



Autism Society
of North Carolina

SPECTRUM

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New! Raleigh ABA Clinic

Thriving in Fayetteville

Medicaid Tailored Plans

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Mission Statement

The Autism Society of North Carolina improves the lives of individuals with autism, supports their families, and educates communities.

The Spectrum

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Work with Us

The Autism Society of North Carolina is always looking for qualified candidates who are passionate about helping individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. ASNC has offices in Asheville, Fayetteville, Greensboro, Greenville, Raleigh, Newport, and Wilmington.

A variety of part- and full-time positions are available. Please visit autismsociety-nc.org/careers to learn more about current ASNC career opportunities. We appreciate referrals; please help us recruit the best talent by sharing the above link.

Privacy Policy

The Autism Society of North Carolina respects the privacy of its members and those who receive our publications. We do not sell or otherwise share our mailing list, email notification list, or any personal information with other businesses or organizations.



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of North Carolina

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ASNC is supported by:



A Message from the CEO

I am continually inspired by the passion and dedication of the autism community—comprised of autistic adults, parents, volunteers, and staff. This year alone, the Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) has positively impacted tens of thousands of individuals with autism and their families across the state. Here are a few notable achievements from the past year:

- More than 400 adults with autism improved their employment skills or were offered a job for which they applied.
- Our Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program provided comprehensive treatment for over 220 children and adults statewide. Our new Raleigh ABA clinic, opening in fall 2024, will allow us to serve even more people this year.
- Our Autism Resource Specialists directly assisted over 8,100 individuals, offering people critical support during crises and linking them with essential resources.
- We now have a network of 70 local support groups spanning 80 counties in North Carolina and the Qualla Boundary, bringing parents and adults together for social gatherings and educational events.
- ASNC conducted comprehensive training sessions, webinars, workshops, and our annual conference in Raleigh to educate over 6,000 individuals on autism.
- Camp Royall, located in Moncure, provided enriching year-round programs for more than 1,000 campers of all ages.



This year also has brought significant changes in how North Carolina manages services for individuals with autism, including the long-awaited transition to Medicaid Managed Care and the introduction of Tailored Plans on July 1. Throughout this transition, ASNC continued delivering home- and community-based services tailored to thousands of individuals statewide, offering personalized, evidence-based care across the spectrum and throughout their lifespans.

Looking ahead, ASNC has a new strategic plan to guide our organizational priorities from 2024 to 2026, ensuring we effectively address the evolving needs of our community across all stages of life and across the spectrum. Focusing on the three pillars of our mission, the strategic plan provides direction for continuing our work to enhance lives, provide vital support to families, and foster community education.

Our strength as a community and organization lies in our dedication to being a steadfast partner and service provider for you today and in the future. Please enjoy this issue of our magazine and stay connected with us as we embark on the next steps of our journey.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracey Sheriff".

Tracey Sheriff, CEO

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Empowering Potential: New ABA Clinic Opens in Raleigh

The Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) is excited to announce the opening of a new Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) clinic this fall. Conveniently located at 5121 Kingdom Way in Raleigh, NC, this clinic represents a significant step forward in supporting children with autism and their families in the Triangle area.

ASNC has a long history of providing exceptional ABA services to children and adults with autism in various settings across the state, tailoring therapy to individual needs at home, school, or the workplace. However, the Raleigh clinic, serving children ages seven and younger with autism diagnoses, marks a new chapter for our ABA offerings in the Triangle area.

The benefits of ABA therapy for children with autism are well-documented, and the clinic setting offers several unique advantages:

- **Building social bridges:** The clinic setting fosters opportunities for children to socialize with peers, develop friendships, and learn valuable social skills. One-on-one friendship skills with peers are nurtured through activities like parallel play, sharing, communicating preferences, and cooperating with others. The small-group environment also helps children build self-advocacy skills.
- **Preparing for the future:** The clinic focuses on essential skills for future success, including communication, transitioning between activities, and social interaction, preparing children for daycare, school, or other environments. Some examples of skills targeted include following a routine in a group and participating in age-appropriate activities like crafts and games.
- **Consistency is key:** The clinic environment provides a structured and consistent learning experience, which is crucial for progress in ABA therapy.
- **Peace of mind for parents:** The clinic allows parents to focus on work or other commitments during their child's therapy sessions, confident that their child is in a safe and engaging environment.
- **Intentional design:** The fully accessible, state-of-the-art facility is designed for safety, equipped with learning materials, and offers dedicated workspaces including sensory stations to help children self-regulate and manage sensory sensitivities.



The Raleigh ABA Clinic will open its doors on October 1, 2024. Initially, the clinic will have a limited capacity and maintain a waiting list for openings becoming available as the clinic reaches capacity in January 2025.

The Autism Society of North Carolina's Raleigh ABA Clinic is a beacon of hope for families seeking exceptional therapy and support for their children with autism.



Features of ASNC ABA services:

- Individualized program designed to meet child's unique needs and developmentally-appropriate goals.
- Emphasis on positive reinforcement and learning through play; sessions are never compliance based.
- Weekly session times and lengths based on needs of child and family.
- Family and caregiver training provided.

Read more about ASNC's ABA services on page 6.

Frequently Asked Questions

How much ABA therapy will my child receive each week?

Every person is different, so after conducting an assessment and observations, our team will make a recommendation on the frequency and length of therapy sessions needed. We want our clients to be content and enjoy learning, so we are

sensitive to age and level of engagement while ensuring that teaching is provided regularly and consistently.

Who will be on my child's team?

Your Raleigh Clinic team will include Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) who conduct assessments, design treatment plans, and supervise Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs). Our BCBAs have low caseloads so they can focus on spending time with families. RBTs provide direct instruction on a consistent basis based on the plan. BCBAs collaborate regularly to ensure the best treatment plan for every individual.

We consider family members and caregivers an essential part of the team. We work with individuals and families in developing and implementing the plan and provide training and coaching to help encourage progress. We also consult with team members at schools, occupational and speech-language therapists, medical professionals, and more.

How long are therapy sessions and when are they scheduled?

The Raleigh ABA Clinic offers three-hour sessions with three time slots for sessions per day: morning (9 a.m.-12 p.m.), early afternoon (12-3 p.m.), and late afternoon (3-5:30 p.m.). Time slots are based on the availability of a cohort of similar age and skill-range of peers.

How do I pay for ABA services?

ASNC is an accredited provider of Medicaid services and in-network provider with all LME/MCOs managing behavioral health needs in North Carolina. Clinic staff assist with submitting therapy information to the appropriate insurance carrier. The clinic also accepts major insurance carriers and offers private-pay solutions.

Where is the Raleigh ABA Clinic located?

The clinic is centrally located at 5121 Kingdom Way near I-40 and I-440 close to the PNC Arena. It has easily accessible parking and the facility itself is fully accessible.

How do I secure ABA clinic services for my child?

Your child must be age seven or younger and have an autism diagnosis. To learn more about securing services for your child, please complete the interest form on our website and someone will contact you about next steps. The form is available at the bottom of this web page: autismsociety-nc.org/aba.

More information is available on the Raleigh Clinic page of our website at autismsociety-nc.org/ABAClinicRaleigh.



