



Summer 2019

every child deserves a childhood

Building a Sense of Community

The children we serve are unique and require personalized and tailored support to reach their full potential. Regardless of the challenges which bring them to our Northfield campus, one consistent theme for each of these kids is the need to feel accepted. Of course, we create this welcoming community on campus through our programs and services, but these kids yearn to feel a sense of belonging in the world beyond Spaulding. As a component of their therapeutic process, this community building is a critical step towards preparing for their life beyond Spaulding.



Throughout the year, Spaulding staff dedicate hundreds of hours toward identifying and planning near-daily off-campus excursions for our children. Some of these off-campus trips are for everyday activities we take for

granted, such as grocery shopping, haircuts, dining or the car wash. Other trips are designed to build childhood memories, such as visits to the park, beach, movie theater, sporting events, arcades or comic book store.

Beyond these excursions, our students have also shined brightly by participating in local community events. In the spring, a group of students tested their culinary skills by creating a signature dish to serve at the Northfield Pines Mac and Cheese Competition. After earning the Peoples' Choice award last year, Spaulding Youth Center won 2nd place in 2019. The kids were so proud of their creation and accomplishment!

Another favorite community event for our kids is the Tilton-Northfield Home Day parade. Last year, our Flower Power float and tie dye shirts earned the kids lots of positive attention while providing a great opportunity for them to celebrate their community with neighbors and friends. We are excited to unveil this year's top-secret float design on June 29th!



TO SEE MORE picture of our ongoing residential activities, please visit SpauldingYouthCenter.org/community

Champions Beyond the Playing Field

Spaulding Youth Center is proud to sponsor our residential students for Special Olympics so that these athletes can be empowered to learn new skills, welcome new challenges, and build self-esteem that extends beyond the playing field. Partially funded by the Lakes Region Children's Auction, our Special Olympics opportunities are offered year-round to any student who has interest and attends ongoing skills practices on campus. In the past year, Spaulding student athletes have participated in regional games and statewide events for basketball, bowling, snowshoeing, soccer, as well as track and field. Many medals were awarded to our favorite athletes!



When participating in events, the top three athletes receive a medal to commemorate their athletic performance, but these individuals gain so much more. Our athletes earn a sense of accomplishment for completing training, developing physical fitness, and practicing teamwork. Through the training process, these student athletes discover who they are, what activities they enjoy, and cultivate invaluable self-esteem that provides a strong foundation for a lifetime of success. This year, we supported 21 student athletes who earned 14 medals from five athletic events. Best of all, they experience all of this while having fun!



TO SEE MORE picture of our student athletes, please visit SpauldingYouthCenter.org/Olympics

Interested in Supporting a Specific Program or Activity?

Please contact Cheryl Avery at 603-286-8901 ext. 107 or cavery@spauldingyouthcenter.org

SPAULDING AT A GLANCE: Media Center

Our media center is one of the beloved locations in the school at Spaulding. Two times each week, students visit the media center to read, peruse our shelves, check out books, work on puzzles and complete technology lessons on one of our 11 computers.

3 times a month our most popular book, *Dog Man* by Dav Pielkey, is checked out

32 books are checked out on average to students at any given time.

640 pages read to our wonderfully patient therapy dog, Biene.

1,942 books are on our shelves and available for checkout (plus thousands more available online through getepic.com)

Kids are coding - 2,983 lines of computer code written by a single SYC student this year!



TO LEARN MORE about the school at Spaulding, please visit spauldingyouthcenter.org/academic



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Leading With Heart

Throughout her life, Lys Miller-Drake has lived in many locations across the United States (as well as India!) and earned extensive human resources experience in a variety of industries. In early 2018, Lys realized she was yearning for a role to allow her to connect directly with her desire to make a concrete difference. This search led her to Spaulding Youth Center and the newly created position for Human Relations & Employee Engagement Director. During her interviews, Lys met with high caliber leadership, learned about our extraordinary impact on children who need us most, and soaked up the beautiful restorative setting. Before she left campus, she knew she had found her next adventure.

Over the next nine months, Lys became a shining facet of our leadership team, enhancing our compassionate and dedicated campus culture with her serene perspective and composed guidance of our employee-related endeavors. She is inspired by working alongside President & CEO Susan C. Ryan, not only due to her talent and accomplishments, but because they share the same organizational philosophies, including the

importance of leading with a balance of professionalism, heart and kindness.

As Director of Human Relations & Employee Engagement, Lys leads employee recruitment, on-boarding, development, succession planning and training, employee relations, and various culture initiatives, all while engaging and supporting managers and employees of all levels throughout the organization. In essence, her job ensures that Spaulding Youth Center continues to be a great place to work!



Lys Miller-Drake

TO LEARN MORE about working at Spaulding Youth Center, please visit SpauldingYouthCenter.org/careers

Our Mission: Supporting exceptional children and families toward a successful future. SpauldingYouthCenter.org

Honoring Our Past While Celebrating Our Future, Join Us On August 15th



The Spaulding Youth Center is planning an event to welcome long-time supporters and friends for a summer celebration. Hosted on our nearly 500-acre Northfield campus, this event will provide an unprecedented opportunity for our long-term friends and colleagues to reconnect while enjoying light refreshments and learning more about how to advocate for Spaulding's mission and work.

This celebratory event is the first step toward a very exciting phase of our long and successful history. If you would like to receive an invitation and attend on August 15th, please contact Cheryl Avery at 603-286-8901 ext. 107 or cavery@spauldingyouthcenter.org.

We look forward to welcoming you to our scenic and therapeutic campus for our summer celebration!

DONATE TODAY IN THREE EASY WAYS

We appreciate your consideration to help support extraordinary children and their families toward a successful future. Contributing to Spaulding Youth Center is as easy as 1-2-3:



1. Donate online at SpauldingYouthCenter.org/give



2. Mail a donation to
72 Spaulding Road
Northfield, NH 03276



3. Contact the development office at 603-286-8901 ext. 107 or donate@spauldingyouthcenter.org



Thank you for supporting the children and families of Spaulding Youth Center.