

L♥veland Center™

Providing programs and services to children and adults with
intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1962.



3rd Annual Ability Run

Loveland's Charlotte Community Cruises to Victory

Loveland Center's 3rd Annual Ability 5K Race and 1K Fun Walk was held on a clear morning in Punta Gorda's Laishley Park on March 26, 2023. This annual event takes place along the waterfront of Charlotte Harbor with beautiful views in a family- and pet-friendly atmosphere. We welcomed more than 200 attendees, including some furry friends from the **Animal Welfare League of Charlotte County**.

Our presenting sponsor was **PGT Innovations**, which also serves as an Annual Sponsor for Loveland Center. We are thankful to companies like PGT, which share similar core values and a desire to assist others in the community to thrive and grow. We are honored to have **Bob Keller**, Senior Vice President of Customer Strategy & Innovation, SE Division, at PGT Innovations, on our Board of Directors for Loveland Center. He ran and medaled too!

A huge thank you to all the sponsors who made this event possible. We are grateful for your support and could not **bring visibility to disability** without **Pulse Heart, Valve, and Vascular Institute; Medsol Clinical Research; Mathnasium of Port Charlotte; Integrity Employee Leasing; Total Martial Arts & Fitness; Goodwill of Manasota; Sara Picard of Modern Woodmen; and Jeff Guerin of Jeff Reviews4U.**

Congratulations to **Tony Nickell** and **Nancy Greeson**, our 3rd Annual Ability 5K Race winners. Tony was the first runner to cross the finish line at 19:55 minutes and Nancy with a finish time of [More...](#)

Thank You Run Sponsors!



INVENT. BUILD. DELIVER.

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center



Port Charlotte Spotlights



Participant of the Month

Kody loves to play video games and enjoys spending time watching movies. He is a fitness enthusiast and can be found riding the stationary bike at the Port Charlotte center after lunch. He is proud of his 30 pound weight loss as a result of his commitment to exercise and eating healthy.

Keeping in line with his love of fitness, Kody is involved in the **Special Olympics**. He received First Place for Bocce Ball in the Area Games that were recently held in Cape Coral. **Way to go, Kody!**



"Hearts" and Crafts

Creativity is flowing throughout Loveland Center Port Charlotte. Our participants have been working on a number of projects including seasonal crafts and even building a homemade lava lamp. Thank you to **Amy VanTries** for these amazing ideas and encouraging each participant to express themselves through art.

Your Hops & Heart Invitation

[Register here](#)

L♥veland Center™

Hops & Heart



Join us for an evening of craft beers and community while supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities

**Sponsored by Motorworks
and Proper Meats**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 17th, 2023. 6PM-10PM.
MOTORWORKS BREWERY
1014 9TH ST W, BRADENTON, FL 34205**

RSVP by May 10 at
<http://bidpal.net/2023hopsandheart>

New Program



Love Learning Academy Launches

Loveland is pleased to be the first organization in the state of Florida to partner with **The National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP)** to offer DSP accreditation courses to our staff. **The Love Learning Academy**, recently launched to meet the educational needs of individuals with IDD, their families, and the people who make supporting them their career, is *now accepting applications* from Loveland staff to become certified level I, II, and III DSPs. Through this program, DSPs will complete 100 hours of online courses, delve into better understanding what they are learning and how it supports individuals, and demonstrating the support they are providing. NADSP will review their work and determine if they have qualified for this recognition. Loveland is offering certified DSPs increases in their pay

rates for their dedication
and expertise.

We Are Proud To Present

Meet Tracy Jarvis
Direct Support Professional and Team Lead
North Port

Tracy Jarvis has worked for Loveland Center for 1.5 years and has been recently promoted to the Team Lead at the North Port center. She is excited for this supervisory role and looks forward to collaborating with her team.

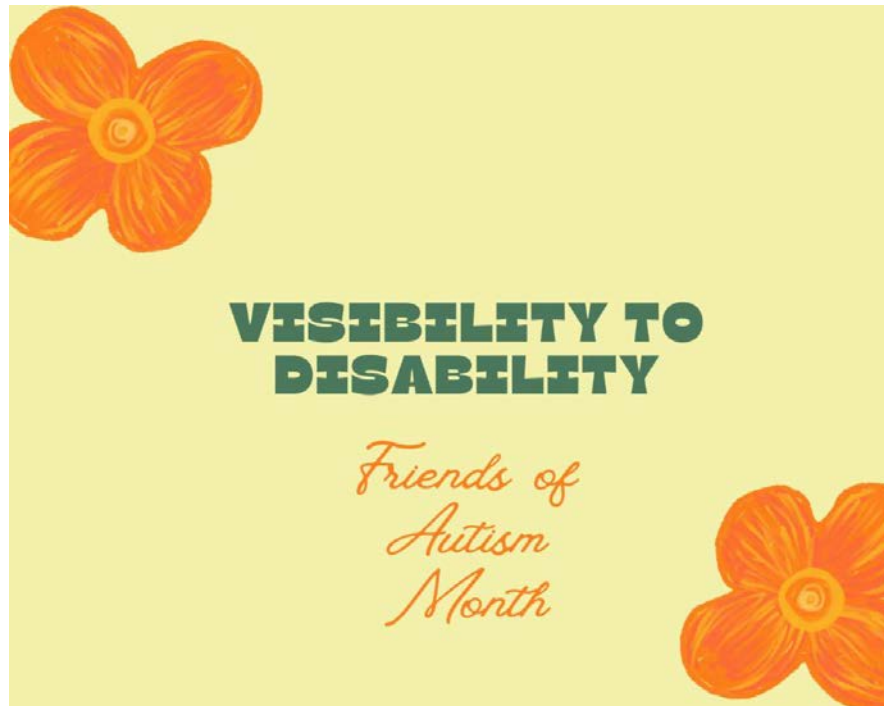
Tracy is a busy mom to her four kids, Maddox, age 15; Jake, age 15; Sara, age 11; and Charles, age four years old. She is originally from Michigan but has spent most of her life in Florida.

