

Respira Design Named Co-winner of the 2009 Stanford BASES Social E-challenge

The awarded seed grant will further design and testing of the Spacemask spacer for the treatment of pediatric asthma.

June 3, 2009—Selected from over 100 entries and 6 finalists, Respira Design was awarded a share of the top prize in a competition run by a Stanford business and entrepreneurial organization. The competition, the BASES Social E-Challenge, evaluated Respira's business plan as well as a presentation to a judging panel.

Respira Design presented the Spacemask spacer, a \$1 paper device that facilitates the efficacious delivery of aerosolized asthma medication to children in the developing world. The device itself is manufactured from a single sheet of paper which transforms into a usable spacer by a simple system of cuts and folds. There are over 140 million children worldwide whose respiratory health could be improved with the Spacemask. Plans were presented for a controlled pilot study in Mexico, which has 3.5 million uninsured children who suffer from pediatric asthma.

Judges included Debra Dunn, Director, Skoll Foundation, Matthew Flannery, CEO, Kiva, Don Francis, MD, DSc, Executive Director, Global Solutions for Infectious Diseases, R. Paul Herman, CEO, HIP Investor and George Scharffenberger, Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Research, International Development Policy and Practice, UC Berkeley.

CEO Eric Green, MD, PhD, said, "We are excited that we can now move forward to learn how our device performs in clinical practice after two years of development and market research." He added, "This simple, low cost device has the potential to save the Mexican healthcare system over \$1 billion annually. Besides Mexico, we see applicability for our device globally in third world settings where asthma is a significant cause of illness."

About Respira Design

Respira Design (www.respiradesign.org) is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to create and implement solutions that improve healthcare outcomes for sufferers of asthma in the developing world. Contact us at info@respiradesign.org.