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INSIDE

Let ME  
spread the  
word on  
AUTISM

 **AUTISM SOCIETY**  
Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism  
Maine

# Maine Autism

## Connections

Spring 2015



What are Sibshops? For the adults who plan them and the agencies that sponsor them, Sibshops are best described as opportunities for brothers and sisters of children with special health and developmental needs to obtain peer support and education within a recreational context. They reflect an agency's commitment to the well-being of the family member most likely to have the longest-lasting relationship with the person with special needs.

However, for the young people who attend them and the energetic people who run them Sibshops are best described as events. Sibshops are lively, pedal-to-the-metal celebrations of the many contributions made by brothers and sisters of kids with special needs. Sibshops acknowledge that being the brother or sister of a person with special needs is for some a good thing, others a not-so-good thing, and for many somewhere in between. They reflect a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another--if they are given a chance. The Sibshop model intersperses information and discussion activities with new games (designed to be unique, off-beat, and appealing to a wide ability range), cooking activities, and special guests who may teach participants mime, how to juggle or, in the case of one guest artist who has cerebral palsy, how to paint by holding a toothbrush in your mouth. Sibshops are as fun and rewarding for the people who host them as they are for the participants.

Sibshops seek to provide siblings with opportunities for peer support. Because Sibshops are designed (primarily) for school-age children, peer support is provided within a lively, recreational context that emphasizes a kids'-eye-view.

Sibshops are not therapy, group or otherwise, although their effect may be therapeutic for some children. Sibshops acknowledge that most brothers and sisters of people with special needs, like their parents, are doing well, despite the challenges of an illness or disability. Consequently, while Sibshop facilitators always keep an eye open for participants who may need additional services, the Sibshop model takes a wellness approach.

At Sibshop, brothers and sisters will:

- Meet other brothers and sisters of children with special needs (8 to 12 yr olds)
- Have fun
- Talk about their brothers and sisters with others who really know what it's like to have a sibling with a disability
- Make new friends
- Learn more about disabilities and the services that people with disabilities receive
- Have some more FUN!
- Engage in several arts and crafts activities to allow for some time to express themselves



*continued on page 3*

**Maine Autism Connections**  
*A publication of the*  
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Visit us online at:  
<http://www.asmonline.org>

Stay up-to-date for  
Legislation issues, fund-  
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upcoming happenings.



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Autism-Society-Of-Maine/107781499258293>



## President's Message

Greetings! Over the past few months, we have experienced some changes at the Board level. We were sad to bid farewell to our President, Jay Collins. During Jay's tenure with ASM, we saw our Board grow, our By-Laws get updated and expanded our work across the lifespan. We have also improved our By-Laws to allow for a more streamlined process for managing leadership vacancies on the Board. We thank our membership for your participation in these processes by casting your ballots!



On the state level, there are many things happening that ASM is following. In this newsletter, I wanted to share some information on an initiative the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) is working on for a change process to begin on January 1, 2016. OADS has been collecting feedback and comments so there may still be some changes made to this proposal. We are sharing what we know at this time. The initiative is called Supporting Individual Success for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism and calls for the use of the Support Intensity Scale (SIS). The SIS is an assessment tool to determine an adult's level of care. The SIS was developed by the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD). OADS is doing this because they want to be sure individuals get the right amount of support, based on their needs. The SIS measures how much support an individual needs in home living, community living, lifelong learning, employment, health and safety, and social activities. It also asks questions about speaking up for yourself and others (advocacy), managing money, making choices and staying safe. Finally, it asks about medical and behavioral needs. For each of these areas, teams/individuals/families will be asked how often the person needs support (i.e. none to hourly), how much support is needed (i.e. none to 4 hours or more) and what type of support is needed (i.e. none, monitoring, verbal/gestural prompting, partial physical assistance, full physical assistance).

Based on the answers, each person will be assigned a support level based on their support needs. People in Level 1 have the lowest level of support need and people in Level 5 have the highest. Level 4 takes care of people with special medical support needs and Level 5 takes care of people with really high behavioral support needs.

The level is then used to determine the individual's budget for services. A budget is an amount of money the individual has and how the person plans to spend the money based on the services picked (i.e. community support, home support, work supports). Your base budget for services is made up of two parts: Where you live and what you do during the day. For example, a person living alone will get a different amount of money in their base budget than another person living in a group home.

This is how adult developmental services will be allocated to individuals who are approved for services. There are many steps along the way to educate individuals and families about the process, assist with person centered planning and to reconsider a level if you do not think it is correct. Because this is a change in how services have been allocated in adult developmental services in Maine, it is important that individuals, families and providers educate themselves as much as possible about the process. Below are a few references for your consideration. We will let you know as we learn more about this initiative.

1. [www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/disability/ds/sis/documents/IndFamFriendly.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/disability/ds/sis/documents/IndFamFriendly.pdf)
2. <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oads/disability/ds/sis/index.shtml>
3. [OADS@maine.gov](mailto:OADS@maine.gov) (to Email questions or concerns)

Sincerely,

*Laurie Raymond, President*

Editorial Notes: Maine Autism Connections and Autism Society of Maine programs and services are made possible by donations from people like you and funding from the Maine Department of Health & Human Services. We hope you will also visit us online at <http://www.asmonline.org>, where we have a great deal of information available about autism, programs, resources, news, a calendar of events, legislation and more.