ABA Services at ASNC

What sets us apart

At the Autism Society of North Carolina, we are proud of the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services we provide. ABA is an evidence-based treatment that provides life-improving instruction designed for each person's unique needs and goals. Relying on best practices, we take a wholistic approach to ABA that prioritizes the goals, needs, and input of the individual client and values team collaboration with the client and their family/caregivers, and other professionals. We believe our individualized, positive, and learning-centered approach sets us apart. At ASNC, we are not looking to make a person less autistic; instead, we celebrate neurodiversity and empower our clients with the tools and experiences they need to live their best, independent lives.

We empower our clients with the tools and experiences they need to live their best, independent lives.

Our services and team approach

A member of the Council on Autism Providers (CASP), the Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) provides ABA services in a variety of settings including at home, in school, at work, and/or in a clinic environment. The goal is to deliver the service in the place that is most meaningful for the individual client.

We believe in the power of learning through play, natural routines, and laughter. Our sessions are never compliance-based. Instead, we use positive reinforcement and an assent-based approach to teach within the context of a client's daily routines with an emphasis on learning. We recognize the power of achieving goals to nurture a client's sense of satisfaction and provide the motivation to continue striving and growing.

In close collaboration with the client and their family/caregivers, we design teaching goals that deliver meaningful skill development, increased independence and happiness, and improved quality of life. We assess not only the client's needs but those of their family/caregivers. We work with family members and caregivers to create and practice strategies to address specific needs while also providing training and coaching that will assist them in helping their loved ones meet their goals.

Our team

The ASNC ABA team of Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) and Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) work closely together to ensure a comprehensive and individualized experience for each client.

Team members bring a wealth of knowledge to their work at ASNC and extensive experience providing services in a range of settings including in-home, educational, clinical, and workspaces.

The ASNC ABA team provides ABA services in North Carolina in Apex, Asheville, Cary, Chapel Hill, Durham, Raleigh, and Wilmington. If you are interested in connecting with our ABA staff, please complete an interest form on our ABA & Clinical Services page under "Find Help" at autismsociety-nc.org.

Thriving on the Spectrum

Resources for Adults with Autism

The Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) understands that adults with autism often struggle to find the supports they need to live independently with confidence and pride. That is why ASNC offers a range of programs and resources to help adults on the spectrum fulfill their potential and cultivate lives of meaning and purpose.

IGNITE

Transitions can be challenging in the best of circumstances. For those on the autism spectrum, transitions can be especially difficult. ASNC's IGNITE community centers are designed to help young autistic adults transition from high school, when services often end, to young adulthood. Offering activities, skills training, and educational workshops, IGNITE programming fosters social, financial, educational, and employment independence for members. Read more about ASNC's three IGNITE community centers on page 18 of this magazine and visit autismsociety-nc.org/ignite.

Camp Royall Adult Immersion Week

This past year, Camp Royall, the Autism Society of North Carolina's year-round overnight camp for individuals with autism, implemented a new program for autistic adults: Adult Immersion Week. During this week campers immerse themselves in independent living skills such as cooking, cleaning, laundry, and house care. The week also includes recreation and leisure elements from the camp's adult retreat program; however, the adults during this week are responsible for helping with vital processes around camp helping them to build more independence, confidence, and skills. More about Camp Royall programs for adults here: camproyall.org.

Employment Supports

The need for employment opportunities for adults with autism is significant; studies have shown

More Resources for Adults

Webinars | autismsociety-nc.org/autism-webinars

This collection of webinars covers a range of topics including a series for adults with titles such as: "Your Teen Just Turned 18," "Autism Guardianship: What You Need to Know," "Residential Options for Adults with Autism," and "Preparing for College Starts at Home."

Toolkits | autismsociety-nc.org/toolkits

ASNC offers Tool Kits and Tip Sheets to help adults with autism navigate resources and services available to them—resources like "IEP: Transition Component," "Accessing Services," "Guardianship," and "Who Supports Me?"

ASNC Website | autismsociety-nc.org

Several sections of our website may be of particular interest to autistic adults and their families: "I Have Autism" (autismsociety-nc.org/i-have-autism), "Adult Programs" (autismsociety-nc.org/adult-program-info) and "Transitioning to Adulthood" (autismsociety-nc.org/transitioning-to-adulthood).



Scan the QR code to complete our interest form to connect with an ASNC staff member and learn more about resources, services, and supports for adults with autism.

that most of them are unemployed or underemployed. Our employment program offers guidance in finding, keeping, and thriving in a job. We offer online JobTIPS classes to help individuals gain the necessary skills for employment. Services are funded through the Medicaid Waiver, Competitive Integrated Employment (Vocational Rehabilitation), state-funded services, grants, and affordable private-pay options. Learn more about our employment supports and registration for JobTIPS classes at autismsociety-nc.org/employment-supports.

Fall 2024 Adult Immersion Week | Sept. 29 - Oct. 4 Register at: camproyall.campbrainregistration.

Room to Thrive in Fayetteville



The Autism Society of North Carolina's Fayetteville regional office moved to a new space at 2175 Village Drive in Fayetteville, in January of this year and has been going through an exciting transformation ever since. The new, larger facility means administrative offices and daily programming are now in the same location. The additional space for dedicated areas like a sensory room, workout area, and café, means the Fayetteville team can better serve existing clients and have the capacity to support even more new clients.

Like the other Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) regional offices in Asheville, Greensboro, Greenville, Raleigh, and Wilmington, the Fayetteville office provides high quality services that improve the lives of individuals with autism and support for their families. It has a professional staff that respects individuals' unique strengths, preferences, and dignity while utilizing research-based best practices to help people reach their maximum potential. All regional offices provide skill building and support, respite, and employment supports; however, specific to the Fayetteville office is a licensed day program known as "Thrive." Thrive provides a structured learning environment where adults with autism participate in activities and receive necessary supports to develop greater self-sufficiency and increased community engagement.

The Thrive program is personalized for each participant and is based upon individual interests and skills. Staff are trained to understand each person's needs and collaborate closely with participants to set targeted goals and a 12-month schedule to stay on track to reach those goals. While each participant's goals are specific to them, goals generally include a focus on building social skills, engaging in physical activity, and learning to make good health and wellness choices—all with the aim of increasing a participant's



confidence and independence. Depending on an individual's aspirations, setting goals for securing employment may also be part of their yearlong plan. Thrive activities include:

- creative exploration and expression through art, horticulture, and culinary activities;
- social skills training through structured leisure activities, social interaction, and community integration;
- vocational training and supported employment; and
- community outreach and volunteerism.

Thrive activities engage participants in on- and off-site experiences. Whether it is a trip to the zoo, a skating

party, an exercise class, a cooking lesson, game day, volunteering in the community, or dancing at the Sneaker Ball, activities are designed to give participants a meaningful and joyful experience that enhances their life and advances their personal goals. "It is all about how we can assist each person and enrich their life," says Program Director Seluvaia (Sel) Sika, a strong

believer in advocating for and giving a voice to those on the autism spectrum.

Through the Medicaid Innovations Waiver, 1:1 assistance for Supported Employment is available. This service is a collaborative effort involving the client, family, staff, and

qualified professionals, and takes a person-centered approach, focusing on the individual's unique talents, their dream job (and its feasibility), and the necessary support for their success. Once the client secures the job, their 1:1 worker supports them.

