



www.aaiwalk.org



Answers for Autism

Working for Indiana families touched by Autism

SPRING - WINTER 2011 ISSUE 2

P.O. BOX 285
Fishers, IN 46038
800-449-0560

WWW.AAIWALK.ORG

E-mail:
aaiwalk@aaiwalk.org

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Autism Advocates of Indiana has elected to change its name. We are now simply:

ANSWERS FOR AUTISM

Our **NEW** contact phone number is: **800-449-0560**

ADDRESS REMAINS THE SAME:

**P.O. BOX 285
FISHERS, IN 46038**

11th Annual Answers for Autism Walk

Saturday, September 17, 2011

9:00 am-1 pm

CoxHall Gardens

2000 W 116th Street

(116th Street and Towne Rd)

Carmel, IN 46032

Directions to the walk

PLEASE NO PETS ALLOWED Service Animals Only

Answers for Autism Walk Information:

1. If you have not signed up, please take a moment to visit our [registration page](#) to create a team or join an existing one.
2. The walk is a 1 mile wheelchair and stroller friendly walk. There will be activities for the children and silent auction before and during the walk.
3. There will be food for purchase throughout the morning. Light refreshments will be provided at no cost after the walk.
4. Save time on walk day and register ALL your family members online. Having everyone registered helps us better plan for the day's activities.
5. Cost of registration is \$10. Each individual who fundraises \$50 or more will receive an official 2011 Answers for Autism Walk T-shirt on walk day (while supplies last).
6. **NO PETS ALLOWED** at the park, only service/therapy dogs will be permitted at the park.

We certainly understand people have special needs. The event is an outdoor family day with music and fun activities for the families and friends. If your child has sensitivity issues to noise please bring ear plugs. A quiet tent will be available for those individuals who may need it.

Company Matching Funds:

Don't forget to ask your employer about Corporate Matching. This often untapped pool of fundraising dollars may be at your fingertips. The only thing stopping you is the "ask". Call your HR department today and see if your employer will match your contributions – there is nothing better than free fundraising dollars.

Stay tuned for more Answers for Autism Walk information as we get close to the walk!

See you September 17!

Regards,
Answers for Autism



2010 Answers of Autism Walk billboard
located near Castleton Mall. Keep an eye for the 2011 billboard!

Answers for Autism 1st Annual Golf Outing Celebration



Autism Advocates of Indiana celebrated the 1st Annual Golf Outing on July 23 at Maple Creek Country Club. The event had forty eight participants. The total funds raised were: **\$6,536.00**. Thanks to all of our sponsors and participants.



President: Patty Reed and Board Member: Kim Crowe Suess



First Place Golf Tournament Team

Don't Miss This Year's Golf Outing

Date: June 3, 2011

Registration: 10:30 am

Tee Time: 12:00 pm

Place: Maple Creek Country Club
10501 East 21st Street
Indianapolis, IN 46229

Cost: \$75.00 per person
Includes golf, cart, boxed lunch and dinner buffet

You can register online now at:
WWW.AAIWALK.ORG



Autism Advocates of Indiana Approves \$21,984.61 in Spring and \$31,867.93 in Fall Grants to Community Organizations in Indiana

Autism Advocates of Indiana has approved **\$21,984.61** in Spring 2010 grants and **\$31,867.93** in Fall 2010 grants they have been distributed through the [Answers for Autism Grant Program](#) to non-profit organizations working with individuals affected by autism throughout the state of Indiana. This brings the total to **\$348,283.06** donated through this program. The Answers for Autism Grant Program is funded through proceeds from the annual Answers for Autism Walk and other fundraising events. For more information please visit the Answers for Autism website: www.aaiwalk.org. The following grant applications were approved for the

Spring 2010 Answers for Autism Grant Cycle:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| MSD Lawrence Township | Wii Consoles & Wii Fit for 3 Schools |
| Logan Community Center | First Responder Training |
| Agape Therapeutic | Therapeutic Riding |
| Carmel Autism Resource Education | SAFE Program |
| Jameson Camp | Jameson Summer Camps |
| Hope Haven Horse | Therapeutic Riding |
| Edelweiss Equine | Therapeutic Riding |
| Jay School Corp. | Video Self Modeling |
| South Madison Community | Wii Consoles & Wii Fit for 4 Schools |

Fall 2010 Answers for Autism Grant Cycle:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Hamilton/Boone/Madison Special Services | iPads and itouch devices |
| Hamilton/Boone/Madison Special Services Co-op | iPads |
| Hamilton/Boone/Madison Fisher's High School | iPads |
| Hamilton/Boone/Madison FIATS Class | Sensory Room Supplies |
| Noble of Indiana | Training Seminar |
| Children's Theraplay Foundation | Training and sensory supplies |
| Douglas MacArthur School | Sensory Room Supplies |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Coburn Place | Training Seminar |
| Brookview Elementary | Sensory Materials and books |
| Ball State University Foundation | Music and Theatre Group |
| Indiana Resource Center For Autism | Statewide Parent/Family Trainings by Cathy Pratt |
| Elwood Middle School | Sensory Room Supplies |
| Applied Behavioral Center for Autism | Playground Equipment |
| Christian Youth Theatre | Sensory Friendly Theatre Productions |
| DAMAR | Autism Trainings |