Tracy's favorite thing about working at Loveland Center are the participants. "Walking through the door each day and feeling the unconditional love from the participants is a wonderful experience," said Tracy. She feels like they are an extended part of her family.

Congratulations, Tracy! Your promotion is well deserved and we are excited about the future of Loveland Center North Port.

In the News

James Martin, a Starbucks barista and part-time actor with Down syndrome, made history on March 12, 2023, when he became the first person with Down syndrome to win an Oscar. Martin bagged the honor for his role in a live-action short film called "An Irish Goodbye". [More by Komal Banchhor in Upworthy...](#)



Judith Heumann was a disability rights activist and a leader of the disability community. In 1977, she helped to revive legislation that set the groundwork for the Americans with Disabilities Act. [More on NPR...](#)

Upcoming Events

April 27

Friendship: How to support your loved one with IDD in making, and keeping, friends

6:00 p.m.

Virtual and Loveland Port Charlotte, 4075 Tamiami Trail

Presented by Lora Carter, ADT Program Manager

Friendships are hard for everyone, but for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities navigating the complicated social environments can feel overwhelming. In this workshop, you'll learn how to help your child build authentic friendships and support them through some of the challenges that may be specific to having a disability.

May 18

Is That Legal?: Guardianships, Power of Attorney, and Rights of Individuals with IDD

6:00 p.m.

Virtual and Loveland North Port, 6919 Outreach Way, NP

Presented by Kathy Loughran, Chief Operating Officer

What do I need to do to protect my loved one with a disability? Should I become their guardian? Does Power of Attorney give me the ability to protect my child enough? What rights do I have, and what rights do they have, if I am their legal guardian? These questions and more will be answered to help you determine what is best for you and your loved one with IDD. ****Please note that Loveland Center and its staff are not attorneys and no advice given should be taken as legal advice. Please consult with an attorney before making any legal decisions.***

North Port Highlights



Loveland Welcomes Leadership North Port for Social Services Day

"It was a privilege to speak with Leadership North Port during the tour of Loveland's Venice campus and tell them about the dreams we have of expanding our services in North Port in the coming years," said **Becca Eldredge**, VP of Programs. "The leaders who have chosen to learn about our community and how they can best support it are the type of people who help Loveland's participants thrive. We can't wait to keep collaborating with them for years to come."

North Port Participant of the Month

Patrick is a true bookworm. He loves to flip through his favorites and also create his own books. He can be found writing and illustrating short stories while at program. He also enjoys making puppets, shopping at the Dollar Tree, and watching movies like *Madagascar*.

Patrick is demonstrating improved coping skills and will verbalize that he needs to take a break. He is initiating socialization with his peers and is developing into a wonderful friend to others. **We are so proud of you, Patrick !**



Save These Dates



**Loveland Golf Tournament
to Benefit Loveland North Port and Raise Awareness for New Center**

Saturday, September 30
Limited to first 30 foursomes
Details and sponsorship opportunities to come

Loveland North Port is **out.of.space**. Help get the word out that Loveland is looking for 7,500sf in the NP area to continue providing quality day training programs, HERO After-School Care, and evolve into the number-one program for individuals with IDD in the area.

**Loveland's 15th Annual BBQ
to Benefit Loveland Venice**

Tuesday, December 5th
6:00 p.m.
Venice Community Center
Details and sponsorship opportunities to come

More AdvoCan Series Events

LEARN.

Wired Different: Brain-Based Approaches to Understanding your loved one with IDD

January 19th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Venice and Virtual

At Home Therapy: Bringing Therapeutic Techniques into your everyday life

February 16th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Bradenton and Virtual

Early Childhood Action: What you need to know before your kids grow up

March 2nd, 2023 6PM
Loveland North Port and Virtual

Friendship: How to support your loved one with IDD in making, and keeping, friends

April 27th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Port Charlotte and Virtual

Is that Legal? Guardianships, Power of Attorney, & the rights of individuals with disabilities

May 18th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Center North Port and Virtual

EDUCATE.



Homeward Bound: Housing for Individuals with Disabilities

June 15th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Venice and Virtual

Planning A Life: Financial Planning for Individuals with Disabilities

July 20th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Port Charlotte and Virtual

ADVOCATE.

I Want A Job: Helping your loved one with IDD in finding and keeping, a job

August 17th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Bradenton and Virtual

Give 'em Something To Talk About: Communication Techniques you and your loved one

September 21st, 2023 6PM
Loveland Venice and Virtual

I Need Help: Support for Caregivers

October 19th, 2023 6PM
Loveland North Port and Virtual

Behavior Management: Home and in the Community

November 16th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Bradenton and Virtual

This is Me: Person Centered Planning and Advocacy

December 7th, 2023 6PM
Loveland Port Charlotte and Virtual

Sponsorships for all events are still available. Contact us at philanthropy@lovelandcenter.org to customize for your business today.

Let's Be Social

www.LovelandCenter.org



Loveland Center | 157 South Havana Rd, Venice, FL 34292