The Fayetteville team is a well-oiled machine. Many of them have been working in Fayetteville for decades and that continuity has helped to build a strong, cohesive community. Several staff members began their tenures as direct support professionals (DSP) and now bring that valuable experience to their leadership roles. "ASNC is an organization that believes in giving their staff promotional opportunities and allows its employees to grow as professionals," notes Senior Autism Services Coordinator Peaches Lewis, now in her fifteenth year in Fayetteville. The stability of the staff encourages clients who came for services as children to remain and continue their journey in a place where they are well-known and valued. Shawn Raeford started with ASNC Fayetteville 26 years ago as a DSP and is now the Assistant Program Director. She has "a passion" for her work and is proud of the many accomplishments of the autistic adults she first met as children. "It's all about making it work for them," says Shawn, "and the sky's the limit."

The ASNC Fayetteville team looks forward to finding more ways to creatively use their new space and making services available to more individuals with autism and their families.



Whether connecting people with services, providing skills training and supported employment, building community, or offering opportunities for socializing and fun, the team

is committed to improving the lives of individuals with autism, supporting their families, and educating communities. "This job is hard," says Peaches, "but when our clients accomplish independence or their dreams come true, I know all the hard work paid off... I, we want to be the change. In Fayetteville, we lead by heart!" ■



Autism Society of North Carolina - Fayetteville

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Monday through Friday | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Show your Support and Drive Awareness

Simply updating your license plate with the Autism Society of North Carolina's name and logo



is a powerful way to initiate conversations and raise awareness about autism. Each time someone sees your plate, they are reminded of the importance of understanding and acceptance. It's more than just a design; it's support for families and individuals living with autism.



Medicaid Update: Tailored Plans

“Medicaid Tailored Plans mean people get access to services and supports that address their health and overall well-being, including specialized services that address autism and other developmental conditions.”

— Jennifer Mahan, Public Policy Director
Autism Society of North Carolina

The transformation of North Carolina’s Medicaid Managed Care system is now complete with the launch of Tailored Plans on July 1, 2024. Tailored Plans are designed to support people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) with more specialized services in conjunction with their physical and specialty healthcare. Additionally, the Healthy Opportunities program has also launched in specific regions with plans to go statewide and helps with non-medical issues affecting health, like transportation and access to food.

Tailored Plans: Next Steps

Tailored Plans officially launched on July 1, and those eligible for a Tailored Plan were automatically enrolled at that time. While people do not have a choice of Tailored Plan, they can and should choose their own Tailored Care Management provider. “If people have not already connected with their Tailored Care Management provider, now is a good time to do so,” says Jennifer, who notes that Tailored Care Management providers can assist with assessments for and connections to 1915i services (which replace B3 services), help with access to community resources, and coordinate services and supports.

It is also important for people to confirm that their specialty providers are in their Tailored Plan network. If not, people need to work with their Tailored Plan (formally known as LME/MCO) to ensure they get access to all the services, health care, and supports they are eligible for through Medicaid. ■

Tailored Plan Providers and Counties Served

Alliance Health | Morrisville

Phone: 919-651-8401

Counties: Cumberland, Durham, Harnett, Johnston, Mecklenburg, Orange, Wake

Partners Health Management | Gastonia

Phone: 888-235-4673

Counties: Burke, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Rutherford, Stanly, Surry, Union, Yadkin

Trillium Health Resources | Greenville

Phone: 866-998-2597

Counties: Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Columbus, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Jones, Lee, Lenoir, Martin, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Tyrrell, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Wilson

Vaya | Asheville

Phone: 828-225-2785

Counties: Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Caldwell, Caswell, Chatham, Cherokee, Clay, Franklin, Graham, Granville, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Person, Polk, Rockingham, Rowan, Stokes, Swain, Transylvania, Vance, Watauga, Wilkes, Yancey



Frequently Used Medicaid Terms

The language used to describe Medicaid services and programs can be confusing. Below are brief explanations for some of the most commonly used Medicaid terms.

LME/MCO

Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization. Four LME/MCOs provide Tailored Plan health care coverage to people who qualify. The LME/MCO a person belongs to is the Tailored Plan for that region of the state.

Tailored Plan

The Tailored Plan is the regional Managed Care Organization (MCO) also sometimes referred to as your Local Management Entity Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO). It is like the insurance company for Medicaid and manages physical health care, behavioral health care, and developmental disability services and supports. A person's Tailored Plan region is based on the county of record where the Medicaid application was filed.

Tailored Care Management

Tailored Care Management (TCM) is a new Medicaid service integrating care for individuals covered by Medicaid services managed by LME/MCOs. In the Tailored Care Management model, a single person (called a Care Manager) is assigned to each Medicaid recipient. Members have a choice of receiving their Care Management through the MCOs, community-based Care Management agencies or some Advanced Medical Homes.

1915i

1915i services are available to people with I/DD as well as those with mental health issues and substance use disorders. 1915i services offer help with community living skills, respite for caregivers, employment supports, and help with transitions to community living. The 1915i services are replacing B3 services but unlike B3, 1915i services are an entitlement. This means the program does not keep waiting lists and does not run out of funds to help people.

Ombudsman Program

This program helps NC Medicaid beneficiaries understand the Medicaid program. The ombudsman helps Medicaid beneficiaries if they are having trouble getting access to health care, connects people to resources like legal aid, social services, housing resources, food assistance, and other programs, and provides free, confidential support and education about the rights and responsibilities people have under NC Medicaid.

Healthy Opportunities

Healthy Opportunities helps people with non-medical needs related to health like access to food, transportation, housing, and safety needs by connecting beneficiaries to community resources.

Innovations Waiver

The Innovations Waiver provides services to people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. The purpose of the waiver is to provide services in the community rather than providing services in an institution and serves children and adults who might not otherwise qualify for Medicaid because their family income is too high.

Resources

NC Ombudsman Call Center
Phone: 1-877-201-3750
ncmedicaidombudsman.org

**Enrollment Specialist
Call Center**
Phone: 1-833-870-5599
ncmedicaidplans.gov

**NC Medicaid Division
of Health Benefits**
medicaid.ncdhhs.gov

ASNC Services Statewide

- *Looking for a life skills building program?*
- *Looking to increase community engagement?*
- *Looking for help developing social and communication skills?*

We can help! At the Autism Society of North Carolina, we know every individual on the autism spectrum is unique, with strengths to be nurtured. That is why we provide comprehensive services statewide that embrace the lifespan needs, goals, and aspirations of the individuals we serve. Our professionals respect each person's strengths, preferences, and dignity as we employ research-based best practices to help them reach their maximum potential.

We are fully accredited by the Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL) with fully trained staff who offer individual or group instruction designed to increase self-sufficiency and meaningful connections with others by

- developing and improving communication skills;
- cultivating and maintaining social skills including self-awareness, self-control, responsiveness, interpersonal skills, and the ability to maintain personal relationships; and
- fostering community relationships and integration through recreation, volunteer experiences, employment, and leisure activities.

We also provide support to become more self-sufficient with personal care skills including eating, bathing, dressing, daily hygiene, and mobility. In addition, a variety of support services from obtaining and maintaining employment to respite, are offered to families and autistic adults.

