



The Blackbird Foundation  
508 Hurffville Crosskeys Road • Suite 5  
Sewell, New Jersey 08080  
609-617-1351  
[www.blackbirdfly.org](http://www.blackbirdfly.org)

Hello!

**Nicole Lannutti - Founder of The Blackbird Foundation - will be competing in the 17th Annual Dancing with the Gloucester County Stars!**

Nicole is also owner of three small family businesses in Washington Township – The Craft Room, Made of Paper Design and Blackbird Brew!  
She also serves as President of the Washington Township Chamber of Commerce.

All money raised through DWTGCS for The Blackbird Foundation will benefit two important and MUCH NEEDED projects right here in South Jersey! (Details on each are below)

- **The build of a Jake's Place Playground in Washington Lake Park**
- **The BIRDS Backpack Project**

**We hope that you will support our Dancer and our Foundation by becoming a Sponsor!**

Winning the dance competition would be so fun! But Nicole's main goal is to be the top fundraiser!  
Please help her reach her goal!

All sponsors will be heavily advertised on social media, a banner at all fundraising events, show events and on t-shirts. Show events will take place at Auletto's Caterers in Deptford, NJ, will be attended by hundreds of people and will be televised!

We would also love for you to be in attendance to cheer her on!

- **Live taping July 16 (FREE EVENT!)**
- **Live taping August 20 (FREE EVENT!)**
- **FINALE! September 26 (Ticket information coming soon!)**

The Blackbird Foundation's mission is to inspire hope and contribute to the quality of life for children with special needs by supporting their independence through the proper equipment, therapies, advocacy and community inclusion projects.

**Sponsorships are tax deductible and are preferred via Venmo or by Check.**

**Venmo:** BlackbirdFly1122

**Checks** can be made payable to:

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**Online Sponsorships** are also accepted on our website.

**The Blackbird Foundation is a NJ 501(c)3 Foundation  
83-0840355**

For more information on The Blackbird Foundation and how our story began, please visit:  
[www.blackbirdfly.org](http://www.blackbirdfly.org)

Thank you for your support!

The Blackbird Foundation Team – especially our Superhero Founder Sophia Toni Cora (age 10)

## **JAKE'S PLACE**

Nicole has been working with the Washington Township Council to bring a brand new, all inclusive adaptive playground to Washington Lake Park! They recently applied for the Green Acres Grant and are awaiting the news on a chosen recipient. If chosen, the Grant will match 75% up to \$750,000 of what is raised! Under Jake's Law, funding from the Green Acres Grant must be used to build an inclusion playground. The Build Jakes Place Foundation is in support of Nicole and the Washington Township Project and all are looking forward to a community build hopefully one day soon!

**This will be the first and only Jake's Place in Gloucester County!**

If Washington Township is not chosen for this year's grant, Nicole is committed to continue raising money until the playground is built. Every child deserves to play

The BJP Foundation website says:

An all-inclusive playground is an integrated play area in which all children, those who are able and those with disabilities, can play interactively. The objective is to design an area that is barrier-free, socially inviting, and contains play environment groupings.

Build Jake's Place builds "playgrounds for everybody". Playgrounds where children in wheelchairs and other assistive devices can play along side others with ease. Even parents and grandparents with a disability can play and interact with the children.

For more information, please visit [www.buildjakesplace.org/](http://www.buildjakesplace.org/)

## **BIRDS BACKPACK PROJECT**

The BIRDS (Basic Immediate Response Developmental & Sensory) Backpack is an absolute MUST for First Responders! The light-weight backpack is able to be carried by a child/adult that is unable to carry things in their hands. It is filled with important items that can help first responders with those that have special needs during an emergency - especially if a parent or guardian is unavailable to be with them for a period of time or they are injured themselves.

Some of the items in the bag - noise cancelling headphones, dark sunglasses, sensory and fidget toys, a notepad with crayons, a weighted lap mat, a sensory chew necklace and a communication card with appropriate words, images and phrases for any type of emergency situation.

Our goal is to equip local emergency response vehicles with the backpack and provide training on use. We also look to provide training to emergency response departments on handling emergency situations with individuals with special needs as a whole.

Please see attached flyer for more information on the BIRDS Backpacks or visit our website.



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