

now merged with Autism Speaks. Karer lifespan concerns of parenting a young adult with ASD. We are honored to have

children and adults with ASD in the con professional expertise about ASD and its impact on family dynamics as the mother

members of our Board of Trustees



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# LIGHTS THAT SHINE

If as the saying goes, "it takes a Village," then there could be no finer example than the Village of Ridgewood in New Jersey, the hometown of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation. The generosity of our friends, merchants, schools and the entire community sustains us daily in our efforts to make the world a better place for individuals with ASD and their families.

This year we would also like to recognize Michael McDonald, CEO of Don McDonald &Sons, Inc whose company donated 500 custom backpacks that will be given to adolescents and adults with ASD as they pursue their vocational training endeavors. Michael, you have enhanced the self-esteem of 500 individuals who will now carry their daily belongings with pride!

The Third Annual Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Youth Kickoff Lacrosse Tournament headlined our Spring 2007 fundraising and featured a resplendent raffle with lacrosse prizes donated by Shamrock Lacrosse; because of their extreme generosity our raffle was the most successful ever. We would also like to thank Jim Donovan for making this wonderful connection for us.

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We are endlessly grateful to All-State Legal for their donation of production and printing services to The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation. Rob, Pauline and Linda will forever be "Lights that Shine."

Finally, we lovingly remember Teri Berkeley for her support and guidance; her life will continue to inspire us.

# DANNY'S SHINING STARS

Stars include: Ryan Campbell, Jessica Porcelli, Callie Gorman, Shaw, Rachel Kanen, Julia Walder, Brigid O'Connor, Jeff Binstein,

This year in the tradition of creating volunteer opportunities Gabrielle Scancarella, Jake Ball, Ava Fiddle, Greg Resnick, for children and teens, The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation is Amanda Resnick, Robbie Helfman and Spencer Sapienza. In ible and we are eternally grateful to each of you!

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation P.O. Box 1149 Ridgewood, NJ 07451-1149

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# DJF\*news\*\* (E)

The word "Spring" can evoke many images for each of us. In the context of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation, the image of "Spring" is one typified by the term "spring into action!" During the past year, the foundation has taken pointed action in our advocacy work on the state and national levels to create legislative initiatives that address the lifespan issues associated with Autism and in particular the need for programs and services for adolescents and adults. In March, I testified before the New Jersey State Assembly, Health and Senior Services Committee advocating support for a multi-bill



IEFF GITTERMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE AUTISM CENTER OF NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL - UMDNJ, PRESENTED LINDA WALDER FIDDLE WITH AN HONOR AT THEIR ANNUAL GALA, DECEMBER 2, 2006.

plan presented by Assembly Speaker Joseph J. Roberts, Ir.. Several months before, I arranged for New Jersey's Senior United States Senator, Frank Lautenberg and United States Congressional Candidate, Paul Aronsohn to appear at gathering where I spoke about the growing epidemic of Autism (now, according to the CDC affecting 1 in 150 individuals in the United States and 1 in 94 individuals in New Jersey) and the critical need for the community at large to focus on developing residential, vocational, recreational and educational opportunities for individuals with Autism to actively participate in community life. In addition, The Daniel Jordan Fiddle has been featured in both local and national media coverage that has served to enhance awareness and foster the development of programs and services for adolescents and adults with Autism.

In 2007, The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation is still the only organization in the United States with the specific mission to award grants to programs that benefit adolescents and adults with Autism and those that offer respite for their families and provide education to the community at large about the associated lifespan issues. We have reached one half million dollars in our five years of grant giving providing programming and education throughout the United States, Canada and Israel. Inside this newsletter you will learn more about our 21 new grantees that are role model programs for the development of new programs throughout this country and beyond.

DIRECTOR

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation is a leader in the Autism community and has been recognized this past year by The Autism Center of New Jersey Medical School - UMDNJ and The Ridgewood YMCA for our development and support of community based programs for adolescents and adults with Autism. Importantly, we have engaged the participation of student volunteers ranging from elementary to college age, who have enlivened and enhanced our mission. The Junior Women's Club of Ridgewood has been a constant supporter of our mission as have numerous local businesses including Leapin' Lizards, Town & Country Apothecary, Mango Jam, Glamour Beauty, Just Desserts and The Silver Spoon Caterers. On the ONE boutique of Mount Kisco, New York and The Indoor Sports Pavilion of Randolph, New Jersey host annual events that create incredible awareness and necessary funding for our grant giving endeavors.

On behalf of our exemplary Board of Trustees and Advisors, I offer our sincere appreciation for your continued encouragement and support of our mission. As the number of individuals diagnosed with Autism continues to increase, we must all be concerned about the future of these children as they rapidly grow into adulthood in communities that are ill-equipped to address their needs. The guiding principle of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation is that it is an attainable goal for each individual with Autism to reach their fullest potential Together, we must continue to "spring into action" to make this happen.

