

AIRBORNE CY PRES FUND  
Cover Sheet

Date of application: July 22, 2009

Name of organization to which grant would be paid. Please list exact legal name:  
Generation Rescue

Purpose of grant in one sentence: Funding for study on vaccinated verse unvaccinated children to ensure the safely and well being of children worldwide.

Address of organization: 19528 Ventura Blvd., Suite 219 Tarzana, CA 91356

Telephone number: (818) 990-0444

Facsimile number: (818) 990-0044

Website: [www.generationrescue.org](http://www.generationrescue.org)

Executive Director: Stan Kurtz

Contact person and title if not Executive Director: n/a

Email Address: [skurtz@generationrescue.org](mailto:skurtz@generationrescue.org)

Is your organization an IRS 501 © (3) not-for profit? Yes

If it is not, please explain:

Amount of grant request: \$ 809,721

Would your organization use the grant for general support or project support? Project support

Total organization budget for current year: \$982,729.84

Dates covered by this project: Fiscal year 2010 and 2011

Total project budget (if requesting project support): \$809,721

Dates covered by project budget: 2010 and 2011

Project name: Generation Rescue Childhood Vacs/UnVacs Study

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## **I. PROPOSAL SUMMARY**

The goal of this project is to test the possible association between childhood vaccinations and both acute and chronic neuro-developmental disorders (ND) and acute and chronic illness. Funds will be used to conduct a university managed retrospective cross-sectional study comparing the incidence of chronic illnesses (i.e., asthma, obesity, and eczema), neuro-developmental disorders (i.e., autism, ADHD and learning disorders), and overall health and well-being among a random sample of vaccinated and unvaccinated children (5-18 years of age).

Vaccines have saved lives, but they are virtually untested for their ability to cause neurological disorders and chronic illness. The immediate concerns regarding the potential role of vaccines in the dramatic increase of neuro-developmental disorders has caused a growing number of parents to not vaccinate their children and has led to calls for additional research of vaccines from President Barack Obama, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Senator John McCain, and Former National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director and current member of the Institutes of Medicine (IOM) Dr. Bernadine Healy. This study could be the essential element in resolving these concerns.

## II. NARRATIVE

### A. Background

1. History and Mission: Generation Rescue is a 501(c)(3) non-profit established in 2005 by a cadre of scientists, physicians and concerned parents advocating for research on the causes, treatments and prevention of autism, ADHD, asthma and other chronic childhood NDs. The mission is to identify the cause and help children diagnosed with a disease to access the most current biomedical treatments while providing family support throughout their recovery.

2. The Problem: Over the past twenty years, significant increases in many disabling chronic

illnesses affecting children have been detected throughout the United States and other westernized countries. As many as 15%-18% of children and adolescents (< 19 years of age)

Condition	Past Prevalence	Current Prevalence	% Change
Activity Limitation**	2% (1962)	8% (2003) <sup>2</sup>	+ 300%
ADHD	5.5% (1997)	7.4% (SD± 0.36)(2006)	+ 34.5%
Asthma	3.1% (1981)	13.6% (SD ± 0.44 ) (2006) <sup>3</sup>	+ 438%
Autism	1 in 10,000 (1983)	1 in 150 (2007) <sup>7</sup>	+ 6,600%
Chronic Illness*	1.8% (1960)	7% (2004) <sup>1</sup>	+ 289%
Conduct Disorder#	13.4% (1988)	20.8% (2005) <sup>4</sup>	+ 55.2%
Diabetes (all)	1 in 1000 (1988)	1.82 per 1000 (2001) <sup>10**</sup>	+ 82%
Type 1 Diabetes	0.6-1.9 per 1000 (1970s)	1.7 - 2.5 in 1000 <sup>†</sup> (2004)	+ 31% -183%
Type 2 Diabetes	Unknown	0.22 per 1000(2001) <sup>10</sup>	unavailable
Learning Disability	6.5% (1988) <sup>9</sup>	8% (2004) <sup>4</sup>	+ 23%

lives have been shaped by the impact of these diseases. As shown in Table 1, most notably are the increases in asthma, autism, learning disabilities, obesity, and diabetes. Whereas in 1960, less than 2% of the children in the U.S. were diagnosed with a chronic illness, in 2004 that number rose to 7% representing a 289% change. These high rates of chronic illness not only imply a lifetime of suffering for affected children and their families, but are also expected to increase future expenditures related to health care and supportive services

