



Laradon's Mission

To be an organization of excellence that provides superior, individualized services to children and adults with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities, supporting their independence in daily life and maximizing their full potential.

An individual with developmental disabilities is helping a police officer **build** skills to communicate using American Sign Language.



The People. Building. People. Capital Campaign for Laradon
More than 600 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities come to Laradon each year for education and support that they cannot find anywhere else.

Through exceptional, individualized services, Laradon helps build a community of empowered and independent individuals who are able to live, learn, and grow to their full potential.

Over the next three years, Laradon will reach out to the community to help raise \$10 million to:

- Improve and increase program space on our historic campus
- Create new and better ways to serve people
- Help sustain our service mission long into the future

This Capital Campaign is not about new facilities; it's about People. Building. People.

- The adult who received training from Laradon and can now **build** up his peers by teaching them how to use adaptive technology
- Laradon's highly trained staff who work to **build** confidence and skills to help adults with disabilities find work and fulfillment
- The Laradon therapist who works to **build** tactics and support for a family to ready their toddler for preschool, despite his developmental delays

Together, we can **build a better future** for individuals with disabilities.

We are all People. Building. People.

The future is in our hands. Will you help build it?



I'm building... a bright future.

MEET MARIO

A few years ago, Mario had frequent aggressive behaviors at his home school that got in the way of his learning, risking his own safety—and that of others. The 13-year-old has a developmental disability that sometimes causes frustration and aggression if he feels unable to communicate his needs.

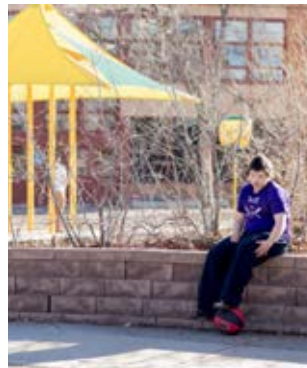
He needed a safe and loving environment where he could work on ways to better communicate his feelings and needs to avoid bouts with aggression.

That's exactly what he found at The Laradon School.

After working with Laradon's highly trained behavior specialists, Mario has made many strides. When Mario first came to the school he had daily bouts of aggression, now Mario can go several weeks staying fully safe. He no longer expresses anger by destroying property at school.

In fact, Mario has been celebrating many academic successes, including growth in reading, writing, and math. He has fun in his favorite class: P.E.—and never misses an opportunity to tell a joke or pull innocent pranks on his teachers, with whom he's built a strong bond.

His teachers are thrilled at Mario's happiness and progress and are preparing him to transition back to his home school to learn among his peers and let his personality shine.



An enduring legacy

In 1948, our founders, Joseph and Elizabeth Calabrese, were told that there was no place for their sons to learn and live—so they created one. They knew that when provided with the proper education, training, and support, people with disabilities could realize their full potential, contribute to the community, and become valued members of society.

LARADON HAS
SERVED MORE
THAN 8,500
INDIVIDUALS
SINCE 1948.



Laradon has been a beacon of hope for individuals with developmental, intellectual, and other disabilities, perhaps when there is nowhere else to turn.



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

NORTH DENVER CORNERSTONE
COLLABORATIVE
AN INITIATIVE OF MAYOR
MICHAEL B. HANCOCK



Longevity

Laradon has been a stalwart presence in the historic, north Denver neighborhood of **Globeville**. As a neighbor of the **National Western Complex**, in close proximity to **RiNo**, and an anchor of the **North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative (NDCC)**, Laradon is committed to building a better, more connected North Denver and will continue to be an economic development mainstay in the area.

“Mario has come a long way with Laradon's help. He's made great improvements and has excelled academically. We love his silly personality – and his knock-knock jokes. The rapport he builds with staff certainly contributes to his academic success.”

Bob Elskamp, Laradon
Special Education Teacher

A vision of organizational stability

Laradon has stayed true to the legacy of its founders by becoming a steady, trusted and respected icon in the community over the years. Our strong commitment to remain effective and financially stable allows us to provide exceptional support to individuals and their families.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES HELP US:

- Remain debt-free
- Decrease dependency on Medicaid funding by increasing alternative revenue streams
- Seek community partnerships to share resources, such as people, programs, and facilities
- Maximize campus assets and decrease overhead
- Design organizational flexibility to spawn future service delivery models



Laradon is a registered 501(c)(3) and a trusted steward of gifted funds.



