



Newsletter

Autism Services Summer Program Update

Since 1984, Autism Services Incorporated (ASI) has been providing a summer school program for individuals, aged 6 to 21 years, with Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorder. Over the years the program has grown in both participants and locations as well as in scope and activities offered.

Although the program has been successful, certain challenges have arisen that must be addressed. They include: a sizeable waiting list, limited funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, a deficit from last year's program, and concerns that our fundraising efforts are not sufficient to meet our needs.

Jason Hull, President of ASI, met with families on February 24th to discuss options including the possibility of restructuring the summer programs starting in 2010. He indicated there will be no major changes to the program for this year.

Possible solutions that were discussed include: increasing user fees, limiting the program to a portion of the summer or a part of the week to clients, changing the staff to client ratio where feasible to bring more children into the program, increasing efficiencies within the program, and increasing fundraising. Jason expressed the preferred direction was to raise our revenues through increased fundraising but all options will be considered to expand the program in order to address the waiting list.

It was the consensus among the parents present that all families need to get involved in the fundraising effort. A formal parent's fundraising association will be formed and families will be contacted soon and a meeting arranged for those parents interested in participating. A Pasta Dinner, with all proceeds going to the Summer Program, has been set for Saturday April 18th. Call the ASI office if you would like to help with this event.

PASTA DINNER

Join us for an evening of
Pasta and Fun!

Saturday, April 18th, 2009, 6:00 pm till ?
at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 143
1570 Marentette Avenue

Tickets: Adults \$10 * Under 12 years \$7
Children 3 years and under FREE

Dinner includes Penne with choice of meat or
tomato sauce, salad, rolls, coffee & tea, and dessert
Cash Bar, Raffles and Door Prizes

For tickets call
519-966-7283

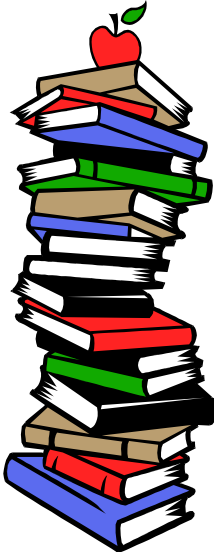
All proceeds to benefit the ASI Summer Program

Autism Services Inc.
3600 Curry Avenue
Windsor Ontario
N9E 2T6
519-966-7283

Please help us save money and go green too! Instead of receiving the ASI Newsletter by regular mail, we will begin sending it to you through email. This will help reduce our postage costs while saving paper. It will also save time so that we can get information to you sooner.

Please let us know your email address by calling the office or emailing to autism@mdirect.net. If you don't have access to email please let us know.

Lending Library



**Monday – Friday
8:00 to 4:00**

Stop in and check out our books, toys, and specialized computer software to create choice boards, schedules, social stories and more!!

****Please Note**
Library Hours
will change to
8:00 to 3:00
for April, May,
and June.**

News from the Board

Congratulations

Autism Services Inc. would like to congratulate Heather and Ron Clarke on the very early but safe arrival of twin boys! Braylen (2 lbs 7 oz) and Ashton (3 lbs 2 oz) were born on February 4th. Both boys are doing wonderfully and will be staying at Windsor Regional for another month. Heather has been with ASI for 10 years where she has been instrumental as Director of the Summer Program. Heather has also served on the Board of Directors for the past year. Best wishes to the new family!

New Members

We currently have openings for Board Directors preferably with legal or financial experience. If you are interested in being a member of the Board please contact us.



Spring and Summer Program Registration

Special Olympics Windsor provides year-round athletic training and sports competitions to children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Spring and Summer sports programs include softball/T-ball, soccer, track & field, and indoor sport clinics to help learn new skills

Register now. Call 519-250-4024 for more information or visit the website for a complete list of programs, locations, and times.



www.specialolympicswindsor.ca

Board of Directors 2008

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Treasurer
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Directors


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Heather Clarke
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Mission Statement

Our mission is to identify, coordinate and assure delivery of quality supports while advocating for individuals with Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorder, to enable them to reach their maximum potential within their community.

PLACES TO GO & THINGS TO SEE

Wednesday, March 4 from 4:30 - 8 pm
Autism Ontario Windsor Essex Pasta Dinner
First Wednesday of every month at the Cabot Club. Dinner includes rolls, salad, pasta with meat sauce and pasta with tomato sauce. Take-out orders: \$8.00. Eat-in: Adults \$7.50, Children 5 to 10 \$5, Under 4 Free.


Saturday, March 7 from 3:15 - 4:15 pm
Swimming at the Vollmer Complex
The Realize Community Potential Program has rented the pool and slide at the new Vollmer Complex in LaSalle (off Malden Road at Laurier).  The pool and slide will be open only to families on the autism spectrum. Children need to be directly supervised in the pools. To register call 519-250-9410 or email rcpwindsor@autismontario.com.

MARCH BREAK FUN

Offered by the Realize Community Potential (RCP) Program. Please call Catherine at 519-250-9410 or email rcpwindsor@autismontario.com to register.

Monday, March 16 from 4:30 - 7 pm
Another Day at Kid Fit
Join us at Kid Fit Inc., 3090 Dougall Ave. where there will be Wii Sports consoles, Dance Dance Revolution, a rock climbing wall, jungle gym, plus lots more! Bring running shoes, socks and your appetite for pizza and juice at 6 pm. Suitable for all ages.

Wednesday, March 18 from 1:30 - 3 pm
Maple Syrup the Old Fashioned Way
Head out to John R. Homestead to tap trees, visit their 1842 kitchen, and make maple syrup over a fire. Program has indoor and outdoor activities.

