



NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OFFICE

30TH DISTRICT

ROBERT W. SINGER

SENATOR

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March 20, 2023

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EDWARD H. THOMSON

ASSEMBLYMAN

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The Honorable Chris Smith
United States House of Representative
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

We are pleased to support the crucial work of the highly acclaimed School for Children with Hidden Intelligence (SCHI) in its application for \$380,000 in Community Project Funding under the FY24 House Appropriations Bill, to assist them with their Wheelchair Accessible Special Needs Playground Safety Renovation and Upgrade Initiative.

Thousands of children throughout New Jersey were born with a physical handicap that has prevented them from performing and functioning in a conventional school setting. SCHI's unique programs provide exceptional educational and therapeutic services by certified professional staff to children with disabilities, such as autism, Down syndrome, ADHD, muscular dystrophy, Spina bifida, and cerebral palsy. SCHI places great emphasis on maintaining a high-teacher-to-pupil ratio (minimum of 1:2) along with individualized educational programs, designed to fit each student's specific needs.

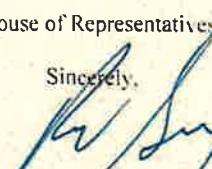
Since its founding in 1995, SCHI has grown to become a world-renowned, cutting-edge therapeutic and educational center that meets the singular needs of more than 700 severely disabled, underprivileged, medically fragile, and socially and emotionally challenged children and young adults ranging in age from birth to 21+.

- Due to SCHI's continued — and explosive growth — (their special needs student population is mushrooming towards ~1,000 students), it is crucial that their Wheelchair Accessible Special Needs Playground Safety Renovation and Upgrade Initiative be started immediately so SCHI can adequately serve their current and forecast student population of handicapped children. Specifically, this Wheelchair Accessible Special Needs Playground allows students to apply what they've learned in their intensive individualized therapy program, including intensive muscle strengthening, and reeducation through functional training which includes exercises to enhance balance, coordination, strength, and sensory-motor integration. This special playground will also improve independence with daily activities like self-care, feeding and dressing, body awareness, motor skills, balance, and coordination.

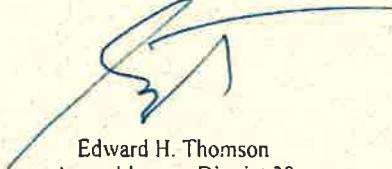
For all these reasons, we ask that you prioritize this application for submission and give every consideration to SCHI's essential federal appropriations request so that this lifesaving Wheelchair Accessible Special Needs Playground Safety Renovation and Upgrade Initiative comes to fruition, thereby ensuring that many more of your special needs children and adult constituents will be able to thrive, learn, and function as contributing members of mainstream society.

Thank you for your continued leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sincerely,


Robert W. Singer
Senator, District 30


Sean T. Kean
Assemblyman, District 30


Edward H. Thomson
Assemblyman, District 30

RWS/STK/EHT/tab

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Joseph H. Vicari
Commissioner Director

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March 17, 2023

The Honorable Chris Smith
United States House of Representatives
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Put simply, this equipment and safety renovation/upgrade is vital for the well-being of the children involved. The progress and behaviors of our multiply handicapped children will greatly improve in school and social settings throughout New Jersey through their use of this Wheelchair Accessible Special Needs Playground Equipment.

For all of these reasons, I ask that you prioritize this application for submission and give every consideration to SCHI's essential federal appropriations request so that this lifesaving Wheelchair Accessible Special Needs Playground Safety Renovation and Upgrade Initiative comes to fruition, thereby ensuring that many more of your special needs children and adult constituents will be able to thrive, learn, and function as contributing members of mainstream society.

Thank you for your continued leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives!

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Vicari
County Commissioner Director



Township of Lakewood

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Menashe Miller, *Deputy Mayor*

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Albert Akerman

Michael J. D'Elia

Meir Lichtenstein

March 17, 2023

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Thank you for your continued leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives!



Raymond Coles
Mayor, Township of Lakewood



Services for Children with Hidden Intelligence (SCHI) Visits the NYSE

Captain Mark A. Seigel, MBA & the wonderful children & young adults from Services for Children with Hidden Intelligence's (SCHI) **Vocational Training & Financial Literacy Education Program were invited to ring the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on December 29th in New York City to highlight SCHI's worldwide impact to the special needs community.**

In honor of the occasion, SCHI Student Eli Abraham rings The Closing BellSM.

About Services for Children with Hidden Intelligence (SCHI):

Since it's founding in 1995, Services for Children with Hidden Intelligence (SCHI) has grown to become a world-renowned, cutting-edge therapeutic and educational center meeting the unique needs of over 700 severely-disabled, underprivileged, medically fragile, and socially-emotionally challenged children & young adults ranging in age from birth to 21+. As a state-approved organization, specifically educating multiply handicapped & underprivileged children & adults from throughout New Jersey & beyond, SCHI's aim is to try and alleviate the suffering of the most vulnerable members of the community. SCHI provides educational and therapeutic services by certified professional staff to children with disabilities as varied as autism, Down syndrome, ADHD, muscular dystrophy, Spina bifida, and cerebral palsy, among others. SCHI places great emphasis on maintaining a high teacher to pupil ratio (minimum of 1:2) along with individualized educational programs, designed to fit each student's specific needs. SCHI's unique curriculum gives special children the opportunity to benefit from a wide range of subjects including vocational training & financial literacy, art, music, computers, as well as math, language arts and science courses. Regular classroom faculty are augmented and complemented by specialists in various occupations: physical, occupational and speech therapy, behavior modification and social work. Included in SCHI's additional services are: early intervention, adult programs, and group home services. Our main goal is to provide every student with a chance to excel.

Link to related URL: <http://www.schischool.org>