



Into the Light

13th Annual 5K Run/Walk for Autism Wrap Up

The Annual Autism 5K Run/Walk was once again a huge success!! In all, 1533 runners/walkers and 92 teams were registered! Teams and individual fundraisers, along with sponsors, raised over \$119,000 and still counting!! Thank you for helping make our largest event of the year so successful! We would like to congratulate and recognize the following:

Runners:

- Fastest Overall Female: Lisa Willingham
- Fastest Overall Male: John Hazelton

Team Awards:

- Don Mayfield Spirit Award: Jogging for Jared
- Largest Team: Jogging for Jared
- Best T-Shirt: The Golden Eagles

Highest Fundraising Team: Team bELleve

Highest Fundraising Individual: Jennifer Barnum

Top 5 Individual Fundraisers:

1. Jennifer Barnum
2. Evan Jenkins
3. Paul Warner
4. Sam Hulcher
5. Dilshad Ali



Top 5 Fundraising Teams:

1. Team bELleve
2. Matt Adores
3. Jogging for Jared
4. Team BFF
5. Walking with Wyatt

Top 5 Teams in Terms of Size:

1. Jogging for Jared – 97 team members
2. TCMS NJHS – 79 team members
3. You, Me and Lil D – 59 team members
4. Team bELleve – 48 team members
5. Team Elite – 44 team members



Mission

To improve the lives of all affected by autism by maximizing the self-sufficiency, independence, and quality of life for all living with autism.

Vision

We are the local voice and resource of the autism community in education, advocacy, services, and support, committed to meaningful participation and self-determination in all aspects of life for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families.

Any age. Any stage.

Donate

Your gift will help support autism education, awareness, advocacy and most importantly, enable us to assist families and individuals living with autism in our community. You can help by making a donation today!

BOARD OFFICERS

President: Bill Thompson

Treasurer: Adam Bailey, CPA

Meeting Secretary: Shawn Kirk

BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Bess Bolin

Katherine Gray, Esq.

Ashley Payne, Esq.

Donna Sabel, Ed.D.

Paul Warner

STAFF

Executive Director: Becky Boswell, MBA

Program Director: Bradford Hulcher

Outreach Coordinator: Tammy Burns

Recreational Facilitator: Brie King

This newsletter is a publication of: Autism Society Central Virginia.
200 South 3rd Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 257-0192

We accept for consideration any comments, personal vignettes, book reviews, information, announcements, or advertisements for publication in our newsletter. The deadline for submission for the September newsletter is August 15. You may send your contributions to the above address or email contributions to info@ascv.org.

The Autism Society Central Virginia does not endorse nor promote any program or service provider. The information contained in this newsletter is provided for informational purposes only. The Society is a 501(c)3 organization providing information, support, and encouragement to individuals with autism, their families, and professionals in the Central Virginia area.

This edition was edited by ASCV staff.



From Our Executive Director

Are you interested in “Getting on Board”?

There are many different ways in which to volunteer for nonprofit organizations. The ASCV uses volunteers for every program, activity, and event that we host or sponsor. We are always looking for high school and adult volunteers to help with registration at meetings/programs, for childcare, at Lego/Game Club and bowling, for the 5K, on committees, and the list goes on ... Individuals interested in volunteering can contact our Outreach Coordinator, Tammy Burns, at outreach@ascv.org and she can provide details on the current opportunities available at any time.

But the ASCV, like all non-profits, could not function without a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors. We are currently seeking new Board Members who share our mission ***to improve the lives of All affected by autism in our community***. We are specifically looking for individuals who are passionate about and understand the expectations of Board service; have experience in the finance, accounting, marketing, fundraising, or legal fields; and who can contribute to our nonprofit organization in a meaningful way. Board Members direct the work and the strategic direction of the organization in alignment with our mission; help identify funding sources and ensure that the ASCV has adequate resources for operations; and lead various committees, including Scholarship, Outreach, Finance, Board Development & Governance, and the 5K Run/Walk. If you or someone you know might be interested in meeting to discuss the opportunity or in getting more information, please contact Mary Bess Bolin, Board Development & Governance Chair, at boarddevelopment@ascv.org.

Thanks as always for the many ways you support our work and for serving as an ambassador for the ASCV in our community.