Laradon believes that the most successful community is one that is inclusive for individuals with disabilities. It is no longer acceptable to keep people secluded from society; instead, the ultimate goal is to create valued, contributing members of society.

What is community integration?

- People with disabilities aren't segregated from the rest of the community.
- Individuals engage in activities and build relationships in their local communities.
- People have opportunities to work and volunteer, increasing independence and self-sufficiency.
- We are creating a community that is more accepting and diverse.
- Community integration encourages self-sufficiency, which benefits the individual and their family.

How do Laradon's programs impact the greater community?

REDUCE TAX PAYER BURDEN

Laradon is able to reduce the need for government funding for supports by promoting adult self-sufficiency and supporting students in transitioning back to their public schools.

REDUCE RELIANCE ON INSTITUTIONS

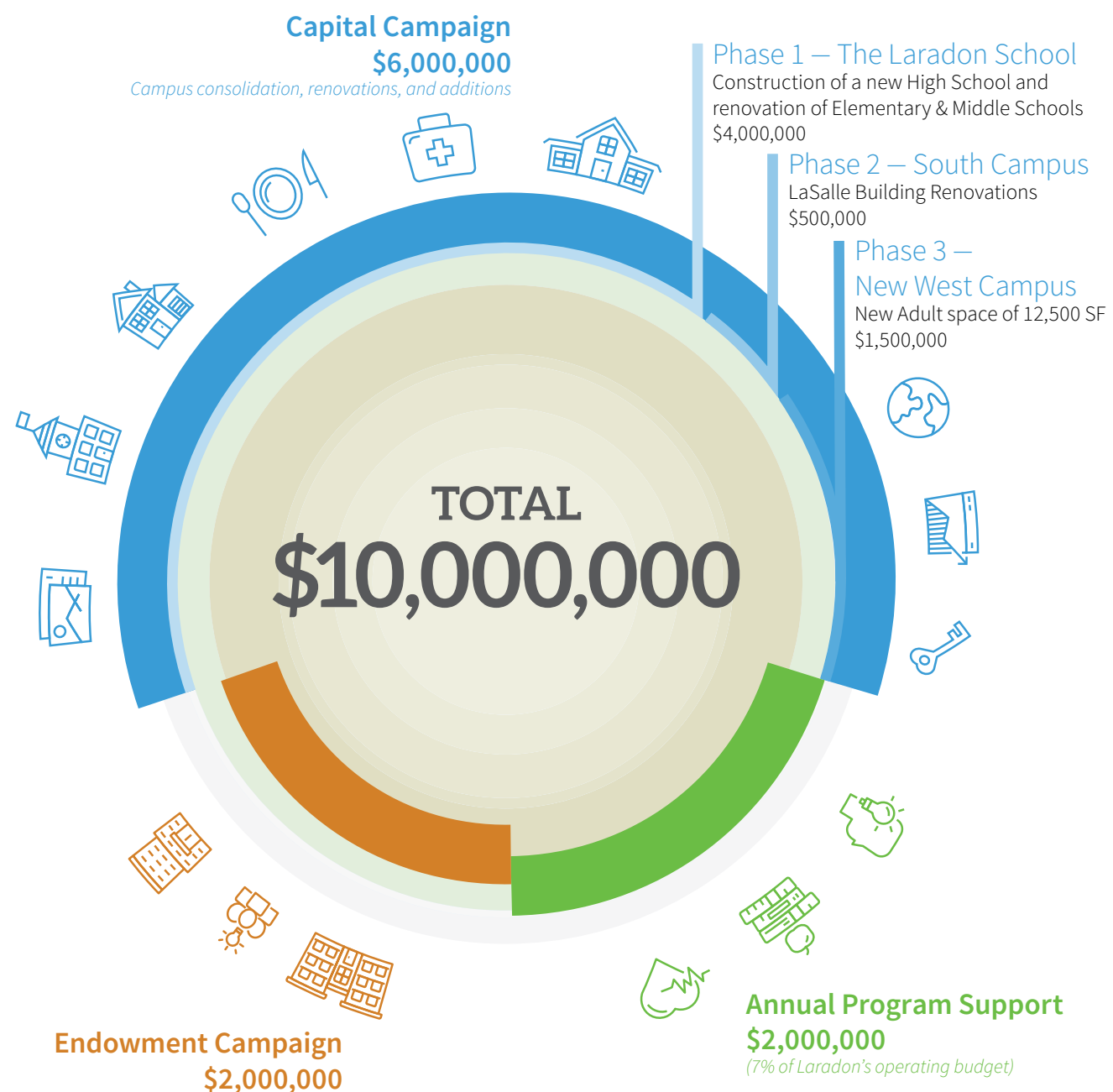
Without Laradon, students with high needs may be placed in institutions, which are not ideal environments and operate at a higher cost to the community.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Laradon prioritizes partnerships and resource-sharing to improve the community, such as building affordable housing and promoting nonprofit collaboration.