Friday, March 20, Shows at 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 pm
We Are Brining the Zoo2You
Zoo2You will be at the Gino Marcus Complex at 1168 Drouillard Rd. for three show. Learn about the animals and get a chance to pet some of them. The show features 10 to 15 exotic animals. 

Sunday, March 29 at 10: 00 am
Let's Go to the Movies
The RCP Program has rented the movie theatre at Lakeshore Cinemas (near Manning Rd.) for a private screening of Monsters Vs Aliens, the new film from Dreamworks. Cost is \$2 per person and includes a kids combo for the children only. Register by contacting Catherine at 519-250-9410 or email rcpwindsor@autismontario.com.

Every Friday from 1 to 2 pm
Windsor Water World
Swimming for individuals with disabilities. Cost for swimmer \$2.00. Caregivers are free. Call 519-253-3806 for more details.

***NEW* Social Group for Adolescents with Aspergers**
The RCP Program is examining the possibility of starting a social group for adolescents with Aspergers. The group would feature activities like video games and playing pool with peers who have Aspergers and also those who do not. If you are interested contact Catherine at 519-250-9410.

Be Back Soon
A St. Mary's Family Learning Centre program for eligible families to receive child-care (for children ages 0-6) at no cost to attend medical, legal and other necessary appointments. Parents must be recipients of NCBS. Children with special needs are welcome. Call 519-252-9696 for more information.

Important Safety Note

In last month's newsletter we highlighted the seatbelt device **Angel Guard** which helps to prevent children and disabled adults from opening their seat belts while riding in a motorized vehicle. It is important to note that by law, if you use this device **you must have seat belt cutters in your vehicle**. Seat belt cutters are available at Shoppers Health Centre for approximately \$16.00.

NOTE: Event information is always subject to change by the event holders. Always call ahead.

Workshops

MARCH

Monday, March 9 from 7 - 8 pm

Support Group for Parents of Children who are Non-verbal

This group will meet at Autism Ontario, 1168 Drouillard Road, 519-250-9410.

Wednesday, March 11 at 6:30 pm

All About Autism: Sensory Strategies Workshop

Present by Dijana Panzalovic, Occupational Therapist from Children First. Workshop will take place at the ASI Library. Please call 519-966-7283 or email allaboutautism@cogeco.ca to register.

Thursday, March 12 from 9:30 - 11 am

Daytime Support Group

Support Group for parents with children with autism. Meetings take place on the second Thursday of each month at the Family Respite Services, 3295 Quality Way, 519-972-9688.

Wednesday, March 23 from 5 - 6:30 pm

Summit Centre Parents Group & Sibling Group

Parents are invited to a round table discussion on Toilet Training. Siblings (ages 4-12) are invited for games and crafts. Pizza and snacks provided. Join us at the Summit Centre, 940 Prince Rd. Childcare available for children with autism. RSVP by March 16. Call Kristy at 519-255-1195.

Saturday, March 28 from 10 am - 3:30 pm

Let's Talk About Sex

Marianne Simpson from Regional Support Associates, Dr. Elaine Williams from Regional Children's Centre and Susan Ludwig, renowned speaker on sexuality and special needs, will discuss talking to children on the spectrum about sexuality. Event will take place at Place Concorde, 7515 Forest Glade Dr. \$20 for Autism Ontario Members, \$30 for non-members. A light lunch will be served. Seating is limited and you must register by March 19. Call Catherine at 519-250-9410 or email rcpwindsor@autismontario.com.

Reminder: All ASI Summer Program Registration Packages have been mailed out. Please call the ASI office at 519-966-7283 to confirm that you have received your registration package.
Completed registration forms must be received no later than Friday, March 27, 2009.

APRIL

Saturday, April 4 from 9 am - 4:30 pm

A Missing Link for Autism

An introduction to specialized movement programs will be presented by Carol Ann Erickson, International Faculty Member for Education and Kinesiology Foundation. Event will take place at the Cabot Club, 2175 Parent. Cost is \$100.00. To register call 519-352-7945 or email marianne@awakeningpotential.ca

Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 pm

All About Autism: Food and Eating Issues

Present by Ann Hucal, Registered Dietician. Workshop will take place at the ASI Library. Please call 519-966-7283 or email allaboutautism@cogeco.ca to register.

Thursday, April 9 from 9:30 - 11 am

Daytime Support Group

Support Group for parents with children with autism. Meetings take place on the second Thursday of each month at the Family Respite Services building at 3295 Quality Way, 519-972-9688.

Wednesday Evenings, April 15 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Social Skills on the Spectrum

The Realize Community Potential Program is hosting an 8 week social skills program for children ages 7 to 10 with high functioning autism or Asperger Syndrome at the Gino Marcus Complex, 1168 Drouillard Rd. For information and to get an application package, call Catherine at 519-250-9410 or email rcpwindsor@autismontario.com.

Wednesday, April 27 from 5 - 6:30 pm

Summit Centre Parents Group & Sibling Group

Parents are invited to a round table discussion on Tantrums. Siblings (ages 4-12) are invited for games and crafts. Pizza and snacks provided. Join us at the Summit Centre, 940 Prince Road. Childcare available for children with autism. RSVP by April 20. Call Kristy at 519-255-1195.

Wednesday, May 13 at 6:30 pm

All About Autism: Medical Issues

Present by Dr. Beth Macklin, Developmental Paediatrician. Workshop will take place at the ASI Library. Please call 519-966-7283 or email allaboutautism@cogeco.ca to register.

NOTE: Event information is always subject to change by the event holders. Always call ahead.