All the Best,

Becky

Becky Boswell, MBA
Executive Director
director@ascv.org



NEWS FROM THE AUTISM SOCIETY CENTRAL VIRGINIA BOARD

In June the Autism Society Central Virginia worked to fulfill our mission to "improve the lives of all affected by autism" in the following ways:

Services and Supports

- Sponsored a Sensory Friendly Movie in collaboration with the Byrd Theatre
- Sponsored Inclusive Lego and Game Clubs
- Sponsored Bowling Leagues for children, teens, and adults
- Sponsored Adults with Asperger's Interest Group
- Sponsored Parents of Adults with Asperger's Support Group
- Sponsored ASCV Night with the Flying Squirrels
- Sponsored An Evening at Katie and Friends Playground

Awareness

- Exhibited at the Fort Lee Special Needs Resource Fair

ADDITIONAL HOUSING VOUCHERS AVAILABLE JULY 1ST

The purpose of the housing choice voucher set-aside is to provide opportunities for individuals in the DOJ target population to move into independent rental housing, with supports as needed, from institutions, ICF-IDD's, nursing homes, group homes, their family's home, etc. In December of 2014, several local young adults with autism were among those statewide who received a voucher in the first round of voucher set-asides and were able to move into apartments of their own!

Beginning July 1, 2015, the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) is planning to make an additional 65 housing choice vouchers available to people in the DOJ target population. These vouchers will be available to individuals who are referred to VHDA by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS).

All referrals must be submitted using the referral form found at http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/library/document-library/dds_dbhds%20referral%20form.pdf, dated 1/23/15. The form must be completely filled out and be signed by both the individual being referred and the professional making the referral. Generally, the professional would be the individual's waiver case manager.

Please note that DBHDS will not make referrals for people who are: 1) not in the target population, 2) not at least 18 years of age or older, 3) already living in their own housing, or 4) planning to live with a parent(s), grandparent(s) or a legal guardian. Additional information in the form of an FAQ can be found here:

http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/library/document-library/dds_32%20set_aside_vouchers_faq.pdf

This July and August, the Autism Society Central VA will sponsor or participate in the following events. All events take place at River Road UMC, 8800 River Rd, Henrico, unless otherwise specified. For information: 257-0192 or info@ascv.org.

7/11	10 am	Inclusive Lego & Game Club – Chester , details and registration: https://legoclubchesterjuly.eventbrite.com
7/12	2 pm	Sensory Friendly Movie at the Byrd Theatre, Carytown
7/21	6 pm	Sibshop ; register at http://ascv.org/meetings-events/sibshops/
7/25	10 am	Inclusive Lego & Game Club – Downtown details and registration: http://downtownjulylego.eventbrite.com
7/27	7 pm	Adults with Asperger's/HFA Interest Group (open only to adults with Asperger's/HFA)
7/27	7 pm	Parents of Adults with Asperger's Group
8/01	10 am	Inclusive Lego & Game Club – Chester , details and registration: http://legochecheraug.eventbrite.com
8/06	6 pm	Katie and Friends Playground Outing details and registration: http://augkatiefriends.eventbrite.com
8/15	2 pm	Sensory Friendly Movie at the Byrd Theatre, Carytown
8/24	7 pm	Adults with Asperger's/HFA Interest Group (open only to adults with Asperger's/HFA)
8/24	7 pm	Parents of Adults with Asperger's Group
8/29	10 am	Inclusive Lego & Game Club – Downtown details and registration: http://augdowntownlego.eventbrite.com

**AUTISM
SOCIETY
CENTRAL
VIRGINIA**

**JULY &
AUGUST
CALENDAR**

THANK YOU

The Board and Staff of the ASCV would like to recognize these Board members who retired from the ASCV Board in 2015: Nate Harry, Chele Brandon, Angie Dykes, Tim Jones, Sandi Wiley, and Norm Geller. We truly appreciate their dedication to the ASCV through their years of Board service.

Thank you!

