



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Richard J. O'Brien Foundation Honors ACDS With Donation From Its First Annual Networking For A Cause Breakfast Event

PLAINVIEW, NY, JULY 24, 2017 – For the sixth consecutive year, The Richard J. O'Brien Foundation has made a donation to ACDS, adding \$25,000 toward helping the organization further its mission of transforming the lives of individuals living with developmental disabilities and their families across Long Island. The gift represents a portion of the proceeds from the First Annual Richard O'Brien Networking for a Cause Breakfast, held on September 28, 2016 at Oheka Castle in Huntington.

ACDS plans to use the funds to help renovate the playground for the children in the daycare and early intervention programs and pay for installation of a protective shade covering over the outdoor preschool play area.

The Richard J. O'Brien Foundation, launched by Richard's friends and family, honors his memory by continuing his philanthropic work. Before his untimely passing in 2010, Richard worked tirelessly to help ACDS secure funding for group homes and other vital services. He also attended several of the agency's fundraisers, including its annual golf outing, held each spring.

"The O'Brien Foundation's support of ACDS carries forward the spirit and commitment of the man I knew," says ACDS Executive Director Michael M. Smith. "We are especially honored to be a beneficiary of the First Annual Networking for a Cause event. Our ongoing relationship with the Foundation, which makes much of our work possible, is one we treasure."

To date, the Foundation has donated \$165,000 to ACDS.

The Second Annual Networking for a Cause Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, September 27th at Oheka Castle.

About ACDS

ACDS, located in Plainview, NY, 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. ACDS has been providing programs and services in and around Long Island since 1966. ACDS currently serves over 1,000 children and adults, providing 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. ACDS also has a location located in Westchester, NY. For more information, please visit acds.org or call 516-933-4700.

About The Richard J. O'Brien Foundation

The Richard J. O'Brien Foundation supports charities focusing on children in need of special care and bereavement counseling and other services. The Foundation also supports organizations dealing with children's health issues. For more information, please visit www.rjofoundation.org.

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