Campaign Goal 2018-2020

The People. Building. People. Capital Campaign for Laradon will build state-of-the-art program space for individuals with disabilities to increase their independence and live life without limits.



What's improving

In upgrading our historic campus, we can expand and improve Laradon's support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Some of the many planned improvements include:

- Additional universally-sized classrooms designed to support learning in the least restrictive environment
- Expanded programming space, more sensory rooms, and a health suite
- Learning tools to meet clients' sensory and development needs
- A model apartment and kitchen for independent living skill development
- A new dining hall
- Upgrades to mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, and building improvements to foster accessibility



- Acoustical and noise absorption features to minimize reverberation
- Full-spectrum lighting, which has been linked with decreased blood pressure and positive mood
- A new housing complex that will include programming space and affordable housing units
- An arts center that will also be open to the community
- An upgraded auditorium for program and community use that seats 208 people

Person-Centered Thinking: putting the needs and wishes of the individuals we serve first.

Long-term vision

After the renovation of the existing campus, Laradon has additional long-term goals to expand services and partnerships.

- Preschool program
- Affordable housing
- New ground lease revenue
- Potential for partner space
- Decreased facility overhead
- Community and public-private partnerships
- Improved therapeutic playground





I'm building... a career.

MEET MICHAEL

For Michael, as for most in the workforce, payday is the best day!

Michael works hard to earn his bimonthly paycheck from TJ Maxx, which is particularly fulfilling for him since his anxiety disorder and uncomfortable spinal condition, called cervical dystonia, make it extremely difficult for him to interact with others.

When Michael first came to Laradon, he didn't talk much. His spinal disorder was akin to wearing his heart on his sleeve; any time he felt uneasy, it would cause his neck muscles to contract and contort his head. He was timid, shy, and mostly kept to himself.

In Laradon's Work Teams Program, Michael had the opportunity to work with Laradon's specialists who helped him explore various work and volunteer opportunities. These experiences not only showed him all that could be possible, but also helped him work on basic job and life skills development.



With the help of his support team, Michael was participating in programs, talking to his peers, and showing tremendous growth.

He progressed so much that he was ready to explore the Individual Employment Program. His Laradon job coach showed him ways to safely and independently take public transportation from his home to his job at TJ Maxx. He also learned new tips for communicating at work and managing his anxiety. As a result, he is a hard and helpful worker who is proud of his amazing progress.

Today, Michael is a confident young man who is determined to work toward his goal of gaining more independence.

He wants to live on his own and someday find a career working with horses. His job coaches at Laradon will continue to help empower him to make his dream a reality.



“My favorite part of my job is getting paid on payday. It makes me happy and proud.”
Michael

PEOPLE
BUILDING
PEOPLE



*Campaign
for Laradon*



Help build a better future for children and adults with disabilities with a gift to the People. Building. People. Capital Campaign for Laradon.

Give today at www.laradon.org/campaign

Laradon is a registered 501(c)(3); all financial gifts are tax-deductible according to IRS standards.

Gifts of \$250 or more may be eligible for a 25% Enterprise Zone credit on your Colorado State income tax.



Your gift to Laradon ensures that individuals with disabilities are given every opportunity to live, learn, and grow within their communities.

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