More About Our services

Our services are community-based with offices in six regional areas of North Carolina—Asheville, Fayetteville, Greenville, Greensboro, Raleigh, and Wilmington. Asheville, Fayetteville, Greensboro, and Raleigh offer innovative licensed day programs providing structured learning environments where adults with autism receive necessary support to develop greater self-sufficiency and community engagement. Additional programs for adults are also available in Greenville and Wilmington. For more information about services available in your area, visit our services page at autismsociety-nc.org/skill-building.

We are an accredited provider of Medicaid services throughout the lifespan, including the Innovations Waiver, state-funded services, and Competitive Integrated Employment (Vocational Rehabilitation). ASNC is an in-network provider with all the Tailored Plans that manage I/DD behavioral health needs in North Carolina. Find out which services you may qualify for by contacting your Tailored Plan at medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/tailored-plans. We also accept major insurance carriers and offer private-pay solutions. ■



Connect with us today!

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Wilmington

910-782-3499

hakin@autismsociety-nc.org

SAVE THE DATE

**ASNC 2025
CONFERENCE**

March 14, 2025

ASNC Annual Conference



The Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) will host its annual conference on Friday, March 14, 2025, at the McKimmon Conference and Training Center on the campus of North Carolina State University. The conference is an opportunity for those in our autism community—autistic adults, families, caregivers, educators, medical and other professionals—to hear from experts in the field about best practices, trends, and other important information affecting

the lives of individuals with autism. It is also an opportunity to share experiences and connect with others who are impacted by autism. Be sure to save the date for this conference and stay tuned for more information about conference speakers and registration in the coming weeks. Go to bit.ly/4cMSvFr for highlights from the 2024 ASNC Conference.



**Autism Society
of North Carolina**

Start Conversations Everywhere You Go

Simply updating your wardrobe with the Autism Society of North Carolina's name and logo is a powerful way to initiate conversations about autism. Each time someone sees these symbols, they are reminded of the importance of understanding and acceptance. It's more than just a design; it's a statement of support and appreciation for families and individuals living with autism.



Scan this code to explore our online collection of hats, t-shirts, hoodies, glassware, and more—then make a purchase that truly makes a difference.



Employee News



With Thanks: Paul Wendler Retires

After 17 years of invaluable service to both the Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) and the broader autism community in our state, Chief Financial Officer Paul Wendler retired on June 30.



Paul's contributions extended far beyond his role in fiscal management. He exemplified unwavering dedication to our staff and community, consistently going above and beyond. His presence was appreciated at numerous events, from conferences and

fundraisers to local support group activities, where he actively engaged with those we serve to better understand their needs firsthand.

During Paul's tenure, he played a pivotal role in the organization's growth, overseeing its expansion from a \$12 million annual budget to over \$30 million. His implementation of robust financial systems and structures ensured efficient management of ASNC's revenues and expenses across multiple cost centers. This financial stability has been crucial, enabling ASNC to effectively fulfill our mission even during challenging times.

Paul's commitment to stretching resources and expanding programs has directly benefited an estimated 500,000 individuals over the past 17 years—a remarkable achievement.

Welcome New Chief Financial Officer Edgar Moreno

This spring, the Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC) welcomed Edgar Moreno as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). To help ensure a smooth transition, Moreno began by working closely with retiring CFO Paul Wendler and stepped fully into his CFO role on July 1, 2024.

Edgar brings more than a decade of finance experience to his role at ASNC including extensive experience in strategic finance, financial planning and analysis, revenue cycle management, accounting, and data analytics. Most recently he has held leadership positions with Raleigh Radiology and Duke University Health System. He earned both a Bachelor of Science and a master's degree in accounting from North Carolina State University.

Edgar is excited to join the Autism Society of North Carolina noting "it is a privilege to join an organization with such a mission-driven focus." He is eager to bring his passion for data analytics and process improvement to the Autism Society of North Carolina and help drive financial strategies that support its vital programs and services. ■



Congratulations 2023 Award Winners!



Andrea Miller-Weir named 2023 Roman Direct Service Award Winner

Direct Support Professional Andrea Miller-Weir received the Roman Direct Service Award last year after being nominated by Alex Bagley's family. "Andrea Miller-Weir has challenged Alex

and our family to be all we can be," said Angela Bagley. "I don't know where we'd be without her. The community, the world, and most definitely, Alex and our family, are better from having interacted with her." Read more at autismsociety-nc.org/andrea-miller-weir-roman-award.

Jo Herring and Karen Pullom named 2023 McCrimmon Award Winners

Named for long-time Autism Society of North Carolina staff member, Ed McCrimmon, this award celebrates others like Ed who give their heart and soul to provide critical care to individuals with autism. Sponsored by Rob and Jennifer Christian, two direct support professionals received the award in 2023: Jo Herring and Karen Pullom.



Of **Jo Herring**, Christie Nuckolls said "Jo is an angel on earth. Her dedication to my son has made our family run so much better. With three teenage boys, Jo's help has enriched all our lives... She is amazing and very deserving of this award."

In nominating **Karen Pullom** for the award, Bill Jarrett shared several examples of how Karen goes above and beyond in her work with his son, saying: "Karen enriches Alejandro's life by advocating for him and making an effort to find creative ways for Alejandro to learn and enjoy himself."



To learn more, visit:

autismsociety-nc.org/herring-pullom-mccrimmon-award

Join our team!

Do you know someone who is enthusiastic about helping others? We are hiring for positions across North Carolina. Training is provided and both full-time and part-time positions are available. Learn more on our website at autismsociety-nc.org/careers.



Recognize Your ASNC Direct Support Professional

Join us in celebrating all support staff during Direct Support Professional Recognition Week, September 8-14, 2024.

Do you have an ASNC direct support professional who regularly goes above and beyond? Have they had a significant impact on you, your loved one, your family, and the community? Recognize their excellence by nominating them for the John and Claudia Roman Direct Service Award. This award honors an Autism Society of North Carolina direct support professional who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to individuals with autism and their families.

Lori and Gregg Ireland endowed the John and Claudia Roman Direct Service Award to honor Christine Roman, the direct support professional who worked with their son, Vinnie. It was named for her parents, John and Claudia Roman.

Please complete the nomination form at autismsociety-nc.org/Roman-Award or use the QR code below by August 30.



Scan the QR code to complete the nomination form.

Camp Royall



It was another wonderful summer at Camp Royall this year with hundreds of overnight campers gaining greater confidence and independence as they enjoyed fun activities and made new friends.

Thank you to the many people who worked so hard to make camp a success this summer. The dedication of our staff, lifeguards, activity directors, and counselors is second-to-none. It is their enthusiasm and commitment that makes Camp Royall the joyful and memorable experience it is for our campers.

A special thank you to our generous Camp Royall donors who provide the resources for camper scholarships and camp programming. Thanks to you, more campers and their families benefit from a transformational Camp Royall experience. We are so grateful for your support.

Registration for 2025 Programs

Online registration for the Camp Royall Summer Camp lottery is available November 1, 2024, through January 15, 2025. This schedule allows us to notify families in early February about placement and scholarship awards, and we hope makes it easier for families to make their summer plans.

