50 years of shaping futures, changing lives

May Institute's 60th anniversary event was not only a highly memorable, energy-filled celebration, but it was also our largest fundraiser to date, bringing in $247,000 to support children's programs and adult services, technology advancement, and employee initiatives.

More than 350 sponsors, families and individuals served, staff, donors, board members, and other guests attended the sold-out celebration at the Granite Links Golf Club in Quincy, Mass., on April 9th. The Reverend Liz Walker, Pastor of the Roxbury Presbyterian Church, and former WBZ-TV news anchor, served as mistress of ceremonies for the event, “May Institute Anniversary Celebration—60 Years of Shaping Futures, Changing Lives.”

“The evening was a tremendous success, both from a fundraising perspective—thanks in large part to our generous corporate donors—and also from the standpoint of community and celebration,” said Lauren C. Solotar, Ph.D., ABPP, President and CEO of May Institute and event co-chair. “For 19 years, I have had the privilege of coming to work every day and being invigorated by our dedicated staff and the remarkable and resilient...
The National Autism Center (NAC) at May Institute has released the results of the largest systematic review to date of interventions for autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The report, Findings and Conclusions: National Standards Project, Phase 2, identifies effective, research-based interventions for individuals across the lifespan.

The new report provides an update to the NAC 2009 summary of the ASD intervention literature for children and youth under age 22, and includes information about interventions for adults.

THE COMBINED RESULTS OF PHASES 1 AND 2 HAVE PRODUCED THE LARGEST COMPILATION OF STUDIES EVER REVIEWED.

The findings identify 14 Established Interventions for children and adolescents that have the most research support, produce beneficial outcomes, and are known to be effective. It also identified one Established Intervention for adults on the autism spectrum. This intervention, and nearly all of those classified as effective for children and adolescents, are behaviorally based. The Established Interventions are all grounded in the methodologies of applied behavior analysis, behavioral psychology, and positive behavior support.

The report helps to inform decisions about interventions for ASD. It identifies three interventions for individuals under age 22 that were identified as Emerging in 2009 and have now garnered enough scientific evidence of effectiveness to be moved into the Established category.

The report is available as a free download on www.nationalautismcenter.org. Hard copies are also available for purchase via the website.
Promoting institutional renewal

Stephen S. “Steve” Young, LL.B., a well-known trial lawyer and Senior Partner, Inactive, in Holland & Knight’s Boston Office, has been named Chairman of the Board of Trustees of May Institute. Steve succeeds Don Ricciato, Ph.D., who stepped down as Chairman at the end of his term in 2014, but remains active on the Board.

“Steve has been a highly respected member of our Board for more than a decade,” said May Institute President and CEO Lauren C. Solotar, Ph.D., ABPP. “The organization has benefited enormously from his guidance. We are delighted that he will play an even greater role in our strategic matters and governance.”

Steve is joined at the leadership level by Board of Trustee members Mary Lou Maloney, the new Vice Chairperson and Assistant Treasurer, and a professional advocate for individuals with disabilities; and Neal Todrys, President of Todson, Inc., who serves as the Board’s new Secretary. May Institute benefits from the fiduciary oversight of a 14-member Board of Trustees.

Governing body welcomes new member

Jocelyn Frederick, AIA, ACHA, EDAC, LEED, BD+C, has joined May Institute’s Board of Trustees. An internationally renowned architect, Jocelyn is a Principal at Tsoi/Kobus & Associates, and leads that firm’s core national healthcare practice.

“I’m confident Jocelyn will make significant contributions to our Board as we collaborate with executive leadership to provide the highest quality services to the individuals in May Institute’s care, and to successfully govern and add value to the organization,” said Steve Young, Chairman of May Institute’s Board of Trustees.

Jocelyn graduated from the University of Hawaii with a bachelor’s degree in pre-architecture, and earned a master’s degree in architecture at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. She is a founding member of the American College of Healthcare Architects, a frequent lecturer at professional conferences, and a regular contributor to key industry publications.

