

CHARITY WRITING CONTEST: GRADES K-1

Name: Edan Mitchell

Grade: 1

Teacher: Mrs Snyder

Dear Judges,

I think the PWP Race Committee should give money to this charity:

ALS Association Upstate Ny

because my MeMa couldnt talk.

I used to dance with her but she got to sick. it made me

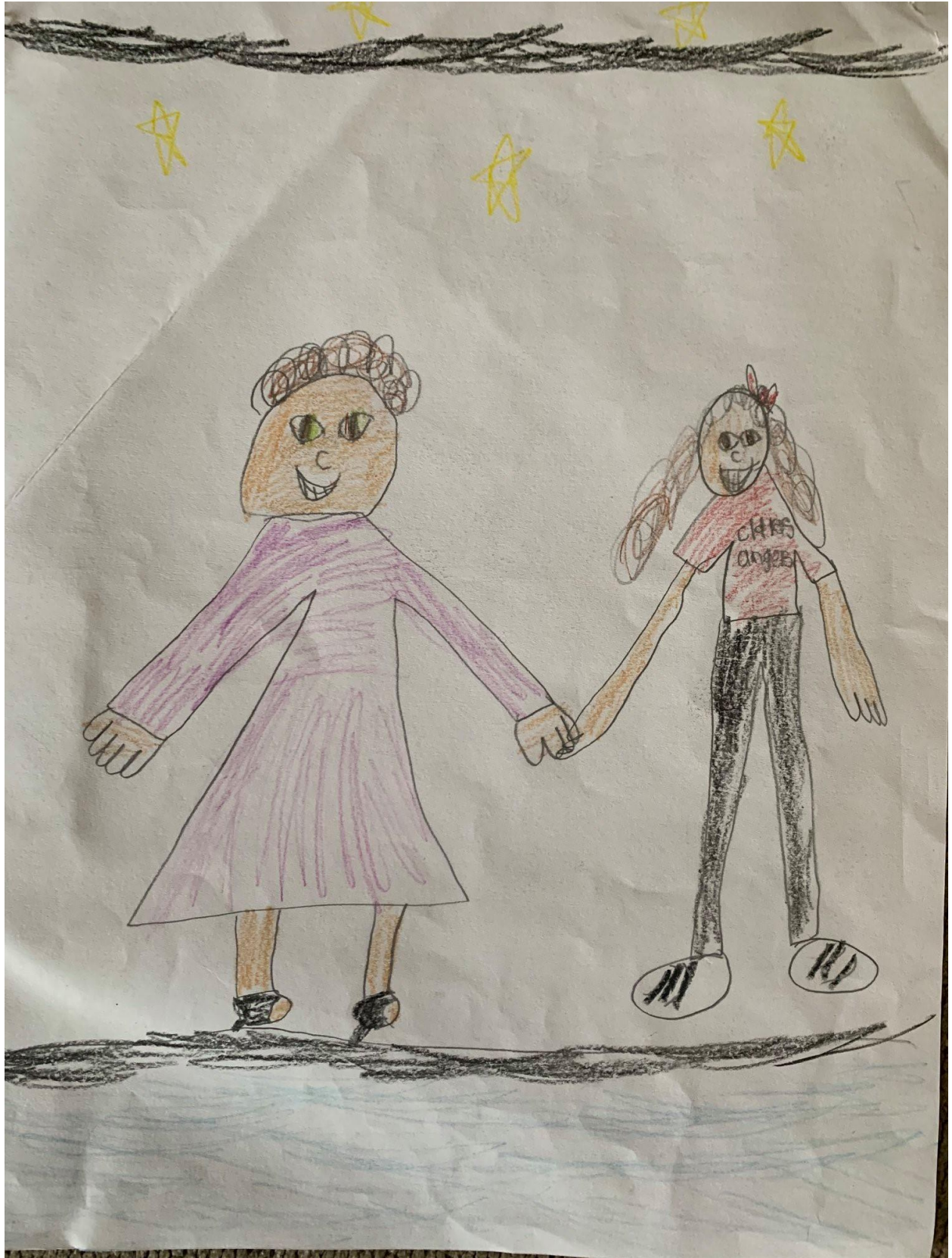
sad. - And - I dont want - -

other people - to - get - - -

ALS. I Love my MeMa

Very much. please give

money to this charity.



