



***For Immediate Release***  
***Media Contact:***  
***Ron Gold***  
***Marketing Works PR***  
***[ron@marketingworkspr.com](mailto:ron@marketingworkspr.com)***  
***C: 516.297.1637***

### **ACDS Elects Gene Kirley as New Board President**

Plainview, NY- Since 2010, Gene Kirley has been an active board member and supporter of ACDS, which serves children and adults with Down syndrome, autism and other developmental disabilities. On December 11, 2012, Gene was elected to become ACDS's new Board President. He replaced Tim Michel of Garden City, who had served since 2008.

"ACDS is a tremendous organization that I am honored to be a part of," Kirley says. "ACDS has given me an opportunity to give back to an organization that has done so much for my family and for others."

Gene and his wife, Tracy, were introduced to ACDS in 2010 after their daughter, Bryn, 3, was born with Down syndrome. Since Bryn's birth, they have worked tirelessly, devoting their time and energy to supporting ACDS and its programs. Tracy is the Co-President of the ACDS Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO).

"Having Gene serve as our Board President is an honor," says ACDS Executive Director, Michael Smith. "His understanding and commitment to our cause has made him a strong advocate for ACDS."

In early 2012, Gene and Tracy made a heartwarming and moving pitch that led ACDS to be recognized as one of three charities at the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Rockville Centre. Children and adults affiliated with ACDS, marched proudly alongside their families in the "parade that shares and cares" which generously led to a \$14,000 donation from parade organizers.

"When the Kirleys made their pitch to the Rockville Centre board, I was tremendously moved," Smith says. "Their story showed the true importance of ACDS's programs and what we aim to do as a charity."

On January 26, 2013, ACDS will host their Annual Gala at the Garden City Hotel, where they will honor six of their past Board Presidents and welcome Kirley to his new position.

Since 1993, Gene has worked as First Vice President/Wealth Management of the Garden City office of Janney Montgomery Scott LCC, a full-service investment and investment-banking firm. Outside of the office, he enjoys coaching baseball and serves as the co-founder and commissioner of the Rockville Centre Little League's Challenger League, a division for children with special needs.

A Long Island native, Gene grew up in Baldwin and earned his Bachelor's degree at Manhattan College in the Bronx. Gene and Tracy currently live in Rockville Centre with their four children.

As the new Board President, Kirley hopes to contribute to ACDS's continued success.

“Having nearly doubled in size since 2005, ACDS has dramatically broadened their scope of services offered to the many families, adults and children which it serves,” says Kirley. “And it is my goal to help ACDS continue on that path.”

### **About ACDS**

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 seven supervised group homes in Nassau County.