Impacting China with ABA

May Institute President and CEO Lauren C. Solotar, Ph.D., ABPP, and Bob Putnam, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Executive Vice President, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, were invited as sponsored presenters to share their expertise in applied behavior analysis (ABA) at the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Heart Alliance Autism Learning Network, International Autism Seminar organized by Stars and Rain Educational Institute for Autism in Beijing, China.

Stars and Rain is a non-governmental educational organization that serves children living in China with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Helen McCabe, Ph.D., Director of the Five Project, is fluent in Mandarin and served as Drs. Solotar and Putnam’s interpreter and translator during their visit. Dr. McCabe is a former May Institute employee.

The Chinese contingent is interested in setting up an ongoing exchange program with May Institute and plans to send a delegation from China to visit us in the near future.

“We are very excited about collaborating with Stars and Rain to improve services for children and adolescents with ASD in China,” said Dr. Solotar. “Fortunately, modern communications technology such as Skype will enable us to provide training in ABA, data collection, and analyses across continents on a regular basis.”

To read the full article and access photos, visit www.mayinstitute.org/china.
TODRYS TO CHAIR NEW PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE

The Board of Trustees recently approved the creation of a Philanthropy Committee to foster stronger charitable giving for unrestricted and restricted support of May Institute’s programs. Under the leadership of Trustee Neal Todrys, who co-chaired the 60th anniversary celebration, the Committee will help strengthen a culture of philanthropy throughout the organization and focus on the identification, cultivation, and solicitation of individual and corporate donors. Senior Vice President of Philanthropy Mary Tiernan noted, “I look forward to working with Neal and the committee to implement May Institute’s fundraising strategy, including corporate and foundation relations, annual giving, major gifts, and planned giving to support our wide range of services.”

MANY THANKS!
We are deeply grateful to the following individual and corporate donors, and volunteers, for their contributions to our 60th Anniversary Celebration.

LIVE AUCTION DONORS:
Jay Blanchard
Buca’s Tuscan Roadhouse
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SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Braga Photography
Donna Byrne, Vocalist
Les Harris, Jr, Drummer
Keala Kaumeheiwa, Bassist
New Leaf Flores
Jorge Ordoñez Selections for contributing the fine wines
May Institute staff for their volunteer efforts
Tim Ray, Pianist
Back (L-R): Karin Page, Courtney de Lacy, Co-Captain Candice Kwedor, Co-Captain James Sherman, and Robert Bonnevie, Jr. Front (L-R): Alison Martin, Danielle Kennedy, Maricarmen Hazoury, Nicole Lewis, Danielle Troiano, and Ali Schroeder. Team members not pictured: Kayla Fiffy, Amanda Gemme, Sarah Matthews, and Jeremy Winters

Go #TEAMMAY!

We are so proud of the 15 amazing runners who ran in the 2015 New Balance Falmouth Road Race in August! Members of #TEAMMAY ran seven miles through the roads and hills of Woods Hole and Falmouth, raising money for the individuals in our care.

Each year, our runners play a crucial role in raising much-needed funds to support our programs. Funds raised from this team will provide assistive communication devices for children and adults, as well as vocational training and opportunities for recreational activities.

You can support our runners and make a donation until September 15! We invite you to meet the members of #TEAMMAY and contribute by visiting www.mayinstitute.org/falmouth.html. Please help them exceed their collective goal of $11,250 to support the individuals in our care. Thank you!
individuals and families we serve. This was an evening to celebrate them all.”

Event sponsorships came from 55 corporate sponsors and individual donors. Leading corporate sponsors included Presenting Partner United Benefit Services (UBS) and Anniversary Partner Century Bank. Visionary Sponsors were Arbella Insurance Group and Telamon Insurance & Financial Network.

