

# Exceeding Today's Standards by Recognizing Tomorrow's Needs **Autism Center Becomes First Program in Agency to Benefit from SituCon and Panasonic Healthcare Video Solution**

## OBJECTIVE

As autism continues to increase at an alarming rate, administrators at Brookville Center for Children's Services, an affiliate of AHRC Nassau and North Shore – LIJ Health System, wanted to find a safety solution that met the highest safety standards while providing a typical, nurturing school setting.

While intercoms and phone systems traditionally provided the means for personnel to get assistance when needed, AHRC administrators realized that a more convenient solution, one which could alert others more quickly and provide real-time video of an emergency situation was the answer. Finding a solution that would not infringe upon staff and student privacy was the problem. To further complicate matters, AHRC wanted a solution that could be easily expanded throughout all campuses and facilities including their off-site residential programs.

## SOLUTION

Now, with just the push of a staff member's wireless SituCon Instant Alert button, notifications are sent to program administrators and other personnel on their desktop computers and smart phones. These notifications include details such as who pressed the button and their location in the building. **Simultaneously, as "eyelids" on SituCam Privacy Protecting Camera Enclosures open, Panasonic Security cameras are exposed providing high quality real-time video of the situation as it unfolds.** At all other times, SituCam's "eyelids" remain closed guaranteeing student and staff privacy.

## BENEFITS

**Program administrators credit the SituCon and Panasonic solution with improving incident response time to mere seconds, while still maintaining a comfortable environment without any privacy implications.** With the safety of both students and staff maintained, parents and administrators can focus on the educational goals of the students. At the same time, with the deployment of this technology, the stage has been set for other video applications that benefit the entire campus.



### ORGANIZATION

AHRC Nassau – Brookville Center  
for Children's Services

### LOCATION

Brookville, NY

### INDUSTRY

Healthcare – Special Needs Provider

### CHALLENGES

- Rapidly notifying administrators and other personnel in the case of an incident
- Providing real-time video of the situation while guaranteeing client and staff privacy at all other times
- Obtaining an easy-to use, cost effective and scalable solution

# “...this technology enables us to instantly respond as a coordinated team with all necessary resources at the ready.”

Sherry Black, Program Supervisor

## Safety Benefits

SituCon's solution is held in high regard amongst both personnel and clients. SituCon's Instant Alert buttons, affectionately called “jewelry”, are worn around staff member's necks and are readily accessible. Rapid response provides the clients' families with peace of mind. “Immediately after implementing SituCon's solution we recognized a dramatically positive difference in our ability to proactively and effectively deal with a number of situations,” said Sherry Black, Program Supervisor. “Instead of using telephones or other time consuming solutions to notify administrators, this technology enables us to instantly respond as a coordinated team with all necessary resources at the ready”.

## Clinical Benefits

With eyelids on the cameras guaranteeing privacy at all times other than when camera use is necessary, having cameras in areas that were previously considered “off limits” provides benefits which extend far beyond safety. One of the greatest values provided by SituCam Privacy Protecting Cameras is the ability for staff to unobtrusively observe clients in a familiar, comfortable setting as events are occurring. Whether in a classroom, gymnasium, therapy room or elsewhere, **with Panasonic's remote controlled pan-tilt-zoom capability, clients can be observed as they move about the room and conduct their regular activities.** Even spontaneous episodes can now be observed.

## Programatic Benefits

Using SituCon technology, the potential exists to improve the quality of services rendered - not only can more frequent observations be made, but also “virtual visits” can be used to ensure compliance with agency standards.

At the same time quality is improving, costs can be lowered with a reduction in travel time and physical staff coverage. And in the future, revenues might be generated as Medicaid has already started reimbursing for remote video monitoring of the developmentally disabled in certain states.

## Other Applications

The benefits of the SituCon and Panasonic Healthcare Video Solution are only the beginning for Autism Program.

## Expansion plans include:

- Structured Day Programs
- Clinical Programs
- Recreational Programs and Camps

Ultimately, this technology will allow AHRC to expand these safety features throughout their residential program in, giving them the ability to remotely monitor the Activities of Daily Living for its residents and to observe the interactions between residents.

## SituCam Privacy Protecting Cameras



“Eyelids” Closed – Privacy



“Eyelids” Open – Camera Active

Visit [www.situcon.com](http://www.situcon.com) for more information.