

To: International Stuttering Association Board of Directors and Advisory Board, Member Associations and Friends

From: Michael Sugarman, Chair, International Stuttering Association

Date: September 23, 2010

Regarding: October 2010 E- newsflash

INTERNATIONAL STUTTERING AWARENESS DAY (ISAD) OCTOBER 22ND

“PEOPLE WHO STUTTER, INSPIRE!”

People who stutter represent a diverse group of individuals with different occupations, diverse cultural identities, personal experiences and accomplishments. Although about 68 million people stutter, most people actually know very little about stuttering. This lack of awareness explains how people who stutter may face discrimination, prejudice and at times social isolation.

International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) occurs on October 22nd and is designed to raise awareness about the challenges that people who stutter experience. ISAD is a joint endeavor by persons who stutter and their families and professionals (educators, researchers and clinicians) interested in stuttering. ISAD provides a framework for building a more humane, just and compassionate world for all people who stutter

This year's events include the thirteenth annual online conference October 1 –22nd found by going to The Stuttering Home Page (www.stutteringhomepage.com) where participants can read papers by consumers and professionals from around the world and interact with the presenters during the three weeks the conference is “live.” Papers remain available online and all past conferences are archived. Other ISAD activities in the past have included people who stutter and professionals hosting an open house, advocating for a proclamation marking ISAD October 22nd or students talking in their class about stuttering.

I am asking Member Associations to assist in marketing ISAD online conference by posting ISAD 2010 logo on your websites. The logo can be found by going to www.stutteringhomepage.com . Please contact Josh Denault at jdenault00@yahoo.com if you need help in posting.

Please contact Gert Reunes (logopedist/stottertherapeut) algemene.aanpak.stotteren@telenet.be

Regarding their upcoming single:

We celebrate October 22nd as International Stuttering Association Day---

Every year 55 countries all over the world organize different events concerning stuttering problems. People tend to underestimate the daily life with stuttering, although not less than 1% of the world population, around 68 million persons, is afflicted by stuttering.

On the occasion of the International Stuttering Association DAY 2010 the Flemish association Be St launches its unique single, TALKING TO YOU, a catchy song that is bound to be the hymn of all stuttering associations all over the world.

STUTTERING AWARENESS in the UK

As I'm sure you know stammering affects nearly three quarters of a million adults and children in the UK, and there are virtually no high profile stammerers. Few people know that the root cause is a neurological condition and many think it is our own fault. Children are being bullied and stammering is still treated by many as a joke. Early Intervention could reduce the numbers substantially, but NHS speech therapy services are inadequate. Massive improvements have been made in supporting many people with disabilities - yet a difficulty in talking is probably just as life changing as a difficulty in walking. Donations to the Donkey Sanctuary are around 200 times greater than donations to the British Stammering Association.

We are not ideally equipped to stand up and change all this, but we need to make a start. I'm attaching a brief presentation which explains the main points of our appeal and there is a video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAwTn5Wncvg>

These inequalities affect the young particularly. We often point out that there are about 300,000 registered blind and partially sighted people (2008), most of whom are elderly; there are about 700,000 people with severe to profound deafness (2006) and, again, most deaf and hard of hearing people are elderly; and the estimated number of wheelchair users is around 750,000, many of whom, again, are elderly. Nevertheless, most of the 720,000 people who stammer are younger rather than older and, therefore, have to struggle with all the very real hurdles of growing up and early adulthood, particularly in terms of education and employment.

We are not aiming to build awareness of the BSA, but of stammering itself. Therefore, I hope that everyone in the UK who lives with stammering, personally or professionally, will feel that this campaign will be for them. And I hope that our friends outside the UK, who are unlikely to benefit directly from our efforts, will hopefully want to take an interest in what we doing. Stammering World is a small place and, if we want change, we will need to work together.

If you would like to know more, please contact me.

LEYS GEDDES

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UPCOMING FILM

“**The King’s Speech**” with Colin Firth as King George VI—father of Queen Elizabeth II and Geoffrey Rush as a raffish Australian speech therapist who treats the king’s paralyzing stutter. Reviewer Joe Morgenstern reported “It’s a rare combination of crowd pleaser and triumphant artistry.” Please if you like this film please use your Association and your network to market this film to CHANGE PUBLIC ATTITUDES.

