



Serving children and adults with Down syndrome,
autism and other developmental disabilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Long Islanders Come Together to Support ACDS at the Agency's 50th Anniversary Gala

PLAINVIEW, NEW YORK, December 2016 – More than 350 guests celebrated ACDS' 50th anniversary at the nonprofit agency's Annual Gala on Saturday, Nov. 19, at Oheka Castle in Huntington, New York. The festive event raised more than \$400,000 with proceeds going toward enhancing ACDS' programs and services for individuals with Down syndrome, autism and other developmental disabilities.

ACDS honored Julie and Steven Rosbash, loyal supporters of ACDS since their son Zachary, a 2011 ACDS preschool graduate, came to the agency at 2 years old. Julie serves on the board of directors at ACDS and is a member of the Jericho Special Education Parent Teacher Association (SEPTA). Steven, who has chaired the Annual Gala for the past three years, is a senior vice president, portfolio manager and financial advisor with the Bergman Group at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management. The Rosbashes – ACDS 50th Anniversary Gold Sponsors – have made ACDS a focal point of their philanthropic efforts.

The event featured a cocktail hour, dinner, auctions and live music performed by the popular band, Code Blue. Residents of ACDS' eight group homes, whose attendance was sponsored by generous individuals and companies across Long Island, were among the many guests who filled the dance floor throughout the night. The evening's major sponsors included Ferguson Enterprises, Pace Supply Corp. and Blackman Plumbing Supply.

“The gala is about bringing people together to support and celebrate ACDS' mission,” ACDS Executive Director Michael M. Smith said. “Supporters such as Julie and Steven Rosbash – along with our amazing sponsors and others who are so incredibly committed to our mission – enable the agency to transform lives and make a difference for thousands in the community.”

ACDS has commemorated its 50th Anniversary this fall with a series of events, including a Family Fun Day at the preschool in Plainview and a special first day of school event that welcomed back students to a school decorated with photos depicting ACDS' rich history.

Providing programs and services in and around Long Island since, 1966, the lifetime services agency now works with over 1,000 children and adults. ACDS, which has doubled in size over the last 12 years, expanded to Westchester County in September, opening a preschool that is expected to serve more than 160 children by the end of 2017.

About ACDS

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, ACDS, located in Plainview, N.Y., is dedicated to providing lifetime resources of exceptional quality, innovation and inclusion for individuals with Down syndrome, autism and other developmental disabilities and their families. A provider of programs and services in and

around Long Island since 1966, ACDS currently serves over 1,000 children and adults, delivering services that include early intervention and preschool special education programs, respite and recreation programs for children, teens and adults, adult Medicaid service coordination, day habilitation and eight supervised group homes. For more information, please visit acds.org or call 516-933-4700.

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