

Sonnenberg Consultants Newsletter

Happy 4th of July!!!

Research Updates

The Senate Labor Health and Human Services and Education Appropriation Committee today approved full funding for the Combating Autism Act as part of its fiscal 2008 spending bill. Specifically, the bill provides \$53.5 million for programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Health Resources and Services Administration. This is an \$18.5 million increase over last year's level, and fully funds the Combating Autism Act's recommendations for autism surveillance, early detection, education, awareness and intervention activities.

Classified

We are full in Wisconsin but still have work open in the Kankakee IL. Area.

Company Updates:

- ✚ Evals for all line staff in Kenosha and Racine counties should be completed in the first part of the month in order to receive raises.
- ✚ Our first annual company party. Ideas are appreciated. It will be at the end of the summer. Stay tuned!

Celebrate, Have Fun!



Media Updates

Athletes Against Autism's Second Annual Golf Tournament, presented by Cadillac, was held on June 24th & 25th at Bacara Resort & Spa and Sandpiper Golf Club in Santa Barbara, CA. More than 35 athletes and celebrities from across North America joined golfers, donors and supporters to raise over \$350,000 in support of the research, awareness, education and outreach programs of Cure Autism Now/Autism Speaks.



Stimuli:



www.proudd.com/images/AutismPin.png

Order this at
www.littleelves.com



MVP of this month is...

Amy Ziemann-Amy has been performing ABA services for over 6 years! WOW! Amy has been dedicated to dozens of children with Autism and every new family that she starts to work with falls in love with her. Amy has worked hard and strives to do the best she can to pull each child out of that world we all know as Autism. Thanks Amy for all of your dedication to the kids and Sonnenberg Consultants.



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Thought You should know:

From Adventures in Autism: Autism@yahoo.com

(<http://adventuresinautism.blogspot.com/2007/06/i-take-back-every-nice-thing-i-have.html>)

I Take Back Every Nice Thing I Have Ever Said About Autism Speaks

I read this today and it just made me sick. I don't even have the words to comment on it.

I am a professional that has reviewed many non profit organization's IRS Form 990s. Autism Speaks Form 990 raises serious red flags. Serious. This is all from the official filing for 2006.

1. Three members of the Board of Directors received \$2.5 million for their own organizations.
2. The President Mark Rothmeyer, just received a 5 year contract for about \$2,000,000 including bonuses with no prior background with autism.
3. The grants are primarily going to those representing institutions that are reviewing the grants. There is no indication that these conflicts are independently reviewed
4. The location of this small and new foundation is in very expensive downtown New York facilities rented for \$200,000 by the institution that is run by the Chairman of Autism Speaks.
5. A expense of a Private Jet plane for \$57,000 was noted. This is very unusual for a new non profit groups.
6. The head of the scientific review received the majority of the funds for 2005 for his institution for a data base - almost \$3 million

Since the funding is now from the public - and the advertising and promotion tugs at the publics heart strings with images of families in need - the funds collected MUST be about those it raises the money for.

The following are all taken from the Form 990 filing

Web Site \$830,000
Software for the computer \$514,000
Lawyers \$440,000
Computers \$337,000
Public relations \$285,000
Office annual rent \$200,000
HR consultant \$110,000
Editorial Consultant \$76,000
Private Jet Plane for someone that entertained \$57,000

Mark Rothmeyer* \$360,000
Peter Bell [\$240,000?]
Alison Singer \$168,000
Mr. Ringall \$150,000
Andy Shik \$110,000

Remember all the above also gets significant fringe benefits that probably add.

Mark Rothmeyer also can get \$50,000 more with a bonus a year benefits.

<http://tinyurl.com/29zn6o>

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]