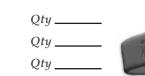
With my sincere thanks and appreciation for your con-

# CREATE AWARENESS AND SUPPORT DJF PROGRAMS FOR ADOLESCENTS AND ADULTS.

Logo Awareness Bracelet (designed by Ava Fiddle) Original Blessing Candle (white) Red Ball Blessing Candle (red)

CD of original music by Robert Kennedy for DJF

\$20.00 each \$20.00 each "Celebration of Dreams," \$20.00 each





Items may also be purchased on our website, www.djfiddlefoundation.org, on the Ways to Support page.



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THE MISSION OF THE DANIEL JORDAN FIDDLE FOUNDATION IS TO AWARD GRANTS TO PROGRAMS THAT ENRICH THE LIVES OF ADOLESCENTS AND ADULTS WITH AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD). OUR EXPER-TISE ENCOMPASSES DEVELOPING, IDENTIFYING, SUPPORTING AND SUPERVISING EXEMPLARY PROGRAMS.

- The Daniel Iordan Fiddle Foundation was inspired by the life of Danny Fiddle and the realization that there is a vast deficiency of residential, recreational, vocational, educational and family oriented programs that benefit adolescents and adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
- The goal of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation is to honor the individuality of each person with ASD throughout his or her lifespan by creating opportunities for adolescents and adults to participate in the community that are suitable, stimulating and sustainable.
- An integral part of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation's mission is to provide community outreach and education regarding the lifespan issues associated with ASD and this is accomplished through the foundation's involvement in community-based events.
- Our guiding principle is that it is an attainable goal for each individual with ASD to reach their fullest potential.

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation is proudly a grass-roots organization that has created awareness about the lifespan issues associated with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) through community-based events, media and advocacy. This past year we participated with COSAC and Paul Potito as he rang the closing bell for the NASDAQ in Times Square, New York City. We joined Dr. Charles Cartwright, Director of The Autism Center of NJMS and Advisory Board President Jeff Gitterman on the radio station WFDU to discuss educational, medical and family issues relating to ASD. Ava Fiddle conducted a letter writing campaign with her Eighth Grade English class to National leaders in support of

Neither snow, nor hail nor holiday could deter the 36 teams from across the State of New Jersey and surrounding areas who participated in the Third Annual Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Lacrosse Tournament held on March 17 and March 18 at The Indoor Sports Pavilion in Randolph, New Jersey. This annual event, completely orchestrated and run by lacrosse legend and impresario Charlie Shoulberg and DJF Advisor extraordinaire and ISP owner, Jeff Walder (accompanied by the organizational savvy of Barbara Walder) is a much heralded event for boys grades 5-8, cheered on by their devoted and generous parents. This year, for the first time, 7th and 8th grade girls competed too and our hope is to add more teams of girls next year as they were fantastic competitors. The lacorsse event is inspirational on every level because it epitomizes The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation core values of philanthropy, fun, community, volunteerism and family!

# • • • • • The Board of Trustees of The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation is committed to finding, developing and supporting exemplary programs for adolescents and adults with ASD through grant giving.

LINDA WALDER FIDDLE DISCUSSING THE LIFESPAN NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH ASD WITH U.S. SENATOR FRANK LAUTENBERG and Congressional Candidate Paul Aronsohn.



the Combating Autism Act. We sent letters, had meetings and spoke before state and national legislators regarding the need for programs and services for adolescents and adults with ASD. We participated in a documentary film project about nurturing strengths and talents in those with ASD that will soon be released. We served as Advisor to local and national agencies concerning the development of support systems and programs. We are constant advocates in the media for the Autism community.

#### SAVE THESE DATES:

**JULY 17TH 2007** KULA FOR KARMA EVENT

A summer celebration of yoga and wellness that will delight, enlighten and inspire you. Please plan to join us. Namaste.

> SEPTEMBER 26TH, 27TH & 28TH, 2007 BACK-TO-SCHOOL WITH LILLY

Hosted by Leapin' Lizards and Town & Country Apothecary of Ridgewood. Join us for this second annual backto-school, 3-day fashion and beauty event for children, teens and adults.

> OCTOBER 17TH & 18TH, 2007 ON THE ONE "BEST OF FALL" EVENT

Join Jill Heller and her team of fashion experts with special guest appearances.

# ABOUT THE DANIEL JORDAN FIDDLE FOUNDATION 2007 GRANTEES

#### THE AGAPE THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER GRANT

This program located in Cicero, Indiana exemplifies the power that equine therapy has to improve comprehension, listening skills, self-help skills and empathy for individuals with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Agape will provide a week long summer adventure camp for adolescents and young adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder that includes instruction in the indoor arena, trail riding with sensory integration activities, crafts and barn activities with this \$10,000 grant.