Annie Horning
3rd Grade
Mrs. Neumire

A charity that is important to me is Second Chance Canine Adoption Shelter. This Shelter is a place where stray, abused or abandoned dogs from Syracuse go to be rescued, cared for, and adopted. The dogs are trained and taken care of by people who live in the Jamesville Correctional Facility. This is the only Shelter in our area that takes dogs only from the city of Syracuse.

In school we are learning about the Positivity Project. A lot of character traits are shown through this charity. The first trait is kindness because they give people second chances to take care of the dogs. Love is another trait because they show they care about the puppies by playing with them and taking them for walks. Hope is shown because the volunteers are hopeful that the dogs will get adopted. Forgiveness is also demonstrated because the people that did something wrong are getting a second chance by proving they are responsible to help take care of the dogs. Last but not least self-control because the volunteers are patient with both the dogs and the inmates who help train them.

I think the money should be donated to this shelter so they can help more dogs. All dogs deserve to be loved and cared for. They can use the money to buy medicine for the dogs, blankets and beds to keep them warm, food and dishes for the dogs, and of course leashes and toys.

My cousin volunteers at this shelter and I was able to visit to learn more about it and meet some of the dogs. I learned that Second Chance Canine Adoption Shelter helps both people from the correctional facility that deserve a second chance and dogs that need some extra love and affection. My favorite pups were Kuro and Big Dave. Please donate money to help give these dogs from the Syracuse city streets a second chance!

Braelyn Turner
Sixth Grade
Stanton F4
6 March 2020

The Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance is a foundation that was founded in 1974 to find a cure for Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC). TSC is a genetic diagnosis that causes tubers and tumors to grow on important organs, affecting those in many different ways. For example, people can have seizures, growth and development delays, and skin abnormalities. Although these are some of the more common symptoms, there can be many different symptoms, ranging from mild to severe. Tuberous Sclerosis is so rare that it affects only about one in six thousand babies in the United States (tsalliance.org). Unfortunately, there is no cure for TSC, but scientists and doctors are working hard to find one. That's where we need foundations like the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance and people around us to contribute to finding a cure. "Everyone who has a stake in this fight can multiply his or her impact by linking arms and working together to bring this disease to the brink of a breakthrough" (tscalliance.org).

By raising and donating the money from the PWP, doctors and researchers can try to find a cure, as there is currently no cure. TSC is a diagnosis that not many people know about, and we can raise awareness by educating others. Through this, we can involve those in the community and hopefully encourage them to continue supporting the charity. The PWP's involvement in a fundraiser for Tuberous Sclerosis Complex will give those with the rare diagnosis a fighting chance.

My older sister, Makenna is one of the many people in the world affected by Tuberous Sclerosis Complex. Daily she struggles with seizures, she is nonverbal, and she has tubers and tumors on many important organs including her brain, her skin, and her kidneys. Makenna has also undergone several surgeries, including a vagal nerve stimulator placement, a corpus callosotomy, and many more. She has also had to make many trips to both Boston and Texas to see special teams of doctors. Through her struggles, Makenna has taught me to be a better person. Examples include: learning to be more patient (especially those with different abilities), learning many new medical terms, becoming more brave because of what I have seen her go through, and treating everyone equally. She has helped me to become the person I am today, and therefore I would love the opportunity to give back to the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance.

Julianna Terek

Paint Westvale Purple

Essay Contest

03 March 2020

Autism Spectrum Disorder is the fastest growing developmental disability in the world, so why is it receiving less than 5% of research funding? It affects 1 in every 34 males and 1 in every 151 females. This means that autism is four times as likely to affect males than females. Autism doesn't discriminate against ethnic or socioeconomic groups and is seen in children with no family history. Since autism is so prevalent, why is it being treated as something so insignificant and uncommon?

Autism is a cause of bullying for many children. In fact, nearly two-thirds of children on the spectrum, aged 6 to 15, have been bullied before. Autism can also cause children to have dangerous behaviors such as head-banging, arm biting, scratching, and other self-injurious behaviors. Children with autism also perform self-stimulating behaviors or "stim" for short. This "stimming" is a way for people with autism to calm themselves, which can lead to injuries. Autism can also cause children to wander off with the increased risk of injury, death, or abduction. Many children who wander out of their homes drown in nearby bodies of water. Drowning is responsible for 90% of deaths of children aged 14 and younger who wander out of the house.

Autism is frequently associated with ADHD, chronic sleep problems, gastrointestinal disorders, and even epilepsy. A third of children with autism are overweight, and 16% are obese.

