

June 2007

Sonnenberg Consultants Newsletter

“I’m a chick magnet!” Jay-9 years old

Research Updates

The Autism Spectrum Disorder Research Program, or ASDRP, is offering \$7.5 million in grants for researchers to study autism spectrum disorders. The ASDRP was created by Congress when it appropriated the monies for autism research in the Fiscal 2007 Department of Defense Appropriations Act. The program was presented to Congress by Autism Speaks, and Peter Bell, executive vice president of Autism Speaks, chairs the integration panel that is responsible for designing the objectives of the ASDRP

Classifieds

Ask your senior if you are interested in more hours. Openings change on a weekly basis.

MVP of this month is...

Marie Johnson-Congratulations!
You have worked so hard in the past month. Marie started working on another child’s case, even though she has 2 other clients she is doing ABA with already! She is involved with her own son’s ABA program and is enrolled in school fulltime. WOW, that’s a full schedule. Marie, you jumped into the new case without hesitation and have been getting stimuli for your son’s program that week. Thanks for all your hard work as a mom for your son’s program and as a therapist for your 3 kid’s programming!!!

Media Updates

Walk Now for Autism, Autism Speaks' signature fundraising event, raised over \$3 million at walks in five cities across the country during the weekend of May 19th. People in communities large and

small came out to walk and raise money and awareness.

Suzanne and Bob Wright received the Leadership Award at the 6th annual McCarton Foundation gala dinner on May 21, 2007, at Pier 60 at Chelsea Piers in New York. Bob Wright is vice chairman, General Electric, and served as chief executive officer of NBC for more than twenty years. In addition to co-founding Autism Speaks, Suzanne has an extensive history of being actively involved in community and philanthropic endeavors, mostly directed toward helping children. She has teamed up with the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro New York, the YMCA, and other local organizations to provide children with once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, such as attending the Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City. At the event, \$1.8 million was raised to continue the education of children with autism spectrum disorders at the McCarton School. The evening was hosted by Conan O'Brien and musical entertainment was provided by Max Weinberg.

Huggable Heroes

Build-a-Bear Workshop Helps Support Autism Research

Build-A-Bear Workshop is continuing its spirit of generosity by donating a portion of the proceeds from the sale of “Nikki Bear II” to NAAR. Each month of the year, the make-your-own stuffed animal company distributes money from the sale of these special bears to children’s health programs and chose NAAR as its recipient for April—Autism Awareness Month. In addition, customers were able to purchase special “Huggable Hero” satin hearts for \$1, with proceeds going to NAAR. We’re proud to say the program helped raise more than \$40,000.

Company Policies

Summer reminders:

- As soon as you are aware that you need a shift off, inform both your senior and the parent and if no one can cover it, set up a make up time immediately.
- If you are calling in sick, call the parent and your senior by 7:30 a.m. (for either shift) or else you may be written up.
- A no call/no show are grounds for immediate termination.
- Show up exactly at your scheduled time. Do not show up early or late unless okayed by the parent and the senior ahead of time. If you show up early, please wait in your car until the scheduled time as this affects not only the child and his/her breaks, but if you are overlapped as well and the parent or babysitter. Sign-in times will be checked by the senior to make sure everyone is coming at their appropriate time.
- Phones need to be off and not on your person during the shift. You may check them at break and ONLY if it is related to your child at that exact moment or an emergency may you listen to it. Otherwise, all messages need to wait until your shift is over to be listened to. According to your senior's judgment, you may be written up if your phone goes off too frequently for non-emergencies. So, please turn it on silent and do not open it to see who called or the like until break and only then if it is an emergency.
- This is a job and needs to be treated as one, shifts cannot constantly be moved around or cancelled because one thinks that it's only 3 hours so what does it matter. Each person's shift is extremely important to each child and should be treated as such.

New Incentive for Kenosha/Racine families: Ask your senior about the gas cards! All you need to do is get 8 tickets and get a 10 dollar gas card. No missed days of work or being late=10 dollars in gas!

Evals will be given this month in Kenosha and Racine counties.

Joke of the Month

Q: What is full of holes but still holds water?

A: A sponge.

Projects to help with...

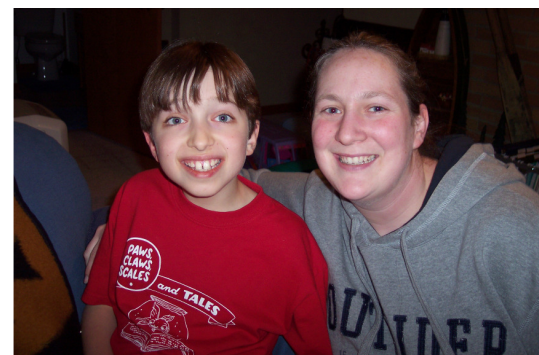
-Help us make a name for our company! We are going to add a phrase that will follow Sonnenberg Consultants and if you win then you will receive a prize. Be creative and have fun! We didn't receive enough input; we would love your ideas!

Looking for tutors to help with making stimuli for the kids programs. Please tell your senior if you are interested.

Thanks!

Stimuli or Autism Products:

Autism Speaks Ties Now in Online Store



Marie Johnson-MVP for June!