

City Mayor, Vic Mayor, Commission,
Family, Friends, Residence of Deerfield Beach & fellow Surfers...

My Name Is Luis Rodas and I am with the Trespass Surf Club and the Broward County Surfrider Foundation and now the newly formed Surfers for Autism.

Surfing to me is more than just a sport; it's a lifestyle, a spiritual activity, a place where I've been blessed to meet many great people.

I stand here today to request your approval to host the First Annual "Surfers for Autism" Saturday, April 5th on the beach at the North side of the pier.

Autism is a complex brain disorder that restrains a person's ability to communicate and develop social relationships and is often accompanied by extreme behavioral challenges. 10 years ago Autism was diagnosed in 1 out of every 10,000 Children. The diagnosis of autism has increased 100 times in the last decade. Today the diagnosis is 1 in 150 children in the United States, affecting four times as many boys than girls. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention calls autism a national public health crisis whose cause and cure remain unknown.

My Brother Sebastian now 12 has lived a life with Autism. I organize this event in his behalf & people like him, because I've seen firsthand how spending an hour in the water helps calm people with autism.

A wise man once said;

"There is a wisdom in the wave born and beautiful for those that would just paddle it"

a quote by Dr. Dorian "Doc" Paskowitz.

"Surfers for Autism"

An event where the local surf community can join hands and give an autistic child the opportunity to experience the ocean and beaches of Deerfield Beach. All while raising awareness and donations that will be presented by our Team of Walkers at the "Walk Now for Autism" Hosted by the Autism Speaks Foundation Saturday, April 12th 2008 at the Nova Southeastern University, Library.

Autism is a growing epidemic which has raised eyebrows in numerous people across the globe in all sorts of lifestyles and social status, people like:

-Dan Marino, who founded the Dan Marino Foundation for his son Michael and has been able to raise over 22 million dollars since 1992 for medical research, treatment, and outreach programs.

- Jenny McCarthy, who also has an Autistic Child and is the spokes person for TACA - Talk about Curing Autism.

-Bob Wright, Co Founder of Autism Speaks Foundation & former NBC Chairman, whose grandson has Autism.

The ASF has paved the way in raising awareness & advocacy, organizing Walks, Fundraisers & programs across the nation. The ASF has met with world leaders and the United Nations and has helped implement April 2nd as World Autism Day and March 24th -30th as Autism Week in South Florida by

- Helping to organizing Walks all around South Florida and the Nation. Like the one coming up Sat April 12th and the ones already held in Miami-Dade *Sun Feb. 10, which raised over \$500+k* & the Palm Beach walk on *Sunday, March 2, 2008, which raised over \$216+k.*
- 1st Annual S. Florida Bikers Ride for Autism w/ Benefit Concert at Pompano Race Track on Sat March 29th
- Telethon and Broadcast of "Autism Every Day" - Saturday, March 29 8 PM, on WPTV & WTVJ
- Donald Trump's Benefit Concert for Autism Sun March 30th with Lionel Richie at Mar-A-Lago Club in Palm Bch

-And finally People like -Izzy Paskowitz,

A former competitive surfer whose son Isaiah was diagnosed with Autism at age 3. Izzy then started Surfers Healing an 11 year organization dedicated to introducing surfing to Autistic children as a form of therapy in Southern California.

You don't have to be a celebrity to indorse something you believe in. Join me and the local Surf Community as we try to bring a smile to a child's face.

[I invite you to come surf for the kids.](#)

I thank for your time & look forward to your Decision

Sincerely,

Luis "Da Liii" Rodas
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