



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## **PACE Receives \$100,000 Challenge Grant from The Sobrato Family Foundation**

**Santa Clara, CA, February 26, 2014** – The Pacific Autism Center for Education (PACE) today announced the receipt of a \$102,500 grant from The Sobrato Family Foundation for general operations over a two-year period (through August 2015). This 2:1 Challenge Grant will be used to encourage PACE supporters to join their funds with the Sobrato monies, thereby doubling fundraising efforts.

To benefit fully, PACE’s challenge is to raise new and increased contributions that total \$50,000 by December 31, 2014. The goal is for current donors to increase their annual donation, for lapsed donors to renew their commitment to PACE, and for new donors to step forward and make their financial commitment in this calendar year. Once PACE meets this challenge, the Foundation will match and double those donations and provide a second year of funding of \$52,500. If PACE succeeds with this donation strategy, and with the two years of funding from the Sobrato Family Foundation, by January 2016 PACE will have raised at least \$152,500 in new monies, all to support PACE’s staff, facilities, and programs.

PACE will use a portion of these funds to further their efforts in providing parents and caregivers more comprehensive training and direct usable strategies on day-to-day routine tasks and challenges for those in their care. Enhanced parent/caregiver training will build competence and compassion and create a community of support for those who live with autism.

“These funds will ensure that PACE continues to provide innovative programs and services for those with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their caregivers in the San Francisco Bay Area,” said Kurt Ohlfs, PACE Executive Director. “We are so pleased that the Sobrato Foundation continues to support our mission and provides this funding, allowing us to implement training and support for both our students, and their parents.”

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Autism is a neuro-developmental disability that impacts an individual’s ability to regulate sensory input, to communicate, to interact socially, and to learn in conventional ways. Autism is considered a spectrum disorder and so affects each individual differently and at varying degrees.

<http://pacificautism.org/about-pace/about-autism/>

**About PACE:** Founded in 1989, Pacific Autism Center for Education provides high-quality programs for individuals with autism and its related developmental disabilities. PACE operates a non-public school for ages 6-22, offers Early Intervention therapy services, and operates two children and four adult group homes in Santa Clara County. EIN: 77-0259858.

<http://pacificautism.org/> [facebook.com/pacificautismce](https://www.facebook.com/pacificautismce)

**About the Sobrato Family Foundation:** The Sobrato Family is committed to building a strong and vibrant Silicon Valley community through business and philanthropic leadership. To support these efforts, the Sobrato Family Foundation is a place-based grantmaker that invests exclusively in nonprofits serving those most in need in Santa Clara, San Mateo and Southern Alameda counties. <http://www.sobrato.com/>

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