#### THE HEART SHARE HUMAN SERVICES OF NEW YORK GRANT

A grant for \$11,175. was made to HeartShare to support their school-holiday program for adolescents with ASD. HeartShare's School Holiday Program offers enjoyable recreational outings to 15 teens with door-to-door transportation and skilled, caring supervision on days when school is not in session. The objective is to expose participants to a wide array of settings and social opportunities while allowing parents the ability to continue their normal work schedule. Trips include bowling, roller skating, shopping, the circus and sports events located near the program in Brooklyn, New York.

#### THE SEARCH DAY PROGRAM GRANT

The SEARCH Day Program under the dynamic leadership of Executive Director, Kathy Solana is the recipient of a \$12,746. grant that will be used to expand SEARCH's Adult Activities Center (AAC) Community Based Instruction and Work Program both on-site and in the community with employment specialists. Eighteen adults will be served, who require a one to three staff ratio, in this Ocean, New Jersey program.

#### THE ARTS UNBOUND GRANT

Arts Unbound located in Orange, New Jersey will select 15 individuals who have interest and ability in the visual arts and will provide them will year-long art classes by trained professionals. Artwork created during class time will be featured in the Arts Unbound gallery and online store as well as in various community events. At the conclusion of the grant year, it is hoped that all participants will gain a greater appreciation of the visual arts and continue on in related vocational endeavors. This grant for \$10.600. creates a unique vocational training opportunity for adults with ASD.

#### THE NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR OUTREACH & SERVICES FOR THE AUTISM COMMUNITY (COSAC) GRANT

The \$16.500. grant enables COSAC to write and produce a compelling three-part DVD series exploring the residential, employment and services and resource needs of adults with ASD. The goal of the project is to generate awareness about the increasing numbers of adults with ASD and it will be disseminated to educate families, professionals and the general public.

#### THE PARC GRANT

PARC, the leading provider of services for children and adults with developmental disabilities in Putnam County, New York is the recipient of a \$5000. grant to support respite services geared towards families with an adolescent or adult with ASD. The overall goal of the PARC respite program is to provide a better home environment by giving caregivers a much-needed support system so that they can reduce stress and fatigue and return refreshed to their daily responsibilities.

#### THE HORSES AND THE HANDICAPPED OF SOUTH FLORIDA GRANT

This \$4000. grant will provide a year of horseback riding instructional therapy for two teenagers with ASD who require a scholarship to participate in the program. This program has served adolescents and adults in South Florida for more than 25 years. Through riding and exercise programs students with ASD improve communication, coordination and life skills that transfer to

#### THE ALPINE LEARNING GROUP GRANT

The renowned Alpine Learning Group located in Paramus, New Jersey was awarded a \$10,000. grant to develop a training manual and seminar in order to enhance the experience for both the students and participating community sites as part of the school's Supported Volunteer/Employment Program. The training and materials will provide the community sites with an overview of the characteristics of autism and helpful strategies that can be used to facilitate and enrich Alpine's students' integration into their host organizations. Alpine plans to make the seminar and manual available to other agencies that provide similar volunteer and work preparation programming.

#### THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES INSTITUTE (DDI) GRANT

The Greenhouse Recreation Opportunities Workshop, otherwise known as Project GROW will create the opportunity for adults with ASD to work and learn horticulture skills and vocational social skills in DDI's greenhouse located in Suffolk County, New York. GROW donates flowers to several town beautification projects and other community organizations and the greenhouse grows and arranges over 25,000 plants for Suffolk County parks and all of DDI's 22 residential homes and 5 school campuses on Long Island. This \$5000. grant creates the opportunity for the participants to become integral members of the community.

#### THE JEWISH ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (J-ADD) GRANT

J-ADD, serving families in Northern New Jersey, has been awarded a \$12,500. grant to continue and expand its Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Family Support Hotline and the J-ADD/Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Resource Guide of Programs and Services for the Autism Community. The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation Family Support Hotline provides personalized services and individual attention to families who have an adolescent or adult family member with ASD. An expansive Resource Guide was developed in conjunction with the Hotline listing community resources, such as adult housing, employment, family support, social and recreational programs as well as legal and advocacy organizations. The hotline and guide are free of charge and can be accessed by calling 201-457-0058 x15.

#### THE RAMAPO FOR CHILDREN GRANT

A \$5000. grant was given to the Rhinebeck, New York special needs camping program to launch a Family Respite Retreat pilot program for teenagers with ASD and their families at the 250 acres lakefront campus. During this family respite retreat at camp, teens with ASD and their families will have the benefit of Ramapo's strong support system as they relieve day to day stress by partaking in a wide array of outdoor and group activities.

