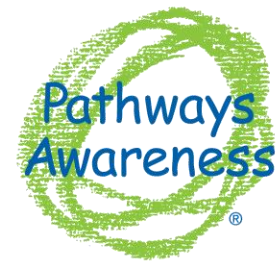


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PATHWAYS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER CELEBRATES SUCCESS,**  
**RAISES MORE THAN \$1 MILLION**

*GUESTS LEARN HOW PATHWAYS HELPS DOCTORS AND PARENTS IDENTIFY SENSORY,  
COMMUNICATION AND MOTOR ISSUES EARLIER AND GET HELP*

**Nov. 15, 2010 (CHICAGO)** – Pathways Awareness ([www.pathwaysawareness.org](http://www.pathwaysawareness.org)), a national not-for-profit focused on raising awareness of and providing tools for the detection, intervention and prevention of early sensory, communication, and motor delays in children, held its 26<sup>th</sup> annual dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel on Nov. 15, 2010.

More than 450 guests attended the dinner, which raised more than a million dollars and was hosted by Shirley Welsh Ryan and Maggie Daley. Dinner chairs were Andrew J. McKenna, chairman, McDonald's Corporation and Schwarz Supply Source, M. Jude Reyes, co-chairman, Reyes Holdings, LLC, and John W. Rogers, Jr., chairman and CEO, Ariel Investments. Bill Kurtis of CBS-2 News served as master of ceremonies.

Pathways raises awareness of early sensory, communication and motor delays in three key areas: detection, intervention, and prevention. To educate the public, Pathways has created print and online tools used by millions of medical professionals and families worldwide. The organization's free video and print materials in more than 11 languages are available online at [www.pathwaysawareness.org](http://www.pathwaysawareness.org).

**Felicia Kurkowski Awarded Pathways Pathfinder Award**

At the dinner, Felicia Kurkowski was awarded the Pathways Pathfinder Award, which honors a member of the Pathways organization for extraordinary passion and diligence in service of Pathways' mission. Since joining Pathways in 1989, Felicia's crucial work in raising awareness for early detection and early intervention has reached thousands of key members of the medical community as well as parents.

Felicia has been instrumental in communicating Pathways' message of early detection and early intervention to a national audience, including creating a parent-answered 800-number at Pathways (1-800-955-CHILD), distributing Pathways' brochures and videos to libraries nationwide, and conducting hundreds of on-site presentations in 25 cities over 15 years to national medical and parent conferences.

In addition to the Pathfinder Award, Pathways presented the Pathways Pioneer Award to two recipients for their inspirational leadership for people with physical differences: Judy Panko-Reiss for

her work with the Women with Disabilities Center (WWDC), and Gary Endacott, for his achievements as the disability facilitator for the ministry of education of New Zealand.

### **Reaching Millions of Doctors, Parents and Children**

In a discussion panel led by Bill Kurtis, four Pathways Medical Round Table members told dinner guests about the success of Pathways' presentations to pediatric and family medicine residents at 22 hospitals in the Chicago region, teaching more than 600 residents how to identify motor delays in babies as early as two months old. The presentations will help millions of future babies gain the advantage of early detection and early intervention for a possible motor delay.

The panelists included:

- Michael N. Nelson, PhD, Director of the Section of Pediatric Psychology at Rush Children's Hospital and an associate professor of psychology and pediatrics at Rush University Medical Center;
- Michael Msall, MD, FAAP, FAACPDM, Chief of Neurodevelopment and Behavioral Pediatrics at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital and a professor of pediatrics;
- Russell Robertson, MD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine; and
- Rosemary White-Traut, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and department head of the Department of Women, Children and Family Health Science in the College of Nursing at University of Illinois, Chicago.

Pathways also presented a video that introduced guests to an issue that pediatric therapists say they are seeing in increasing numbers: sensory integration difficulties. One in 20 children has sensory integration issues, but awareness is still low. When identified and helped with sensory integration therapy, children can learn to participate more fully in life.

### **About Pathways Awareness**

Pathways Awareness is a national 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public foundation celebrating over 20 years of assuring the best for all babies' development. Pathways Awareness is dedicated to raising awareness of early sensory, communication, and motor delays in three key areas: detection, intervention, and prevention. To educate the public, Pathways has created print and online tools that are used by millions of healthcare professionals and families worldwide. Pathways Awareness' critical infant milestones literature has been recognized and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners as the definitive resource concerning early motor delays. The organization's free print, web-based and video materials can be viewed online, in print and in the media. For more information on early motor delays and the help available, visit [www.pathwaysawareness.org](http://www.pathwaysawareness.org) or call our toll free parent answered hotline at 1-800-955-CHILD (2445).

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