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GiGi's Playhouse Founder Makes International News for COVID-19 Response

HOFFMAN ESTATES, Illinois (October 21, 2020) - GiGi's Playhouse's reach continues to extend overseas. Founder and Chief Belief Officer Nancy Gianni sat down with Japanese broadcaster NHK World for a wide-ranging interview on everything from how GiGi's Playhouse began to our quick pivot as the COVID-19 pandemic drastically impacted our everyday lives. GiGi's digital transformation catapulted them from a U.S. and Mexico base to serving families in 22 different countries with free therapeutic and educational programs virtually!

"I am so grateful for the opportunity to share our story with a global audience and Direct Talk's host, Gene Otani," Gianni said. "Within days of our Playhouses shutting down, we launched live and on-demand virtual programming through [GiGi's At Home](#). Even in a pandemic, GiGi's Playhouse strives to provide free therapeutic and educational programs – no matter the setting."

In recent months, our Playhouses have begun the reopening process, and we have added two more locations to our network – Buffalo in August and New Orleans in October! These new additions mean even more families of individuals with Down syndrome can experience new opportunities and a welcoming place of acceptance.

Nancy Gianni's Direct Talk interview can be viewed on NHK World-Japan's [website](#).

About GiGi's Playhouse®: GiGi's Playhouse is the only international network of Down Syndrome Achievement Centers created to provide free life-changing therapeutic and educational programs for all ages. With 50 locations across the U.S. and Mexico, and a demand to open 200 more, GiGi's Playhouse is on a mission to change the way the world views Down syndrome and to send a global message of acceptance for all. Learn more at www.GiGisPlayhouse.org. GiGi's At Home virtual programming now serves participants in 22 countries as we continue our commitment to free programming during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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