“Given that this was a first for us, it was critical to have an active, experienced event committee partnering with us throughout this entire process,” said Neal Todrys, secretary of May Institute’s Board of Trustees, donor, and co-chair of the event. “This particular group of parents and professionals were outstanding in their support and leadership. We are extremely grateful to them.”

One of the highlights of the evening was guest speaker Declan Finn, a student at the May Center School for Brain Injury and Related Disorders in Brockton, Mass. He shared his first-hand experience with brain injury, the challenges it presents, and the lessons it has taught him. Declan received two standing ovations and moved many in the audience to tears.

The major fundraising effort of the evening was a live auction that included big-ticket items such as a South African safari; grandstand seats at the finish line of the Tour de France; and tickets to three Tony award-winning Broadway musicals. Encouraged by Auctioneer Robin S. R. Starr, Vice President of Skinner, winning bidders raised close to $25,000 for May Institute.

As part of the evening’s festivities, Dr. Solotar presented the 2015 Excellence in Leadership Award to Terese L. Brennan, Senior Vice President of Quality Improvement and Compliance for May Institute. [See related story, page 11.]

The event also provided the opportunity to unveil “Faces. Voices. Lives. —60 Years at May Institute,” a multimedia initiative that shows the faces and tells the stories of individuals who have impacted and been impacted by May Institute over the past 60 years.

To read more and view photos, visit www.mayinstitute60years.org/event-highlights.

Thank you, UBS, Century Bank, and additional corporate sponsors, for your exceptional support of our 60th anniversary event. We are truly grateful to partner with you, and to have your corporate commitment to the individuals we serve.

For a complete list of sponsors, please visit www.mayinstitute60years.org/event-sponsors.
May Institute Anniversary Celebration–60 Years of Shaping Futures, Changing Lives.
L-R: Guests Edward Falvey, Barbara Falvey, and Ellen Hollis.

L-R: Greg Ferreiro, Philadelphia Insurance; David Whitlock, HUB International; and Paul West and Event Committee Member Greg Susco, both of Telamon Insurance & Financial Network.

L-R: Chairman of May Institute Board of Trustees Stephen S. Young, Holland & Knight, with Dr. Don Ricciato, May Institute Board Member and Former Chairman of the Board, and Don’s wife Karen.

L-R: Event Committee Member Dr. Paul Pawlowski, Fenno Trust and 596 Summer Street; Bob Terravecchia, CEO of Weymouth Bank; Scott Ambroceo, CFO of Weymouth Bank; and Jamie Golden, Vice President at Weymouth Bank.

APRIL 9, 2015

VIEW MORE PHOTOS AT:
www.mayinstitute60years.org/event-highlights

May Institute Anniversary Celebration–60 Years of Shaping Futures, Changing Lives.
Back in 1955, May Institute consisted of one small school on Cape Cod that served a few dozen students with autism. Today, we are a national network that meets the complex and special needs of thousands of individuals and their families every year. This year, we are celebrating the 60th anniversary of our founding!

"We have come a long way over the past 60 years, and are very pleased to be celebrating six decades of making progress possible for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities, brain injury, and behavioral health needs," said Institute President and CEO Lauren C. Solotar, Ph.D., ABPP. "Through the years, we have been tireless advocates for these individuals, building high quality programs, schools, and group homes where they can achieve their highest potential."

Since 1997, May Institute more than doubled in size, with annual revenues increasing from $42M to $103M. It has increased its staff from 1265 to nearly 1900, and expanded services to 14 states.

Three important centers—the National Autism Center at May Institute, and the May Center Schools for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Randolph and Woburn—were launched in 2005 and are celebrating their 10th anniversaries this year.

Join the celebration!

Pay Tribute to our Founders

May Institute has its roots in a family's vision of enabling children with autism and other disabilities to lead the fullest lives possible. Our first school for children with autism [pictured above] was founded on Cape Cod in 1955 by Dr. Jacques May and his wife, Marie Anne. Two of the school's first students were the May's twin boys. Little was known about autism at the time, and children with autism were typically institutionalized for life.

