



# 國際極真會協會

## International Kyokushinkai Union

369 West Main street  
Avon, Connecticut 06001

There are relationships with people that enter our lives, seemingly by chance, that go on to evolve in something that gives that first meeting a cosmic significance. I have dedicated most of my life in the service of others; constantly and willingly making sacrifices to try to improve the lives of others and the communities in which I have resided. In doing so, I have had interactions with countless people, groups and corporations, seeking their support for various endeavors. While I have always done service without a desire for personal gain, as I progressed into different forms of charity, I often found myself disillusioned. Very few people were willing to do charitable work without ulterior motives such as a desire for publicity. There were times when I felt alone in my mission. However, along the way there have been people whose commitment, generosity and love have made their contributions selflessly. I consider this positive group of people to have been sent by God into my life to help perform better service. Mrs. Kristin Gabrielson Garrison is one of these remarkable people. Over the years I have had the privilege of serving as her chief Instructor at the International Kyokushinkai Union. It was during her early studies of Kyokushin Karate that she learned of the organization I was founding with my dear friend and mentor Dr. Phillip Allmendinger. This organization, K21 Kid Strong Foundation, a nonprofit formed to be of service to children living with autism spectrum disorder. After an initial conversation regarding the foundation in 2011, she graciously accepted my request for to be a part of it. Since then, she has been an invaluable asset, completing such tasks as:

- Served as an incorporating board member (2012)
- Helped to reach out to area special needs professionals to garner program expertise for the autism community. (2011-2012)
- Helped to reach out to individuals to provide seed monies, and startup funding (2012)
- Helped to develop the program facility space/facility at 12 West Main. (2011-2012)
- Helped to develop a basic accounting system, and donor record (2012)
- Helped to create marketing materials (2012-on)
- Collaborated with Stephen Eaton, CPA to complete the program portion of the IRS Form 1023, to obtain KSF's tax exempt status. (2012)
- Tracked the IRS filing for a year, until obtained May 24, 2013 (2012-2013)
- Established risk management policies (sexual abuse and molestation) and vetting of board members and program instructors (background checks), in compliance with our general liability insurance requirements (2012)
- Created a volunteer orientation program and record to acknowledge volunteer support. (2012-2013)
- Assisted with community awareness, planning and participating in Autism Resource Fairs, (Autism Speak (3), Focus Center for Autism (1), Intensive Education Academy (2)



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- Planned and participated in special event fundraising: Bertucci's (1), Flatbread (1), Gillette Ridge (1)
- Helped to develop program evaluation via parent surveys, videotaping of classes.
- Planned and participated in program events: promotions, holiday and birthday celebrations
- Advocated for the organization among community groups sharing PowerPoint presentations about Autism and the KSF organizational activity: Rotary, Avon Chamber of Commerce and the Old Guard
- Created videos to track program progress and aide with marketing
- Created photo books to share with funders, and prospective participants and volunteers.
- Wrote 2 full foundation grant proposals in coordination with Stephen Eaton. Graef Family Foundation awarded us \$2,500. Hartford Family Services declined, due to lack of diversity among the board. (2016)
- Personally, advocated for the organization and secured major gifts from Andrew Sabin (\$2,500) and Alan and Verla Gabrielson (\$10,000). (2015) (2013)
- Wrote to Henkel Corporation and secured (\$2,500) in corporate monies to help with facility equipment (2016)
- Helped with the facility move in 2016, and the renovation of the 369 West Main Suite A & B sites.

At this time, her company, KGA Nonprofit Consulting, LLC, developed with Kristin's own passion and over a decade of professional vigilant service, will serve as a nonprofit consultant to guide, supervise and operate the future activity for K21 Kid Strong Foundation, Inc, recently changed to Autism Move, Inc.

Mrs. Garrison is a courageous and highly competent woman. I have personally witnessed her strength and grace, and I strongly recommend her and KGA for their ability to be of powerful and meaningful service throughout the nonprofit community.

Sincerely,

*Kaicho David R. Farzinzad*

Director  
International Kyokushinkai Union LLC.  
Autism Move INC.