



# TOP 10

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

about the

### TAMMY LYNN CENTER

### FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

#### 1. Who was Tammy Lynn?

Tammy Lynn Pierce was the daughter of one of our founding families. Her parents, along with two other families established this agency in 1969 to develop education programs for children with special needs. Tammy Lynn passed away in 1971 at the age of 12.

#### 2. What programs and services do you provide?

- *Developmental Day Services* — Specialized classroom education for children 3—22 years. Therapies, nursing care, before/after school care, a summer program and family support services.
- *Residential Services* — Home for 20 children and 10 adults who receive high-level nursing services and sensitive persons care 24 hours a day. Our residents are nurtured and challenged continuously to become as independent as possible. Parents remain actively involved in their children's lives through visits and participation in treatment plans.
- *Community Residential Program* — Off-campus residences for adults under continual supervision in the most normalized setting possible.
- *Early Intervention Program* — Individualized in-home therapy and family support services for children 0—3 years who have been diagnosed with developmental disabilities or delays, or who are at risk for these conditions.
- *Respite Care Services* — Hourly, overnight, or extended relief coverage for family members and caregivers from the direct care of individuals of all ages with a developmental disability.

#### 3. What kind of disabilities do these individuals have?

We confront a wide range of developmental delays, from very mild to severe and profound mental retardation. Many have disabilities which resulted from cerebral palsy, brain injury and seizure disorders. The Tammy Lynn Center is renowned statewide, as well, for its services to individuals with medically complex issues.



#### 4. How do your children communicate?

Many of the children and adults we serve are unable to speak, but they do communicate through the use of gestures and formal systems, such as communication boards, adaptive switches, sign language, voice output devices and eye-blink systems.

#### 5. Do your students really learn?

Among other things, they learn choice-making, self-help skills, and domestic skills. Their accomplishments may not happen as quickly or easily as they might for individuals without disabilities, but they are just as meaningful and significant.

## 6. Can the people you serve enjoy any community activities?

Many enjoy attending sports events, bowling, musical performances, swimming, eating out, visiting area parks and engagements with family members and friends.

## 7. Is there a waiting list for any of your programs?

We receive referral for residential services, respite care, before/after school care, and the summer program from Wake County Human Services and other entities. Families seeking early intervention services are referred through the Children's Developmental Services Agency. Children in need of special education and related therapies are referred by Wake County Public School System. Certainly, there are more people who need the services we provide than we can serve.

## 8. What type of funding does your agency receive?

The Tammy Lynn Center receives federal, state and local government funding, as well as fees for services. However, charitable contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, civic groups and churches are a major source of funding for the Center.

## 9. Are fees charged for families who participate in your programs?

Services for our residential clients and some of the families in our Early Intervention Program are paid via Medicaid. Our school is funded primarily by the local public school systems, United Way and charitable contributions. Also, families pay a fee for services provided. These fees may be paid by private insurance or on a sliding scale according to each family's ability to pay. Services are never denied due to an inability to pay.



## 10. How can I help?

You can make a tax-deductible contribution. You can also get involved in our annual Tammy Lynn Golf Classic or our premier fund raising event, *A Toast to the Triangle™*, through sponsorship or committee participation. You can help to share our story in the community by inviting your friends and colleagues to tour the Center.

Volunteer opportunities are also available for individuals and groups — in the classrooms or residences, around our campus, and through our special events.

**You can make a difference.** For more information, contact the Development Office at (919) 832-3909 or visit our website: [www.tammylynncenter.org](http://www.tammylynncenter.org).

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