JULY/AUGUST COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- 7/03 **Special Night for Special Needs** at Children's Museum Chesterfield; 5:30 pm, for info: <http://www.c-mor.org/events/special-nights>
- 7/07 **Jumpology** special needs night; <http://www.jumpology.us/Calendar>
- 7/09 **Richmond Asperger's Meet-Up** <http://www.meetup.com/aspergers-397/>
- 7/11 **Game on Aspergers** from 2-4 pm at the Clover Hill Public Library (small meeting room), 6701 Deer Run Drive, Midlothian. Adults 18 and older with Asperger's have fun playing games and hanging out. Free. Info: 804-335-6634 or willkir77@gmail.com
- 7/21 **West End/ Northern Chesterfield Asperger's Meet-Up** <http://www.meetup.com/aspergers-397/>
- 7/21 **Monkey Joe's Special Needs Night** from 5 pm-7 pm; kids ages 2-12 with special needs free; closed to public; siblings welcome \$5; info 897-5867
- 7/25 **Game on Aspergers** see 7/11 info above for details
- 8/04 **Jumpology** special needs night; <http://www.jumpology.us/Calendar>
- 8/07 **Special Night for Special Needs** at Children's Museum Chesterfield; 5:30 pm, for info: <http://www.c-mor.org/events/special-nights>
- 8/08 **Game on Aspergers** see 7/11 info above for details
- 8/13 **Richmond Asperger's Meet-Up** <http://www.meetup.com/aspergers-397/>
- 8/18 **West End/ Northern Chesterfield Asperger's Meet-Up** <http://www.meetup.com/aspergers-397/>
- 8/18 **Monkey Joe's Special Needs Night** from 5 pm-7 pm; kids ages 2-12 with special needs free; closed to public; siblings welcome \$5; info 897-5867
- 8/22 **Game on Aspergers** see 7/11 info above for details

SUMMER TRAVEL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

All around the country, the Autism Society and its affiliate network are helping families adjust to the summer months. For some individuals living with autism, the challenges of having a summer full of fun and recreation can be difficult, especially if it involves travel. And for some parents, summer travel requires intensive planning and preparation to ensure an accommodating and positive experience for everyone. Here is a short list of autism travel resources contributed by our affiliates and organizational partners:

- Comprehensive Guide to Travel Accommodations and Planning for Individuals with Special Needs <http://autismsocietyoaklandcounty.org/page/comprehensive-guide-to-travel-accomodations-and-planning-for-indi>
- Travel on Pinterest - Autism, Special Needs and Airports | Autism Society Alabama <https://www.pinterest.com/autismsocietyal/travel/>
- "Autism Takes Flight (Training Video) | Autism Society Pittsburgh <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EccjVfcgGI4>
- Wings for Autism | The Arc of the United States <http://www.thearc.org/wingsforautism>



Thanks to our National office for these resources.

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

- 7/14 **Navigating the Social Highway: A Road Map of Social Skills Programming for ASD** This free webinar from VCU ACE will highlight the journey of one public school division while guiding participants through the steps necessary to begin social skills programming within their division, school, or classroom. Topics will include determining the appropriate instruments for data collection, curricular resources, and professional development interventions in order to arrive at desired outcomes for social skills instruction. Register at <http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/te/webcasts/upcoming.cfm>
- 7/21 **ABA and the Virginia General Assembly: Legislative Updates for Current and Prospective Behavior Analysts** Free webcast from VCU ACE; learn about the different laws in Virginia that apply to behavior analysis, including their history, current status, and what the future may hold. Also discover the unique responsibilities that behavior analysts have when practicing in the Commonwealth of Virginia. To register: <http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/te/webcasts/upcoming.cfm>
- 7/22 **VDOE Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans** free; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm with registration beginning at 8:00 am. Breakfast, lunch and a snack are provided at no cost to the participants; register here: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/reg/vdoe-bab/>
- 8/10- 8/12 **Arc of VA State Convention** sessions on a range of topics, including: Navigating the Service System, Early Intervention, Public Policy Advocacy, and much more; register and more info at <http://www.thearcofva.org/>
- 8/11 **Intense Supports for Social Skills Delivery at the High School Level** This free webcast will share how one school district developed and offered a social skills course for high school students on the autism spectrum; assessment of progress will be addressed. Register at <http://www.vcuautismcenter.org/te/webcasts/upcoming.cfm>
- 8/13 **The Opportunity Game: How to Present as an Ideal Job Candidate** sponsored by VCU RRTC; the “3 Ps” to successfully attaining and retaining employment: “Prepare, Promote, and Produce” - how to take an honest inventory of your skills, attributes and interests; identify your champions; seek out and research possibilities; network strategically, and determine/access effective accommodations, whether high, low, or no tech. Finally, ways of “packaging” your skills as a viable candidate and representing yourself ultimately as a valuable employee will be presented. Registration is free but required at vcurrtc.org/training/webcastDetails.cfm/323

For additional information on autism conferences and workshops in Virginia, visit www.autismtrainingva.org



Thank You To Our Volunteers

*"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."
~William James*

Allison Thurman
Cody Turner
Kendall Tolbert
Sarah Holdern
Tysin Roberts
Alyssa Schuetz
Megan Perkins
Beth Bell
Skills Development Center
Turner August
Erin Lewis
Aditi Bajekal
Lydia Call