Visit to Bangladesh from 29th October to 12th November.

Professional staff who work in the UK National Health Service regularly donate their time and skills to help to treat and operate on the disadvantaged in poorer countries of the world. This visit to Bangladesh is very special because this year the team consists of two Ear Nose and Throat Surgeons; a Theatre Sister; two audiologists and a Speech Language Therapist (SLT). The organizers and SLTs in Bangladesh especially asked for an SLT. Daniel Hunter will be going. He is liaising with Keith Boss (ISA Outreach Chair). Daniel will be training and teaching Bangladeshi therapists to work with children and adults who stammer and be jointly working with the therapists there to support them to treat some of their most difficult cases. Daniel’s work is similar to some of the ISA SLPs work in other countries. We wish Daniel every success.

ISA Fund Raising Campaign

The ISA (International Stuttering Association) needs funds to help PWS (People Who Stutter)

The ISA needs funds to help raise awareness in Countries where little or no help exists.

There are some 68 million PWS in the world. The majority of these do not receive help. In the last version of One Voice 28 (OV28) (<http://www.stutterisa.org/OneVoice/OV28.pdf>) in July 2010 the Chair of the ISA said the **ISA is short of funds**. Both the Chair of Outreach and the Chair of the ISA talked about this in more detail. The ISA is a non-profit Charity. We depend on financial help from you to do our work.

Why are we asking for your support at this time?

Two of our current projects to help to make the world more aware of Stuttering are our

- Three yearly World Congress in 2011 and
- International Speech Project-Stuttering (ISP-S) projects.

What are the benefits, to PWS around the world, of our three yearly World Congress?

- Professionals and PWS give workshops to present their current work (research / ideas / therapies / experiences) which leads to face to face meetings and brain storming on where we go next with therapy and/or research;
- PWS and professionals attend workshops. They learn; they question and they offer their ideas. This leads to face to face meetings with anyone at the congress to talk, pass on information and to look ahead;

- Those who attend for the first time have stepped outside their comfort zones to travel to the conference; attend workshops and talk to strangers. This experience has very rewarding long-term benefit on each and every PWS.

What are the benefits, to PWS around the world, of going to Argentina in 2011?

The organizers have the following objectives at the **9th Congress for People who Stutter ISA / 2nd Latin American Congress on Stuttering AAT** on the 18, 19, 20 and 21st of May 2011 - Buenos Aires - Argentina :-

- Promote awareness of the problem of stuttering.
- Present the latest research on the different aspects of this problem.
- Generate interest in research in Spain and Latin America.
- Widening participation of people who stutter in Latin America
- Stimulate the formation of Mutual Aid Groups and Partnerships with leading role of dis-fluent people, promoting awareness and social participation.
- Develop appropriate programs in education, increasing the information to teachers.
- Continue with the defensive/preventive task of this difficulty at an early age.
- Ethics in the implementation of treatments and commitment of people who stutter in maintaining the attitude of change.

The ISA needs money to provide scholarships (sponsorships) to help some PWS who apply to go to the Congress, especially, but not only, from less developed countries.

What are the benefits of ISA ISP-S projects in general to PWS around the world?

The ISA has developed the idea of small teams of qualified people going to countries where help has been requested and is needed to assist in providing ideas and therapies to help those who stutter. The teams consist of one or two speech language professionals, to talk about diagnosis and therapies, and one or perhaps two ISA Directors or Advisory Board members to talk about self help groups / chapters and to give personal accounts of what can be done. The main benefits of the talks / workshops are to:-

- help teachers modify classroom management;
- help CWS to regain confidence and improve their communication skills;
- offer other ideas for consideration to local speech language professionals;
- help employers to provide evening clubs to help improve communication and leadership skills;
- help adults to regain their confidence and their communication and leadership skills;
- help local PWS to form Self Help Groups / Chapters and a National Stuttering Association;
- help with ideas to cope with all aspects of living life;
- talk with the media, Radio / TV / newspapers to spread the awareness of stuttering;
- talk to local health staff to get their support for general help and Early Intervention with children.

You can read about the past success in Africa in previous copies of One Voice

One of the members of our ISP-S teams (an SLP) has been asked to go to Benin (West Africa) for a few days in November. In West Africa there are about 3 million PWS. In Benin there are about 90,000 PWS.