Dr. and Mrs. May dedicated themselves to creating a community-based school where they would advance the quality of care for these children, and countless others to follow. The Mays developed the foundation for our organization today.

To make a gift in honor of our founders, visit www.mayinstitute60years.org/donate.

Visit our 60th Anniversary Website

See, hear, and appreciate inspiring people who have shaped May Institute from 1955 to the present day. We are gathering stories and perspectives of 60 individuals for a multi-media initiative we call "Faces. Voices. Lives. — 60 Years at May Institute." On our new website you can watch videos, see pictures of anniversary celebrations and events throughout the organization, and much more. Check out all the excitement at www.mayinstitute60years.org!

Tell us Your Story

We are collecting stories and memories from families and individuals served, current and former staff, donors, and others. We invite you to share a memory or a story about how May Institute has impacted your life. Visit www.mayinstitute60years.org/your-stories.
Does someone you love have autism, brain injury, or other special needs? For an ever-increasing number of people in Massachusetts and across the country, the answer to this question is “yes.” The U.S. Census Bureau reports that nearly one in five individuals in our country has a disability; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that disability is one of the nation’s most important public health issues.

May Institute brought attention to this issue with a new awareness and education campaign on the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA).

The organization expanded its annual autism awareness campaign, now in its seventh year on the MBTA, to focus on individuals across the lifespan. This year’s campaign included images and stories of children and adults with brain injury and other special needs, as well as those on the autism spectrum.

“We’re very pleased to more fully reflect the breadth and depth of our services in this year’s campaign on the MBTA,” said Eileen G. Pollack, M.A., Senior Vice President of Communication and Public Relations.

Throughout the month of June, nearly 1,000 eye-catching posters and car cards featured the faces of seven children and adults with a variety of disabilities alongside messages from loved ones or the individuals themselves, and contact information for those seeking help. These posters and cards were displayed in subway stations and on subway cars, buses, and commuter trains across the MBTA system.

Thousands of daily commuters were also able to see the campaign’s images and messages on the MBTA’s digital screens at high traffic stations. May Institute estimates that nearly 1.3 million commuters had the opportunity to access the campaign every day in June.

“This campaign is part of a yearlong celebration of our 60th anniversary,” said Pollack. “Over the course of the year, we are carrying out a variety of public campaigns and initiatives, and are sharing the stories of people whose lives were touched by May Institute.”

To learn more about these special individuals, visit www.mayinstitute60years.org.

The article, “The May Center in Randolph Prepares Young Adults with Autism to Find a Place at Work,” was published in the Patriot Ledger. Anna Matloff, M.Ed., M.S., BCBA, Administrator of Educational and Vocational Programming and Nick Wagner, M.Ed., Vocational Coordinator, both at the May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Randolph, Mass., were quoted.

The Boston Globe South article, “Brockton’s May Center School Hosts Legislators,” reported on Legislative Day at the May Center School for Brain Injury and Related Disorders in Brockton, Mass. Executive Director Andrea Potoczny-Gray M.Ed., CBIS, and student Declan Finn, are quoted.

Massnonprofit News published the article, “First Fundraising Dinner Event Produces $247K for May Institute.” Eileen G. Pollack, M.A., SVP of Communications and Public Relations, is quoted.

More than 175 online national, regional, and international media outlets picked up the press announcement from the PR Newswire entitled, “National Autism Center Completes Most Comprehensive Review of Autism Interventions.”

Meg Walsh, M.A., BCBA, Clinical Director at the May Center for Adult Services in West Springfield, authored the column, “Psychiatric Care Aids Some Intellectual Disability Cases,” which was published in the Republican and on Masslive.com.

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Columns for parents were authored by Dr. Lauren C. Solotar, May Institute’s President and CEO, and were published in the Walpole Times and Medfield Press. Titles included, “Helping Children Deal With Anger,” and “How to Deal with School Bullies.”

