Dr. Andy Shih

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Autism Speaks

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Dear Sir:

We are writing to thank you and the *Chilean and American Chamber of Commerce* in Philadelphia for their visit to our Attention Center called *Autismo Rancagua (AR)*, located in the city of Rancagua (O'Higgins Region), Chile. We would also like to provide you with an overview of our work, our activities and to invite you to strengthen the bonds between our institutions

## Autismo Rancagua's General Objective:

Prepare and support children who are diagnosed with **autism spectrum disorder** (**ASD**), ranging for pre-school to high school and beyond, so that they can access inclusive education and acquire skills that allow them to integrate into society.

The **Education Platform** is a line of work which was established two years ago, and was funded through municipal grants in 2016 and through support from *Fundación Descúbreme* (2017). Each year, new sources of financing must be identified in order to continue this operation. This is why we would like to reach out to you this for 2018.

We only count on continued support from our community, who contribute through various fundraising events. In more specific terms, we would like to request your support to help continue our "Permanent Education Platform" (PEP).

<u>PEP's Specific Objective is:</u> provide reinforcement and prepare children to tackle daily challenges throughout their school years and beyond.

From our experience, in order to support this effort, we require support from a team made up of 4 education providers:

- 1. One expert in Psychopedagogy
- 2. One special Education Teacher
- 3. One language Teacher
- 4. One math Teacher

## Cost to support 20 children<sup>1</sup>:

- o 15 hours a month per expert, on support from education providers
- Hourly rate, at a cost of CLP \$25.000<sup>2</sup>, per education provider.
- This covers one year of support

	Hourly Rate	Hours per month	Total monthly cost	Total yearly cost
1 Expert in Psychopedagogy	USD 40 approx	15	The second secon	
1 Special Education Teacher	USD 40 approx	15	USD 600	
1 Language Teacher	USD 40 approx	15	USD 600	
1 Math Teacher	USD 40 approx	15	USD 600	
				USD 28,800 *

## Here is a brief history of our organization:

AUTISMO RANCAGUA (AR), is a family and parents' association that was created out of the need to provide care for our children and relatives, since there are no public policies for citizens living with ASD, neither in health or in education.

AR is a non-profit organization, created in 2014, and is currently made up of 92 families, but is unfortunately only able to support 50 families, due to limited resources. AR provides therapy for 50 children and youngsters ranging from ages 2 to 22 years old.

At AR our daily work is driven by the conviction that people with ADS require support and therapy to carry out their daily lives and our awareness of the high costs this entails to families.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> They have demand for roughly 70, however they are applying for other funding sources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Approximately 40 USD