Our Mission is Simple

To provide support to local families living with autism and to increase autism awareness in our community and schools.

Autism is a developmental disorder that strikes children during the first three years of their life. It impacts the normal development of the brain in areas of cognition, social interactions and communication skills. Each child is affected differently and to varying degrees, which is why it is known as a spectrum disorder.

Autism is the world’s fastest growing developmental disability. Autism is now more common among children than Down Syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis or Cystic Fibrosis. Recent studies estimate that as many as 1 in every 110 children born today will be on the autism spectrum. Indiana is the 7th highest state in America with autism, with 1 out of every 107 children enrolled in school being on the spectrum.

There is no known cause or cure for autism, although various treatments and therapies provide some relief of symptoms and result in improvements in some areas. More research is needed to find out more about autism, its causes, and how best to help those affected by it. Current research is limited due to lack of funds, therefore donations, fundraisers, and volunteers play a vital part in the future of autism.

That’s why we need you!

Officers

President – Jane Grimes
janegrimes@hcasg.org

Vice President – Angela Bricker
angelabricke@hcasg.org

Secretary – Beth Schweigel
bthschweigel@hcasg.org

Treasurer – Stacey Halvorsen
staceyhalvorsen@hcasg.org

Our GOAL as officers is...

To help, guide, and direct the group in a positive direction with hopes and intentions of improving the lives of all affected by autism.

Board of Directors

Bob Campbell
Nancy Campbell
Nathan Clark
Nicole Holzbach
Gordon Homes
Brian Jones
Brooke Taflinger
Dan Tucker

Helping Families in Central Indiana

"It’s our genuine interest to help provide support to every family member that contacts us."

-Founder Jane Grimes
What we are doing to help!

Monthly Support Group
We try to offer support for any concerns parents may have, answer questions, and connect them with other parents. We occasionally have guest speakers or have a specific topic for discussion or a family social activity. The main goal is to support the parents and families as much as possible. NEW for 2011: Childcare will be provided at our support group meetings for FREE!

Autism Siblings Group
This group is for the brothers and sisters of those on the spectrum. They learn why their sibling is different, get help with any issues or problems they may have and have fun & play with other children who are in a similar situation.

Girls on the Spectrum Group
This group is designed for parents and their daughters who are on the spectrum. This group meets to address and discuss their differences and issues, and enjoys group outings and activities with the girls.

Adults on the Spectrum
This group is run by Cassie Stein and is supported by HCASG. It is a social interaction group for adults on the spectrum to get together, play games, and have discussions in an atmosphere where they feel comfortable and accepted by others.

DADs Autism Support Group
This group is run by Joe Kemper and is supported by HCASG. It gives Dads a chance to get together and have discussions about their thoughts and concerns related to autism.

Family Connections
This group gives parents and families the opportunity to connect with other families that may have children of a similar age, live in the same area or go to the same school.

WWW.HCASG.ORG
Voices of the Spectrum
This is a yearly event, held each April, that features those on the spectrum and allows them to express themselves in various ways; such as speaking or other talents. This event has become a wonderful educational tool for parents, family members, teachers, and others in the community who need to know what it's like to be on the spectrum through their eyes and by their own voices.

April School & Community Awareness Program
This is a yearly project to help raise autism awareness in the local schools and the community. At the schools, it is focused on educating the students and the staff about autism and how to better help and get to know their fellow students. In the community, it is focused on educating local businesses, churches, and people in the community about autism and how to better serve others with special needs.

Race for Autism
This is a yearly event started by a local boy who wanted to raise funds and awareness for his cousin who has autism. It is a carnival type event that is for all ages and abilities. Participants use any mode of transportation they like to race around the track for prizes; they then have the opportunity to enjoy various games, vendors, and other activities.

Annual Family Picnic
This is a fun, relaxing event for the whole family. It is a big, pitch-in, picnic for the members of our group. There is a lot of good food, games and activities for the kids and a chance for everyone to visit; all in a lovely local park.

Fall School Awareness
This is a yearly project to provide teachers with autism awareness materials to help them better understand and know how to teach their special needs students and to provide autism awareness materials for students to help them better understand their classmates.

YES! I want to do what I can to help!

Name: _____________________________
Address: ___________________________
City, State, Zip: ______________________
Phone: ____________________________
Email: _____________________________

Donation & Sponsorship Levels
☐ Gold Level Sponsorship $5,000
☐ Silver Level Sponsorship $2,500
☐ Bronze Level Sponsorship $1,000
☐ Gold Level Donation $500
☐ Silver Level Donation $250
☐ Bronze Level Donation $100
☐ Other $____

Donations may be made online at www.hcasg.org or checks made out to HCASG may be mailed to:

HCASG
19215 Morrison Way
Noblesville, IN 46060

Thank You for Your Help and Support!
HCASG is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

Supporting Autism Awareness in Indiana!

* For more information about any of our groups or activities, please contact one of our officers.