



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***Media Contact:***

***Ron Gold***

***Marketing Works PR***

***[ron@marketingworkspr.com](mailto:ron@marketingworkspr.com)***

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

---

PLAINVIEW, NY, JULY 10, 2017 – For the sixth consecutive year, The Richard J. O'Brien Foundation has made a donation to ACDS, 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.

ACDS Executive Director Michael M. Smith was a friend of Richard's. "The O'Brien Foundation's support of ACDS carries forward the spirit and commitment of the man I knew," Smith said. "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."

The Second Annual Networking for a Cause Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> 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. For more information, please visit [acds.org](http://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](http://www.rjofoundation.org).

###