



The Center for Autism Celebrates National Autism Awareness Month

-- Casino Night to benefit organization and honor Fredric and Sandra Mann --

PHILADELPHIA, April 10, 2006 – The Center for Autism will host its *Small Miracles, Big Winners: Casino Night* on April 26 at the Rittenhouse Hotel from 6:00 p.m.- 11:00 p.m. Event proceeds will support the Center’s various programs and initiatives.

Fredric and Sandra Mann will receive the Small Miracles Award for their dedicated service to the Center. Previous recipient, Jim Murray, former Philadelphia Eagles general manager and a founder of the first Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia, will be presenting the award.

For several years, Fredric and Sandra have played integral roles in planning annual functions for the Center and supporting its fundraising efforts. Frederic currently sits on the Center’s Board of Directors. They are also actively involved in organizations including the Philadelphia Boy Scouts of America, the Mann Center for the Performing Arts, the Atwater Kent Museum, the Glen Mills School for Adjudicated Delinquent Boys and the Fox Chase Cancer Center.

“Casino Night is significant to the Center and all those who contribute to its success,” said Jean Ruttenberg, executive director of the Center for Autism. “This event is a great way to commemorate our 50th anniversary and affirm our commitment to providing vital resources to individuals with autism.”

The Center for Autism was founded in 1955 by child psychiatrist Bertram A. Ruttenberg, M.D., and is the oldest of its kind in the Philadelphia area. Operating as a private, non-profit specialized clinic, the Center offers comprehensive evaluation and intensive treatment to individuals with autism and their families.

The organization also provides consultation to school districts, counties and rehabilitation centers serving autistic people of all ages throughout Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

The Center for Autism is headquartered on Conshohocken Avenue in Philadelphia. For more information, please call 215.878.3400 or visit www.autismhelp.org.

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