



October 18, 2008 – The 3rd Annual DENIM & DIAMONDS Fundraiser

Krane Financial Solutions is proud to support ACT Today in providing care and treatment for Autism. This is a speech given by Justin Krane at the fundraiser event.

I can't even imagine what it would be like to have a child with autism. Friends and colleagues tell me the total focus and attention it takes. It's a 24 hour job. There is the acting up, the patience and not knowing how to communicate. Add to that the cost of schooling and care which can be a huge financial burden.

Until I learned about autism, I thought I had it bad. My son Jonah at 6 years old has a hard time tying his shoes, writing his full name. He acts up, and also withdraws into himself. Parents of autistic children would **love** to have that problem!

So now, when I see parents with autistic kids, staff that works with autistic children, and volunteers, I feel that you guys are Super Heroes. I've learned from you.

I'm a financial guy. I'm comfortable with numbers. I know that proper planning and partnering with my clients gives them peace of mind. I want families of autistic kids to off-load the burden of making financial decisions by themselves. I want them to have someone to call on—to have me on their speed dial.

When I sit down with my clients to do financial planning, it's not just about diversification, having enough money for retirement, or how much risk they're comfortable with, it's about bringing meaning to those goals we set.

One of the things I discuss with my clients is philanthropy. How rich would we all feel if we have the ability to make a monthly contribution to a charity, or volunteer our time? Every time you give to ACT, you not only make a huge impact on a family, but as John Templeton said, "If we try hard to bring happiness to others, we can't stop **it** from coming to us."

So I know that by donating my time and giving to others, it will make me feel better that I'm contributing. And what I know from my own son Jonah, is that I could tell him to brush his teeth, go to bed, or share his toys. He may not do what I tell him. But if he sees me doing it, it becomes part of him.

Together, through organizations like ACT Today, we all have the opportunity to make a difference in children's lives.

Justin Krane