Registration for all other 2025 programs also opens on November 1; however, that registration closes on December 15, 2024, allowing for notification about placements in early January. After the registration period ends, families are still able to apply for our waitlists.

Financial assistance

To ensure that children and adults of all income levels can participate in camp, we offer financial assistance through

our camp scholarships. If you are unable to pay the full cost of camp, please complete the Scholarship Assistance Application on our registration website at camproyall.org. Partial scholarships are awarded according to available funds and are based on income as well as other family and financial circumstances. We also offer a six-month payment plan to assist families with their budgeting.



Support Camp Royall

If you would like to provide life-improving and inspiring experiences for campers with autism, please consider making a gift at autismsociety-nc.org/donate. Please contact Kristy White, Chief Development Officer, at kwhite@autismsociety-nc.org or 919-865-5086, if you would like to learn more about ways to give to Camp Royall.

Help with supplies

Camp Royall always needs supplies to keep camp operating smoothly. If you are interested in donating supplies to

Camp Royall, please check out our Amazon wish list: bit.ly/CampRoyallWishlist.

Join the Camp Royall staff

We are eager to meet hard-working, passionate people who are looking to provide service and make a difference in the lives of individuals with autism. Working at Camp Royall is a life-changing experience filled with fun, friendship, and a great sense of accomplishment. Staff training is provided so everyone is prepared and supported in their work at Camp Royall. If you or someone you know is interested in working at Camp Royall, please visit camproyall.org to learn more. ■

Building Connections, Building Skills

The eastern North Carolina Social Recreation programs have been busy again this year. Located in Newport, Wilmington, and Winterville, each year-round program offers children and adults with autism after-school, camp, and adult programming in a caring and accepting environment where everyone is celebrated and valued.

The Social Recreation experience is personalized for each participant and focused on individual skill-building goals like learning to follow a schedule, how to address bullying, self-care, social and communication skills, and others. Learning can take place in one-on-one settings with staff or in larger group settings through structured age and developmentally-appropriate activities like arts and crafts, cooking class, yoga, water play, music and motion, and field trips.

This year, Social Recreation enjoyed hosting events like the Wilmington Fall Festival and the Newport and Winterville Trunk or Treat events—all open to Social Recreation clients, their families, and the general public, making for a festive and fun community-building opportunity. Friendsgiving celebrations, holiday parties, and a Valentine's Date Night giving extra respite to caregivers, were also part of the year's activities. Field trips offering the chance to explore new experiences included visits to water parks, a dairy farm for fresh homemade ice cream, a video game truck, and more. Winterville clients enjoyed a visit from service dog Deputy Drifter, while Newport clients visited the Lynwood Park Zoo. Wilmington's Social Recreation partnership with Paws4People, a service-dog nonprofit, provided

opportunities for clients to volunteer as dog walkers, help with dog supply drives, and other activities.

Thanks to activities and experiences provided through our Social Recreation programs, individuals improve their social and communication skills, peer networks, and physical wellbeing. They show increases in confidence, independence, and a willingness to try new things. The programs also provide needed respite for families and peace of mind that their loved one is in a safe and loving environment. "Social Recreation gives individuals with autism the chance to experience typical afterschool, camp, or other enrichment activities," says Social Recreation Services Director Austyn Suits, "while getting the supports they need to learn, grow, and have fun." ■



About Social Recreation

The Autism Society of North Carolina's Social Recreation programs in eastern North Carolina serve individuals ages 4-22, throughout the summer and school year, in addition to year-round programming for adults 18 and up. Residents of counties served by Trillium Health

Resources are eligible to attend. Applications are considered on a rolling basis throughout the year, based upon program capacity. To complete an interest form, please visit autismsociety-nc.org/socialrec.

You can also email the area director for more information:

Newport:

SRP_Newport@autismsociety-nc.org

Wilmington:

SRP_Wilmington@autismsociety-nc.org

Winterville:

SRP_Winterville@autismsociety-nc.org

L.I.F.E. in Practice

The Autism Society of North Carolina's IGNITE program empowers young adults with autism to achieve greater independence in their lives with programming focused on four key areas of growth: health and wellness, social skills, employment, and independent living. Through activities, skills training, and workshops, IGNITE equips members for success in social settings, finances, education, and at work. This past

semester, the L.I.F.E. in Practice groups (a.k.a. Lifestyles, Investments, Food, and Exercise) tackled practical units on car care management and apartment living, both designed to help members grow their independence. Unlike traditional video lessons, all three IGNITE L.I.F.E. groups took to the road to learn through unique hands-on experiences.



GREENSBORO

Julianne Kluk, Program Director

IGNITE Greensboro visited Guilford Technical Community College for a class on car maintenance followed by a tour of the school's car lab where members watched as automotive experts changed a car's oil and performed other basic car maintenance. While the noises and smells were a little overwhelming at times and seeing a car high up on the risers was a little intimidating, members warmed up to the experience, asking very good questions and ultimately helping with tire changes and checking dashboard alerts.

The experience helped members see firsthand how to manage basic car care and understand how important it is not to neglect your vehicle. For those members who may have some anxiety about driving, the trip provided more knowledge that hopefully will help them feel less anxious when they are ready to begin driving. Some of the members who do drive were encouraged to do more for themselves and not rely solely on their parents to help with car maintenance.



RALEIGH

Dianna Padilla, Program Director

IGNITE Raleigh visited the new Hendrick Center for Automotive Excellence at Wake Technical Community College. More than 15 members toured the 16,500-square-foot automotive systems lab to learn about how to change a tire, check fluids under the hood, and more. Larry Dodd, father of Larissa Dodd, IGNITE Raleigh's Program Coordinator, offered a hands-on workshop after the tour. Members were able to try every step of the tire-changing process, from placing the jack correctly to replacing and tightening the lug nuts.

The experience helped drivers and non-drivers to feel more confident about handling basic car care. It was especially good to see more timid members encouraged by their peers to engage in the experience and then see their smiles and confidence grow as they worked side by side to help each other.



DAVIDSON

Alicia Lenhart, Program Director

IGNITE Davidson received some car-care training with special guest instructors at their IGNITE center, but the members' favorite L.I.F.E. in Practice unit was the apartment tour. During this hands-on experience members met with leasing agents to learn how to fill out leasing agreements. They also learned about amenities and the cost responsibilities associated with living in an apartment. There was a lot of discussion about roommates and roommate agreements and home maintenance tasks like changing lightbulbs or replacing air filters.

All in all, whether changing a tire or filling out a lease agreement, these experiences helped members not only develop new skills, but challenged them to build greater confidence, support each other, and feel proud of themselves for trying something new and different.



Igniting Community

In addition to the skill building experiences and activities offered through IGNITE, all three IGNITE community centers also provide members with a social environment where members can connect with others and experience a sense of community. This year, a trip to the North Carolina Zoo was an opportunity for members from all three centers to spend time together, make new friends, and expand their community.

In addition to regular meet-ups, each center offers a wide range of activities and social outings. Some highlights this year included Greensboro members heading to an escape room experience and visiting the Greensboro Science Center; Davidson IGNITE members enjoying a family potluck picnic, Valentine's and St. Patrick's Day parties, and kart racing at the PIT; in Raleigh IGNITE members got a disc golf lesson at Premier Disc Golf Academy, visited the Cary Police Department and met a new K9 friend named Clyde, and more.