This ISP-S project is organized by the National Project of Re-adaptation on a communality basis from November the 22nd to November 26th in Benin and will consist of:-

- a workshop for speech therapists from West Africa;
- a workshop to raise public awareness;
- various meetings;
- talks with teachers;
- talks to all caring people.

We are working with and have asked a local 'Handicap International Association' for logistic help so that we expect more liaison with local authorities and the media. One of our French speaking Directors will be part of the two person team.

The ISA needs money to provide transport costs for all members of the ISP-S teams. We prefer locals to donate accommodation costs, but if the locals are very poor, the ISA will try to help with accommodation costs as well.

You know what it is like to stutter as a child and teenager. You may know and have experienced problems in all aspects of life as an adult. **Can you help to reduce these issues in other less fortunate people?**

How can you help the ISA?

There are several ways to help.

1. Please make a donation yourself, if you are in a financial position to help in this way;
2. Please pass this information on and ask at least one other person to donate some money;
3. Please think of ways to raise money to support our yearly requests for funding;
4. Please make a monthly / annual donation to help us with yearly requests for funds;
5. Please consider making a legacy to the ISA in your last will and testament;
6. Please post this appeal on your Association's website.

We need money from you ---- Because there is always a currency conversion charge by banks, we suggest a minimum of 100 euros.

- **please donate at least 100 euros yourself and**

- **we need you to ask many people who stutter to donate at least 100 euros. (Please use your websites / emails / phones / networks to spread the message of our work to help others around the world and our need for funding.)**

Donations to this appeal.

All donations will make a difference to the lives of one or more PWS and will be given a special restricted code. Money attached to this code will only be available for:-

- a selected number of scholarships to PWS to attend World Conferences and
- transport (possibly accommodation) costs for members of any ISP-S team.

When you make a donation, please send an email to
[Michael Sugarman Chair ISA <msugarman1@sbcglobal.net>](mailto:msugarman1@sbcglobal.net) with a copy to
[Keith Boss Chair Outreach <keithmaxkb@yahoo.com>](mailto:keithmaxkb@yahoo.com) and
[Mel Hoffman Advisory Board <melhoffman@aol.com>](mailto:melhoffman@aol.com)

Doing this will help to keep our ISA checks and balances.

Please state if you want anonymity. If so, your name will not be seen in our published accounts or on our website.

Donations can be made in a variety of ways.

1. Money transfers to Nordea Bank DK, 9800 Hjørring - International Stuttering Assn c/o Christmann, Bregnevej 10, 988 Hjørring, Denmark . Reg. # 2620 Acc # 5005 992 674. IBAN DK 60 2000 5005 9926 74 SWIFT/BIC:NDEA DK KK
2. mailing a cheque payable to the International Stuttering Association (or just ISA), addressed to Hermann Christmann, Bregnevej 10, 9088 Hjørring, Denmark.
3. via PayPal to keithmaxkb@yahoo.com.
4. If some other way is more convenient, please let us know ([Michael Sugarman Chair ISA <msugarman1@sbcglobal.net>](mailto:msugarman1@sbcglobal.net))

Thank you for reading this. Every euro you can raise will help someone somewhere.

ARGENTINA IN 2011- Solicitation for Conference Participation

Tuesday, May 17th the International Stuttering Association will host ISA's annual membership meeting. Member Associations should also consider if they want to be represented on the ISA Board of Directors by one of their members. They should encourage candidates who wish to represent them to write to me before the end of January 2011. I will request additional information from candidates in advance of the meeting date. Also, those considering this opportunity and responsibility may desire more information from the ISA. We will provide more

information in the e newsflash a month from now. However, if they want to know something before then, please contact me at the above email address. The 9th World Congress of Stuttering and Meeting of People Who Stutter and 2nd Ibero Latin American Stuttering Congress will officially begin on May18th and conclude on 21st of May.

It is important to recognize the significance of ISA being in Buenos Aires, Argentina to assist South Americans to support People who stutter. Latin America has almost 6 million people who stutter and Argentina has some 400,000 people who stutter. It is important for every person who stutters who speaks Spanish to go to this Congress. English translations will be available, so people who speak English will be very welcome as well.

Warmly,

Michael