



FEDERAL TAX ID# VZ 23-7162017

August 3, 2000

Danny Cortazzo
503 Liberty St.
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060

Dear Danny,

On Behalf of the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation and all the children who participated in Ride A Wave's surf day, I would like to thank you for a truly spectacular day at the beach. The generosity and patience of both you and your crew provided all the burn survivors and AARBF volunteers with a safe and fun day filled with many new experiences.

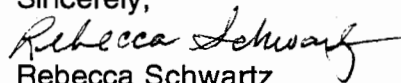
The 14 children and 9 volunteers from AARBF have not stopped talking about their new water experiences. Some of the children who were a bit hesitant at first ended up having a blast. Arthur, a 15 year old burn survivor didn't want to even put on his wetsuit. But, as soon as he saw everyone enjoying themselves, he jumped right in and had a great time. And, who could forget little Kelly. She had the time of her life. She talked the whole way home about how exciting it was to ride the boogie boards.

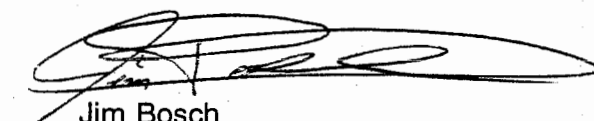
RAW has created a safe environment for children to experience the beauty of the ocean. Your program made a difference in the lives of many children in our foundation and I am sure it will continue to put a smile on many children's faces.

Thank you to your crew, all the donors that made the day possible, the life guards that took the time to show us water safety and yourself for giving the children of the Alisa Ann Burn Foundation life long memories.

We hope to surf again real soon. Thank you again.

Sincerely,


Rebecca Schwartz
Program Director, No. CA


Jim Bosch
Survivor Assistance Director

Dedicated to Survivor Assistance & Burn Prevention



- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
- PHYSICAL THERAPY
- SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY

Pediatric therapy center

To: Danny Cortazo and R.A.W. Foundation

**From: Lou Larwood Ed.D. CCC, Camp Director
Lisa Pepperdine OTR, Co - Director
Pediatric Therapy Center**

Re: Thank you to all

7-31-00

We just wanted to say thank you for taking the time to spend the day with our campers on July 13, 2000. All of your efforts touched the lives of our kids in ways that we could have never imagined. As you know, our kids are those children whose disabilities are invisible to the naked eye!

The children you met with our group were kids who have faced so many challenges in their short lives. Some were confined to an ICU for the first few years of their lives, others are dealing with inherited mental health disorders and some have rare syndromes that have disallowed them from participating with non-disabled children and camp opportunities. We know many of you had questions about our kids. We would like to share with you how your time affected some of our campers.

Justin: Arrianna was his helper. This little guy did not come home from the hospital until he was two years old. He has had open heart surgery and as you know he is very hard of hearing. Well, he gained a whopping 5 pounds during his week at camp (he had not gained weight for a couple of years)! His parents are now trying to locate a special swimming instructor to teach him to swim. Justin has returned to the beach (upon his insistence), now owns a wet suit .and wishes to learn to boogie board. Most importantly, you taught him how to take risks!

Brett: Many of you noticed that we frequently encouraged your staff to ignore Brett's dramatic behavior, as he often would throw himself onto the ground for attention. Brett has a very rare syndrome. He has only slept one hour a night SINCE birth. After his day on the beach with

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R.A.W. and for three days following he slept for 10-11 hours nightly! This is truly a miracle. His mother couldn't believe it!

Franci: She loved surfing with Danny and Jackson. She smiled and was truly a joy to be with after this day. This little girl has been in special education since day one and this was one of her first experiences whereby she was treated like a normal kid. Upon conferencing with her family, her father has made the commitment to teach Franci how to surf (the surfs and had never involved her).

Mikey: His day with you opened up his world. Up until he arrived on the beach, he resisted any type of physical activity for years that involved some element of stamina. This is a child who came to camp frightened, insecure and feeling like he was the only kid in the world who had problems. Needless to say, that all changed for the better as the week went by. He wants to learn how to surf and boogie board. Mikey has decided that he can be a friend to others and that he is "not weird and different". His self-confidence increased tremendously after his day on the beach with R.A.W.. He is now receiving counseling to help him confront his depression and help his support his self-esteem.

Hayley: What can we say? We were told by her family that she would never put on a wet suit, touch the water, let alone surf. She was the first child on the surfboard with Danny and Jackson!! Her parents watched from the cliffs above and could not believe their eyes!

These are just a few examples of the ways in which your generosity has impacted children's lives. We hope to have another date with R.A.W. next summer.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your time and energy!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops and a cursive-like flow.

Danny,

The day was a success! I spoke to every single parent yesterday afternoon and the response was so great! I was on the phone for nearly 3 hours listening to them express their gratitude and tell me their stories and how much yesterday meant to them all. I know you all do this often, and I now have some idea of what an involved process it is and how much work you all put into it. All that these parents know is what a great time their children had and that most of them never even dreamed of their children experiencing an opportunity like this. When you have a child with special needs, no matter how severe those challenges are, at some point you have to give into the reality that they probably aren't going to experience life as other children do. No matter how hard you search for normalcy, those challenges present themselves at least from time to time. So, that is where your program comes in. You all have given these kids and their parents, some of them for the first time, not only huge smiles, but hope and confidence that they can in fact try and succeed at new experiences. I hope they all continue to push themselves to try new things. I know how hard it was for a lot of these parents to let go and allow their children not only to depend on people they didn't know, but to let them be independent at the beach of all places. It was a huge step! Now, the sky's the limit! Right?

As for me, I have been literally hiding away for nearly 6 years in fear that if we ventured out, something terrible and unexpected would happen to Skye, and now, unexpected is O.K. I have watched Skye struggle just to survive, have a code blue and then be given CPR for what seemed like an eternity, countless hospitalizations, the removal of a bone tumor, and just last week was told that he is most likely autistic. Yesterday, MY SON SURFED!!! None of the other stuff matters! Can you even appreciate how huge that is for us? Not to mention that he won't stop asking to go into the ocean. Do you see what you have started?:) Now I'm going to have to get him a surf board! You must hear thank you a million times a day, but truly, with tears in my eyes, THANK YOU! for the opportunity and experience! Our future has hope. You have given us courage and confidence to get over the past, face our challenges head on and strive to make our future excellent, which we MOST DEFINITELY will do!

Everyone was so impressed at your professionalism, organization and dedication, and every one of the parents asked immediately, "When can we do this again?" Please let me know if that is a possibility. As for me, It has TRULY been a privilege

meeting you and all of your volunteers. You are Angels here on earth! You all treated these children with dignity and respect, something they don't always get, and for the day, they were celebrated for their greatness! I can only speak for myself, though I'm sure that many other families agree, this experience in so many ways has changed our lives. So, after all of my babbling, though I can't possibly ever say enough, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, from the bottom of our hearts.

BALANCE Day At The Beach, June 16, 2001