"I now have confidence and skills to talk to others, do new things, and to feel good about myself."

—IGNITE Member

About IGNITE

IGNITE is a unique peer-to-peer community center for young adults with autism transitioning into adulthood. Young autistic adults with low support needs who are at least 18 years-old, have recently graduated from high school with their diploma, who are looking for ways to become involved

in the community and increase their independence are invited to apply for membership to an IGNITE community center in Davidson, Greensboro, or Raleigh. Candidates must be their own guardian. Those with limited guardianship will be considered on an individual basis. Likely candidates will have a desire

to participate, the ability to work in a group, and possess beginning independence skills. For more information visit autismsociety-nc.org/ignite.

Support Groups: The who, what, and how

Support Groups create spaces where autistic individuals and their families gather, are accepted, and find belonging. What could be better than having a safe space to simply be ourselves? Support Groups continually demonstrate their own unique and community-driven focus in all that they do—no group is the same. ASNC Support Groups are open to all with no membership applications, no fees, no attendance requirements.

We gather together for person-to-person and family-to-family support, education, and autism awareness in North Carolina communities across the state. Many Support Group activities are planned in conjunction with remarkable community partners that help coordinate and innovate opportunities to increase autism awareness and support individuals on the spectrum—partners like local restaurants, churches, schools, and colleges.

Our Support Groups Specialists and Support Group Leaders are happy to help you find or even host activities and events that meet you where you are and support your needs and interests. Planning for the coming year is already under way, so if you are not yet involved with a Support Group, now is the perfect time to join and connect with others who are passionate about autism, supporting one another, and accomplishing great things together.

NEW! Social Meet-Ups

In 2023, we introduced Meet-Ups! Meet-Ups are social in nature, and most are pay-your-own-way events. For children, teens and some adults, Meet-Ups are like other Support Group events and parents stay with their children. Some Meet-Ups are for autistic adults only.

Meet-Ups are especially helpful to Support Group Leaders as they can be age specific or interest specific, do not distinguish functioning levels, and provide social connections among groups with similar journeys or interests (i.e., newly diagnosed families, teen/tweens, autistic adults, etc.) Activities can range from fun family events like Popsicles in the Park to informational and educational training like an ASNC Conference Recap to social opportunities for autistic adults with food and games at a local brewery.

Leaders, specialists, and hosts work together to organize Meet-Ups, with hosts planning the logistics, and the Support Groups Specialists helping to get the word out. Meet-Up hosts are present during their event, greet families, and facilitate the sign-in process.

Get Connected

- Find a Support Group in your area by visiting our Support Groups page at autismsociety-nc.org/find-chaptersupport-group.
- Learn more about helping us to start a Support Group near you by emailing Marty Kellogg at mkellogg@autismsociety-nc.org.
- Visit our calendar page to register for a Support Groups Volunteer Interest Meeting at autismsociety-nc.org/calendar.
- Stay in the loop by visiting our Support Groups page at autismsociety-nc.org/find-chaptersupport-group.

Our Team

Our appreciation for and dedication to the success of each volunteer and Support Group keeps us busy. Our staff continue to grow to meet the needs of our Support Groups community. ■



From Left to Right Back row:

Mariela Maldonado (Senior Hispanic Outreach and Support Coordinator), Meleah Lowe (Support Groups Specialist), Amy Vanwyk (Support Groups Specialist)

Front row: Virginia “Ginny” Hall (Support Groups Specialist), Lauren Buhrmaster (Support Groups Specialist), Marty Kellogg (Support Groups Coordinator). Photographer: Courtney Chavis (Support Groups Director)

Alcance y actividades hispanas



Recursos y eventos para familias hispanas

El programa de Alcance comunitario y Apoyo Hispano brinda apoyo en español mediante recursos, orientación en el sistema escolar y servicios en la casa, Grupos de apoyo Hispano, seminarios web y campañas de sensibilización sobre el autismo en la comunidad en todo el estado de Carolina del Norte.

Página web en español

autismsociety-nc.org/recursos-en-espanol

Nuestra página de **Recursos en Español** incluye una lista de seminarios web, Grupos de Apoyo, videos educativos acerca de agendas visuales y manejo de la conducta, así como narrativas sociales, kits de herramientas, programas de ASNC y recursos de los servicios en casa y la comunidad.

Grupos de Apoyo Hispano

Ofrecemos reuniones en persona en Charlotte, el condado de Wake, el condado de Durham, Triad (Greensboro/HighPoint/Winston-Salem) y Fayetteville. Los facilitadores junto con los líderes de los Grupos de Apoyo Hispano en cada región organizan reuniones presenciales, eventos de sensibilización, celebraciones culturales y recaudación de fondos para programas en español. Si está interesado en liderar un grupo de apoyo en su área, contáctenos al 919-480-6975 o mmaldonado@autismsociety-nc.org.

Zumba por el Autismo

La Zumba se ha convertido en la actividad favorita de la comunidad hispana. Esta disciplina deportiva al ritmo de música latina como merengue, sala y bachata reúne a familias con sus hijos de todas las edades mientras recauda dinero para las actividades que ofrece el Departamento de Atención y Apoyo Hispano como becas para la Conferencia

Anual de Autismo y actividades en cada región. Para obtener más información sobre Zumba y si desea organizar una Zumba en su área, comuníquese al 919-480-6975 o mmaldonado@autismsociety-nc.org.

Actualización de Medicaid: planes personalizados y servicios 1915i

Carolina del Norte ahora brinda nuevos servicios a personas con Medicaid que tienen una discapacidad intelectual y/o del desarrollo (I/DD), incluido el autismo, así como a personas con problemas de salud mental y trastornos por uso de sustancias. Los servicios del 1915i incluyen:

- Servicios en la comunidad y apoyo (CLS): Apoyo en el hogar y en la comunidad.
- Transición comunitaria: apoyos que ayudan a alguien a realizar la transición de un entorno a otro.
- Apoyo para el cuidado (relevo): Este servicio ofrece un descanso para los cuidadores.
- Apoyo para el empleo: Preparar a una persona para trabajar, encontrar empleo y mantenerlo.
- Servicios de coordinación (Care Manager)

Para recibir estos servicios, debe estar inscrito en un plan personalizado con un proveedor (Alliance, Vaya, Partners Health o Trillium). Comuníquese con uno de nuestros Especialistas en Recursos para el Autismo para obtener más información sobre los recursos en su área y cómo acceder a los servicios en Carolina del Norte llamando en español al 919-865-5066 o visitando este enlace: autismsociety-nc.org/recursos-en-espanol. ■

Próximos eventos en la comunidad hispana

Picnic Hispano: septiembre de 2024

Zumba por el Autismo: octubre y noviembre 2024

Celebración de Acción de gracias: noviembre 2024

Celebración de Navidad: diciembre 2024

Celebración de la Amistad: febrero 2025

Conferencia Anual de ASNC: marzo 2025

Mes de Concientización del Autismo: abril 2025

Conferencia Hispana: mayo 2025 ***Nuevo evento***

Fall and Spring Run/Walks for Autism for the Win!

