

About Autism Delaware

Autism Delaware was started in 1998 by a group of Delaware families who shared the common experience of autism. The group soon realized that by working together they could provide much-needed service and support to Delaware's autism community and have a much stronger voice in Dover, in the classroom, and wherever else advocacy for the autism community is needed.

Today, thanks to our dedicated volunteers, talented staff, and generous supporters, Autism Delaware has grown to become a strong advocate for the autism community and provides services, resources, and support, such as:

- * Information and referral
- * Parent mentoring and support
- * Speakers and conferences
- * Family and teen social opportunities
- * A newsletter, listserve, and website
- * POW&R (Productive Opportunities for Work & Recreation) for adults
- * Public awareness campaigns
- * Financial assistance for parents and educators to advance their skills and knowledge.



*Every gift is deeply appreciated.
Autism Delaware is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.*

About Autism

Autism is a complex developmental disability that affects communication and social skills. According to the CDC's 2007 estimates, autism spectrum disorders occur in as many as 1 in every 150 births, and are diagnosed in 1 in 94 boys. This is up from 1 in 2,500 births in 1995.

Autism spectrum disorders include classic autism as well as Asperger's Syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS). While early intervention and ongoing treatment and supports can result in significant improvements, the disorder will last a lifetime, affecting not only the person with autism but the people who love them.



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Helping
People and
Families
Affected by
Autism
Throughout
Delaware

The
Founders'
Circle
Of The
Southern
Delaware
Founders'
Campaign

302-224-6020
www.delautism.org

What is the Founders' Circle?

Autism Delaware's Southern Delaware Founders' Circle is made up of generous donors who have made a three-year pledge of at least \$250 to the Southern Delaware Founders' Campaign to establish the southern office of Autism Delaware and who will also build a strong foundation for Autism Delaware's programs and services by recruiting others to the Campaign. The Southern Delaware office is part of Autism Delaware's commitment to be a truly state-wide agency.

Founders' Circle members are also asked to assist as needed with technical advice or other resources. Circle Members will automatically be enrolled as members of Autism Delaware each year they fulfill their pledge. Read on to see what your pledge will accomplish.



Photo Credits:
Laura Novak Photography

Autism Delaware serves families and people of all ages who are affected by autism.



Autism Delaware's mission is to improve the lives of people with autism and their families. We will educate, advocate and raise public awareness in order to promote lifelong opportunity and community acceptance for people with autism.

What Is The Goal of The Founders' Circle and Campaign?

Autism Delaware aims to offer services in Kent and Sussex Counties which match those in New Castle County so that we are a truly local resource to people and families affected by autism and professionals. We see a day when a full-time southern office provides:

- parent mentoring and support
- educational opportunities for families and professionals
- information and referral services to local providers and resources
- family and individual recreation
- social skills education
- adult vocational services
- a presence and advocacy in schools

To get to that vision from our current part-time home office will take significant financial investment to secure office and program space, more staff, supplies, furnishings, and technology. It will also take careful planning by the Board of Directors, who will be advised by the Founders' Circle.

By becoming a member of the Founders' Circle, you can bring us not just one but two steps closer to this goal because the Bank of America Client Foundation will match what we raise for this project up to a certain amount each year through December 2011. To prove the sustainability of the southern office, it is our goal to raise all of the matching funds from local donors and initiatives such as the Founders' Circle.

Yes! I will join the Founders' Circle!

___Gold Circle: \$500/year and up

- Silver Circle benefits PLUS
- Recognition at Autism Delaware's annual meeting
- Invitation to annual volunteer dinner

___Silver Circle: \$250-\$499/year

- Identified as a Circle member in Autism Delaware's annual report
- Recognized in Autism Delaware's newsletter, *The Sun*, upon joining
- Named in the Founders' Campaign Annual Report

I pledge \$ ___ each year for ___ years totaling \$ ___ and will help recruit others to this worthy goal!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Parent/Professional/Teacher/Other?: _____

Payment Options

Please make checks payable to Autism Delaware

CC#: _____

Card Type: _____ Security Code: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Other Means of Contributing:

Please tell us if you have resources that you think could be beneficial to the Campaign's goals. Ideas might include volunteer time, access to meeting or work spaces, or fundraising or program experience: _____

You will receive a reminder each year that your pledge is due. You may also opt to pay your pledge in monthly rather than annual installments through www.delautism.org.