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## **ACDS to Honor Italian Welfare League and 6 Former ACDS Board Presidents**

*Broadway Lights Will Shine January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013 For  
ACDS' Annual Gala*

Plainview, NY – The bright lights of Broadway will set the stage for ACDS's Annual Gala at the Garden City Hotel, January 26, at 7 p.m.

From the music during the cocktail hour to the décor, the spirit of Broadway will liven the festivities. The evening will also feature the popular Hank Lane Orchestra.

ACDS will honor the Italian Welfare League (IWL) and their Board President, Linda Carlozzi.

“IWL has been a longtime supporter of the families we serve. Over the past seven years they have been a major contributor through ACDS to support nearly 100 families in need of assistance with therapeutic and medical bills, financial emergencies, vacation respite and a variety of other challenges. Half of the money they gave us this year will go toward converting a garage, into a bedroom, for a resident in one of our homes,” says Laurie Schaefer, Development Associate with ACDS.

Linda Carlozzi remarked “We are proud of our mission to serve children of Italian descent who have medical problems, developmental disabilities or are suffering from emotional trauma. We affectionately call these youngsters “[I Nostri Bambini](#)” and have adopted them into the League’s family of caring members and supporters. ACDS has been a superb partner in helping us to identify and assist worthy families in times of great vulnerability.”

Amongst the Broadway theme, ACDS will also be recognizing and honoring six past ACDS Board Presidents for their contributions and advocacy for the agency; Roy Danis, Joe Foster, David Graney, Craig Lomma, Stuart Schoenfeld and David Weingarten.

“We are very proud that ACDS is a lifetime resource for families, and these six gentlemen personify that, as all continue to be involved with ACDS long after their service as Board President ended,” says Michael Smith, ACDS Executive Director. “Joe

Foster and David Weingarten have sons who live in our group homes. Roy Danis and Dave Graney have children we serve through Medicaid Service Coordination, and Stuart Schoenfeld's daughter danced last March at our event held at Lincoln Center. Craig Lomma has been active in strategic planning and regularly participated in many of our fundraising visits. Their service goes back to 1985. They are a big part of the reason ACDS is thriving today."

Tickets for the gala have SOLD OUT - ACDS has many different ways to support the event through various levels of sponsorship. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please visit [www.ACDS.org](http://www.ACDS.org).

ACDS, located in Plainview, New York 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 more than 900 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 in Nassau County.

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