A big thank you to all the participants, volunteers, and sponsors who made the Fall 2023 Run/Walk and Spring 2024 Run/Walk events so successful. More than 2,500 people participated in our fall Run/Walk events in Asheville, Greensboro, and Raleigh; and more than 1,700 people participated in our spring Run/Walk events in Greenville, Wilmington, and Beaufort. Combined, these six events raised \$417,000 to benefit local Autism of North Carolina programs and improve the lives of individuals with autism and support their families. Check out the fun photos from these events on our Flickr page: [flickr.com/photos/autismsocietync/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/autismsocietync/albums).



Save the Date for 2024 Fall Run/Walks

From the mountains to the coast, we invite you to join us for this fall's Run/Walk for Autism events and help make a real difference in your community by supporting individuals with autism and their families.

Did you know, as many as 1 in 36 children in North Carolina may be diagnosed with autism? The Autism Society of North Carolina provides people on the autism spectrum with statewide programs, education, and support not available anywhere else. The Run/Walk events directly support these local programs and services and help the Autism Society of

North Carolina to fulfill its mission to improve lives, support families, and educate communities. Run/Walk participants can choose to participate in person or virtually, which is a great option for friends and family across the country who want to be part of your team and help fundraise.

Online registration and more information available using the QR code or here:

RunWalkforAutism.com



WNC Run/Walk for Autism

Saturday, Sept. 14
Bill Moore Community Park
Fletcher

Triad Run/Walk for Autism

Saturday, Sept. 28
Jaycee Park
Greensboro

Triangle Run/Walk for Autism

Saturday, Oct. 12
Halifax Mall
Raleigh



JOIN US TODAY!



AmeriCarna LIVE

Thousands of car lovers attended the 11th annual AmeriCarna LIVE Car Show in Davidson, NC, on November 25, 2023. Ray Evernham, of NASCAR's Hall of Fame and founder of IGNITE, hosted the event which raised more than \$300,000 for the Autism Society of North Carolina's IGNITE program. IGNITE offers young autistic adults with activities, skills training, and educational workshops that foster social, financial, educational, and employment independence for its members. Join the fun at the 12th Annual AmeriCarna LIVE event on Saturday, November 30, 2024!



Catwalk to Camp

It was another incredible evening at Catwalk to Camp on April 11, 2024, as guests enjoyed words of wisdom from guest speaker Dave Doeren, a talent show with performances by loved ones with autism, a gourmet dinner, and more. The exciting live auction combined with the generosity of donors and sponsors alike helped to raise more than \$350,000 in support of Camp Royall scholarships and programming—promising a transformational summer of fun and friendship for campers.



Wilmington Gala

Spirits were high at the Wilmington Gala on May 16, 2024. From inspiring words from guest speaker Daniel Wendler to entertainment from the Hatch Brothers, a delicious dinner, and thrilling live auction, it was an evening to remember at the Country Club of Landfall. Thanks to the generosity of our guests, donors, and sponsors, more than \$150,000 was raised for Wilmington-area individuals with autism and their families. Mark your calendar for next year's Wilmington Gala on Thursday, May 8, 2025.



Camp Royall Golf Tournament

The Camp Royall Classic was a hole in one as 124 golfers hit the course at Governors Club in Chapel Hill on May 6, 2024. Players not only enjoyed a great round of golf on the beautiful Jack Nicklaus Signature course, but they also raised \$45,000 in support of Camp Royall. Thanks to their participation, more kids with autism had an amazing summer at camp this year. Save the date for next year's Camp Royall Golf Tournament on Monday, May 5, 2025!



Making a Difference

Each year volunteers around the state host fundraisers to benefit the Autism Society of North Carolina (ASNC). They rally friends, families, and colleagues to attend unique events or donate proceeds from the sale of various items—it all starts with an idea.

From Facebook fundraisers, which raised more than \$26,000 in 2023-2024, to school dress-down days, corn mazes, golf events, 5K races, and more, ASNC is grateful to the many individuals and businesses that hold fundraisers to support families affected by autism.

Aces for Autism Fundraiser
23rd Group, LLC
Amazon CLT3, CLT5, & CLT9
AmazonSmile Foundation
AMRAP4Autism
Beta Delta Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority
Bonfire Funds
Books For Good, Inc., Lynn Vorys
Brier Creek Elementary School
Brunswick Beer XChange
Byrd & Bear 5K for Autism Awareness
CADCO Construction Company, Golf Tournament
Carolina Hurricanes Foundation
Charity On Top Foundation, Inc.
Cotton Hayes Birthday Fundraiser
Craft Public House
Credit Suisse Auction Fundraiser
CrossFit Asheboro
CustomInk.com
Di Fara Pizza Tavern
Dirtbag Ales Brewery & Taproom
Divergent Goods Pop-Up Market & Fundraiser,
Sabel Fantini
East Coast Winter Wonderland & Jingle Ball
Facebook
Flyin High Kingz Motorcycle Club
Fortitude Roofing Company
Give Lively Foundation, Inc.
Givinga Foundation, Inc.
Goodcoin Giving
Gray's Creek High School, Autism Awareness Night
Hendersonville High School
Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School, Dress Down Day
Huckleberry Trail Farm
Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Jeans & Joggers Day
ISPE-CaSA Technology Conference
J.McLaughlin
Keller Williams Realty Garner Platinum Group, Tim Bilbo
Klara Kouture
LAMB Foundation of North Carolina,
Tootsie Roll Fundraiser
Leith, Inc.

Light of the Future Foundation, 5K Run/Walk
NC Rock Autism Music Festival, DiAnna & Daniel Jordan
NC Zoological Society, Inc.
Nithi Vechalapu Birthday Fundraiser
O2 Fitness Zumbathon
Ontic Engineering & MFG Inc.
Pampered Chef
PayPal Giving Fund
Portia 'Incredible' Boyce's 2024 Hoka Hey Rider #1233
Project Safe & Sound, Keith Goyette
Queens Grant Charter School
Raleigh Elks Lodge No. 735, Golf Tournament
Reed Sanderson, Reed's Coop Egg Fundraiser
REEDS Jewelers of NC, Inc.,
Embrace the Difference Fundraiser
Rib-off Champion, Glen Valentine
River Mill Academy, Change for Change fundraiser
Robert Whitehill
Rock the Spectrum Band Showcase & Fundraiser
Rockism for Autism Music Festival, Tim Morris
Seventy-First Classical Middle School
Sparkly Girls Fairy Hair, Devon Bartholomew
St. Matthew Catholic School, N.U.T.S. Fundraiser
The ComedyWorx Council, LLC
The House of Awareness Fundraiser
The Kongu Family
The Soap Bakerz, Buff Gives Back
TisBest Philanthropy
Trinity High School
Tuna Run 2023, Team Brew Tang Clan
UKOGF Foundation
UNC Football, TeamAutismNC.com
Under The Umbrella Thrift Store
Upstate Racing, LLC
USG Ceiling Plus
Victory Martial Arts
West Buncombe Elementary PTA
Wingmen Motorcycle Club, Autism Rally Fundraiser
Woman's Club of Dunn Inc.
Yoga & Wellness of High Point fundraiser, Karen Altenpohl

If you are interested in hosting your own fundraiser, please contact Michael Hooker at mhooker@autismsociety-nc.org or 919-749-0621.