The U.S. and many other countries appear to be experiencing a silent pandemic with 1 in 5 children now suffering from learning disabilities, sensory deficits, and developmental delays. Neuro-developmental disorders such as autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), mental retardation, and cerebral palsy, are increasingly common, very costly, and cause lifelong

disability. In 2003, the National Survey of Children's Health reported that 0.5% (1 in 200) children ages 6-17 had autism, 11.5% had learning disabilities, 8.8% had ADHD, and 6.3% had behavior problems. **By 2007, the prevalence of autism in the U.S. had risen to 1 in 150 children** (Rice et al., 2007). There are a number of physical ailments that children with Childhood Neuro-developmental Disorders (NDs) typically manifest including: food allergies and eczema, general gastrointestinal distress, constipation and diarrhea, yeast overgrowth, immune system deregulation, sleep disturbances, and high levels of environmental toxins.

*What could be causing these increases in NDs and disability among children in the U.S.?*

Hypotheses proposed to explain these increases have included changes in diet coupled with reduced physical activity and/or increased sedentary behavior, low birth weight, stress, medication use in pregnancy, infections and environmental toxins. Although it remains widely debated, certain routine childhood vaccinations have been suggested as contributing to the increase in neuro-developmental disorders. A recent examination of the vaccinating practice of other countries showed that the United States vaccinates children on average double that of all other first world countries; the U.S. uses 36 compared to 18 at other countries. In fact, the United States utilizes more vaccines than any other country in the world yet it has the worst mortality rate among children 5-years-old and under of the top 30 developed countries. Coincidentally, some of the countries with the lowest vaccination rates also report the lowest rates of autism. It has been theorized the child's body is overwhelmed by the combination of heavy metals (mercury, lead aluminum), live viruses (particular from their vaccines), and bacteria. These serve to slow or shut down normal biochemical pathways leading to ND<sup>i</sup> physical and mental manifestations.

3. Organization Projects and Accomplishments: Currently Generation Rescue comprises:

- *The Rescue Angels Network*: More than 1,300 parent-volunteers in 38 countries, known as Rescue Angels, mentor more than 25,000 families each year how to improve their child's condition or recover from autism through proper treatment, diet, and supplementation. Rescue Angels respond to hundreds of calls and emails each day from families around the world.
- *The Rescue Family Program*: Grants of \$2,500 are awarded to low income uninsured families with children diagnosed with autism to access clinical services by trained specialists to assist their child throughout their recovery process.
- *Research Programs*: With some of the top scientists in the world, research is dedicated to finding more of the causative factors and treatment approaches for children with NDs.
- *Awareness and Advocacy Campaign*: The campaign educates the public about the causes of autism, how to prevent it and where to get proper treatment. Additionally, the national spokesperson, Jenny McCarthy, has written 3 books: *Louder Than Words*; *Mother Warriors*; and, *Healing and Preventing Autism* that she has promoted throughout the country to bring about awareness and advocate for proper treatment for children suffering from these disorders.

4. Current Staff: Generation Rescue has 3 - 1.0 FTE; 1 - .5 FTE and 1,340 volunteers.

5. Other Organizations and Partners: Generation Rescue is a member of the **A+ Autism Collaboration** comprising 12 other agencies focused on identifying the root cause for the rising incidence of neuro-developmental disorders among children throughout the world while providing access to the most current information and treatment for families of children with a ND. Specifically for this project, Generation Rescue has joined forces with senior investigators at the University of Mississippi (UM), the National Home Education Research Institute (NHERI), and Homefirst Health Services.