If you are interested in applying for a grant please visit our website www.aaiwalk.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS YOU WILL FIND
***ANSWERS FOR AUTISM* PARTICIPATING:**

AUTISM EXPO

Saturday March 26th from 10:00 am-1:00 pm
The Fountains 502 E. Carmel Drive Carmel, IN

SPEEDWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 30th from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Greenfield-Central High School 810 N. Broadway, Greenfield, IN



WestPoint financial
G R O U P



ANSWERS FOR
AUTISM

Working for Indiana families touched by autism

WWW.AAIWALK.ORG

WestPoint Financial Group and Answers for Autism are offering you and your family a free "Lights Up. Sound Down" movie at Hamilton 16 IMAX!

"Lights Up Sound Down" gives families with children who have special needs the opportunity to enjoy their favorite movies in a comfortable, sensory-friendly setting with the lights turned up and the volume down in the auditorium.

The next movie is at 10:00 am on:

Saturday, April 2- Diary of Wimpy Kid 2- Rodrick Rules

Please register by going to www.westpointfinancialgroup.com and clicking on the movie banner.

If you have any questions, please contact West Point's Special Care Team at 317-469-9999.

Movies are brought to you by:



**LIGHTS UP
SOUND DOWN**
Sensory Friendly Movies

HAMILTON 16 IMAX

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

iTouch- A Low Cost Instrument Can Be Beneficial To Children On The Spectrum

As we all know technology continues to advance and as much as we may resist it is prevalent in our society. Many people use their blackberry, iphone and smart phone to schedule events, check email, and communicate. This low cost instrument can potentially help reduce day to day stresses for our children. There are apps to help with:

- Modeling through Video
- Social Skills
- Social Stories
- Communication Skills
- Speech and Language Assistance
- Time Management and Organizational Skills
- Educational Support
- Behavior management

iTunes currently offers 180 different applications with relations across the spectrum. Many applications are offered for free or a minimal fee. I found a great website that has an adobe reader file that categorizes the apps uses and cost:

www.learn.shorelineschools.org

Recently I became aware of the Autism Applications for the iTouch. My ten year old son's birthday was approaching and he wanted a new Nintendo DSii but I felt he might get more use out of an iTouch. After researching and looking at the Apps on my iphone I found that many apps could be very beneficial to him. We gave this to him for his birthday and quickly began to download many apps. Some of the Apps I found useful included: A+ Homework, Time Timer, Story Kit, Autism Research Institute, iFlash Free, and the dictionary.

To my amazement, my son's iTouch was just approved for use in his intermediate school classroom. I produced a resource that listed the Apps and how they would accommodate my child and help the staff at the same time. Take a chance on your school you might be surprised.

My son is getting to that particular age where kids start singling out other peers. Socially a visual schedule posted on his desk announces a disability. Using this device has allowed my son to "fit in". It helped reduce stress on his very first day of school. This was his first year with a locker. He was so nervous, anxious, and frustrated with having a combination. We were able to put his combination in the note section of his phone thus he did not panic when he couldn't remember what his combination was or how many turns to make. It removed the stress. There is so much pressure and anxiety that we are not able to control. I am happy to help reduce any tension that I am able to.

For more information or if you want create an iTunes account FREE and preview any of the Apps visit www.support.apple.com

-Heather Taylor

Our Mission....



WWW.AAIWALK.ORG

Our Mission is to increase and broaden public knowledge and awareness of the behaviors, social issues and emotional needs of individuals on the autism spectrum so that all individuals can participate in and contribute to our community without fear or bias or loss of individuality.

Answers for Autism accepts grant requests that are consistent with our mission. Grants will be considered in two categories: the Public Awareness Program, and the Individual and/or Family Support Program. The grant program would like to encourage new and innovative ideas to support our mission throughout the state of Indiana.

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ANSWERS FOR AUTISM

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Working for Indiana families touched by Autism.

Elected Board of Directors and Board Members

| Executive Directors | Board Members | |
|---|--|--|
| Patty Reed/Co-President patty@aaiwalk.org (317) 403-4308 | Lisa Kutschera lskutschera@comcast.net | Daniel Cavallini dcavallini@aaiwalk.org |
| Donna Simerly/Co-President donna@aaiwalk.org (317) 523-3796 | Dawn Ervin dapervin@comcast.net | Justin Davis Jkdavis0@yahoo.com |
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| Jill Buckner/ Treasurer Bukners2874@gmail.com (317) 417-0163 | | |