Event Sponsors . . . we thank you

We thank the following sponsors of our fall 2023 and spring 2024 events; these events would not be possible without them. Please support these businesses and thank them for helping to improve the lives of individuals with autism and their loved ones.

Platinum Level



Gold Level



Visionary Level



Champion Level



Cyndi and Ron McNeill



McCumbee Family

MEDIA TWO
Ad boldly.™

Selby Family



Partner Level

A Caring Heart Case Management, Inc.	Fleet Feet, Asheville	Oowee Products	Vaya Health
Arden Premier Dentistry	Fleet Feet, Greenville	Pirate Pediatrics	We Rock the Spectrum Kids Gym, Asheville
Biscuitville	Fleet Feet, Wilmington	Pirate Radio	We Rock the Spectrum Kids Gym, Cary
Clinic for Special Children	Frank Door Company	Pitt County Group Homes Foundation	WECT TV6 Wilmington
CopyPro	Franklin Farms	PNC Bank	Western Carteret Medical Center
Diamonds Direct	Grady-White Boats	Rock Solid Warrior	White & Johnson Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics
Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 26 Havelock	Grinz Orthodontics	Shoebox Tasks, Centering on Children	Wilmington Health
Eaton	Lotus Infusion and Wellness	Skaggs Family	
Family Eye Care	Mission Children's Hospital	Triangle Family Magazine	
	New Bern Family Eye Care	Triangle Wealth Management	
	Novant Health		

Advocate Level

5 th Street Hardware Restaurant & Taproom	Carolina Therapy Connection	Guy C. Lee Building Materials	Physicians East
Alliance One	Carteret County Farm Bureau	Intracoast Realty, Mandy Bobo	Raleigh Neurology Associates
Antique Tobacco Barn	Chick-fil-A, South Asheville	JoCo Plumbing NC	Raleigh Pediatric Dentistry
Asbury Associates	Children's Health Services	Kelly Office Solutions	Rudy's Furniture Warehouse
Bagelman Bagels, Greenville	Cornerstone Physical Therapy, Inc.	Kennedy Kreations	Seaside Bagels
Biggers Market	Creative Blessings Photography	Landura Property Management	Skyland Fire Department
Bradford Products, LLC	Culligan Water, Wilmington	McKinney Immigration Law	Snap-On Tools
Capital City Chapter Jack and Jill of America, Inc.	Dunkin' Donuts, Beaufort	Noble & Company Realty	Starbucks
Carolina Pediatrics of the Triad	East Coast Contracting	North State Steel	Sutton Photography
Carolina Pediatrics of Wilmington	Elite Sign Services	Northwest Pediatrics	The Hop
	Fleet Feet, Raleigh/Morrisville	NuBlue Electric-Plumbing-Air	Trent Cadillac Buick GMC
		Pediatric Possibilities	Western Wake Pediatrics
		Pepsi	

Friend Level

Bruegger's Bagels	J. Morgan Design Associates, Inc.	PorterHouse Burger Company	Triad Moms on Main
Carteret-Craven Electric Co-op	Lionheart Academy of the Triad	Red Fish Grill	Wilmington Police Recreation Association
Catherine and John Faherty	Margaret Rudd & Associates, Inc., Realtors	Southern Bank, Will Barnes	Wirth Chiropractic & Active Living Center
Chick-fil-A, Brassfield	P.O.W.E.R of Play	Stepp's Hillcrest Orchard	YMCA - Greensboro
Chick-fil-A, Morehead City		The Fresh Market, Greenville	
Fleet Feet, Greensboro		Triad Coordinated Services	

Thank You!

The Autism Society of North Carolina would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our donors. While we appreciate every gift, we have limited the donation list to Honorarium/Memorial gifts in the interest of space and printing costs. Thank you for your tremendous support.

This list reflects donations received on or between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Please contact Beverly Gill if you have any questions or corrections at 919-865-5056 or bgill@autismsociety-nc.org.

Honorariums

Erlinda Abella <i>Julie Abella</i>	Leo Claire <i>Fortitude Roofing Company</i>	Nolan Galliher <i>Rosie Adams</i>
Savannah Albright <i>Walbridge Southeast</i>	<i>Sean Claire</i>	Kye Reven Garland <i>Thomas Talbert</i>
Dawn Allen <i>Elaine & Chet Gurski</i>	Luke Cleary <i>David Eller</i>	Jonas Cole Gedmintas <i>Deborah Cole</i>
Dana Alley <i>Joshua Alley</i>	Hudson Cook <i>Sunny & Benjamin Cook</i>	Mike Gerard <i>Tom Nugent</i>
<i>Lizzy & Scott Brown</i>	Shelby Cook <i>Teena Roeder</i>	The Charlotte Gilman <i>Nina & Dr. Paul Gilman</i>
Jaime Alvarez <i>Prof. Joseph Sadighi</i>	Matthew Cookson <i>Mindy & Tom Storrie</i>	Aiden Goff <i>Vivian Goff</i>
Jean Alvarez <i>Prof. Joseph Sadighi</i>	Coop-a-loop <i>Jess Carlos</i>	Smith Golding <i>Jenny & Daniel Barnes</i>
Fiona Balderson <i>Dr. & Mrs. Alfred Demaria</i>	Samuel Cummings <i>Jo Anne & RJ Cummings</i>	Violet Gonzalez <i>Nadia Gonzalez Guerrero</i>
Dwayne Ballen <i>Womble Bond Dickinson</i>	Jenna Darby <i>Josh Kanoy</i>	Owen Goodwin <i>Hollin & John Goodwin</i>
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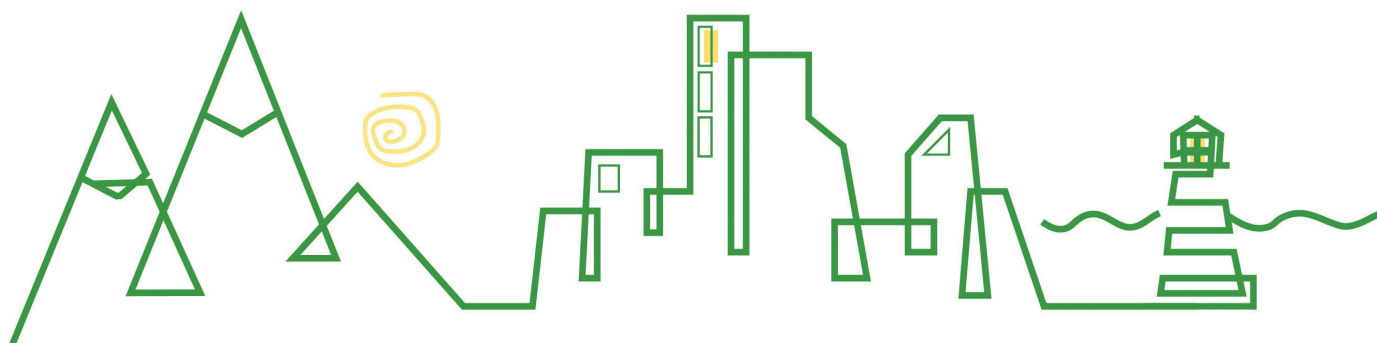
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