch
Dr. Neil and Judy Ramquist
Susan and Alex Roush
Carol and Fred Salmons
Diane and James Tebbel

Building Buddy ($250 to $499)

Marilyn Arkin
Laurie and Sid Besmertnik
Dr. Bonnie Prokesch and Bryan Boucher
Margaret Deavours
Debbie Fox
Dr. Howard and Ann Grant
Dr. Eric and Maxine Honig
Dr. Michael and Jennifer Johnston
Carolyn and John Layman
Nicole Lobisco
Sissy and Michael Luciani
Janice and Joe Nodvin
Susan and Brooks Patterson
Isabel Pearlman
Louis Pittman
Lydia and Michael Price
Steven Prokesch
Sekie Rothkopf
Cheryl and Michael Sander
Gerry Serotte
Mike Terry
Linda and Dudley Waas
Mindy and Rick Waitsman
Drs. Barbara and Joseph Weissman
Joanne and Bruce Westbrook
Catharine and John Wymer

Playmates ($100 to $249)

Sarah Anderson
Jane Ayres and Jim Smith
Vicki and Raymond Bachman
Shawn and James Ballew
Shirley and Bernie Boxer
Steven Broadbent
Dr. Howard and Jennifer Caplan
Franke and John Cimaglia
Mari and George Cleveland
Suzanne Courtheoux
Lynn and Gerald Crane
Joyce and Ronald Crowe
Julie and David DeJarnette
Suzanne and Daniel Dooley
Muriel and Bernard Epstein
Anne and Eric Feldman
Dr. Bruce and Debbie Fisher
Linda and Bill Foster
Dr. Sonia George-Bussey
Joan Goldman
Xiomara and David Grant
Tammy Greenberg-Duble
Karl Gretzinger
Jane and David Hanson
Pam and Shawn Hardister
Kimberly and John Hepter
Gladys Hirsch
Michael Holmes
Dr. Allen James
Sandra and Donald Jewell
Stephanie and Chip King
Drs. Markus and Carmen Klass
Rose Klein
Samantha and Richard Kluglein
Anna and Andreas Kostopoulos
Eugenia Kowalsky
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