

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SOS BC Launches BRAIN TRAINING Program for Autism

SOS Children's Village BC is pleased to announce the addition of Doug West to their Team as Manager of their new Parent Driven Autism Services Program.

"I am thrilled that we are creating a program utilizing cutting edge Neuroscience to help reduce some of those most troubling symptoms of Autism Spectrum Disorders" states Doug West.

"We are very proud to have a professional the calibre of Doug West join the SOS team as Manager of our new Parent Driven Autism Services and we know he will bring parents of autistic children a unique set of innovative services." stated Douglas Dunn, Executive Director, SOS Children's Village B.C.

About Doug West: Doug has been working with children and families since 1991 and has a wealth of experience in Program Management and Service Coordination for individuals who have behavioral and mental health challenges. He has worked with the Vancouver and Surrey School Districts, and several large private and public organizations within the Greater Vancouver Regional District. As a child & family counsellor, art therapist, & neurofeedback practitioner, Doug has been working closely with families who have children with Autism Spectrum Disorder since 2005, has strong knowledge of disorders usually first diagnosed in childhood and has a passionate interest in neuroscience and the brains ability to change itself.

About Parent Driven Autism Services: This program will provide neurofeedback in conjunction with counselling and cognitive remediation to create a powerfully therapeutic effect. Neurofeedback is a non-invasive training program which teaches the brain to regulate itself better. As the brain learns to do this, symptoms such as ADHD and anxiety, begin to subside, leaving the child calmer, more thoughtful, and better able to manage their emotional state.

As well, Parent Driven Autism Services will provide parents with more ability to pick and choose which services they want for their child. Every child and family has their own unique set of circumstances and challenges. It makes sense for parents to have more choices as opposed to "one size fits all" programming. As well, we have reduced management and administrative costs for parents freeing up funds for more one to one therapeutic work.

About SOS Children's Village B.C. SOS Children's Villages is the world's largest non-governmental, non-profit child welfare organization. It has existed for over 60 years with presence in 132 nations. British Columbia is home to the only SOS Children's Village in Canada. SOS Children's Village B.C. provides community-based family care services to improve and sustain the quality of life for foster children and foster families through a variety of programs that address social development and healing. Headquartered in Surrey, the organization actively creates opportunities, programs and services to increase stability and continuity for foster children and their foster parents.

For more information about our Parent Driven Autism Services please visit www.sosbc.org/autism-services or call Doug West at 604-574-2964, ext.226