#### THE PHOENIX CENTER GRANT

The Nutley, New Jersey Phoenix Center cofounded in 1991 by Dr. Geraldine Gibbia and Dr. Douglas Berrian serves 146 students from 56 towns in the State ages 5-21 years old. The \$5000. grant will be used for a community recreation program for adolescents in the

program that will include therapeutic horseback riding, a bowling league and a recreational swimming program. The Phoenix Center recreation program for adolescents is an important part of the curriculum that will create opportunities for socialization and skills development.

#### THE EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR INSTRUCTING CHILDREN (EPIC) GRANT

The EPIC school is the recipient of a grant for \$5250. for its Adolescent Supported Volunteer Program to teach adolescent learners age-appropriate, functional skills in a variety of integrated natural community environments that will prepare them for transition into adulthood and supported employment.

#### THE ELIZABETH M. BOGGS CENTER ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES GRANT

The Boggs Center, part of the Department of Pediatrics at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, New Jersey was awarded a grant for \$15,199. to support the development and production of an interfaith resource booklet on Autism and the ways that clergy and congregations can support and include individuals with ASD throughout their lifespan and their families. The resource booklet will be disseminated throughout the United States. A conference co-sponsored by The Autism Center of New Jersey Medical School in Newark will provide symposiums and speakers that will enhance congregational supports for the Autism community and instructional materials will be developed as a further resource.

# THE HEARTSONG, INC. GRANT Heartsong, Inc of Westchester, New York

will be awarded a grant of \$1,100 to support

adolescents in the Fall at this art and music

therapy program. The teens with ASD have been participating in the Heartsong program and supported by The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation for several years and have enhanced their communication, behavior and social skills as a result of their participation in this nurturing and creative program.

#### THE HEART OF SAILING GRANT

Sixty-five adolescents will ASD will have the opportunity to experience the fun of sailing as result of this \$5000. grant to Heart of Sailing. Heart of Sailing conducts year round sailing instruction for individuals with special needs throughout the United States.

#### THE ZABOTA FOUNDATION GRANT

A \$10,000. grant was awarded to the Fair Lawn, New Jersey vocational day program for adults with ASD who require extensive one-on-one attention to achieve pre-vocational and vocational goals. This Center based program allows for integration opportunities with the adjoining Adult Day Care Center for Seniors as well as a less-restrictive day program for adults with ASD and other developmental disabilities.

#### THE NASSAU SUFFOLK SERVICES FOR AUTISM (NSSA) GRANT

A grant in the amount of \$8.650. was awarded to NSSA to underwrite the fees for 10 adolescent participants in its Gym/Swim Program held at the Suffolk Y-JCC located adjacent to the school. The program will allow students to participate in a community center while enhancing their physical fitness and social skills. There will be an opportunity for participants to learn swimming, basketball, running and tennis and to utilize a variety of

# THE SOMERSET HILLS LEARNING INSTITUTE GRANT

The newly built facility for The Somerset Hills Learning Institute located in Bedminster, New Jersey will now have a "mock hotel room' for adolescents and young adults in the program to learn and practice the necessary vocational skills to attain employment thanks to a \$5000. grant. Pre-vocational and vocational training is vital to the transition process as adolescents age out of their school programs and the Somerset Hills Learning Institute program is a model for developing programs throughout the United States.

#### THE SADDLE UP! GRANT

Located in Franklin, Tennessee, Saddle Up! is one of the premiere therapeutic equestrian programs in the United States. This \$2,250 grant will fund summer riding lessons for adolescents with ASD. This program will be expertly conducted to enhance communication, socialization and recreational skills.

#### THE GHA. INC. GRANT

GHA, Inc. located in Albermarle North Carolina has been awarded an \$8000. grant that will support the construction of a barn at GHA's Carolina Farms so as to allow adults with ASD to work directly with farm animals and enhance their farming and vocational skills. This project enables adults with ASD to realize the dream of living and working

#### COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation will award an additional \$5000. in discretionary grants for 2007 to community programs that enhance the lives of adolescents and adults with ASD.

*I (we)* would like to support The Daniel Jordan *Fiddle Foundation in the following category:* 

\$100 RED BALL ADVOCATE
\$500 RED ROSE RESPITE

\$1,000 CARDINAL RECREATION \$2,500 CRIMSON EDUCATION



I (we) would like to make a DONATION to The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation by check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

State Zip E-mail Please make your check payable to: The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation

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If you would like to make a donation of securities, please contact us.

Support The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation through the United Way; use our code #042576

(If your employer has a matching gift program, please enclose your application.)

This contribution is in honor of: \_\_\_\_

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