Betty Thompson
Bill Thompson
Quanesha Robinson
Ethan Miller
Aleya Robinett
Zipporah Levi-Shackleford
Claudia Carmona
Kara Herring
Nada Albuloushi
Tenel Robinson
Lenise Robinson
Becky Early
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Matthew Vozar
Hayden Vozar
Oliver Hamilton
Erica Flynt
Christiana Omland
Tom Long
Davis Long
John Brann
Shreya Shetty
Larry Britton
Mary Lee Shultz
Alan Thurman

Thank You For the Following Donations

*All donations stay in the Central Virginia area to support
individuals and families affected by autism.*

Larry Feldman
Lynette Walker
Hanover Rotary Club
James & Diana Marilla
SPARK Autism at VCU
Alice Bukner & Family
Gerdau Ameristeel
Kings Dominion
Charlotte Ellison
Rebecca Crowder
Paul Warner
Eric Schmude
Mamie Robinson
Vineyard Vines
Daphne Campbell
Michele Howell
Virginia Bulter
Salvatore Giallombardo
Cynthia Griffith
Heidi Lawyer
Mindy Stembridge
Donald Young
Tammy Luck
Thomas Shroud

Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Lipstock Lasik & Cataract Center
Cross Bearers Motorcycle Ministry
Mark Matthews Chapter of Petersburg Buffalo Soldiers
TGI Fridays
William Harvey
Erica Robinson
Glenn Hartranft
Lisa Keene
Byrd Theatre
Basic Auto Sales
Stephanie Glassbrook
Lewis Shuster
Janice Dick
Kelly Fleshood
Robert Gates
Lucia Gossel
Brenda Cody
Julie Smith
Kathryn Leisure
James O'Neill
Richard Denny
Robert Webb
Lori Ann Salazar

Joshua Stolberg
Andrea Shaia
Alston Power, Inc.
Kenneth Oriole
Michael Wargo
Judy Grabman

*The following donation was
made in memory of Michael
Morlino:
Lynn Fellowes*

*The following donation was
made in memory of Dorothy
Gunter:
William Harvey*

August 2015



EVERY MONDAY IN AUGUST FROM 6-10 PM

Stop in for dinner at either location and Buz and Ned's donates
10% back to our organization.

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2015 5K Run/Walk for Autism



2015 5K Run/Walk for Autism





MEMBERSHIP FORM

Join with hundreds of individuals with autism, their families and other caring individuals; become a part of a larger community - the Autism Society, Central VA. We can't be heard alone, but with more voices joining daily, that small voice can become a roar. We invite you to become a part of a community of hope.

Membership in the Autism Society, Central VA provides the following benefits:

- ASCV's monthly newsletter, the local resource for information regarding local and state autism-related issues, workshops, and community events
- ASCV's weekly e-mail updates
- Access to ASCV lending library
- Free ASCV sponsored social/recreational activities; discounted workshops

Membership Levels:

___ \$5 ~ Self-Advocate (Adult w/ ASD) ___ \$25 ~ Household ___ \$1500 ~ Lifetime

Names(s): _____

Address: _____ Phone # _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

(By providing your e-mail, you will receive our weekly e-mail; your e-mail will be kept confidential)

Additional Donation:

___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 _____ please specify amt.

Payment information:

___ Check (made payable to **Autism Society**) ___ Visa ___ Mastercard

Name on card: _____ Expiration: _____

Card #: _____

CVV# (security code on back of card) _____ **or join online at www.ascv.org**

Signature: _____

How would you prefer to receive your newsletter: ☐ by mail ☐ electronically

Which free gift may we send you: ☐ car magnet ☐ refrigerator magnet

New Members, how did you hear about the ASCV? ☐ family ☐ friend ☐ internet ☐ other _____

Please mail, email, or fax with payment to:

Autism Society, Central VA
200 South 3rd Street
Richmond, VA 23219
outreach@ascv.org (email)
(804) 290-0286 (fax)

Autism Society Central Virginia

200 South 3rd Street
Richmond, VA 23219

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Would you like to place an Ad in “*Into The Light*”?

Our newsletter reaches over 600 families, professionals and educators on a monthly basis and is archived on our website. If you would like to place an advertisement, please email it to info@ascv.org or mail it to us at 200 South 3rd Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

Deadline for entry is August 15th.

Ad Rates:

\$50.00 1/4 page

\$75.00 1/2 page

\$100 full page

The Board reserves the right to refuse to place an advertisement.

Non-Profits / Long Term Ads may have negotiated discount rates with Board approval.