Millions access special needs public awareness campaign
Parent and caregiver support group

With assistance from Jamie Needre, M.Ed., parents of students at our May Center Schools are coming together to support each other. Jamie is Manager of Therapy Services at the May Center School for Autism and Developmental Disabilities in Randolph, Mass. She is facilitating this group to give parents and caregivers of children and adolescents with special needs an opportunity to share similar experiences and concerns.

"I think the shared experience is what is most powerful for the parents who attend this group," says Jamie. "Parents often share their journeys from diagnosis to receiving specialized services. For many, it was a fight to get where they are; for others, it was an easier experience, but still a difficult and unique one. Sharing their stories validates their experiences."

Parents of children with autism, brain injury, or other special needs may sometimes feel isolated and alone. As much as they love and/or respect family members, neighbors, colleagues, and friends, those individuals may not always understand what parents are going through. But other parents of children with special needs can.

The group has discussed a number of common concerns including how having a child with special needs affects parents’ relationships with their other children and with each other; the challenges around transitioning a child into a residential program; dealing with feelings of guilt; and strategies for addressing specific behavioral challenges. Attendees recommend doctors, dentists, physical therapists, family mediation services, and recreational activities to each other. An added bonus is the opportunity to develop new friendships.

Sabrina, whose 11-year-old son attends the May Center School in Randolph, agrees. "Parents who have shared experiences can support and empathize with one another. And we address issues that we are facing here and now."

Dr. Putnam co-authors review on PBIS

Congratulations to Bob Putnam, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Executive Vice President of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) for May Institute. He and Donald Kincaid, Ph.D., of the University of South Florida, Tampa, co-authored the review, "School-Wide PBIS: Extending the Impact of Applied Behavior Analysis. Why Is This Important to Behavior Analysts?" The piece was recently published in Behavior Analysis in Practice (BAP).

The review describes why school-wide PBIS is important to behavior analysts and how it helps promote applied behavior analysis (ABA) in schools as well as other organizations. The authors discuss how behavior analysts can use the framework of PBIS to assist them in promoting and implementing ABA at the school and organizational levels, as well as the classroom and individual levels.

PBIS is a proven, systems-focused approach that produces numerous positive outcomes in the classroom, including decreases in problem behaviors and increases in on-task engagement and academic achievement.
Congratulations to Terese L. Brennan, M.S. [pictured on right], Senior Vice President of Quality Improvement and Compliance, who was awarded May Institute’s 2015 Excellence in Leadership Award during our 60th Anniversary Celebration event this spring.

She is the first recipient of the award, which will be presented annually to recognize a senior-level manager for outstanding leadership and dedication to the organization.

“Terese is an inspiring example of an employee who has built a successful career by working her way ‘up the ranks’ of our organization,” said Lauren C. Solotar, Ph.D., ABPP [pictured on left], President and CEO of May Institute. “She began as a residential Behavior Support Specialist at our first school for children with autism, and held several other positions before joining the Quality Improvement team in 1995.”

Over the past 20+, Terese has developed and conducted performance improvement processes in a variety of areas, and overseen the development and implementation of effective outcome measurement systems and standardization of safety systems and operations.

Recognizing outstanding leadership and dedication

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10: Support Group

“I would highly recommend this group to other parents,” says Sabrina. “It’s a very comfortable and inviting open forum that maintains confidentiality and anonymity and provides a great way for finding information, seeking help, and obtaining emotional support.”

The Parent and Caregiver Support Group is open to parents of children who attend any of our May Center Schools in Massachusetts. The groups meet monthly in Randolph; daytime meetings begin at 10 a.m., evening meetings at 5:30 p.m.

If you are interested in participating, contact Jamie Needre at jneedre@mayinstitute.org, or 781.437.0740.