Autism can also be extremely costly, especially if the family affected doesn't have decent health insurance that helps pay for needed behavioral therapies, or any insurance at all. Autism can cost families approximately \$60,000 per year throughout childhood. This includes the cost of special services and lost wages due to demands on one or both parents of the child. Caring for adults with autism is also costly. It's estimated that adult services cost anywhere from \$175 to \$196 billion dollars per year in the United States, and services for children cost between \$61 - \$66 billion per year.

I'm personally affected by autism. My brother, two of my cousins, and one of my uncles all have autism to a varying degree. They're not all successful, some of them are unable to communicate verbally, and it has brought upon some hardships to everyday life. Such as when we used to go out places with my brother before he got diagnosed. He would get upset at everyday loud noises at events, such as singing "happy birthday", applause, and even bright lights. But, a little after he turned two he started receiving speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, behavioral therapy, and music therapy. Now, he is able to communicate (not verbally), to us that these things bother him, and we can move him away or help him cover his ears. One of my father's cousins, who is in her 40's is severe. She lives with her parents, requires assistance for self-care, and can minimally communicate her needs and feelings.

If money was donated to Autism Speaks, a nonprofit organization to advocate for those on the spectrum, they would advocate for those who cannot advocate for themselves. They also help individuals get the help they need, and help families in need of special services on the daily. Some newer devices would seriously benefit those affected, but some cannot afford these new devices. Autism Speaks helps families get special services, and they provide an insight into what

it is like to have a family member or child on the spectrum. They also contact big theme parks and events, such as *Sesame Place*, *Chuck E Cheese*, *WonderWorks*, and *The New York State Fair* to help facilitate more favorable conditions for people with autism. Sesame Place has noise-cancellation headphones available and quiet rooms with sensory attachments available to help sensory-overwhelmed visitors. The New York State Fair is implementing a new sensory day, where they plan to shut down the bright lights and eliminate loud sounds and music, so those on the spectrum can also enjoy the parks. Autism Speaks researches five main areas: genetic and environmental factors, susceptibility genes, animal models, environmental toxins, and maternal viral infections. This research could lead to a cure or treatment for autism, which could lift many hardships families are struggling with every day. This could also help to ensure a brighter future for those with autism.

In conclusion, autism deserves to receive more recognition and support. Autism affects many people, in all socioeconomic groups, all over the world. It's associated with many other health problems and can endanger the lives of those who are living with autism.

References

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-facts-and-figures>

<http://kerrymagro.com/things-to-know-about-autism-for-autism-awareness-month/>

<https://hasa.org/autism-fast-facts>

Izzy Valenti

When I was running around in mud puddles and playing with dolls and LEGO's at two and a half years old, my mom decided she wanted another toy-loving child. She got pregnant, and to my dad and her joyful surprise, with a boy. On February 1st, just a day after my moms birthday, my brother was born. I don't remember much of anything from the time, but from pictures and stories I can assure that I was an excited almost three year old. My parents, delighted and content with a new baby boy, got news that no parent would ever wish to hear. My brother Dante was born with an extremely rare disease called Ornithine transcarbamylase deficiency. It causes ammonia to accumulate in the blood, the most severe form occurs in the first few days of life. My brother had an unwillingness to eat, poorly controlled breathing rates, and a lack of energy all from this disease. There my parents were, lost and confused with how so much joy could turn into something so serious and fatal for their new baby. Dante needed treatment in Rochester, so my parents and I up and left with hope and prayers from what seemed like the whole world. In Rochester, we stayed at the Ronald McDonald House. Their goal is to keep families with sick children together and close to the care they need. At the time, this was the most positive thing in our lives. It was an affordable place to stay with home cooked meals from their volunteers who always had a smile on their face. This place gave us somewhere to come home to, not paying over 100 dollars a night at a hotel with no sense of community. The Ronald McDonald House has changed peoples lives for the better, including ours. Our stay there meant more than the world to my parents considering it's affordability and what they do for the people they serve. They made my family feel like home an hour and a half away with their sick child in the hospital, something that isn't repayable. Although they can't make medicine taste better or get rid of painful treatments, they lessen the burden and ensure families stability. Coming home to a fresh cooked meal every night from the hospital was one of the only consistent things in my

parents' lives for weeks. This place, though it is a big charity, deserves all the money in the world in my opinion. They do things for the community daily without even being noted, just out of the kindness in their hearts. Unfortunately, my brother passed away 6 weeks after he was born. I know my parents look back on that time in their lives and think of the Ronald McDonald House, the place that gave us a home, and are extremely thankful. It's somewhere that deserves to be donated to for many reasons, here is my reason.

