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**For Immediate Release**

**Photo attached**

## **Jed A. Kwartler, MD to be Honored by Sound Start Foundation for Groundbreaking Work in Otology and Neurotology**

**March 22, 2024 (Mountain Lakes, NJ – South Orange, NJ)** - [Sound Start Foundation](http://www.soundstartfdn.org), a leading New Jersey nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting children born deaf or hard of hearing in New Jersey, proudly announces the selection of Jed A. Kwartler, MD, as its esteemed honoree for their upcoming annual gala. Dr. Kwartler is recognized for his career-long devotion to advancements in the field of otology and neurotology, particularly his work with hearing implants. The gala is scheduled to take place on Thursday, May 9th, at The Mansion in Mountain Lakes.

“Sound Start chose Dr. Kwartler as its 2024 Honoree for many reasons, chief among them being his outstanding contributions to otology and neurotology, which have impacted the lives of thousands of children with hearing impairments,” said Bromme H. Cole, CEO, Sound Start Foundation.

Dr. Kwartler’s achievements as an otology and neurotology surgeon include several notable New Jersey firsts. He performed the first surgery on a child for a Cochlear Implant; implanted the first middle ear hearing aid, the Vibrant Soundbridge; and introduced the first subcutaneous osseointegrated implants with the MedEl Bonebridge and Cochlear Osia.

Expressing his gratitude upon learning of the honor bestowed upon him by Sound Start Foundation, Dr. Kwartler remarked, “To paraphrase an old saying, behind every cochlear implant surgeon is a village. I could not do what I do without the teachers, audiologists, speech therapists, nurses, industry support, scientists, and mentors so I share this honor with all of them.”

Throughout his illustrious career, Dr. Kwartler has been consistently recognized as a Best Doctor and Top Doctor by various organizations. He is a Clinical Associate Professor of Otolaryngology at Rutgers, NJ Medical School. He served as head of the Ear Specialty Center at Summit Health and was a former partner there. Although now retired from active practice, Dr. Kwartler remains engaged volunteering for various organizations, occasionally lecturing, and continuing to contribute on the editorial board of the Otology and Neurotology Journal. He also says he especially enjoys having time to spend with his children and grandson.

Dr. Kwartler's educational journey began at Rutgers NJ Medical School, followed by the pursuit of a business degree culminating in an MBA from Rutgers Business School. His training included a fellowship

in otology, neurotology and skull base surgery at the world-renowned House Ear Clinic in Los Angeles. During his academic years, he garnered several accolades and honors, including election to Sigma Xi at Brown University, Alpha Omega Alpha at Rutgers NJ Medical School, Beta Sigma at Rutgers Business School, and receipt of the Ciba Geigy Service Award by Rutgers NJ Medical School and Honor award from the American Academy Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

A native of Ridgewood, New Jersey, Dr. Kwartler currently resides in South Orange with his wife Carol Barash. The couple recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary by visiting friends in New Orleans and then driving the Civil Rights trail, culminating in a three-day course in Restorative Justice practices. By far their proudest accomplishment is their children: Zach and his wife Pam Fischer, Talia and her husband David Holt, and Eliana. And of course, their beloved grandson Lucas.

To learn more about Sound Start Foundation, purchase tickets to the gala, or become a sponsor, visit: [www.soundstartfdn.org](http://www.soundstartfdn.org).

### **About Sound Start Foundation**

Established in 1996. Sound Start Foundation addresses the need for high-quality early intervention services for infants and toddlers with hearing loss in New Jersey. The foundation is dedicated to supporting educational and therapeutic programs. Sound Start Foundation's financial assistance to the Sound Start Babies Program has empowered thousands of children to develop listening, speech, and communication skills. To learn more visit: [soundstartfdn.org](http://soundstartfdn.org).

### **Jed A. Kwartler, MD, Educational Highlights**

Ridgewood High School 1975  
Brown University ScB Biology 1979  
Rutgers-NJ Medical School MD 1983  
Rutgers - NJ Medical Otolaryngology Residency 1983-1988  
House Ear Clinic Otology/Neurotology Fellowship 1990  
Rutgers Business School MBA 2005