## **B. Funding Request**

1. Project's Primary Purpose, and The Need It Addresses: The goal of this project is to test the association between vaccinations and both acute and chronic neuro-developmental disorders and the efficacy of preventive health strategies. This will be achieved by conducting a retrospective cross-sectional study comparing the incidence of chronic illnesses (i.e., asthma, obesity, and eczema), neuro-developmental disorders (i.e., autism, ADHD and learning disorders), and overall health and well-being among a random sample of vaccinated and unvaccinated children (5-18 years of age). The study will obtain information from a random sample of two populations: 1) children being home-schooled and belong to the National Home Educational Research Institute (NHERI); and, 2) children among the 30,000 unvaccinated patients being provided health care at the Homefirst Health Services in Chicago. Data will be collected from medical charts and parental reports via website health surveys and the standardized measures including the *Autism Diagnostic Questionnaire*.

The immediate concerns regarding the potential role of vaccines in the dramatic increase in neuro-developmental disorders has led to calls for additional research from President Barack Obama, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Senator John McCain, and Former National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director and current member of the Institutes of Medicine (IOM) Dr. Bernadine Healy. This study could be the essential element in not addressing this concern.

2. The Population To Be Served And Benefit From The Project: The results of this study will help to guide clinicians, vaccine researchers and parents to a better understanding of how to maintain a balance between protecting our world's children from infectious diseases through vaccinations while not increasing their risk of NDs.

3. Project Staffing: The Project Director will have a Masters' degree and will be responsible for

overseeing the implementation, quality assurance and reporting of this project. Dr. A. Mawson is Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC), and Principal Investigator of the Mississippi Study Center for the National Children's Study. Dr. B. Ray is President of the National Home Education Research Institute and an experienced researcher in home education. Dr. S. Buttross is Professor and Chief of the Division of Child Developmental Disorders in the Department of Pediatrics; UMMC; and Dr. W. May is Professor of Biostatistics, Department of Medicine, UMMC. The combined experience of these investigators ensures the highest standards of quality and scientific rigor.

4. Length Of The Project: This is a two-year project.
5. Project Contributes To The Organization's Mission: The proposed program is a natural outgrowth of current Generation Rescue's goals of discovering, through independent study, potential causative factors of neurological disorders and chronic illness.
6. How Project Fulfills The Purpose Of The Airborne Cy Pres Fund: The funding of this project is aligned with the purpose of the Airborne Cy Pres Fund whose intent is *to prevent or cure illness*.

**C. Evaluation:** Project evaluation will examine the effectiveness of the project in meeting its goals, and implementation. The *process evaluation* will document the uniformity of the data collection and verification of information. The *outcome evaluation* will assess the effects of vaccinations while controlling for factors that may be associated with outcomes such as amount of exposure, gender, age, race/ethnicity and diet.

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## REFERENCES

1. Definition of Data in Table 1.

\* Chronic illness is defined as illness lasting three months or longer.

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\*\* Activity limitation is defined as the inability to participate fully in age appropriate activities due to a chronic, physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral condition.

\*\*\* Overweight is defined as body mass index (BMI) at or above the 95th percentile of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention weight – for- height – for–age growth charts

# Emotional and behavioral problems

† Calculated from NIH data indicating 1 in 400 to 1 in 600 children and adolescents have type 1 diabetes

†† Prevalence estimates are based on the age-year–specific prevalence estimates from SEARCH, aggregated into the respective 10-year age strata

2. Wise P. The future pediatrician: the challenge of chronic illness. *J Ped* 2007; 151:S6-S-10.
3. Bloom B, Tonthat L. Summary health statistics for U.S. children: National Health Interview Survey 1997, *Vital Health Statistics* 2002; 10: 203.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Health Interview Survey, 2006.
5. *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2001*. Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.
6. Rice C. Prevalence of autism spectrum disorders—autism and developmental disabilities Monitoring Network, 14 sites, United States, 2002. *Morb Mort Weekly Rep* 2007; 56:12-28.
7. Perrin JM et al. The increase of childhood chronic conditions in the United States. *JAMA* 2007; 297:2755-9.
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