WELCOME ABOARD / new senior management appointments

Senior Vice President / HUMAN RESOURCES

Janet (Jan) Mercier, J.D., has responsibilities that include the smooth operation and continuous improvement of: employee relations; recognition and engagement; talent acquisition and development; benefits and compensation; training and development; workers’ compensation and workplace safety; and diversity and inclusion.

Prior to joining May Institute, Jan served as the Vice President of Human Resources for Five Star Quality Care, a national provider of senior living and skilled nursing services headquartered in Newton, Mass. She has also held human resources leadership positions with Steward Health Care (formerly Caritas Christi Health Care) and UNICCO Service Company, as well as practiced law in Massachusetts for several years.

Senior Vice President / PHILANTHROPY

Mary Tiernan oversees national fundraising efforts for all May Institute programs, including the four May Center Schools for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, the May Center School for Brain Injury and Related Disorders, the National Autism Center at May Institute, and our consultation, behavioral health, and adult services. She manages a team responsible for corporate and foundation relations, donor relations, strategic partnerships, leadership giving, direct mail, planned giving, and special events.

Mary has 25 years of senior-level fundraising experience, most recently as the Chief Development Officer at the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts. Prior to that she served as Chief Operating Officer of the Catholic Foundation of the Archdiocese of Boston.

Vice President / CONSULTING

Jon Jaffe, LICSW, is responsible for the Consultation Services Division, which includes oversight of three regions: the Southeast, with six centers providing home- and center-based services to the children of active and retired military families; Eastern Massachusetts, which offers home- and school-based services to children and their families; and Western Massachusetts, serving infants and younger children and their families with home- and school-based services. Jon is also responsible for the May Center for Evaluation and Treatment, based in Randolph, Mass.

A licensed independent clinical social worker with more than 25 years of senior management experience in the non-profit and for-profit sectors, Jon was formerly the Director of the Behavioral Health Services Division at Riverside Community Care in Eastern Massachusetts.
May Institute: Our Clinical Philosophy

May Institute is committed to the application of behavioral, cognitive-behavioral, and other evidence-based interventions to improve the lives of individuals with a range of developmental, neurobehavioral, and psychological needs and to support the systems and communities in which they function. We believe that all individuals deserve the most effective interventions with the highest level of fidelity, social significance, respect, and cultural responsiveness.

Our interdisciplinary staff values the integration of science and practice. Our staff demonstrates proficiency in evidence-based practices such as applied behavior analysis, direct instruction, positive behavioral interventions and supports, and cognitive behavioral therapy. Our overarching clinical practice is dedicated to system-wide positive behavioral interventions and supports (SWPBIS). As such, we utilize a multitiered model of service delivery to tailor our services to the needs of our consumers across our continuum of services. We believe that evidence-based interventions are most effective when applied as early as possible, that progress must be continuously monitored, that decisions about service delivery are based on clinical data, and that new or replacement behaviors can be taught. Our interventions are culturally responsive and respectful.

We have an active program of applied clinical research. We contribute to the professional literature and disseminate our work through presentations at regional and national conferences and in peer-reviewed journals. We utilize science and data-based decision making to enhance our programs and the quality of life for those we serve. We are actively involved in professional associations and affiliations with agencies that share our commitment to evidence-based practice.

WE ACTIVELY AND CONTINUOUSLY ENGAGE IN PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT USING THE PRINCIPLES OF ACCESS, EFFECTIVENESS, EFFICIENCY, AND SATISFACTION.

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ABOUT MAY INSTITUTE

Founded in 1955, May Institute has its roots in a family’s vision of enabling children with disabilities to lead the fullest lives possible.

Today, May Institute provides educational, rehabilitative, and behavioral healthcare services to individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities, brain injury, and behavioral health needs. The Institute also provides training and consultation services to professionals, organizations, and public school systems.

Our programs touch the lives of thousands of individuals and their families each year at more than 150 service locations across the country.

Together with the National Autism Center at May Institute, we are committed to identifying and applying universal standards for the treatment of autism and to providing care and hope to families throughout the country.