## SibShops (continued from cover)

The Autism Society of Maine has 5 individuals who have received the training to run Sibshops. Currently we run 4 Sibshops in these locations:

Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church  
84 Main Street, Topsham, ME  
First Saturday of each month 10 am to 12 noon  
Contact: Amanda Kenneson  
email: [astp28@yahoo.com](mailto:astp28@yahoo.com)

Medway Middle School  
25 Middle School Drive, Medway, ME  
March 27, April 24, May 29 and June 26 5 pm to 7 pm  
Contact: Beth and Ryan Whitehouse  
email: [mrs6@yahoo.com](mailto:mrs6@yahoo.com)

First Congregational Church of So. Paris  
17 East Main Street, So. Paris, ME  
Second Friday of the month  
Contact: Kendra Campbell  
email: [kcjobs\\_23@yahoo.com](mailto:kcjobs_23@yahoo.com)

Edna Drinkwater School  
56 Bayside Road, Northport, ME  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday every month at 10 am to 12 noon  
Contact: Karen Gorris-Hicock  
email: [KGHicock@gmail.com](mailto:KGHicock@gmail.com)

Two other agencies also offer Sibshops:

- Woodfords Family Services in the Augusta and Westbrook areas
- Margaret Murphy Center in the Auburn area

For more information on all Sibshops in Maine see link below.

[http://www.siblingsupport.org/sibshopsearch?sibshop\\_country=us&sibshop\\_state=ME&portal\\_type%3Alist=BusinessMember](http://www.siblingsupport.org/sibshopsearch?sibshop_country=us&sibshop_state=ME&portal_type%3Alist=BusinessMember)

None of this would have been possible if it wasn't for the creator of Sibshops, Don Meyer. Don also created SibKids, SibTeen and SibNet, online communities for young and adult brothers and sisters which allow thousands of siblings from around the world to connect with their peers. There are 475 Sibshops in 8 different countries.

To learn more about Don Meyer visit: [www.siblingsupport.org](http://www.siblingsupport.org)



## Register NOW for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Autism!

April 26<sup>th</sup> 2015

11:00 am to 12:00 noon: Registration  
12:00 noon: Walk for Autism (Rain or Shine!)



Choose a Walk for Autism Event Near You!  
University of Maine in Bangor  
University of New England in Biddeford  
Farmington Fairground in Farmington  
Belfast Area High School in Belfast

Vendors will be in the Bangor, Farmington and Belfast locations. ASM has invited local first responders to bring their vehicles and

engage with the children. Autism items will be on sale at each location along with free snacks, balloons, and face painting!

Walk For Autism and help us spread autism awareness and bring hope and support to families affected by autism. Invite your friends and neighbors to be a part of it, too!

Registration is Open! Start Your Team!

<http://www.firstgiving.com/ASMAINE/walk-for-autism-2015>

Walk & 5K for Autism  
May 2, 2015

Northeast Harbor  
The Neighborhood House, 1 Kimball Rd.

8:00am to 9:30am: Registration on Site Only  
9:30am: Walk & 5K for Autism (Rain or Shine!)

A fundraising event to benefit the Autism Society of Maine

FMI: Chris & Matt Heel (207) 276-4134  
or email: [mheel-3@verizon.net](mailto:mheel-3@verizon.net)



## FREE Sensory-friendly Movie Event!

The Lewiston/Auburn Rotary is sponsoring its 9<sup>th</sup> Sensory Friendly Movie event for children with special needs. A sensory friendly movie is one that offers lowering the sound; keeping the lights on during the movie, and help for families who need assistance during the movie. Kids will be allowed to walk around and everyone will be treated to popcorn and soda. This will be a private showing. The theater will be closed to the general public.

This year's movie will be SpongeBob!

**April 18th at 10:00 am (please arrive by 9:45 am)**

You must pre-register for this free event by calling the Autism Society of Maine at 1-800-273-5200 or email [justine@asmonline.org](mailto:justine@asmonline.org)



## Autism Awareness Night with the Portland Pirates

**April 11, 2015**

**Portland Pirates vs. Wilkes – Barre/ Scranton Penguins**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

The Portland Pirates and the Autism Society have teamed up for Autism Awareness with a special game scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>. The team will be wearing special jerseys with puzzle pieces on them and then those shirts will be auctioned off with proceeds coming to ASM. Show your support and come to the game. Tickets can be purchase online through the ASM website.



## Did You Know?

The Autism Society provides various Support Groups.

- An adult social group meets one evening monthly for conversation, games, activities, outings and refreshments.  
Location: The Autism Society of Maine, 72B Main St. Winthrop, ME  
Contact: Call 1-800-273-5200 for date and time info@asmonline.org
- A teen social Group meets at the Hillview Resource Center, Lewiston, ME (UNLESS ON FIELD TRIP)  
Day: 1st Friday of Month  
Contact: Cathy Dionne - asm@asmonline.org or 1-800-273-5200
- A Parent Support Group meets at Spring Harbor Hospital, 123 Andover Rd., Westbrook  
Day: 1st Wednesday of the Month  
Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm  
Contact: Autism Society of Maine - asm@asmonline.org or (800) 273-5200
- A group of adults on the spectrum meet Tuesdays, at the Autism Society of Maine in Winthrop from 1:30-2:30. This is a group of individuals that communicate using Facilitated Communication.

For more information regarding any of these programs, contact the Autim Society at [asm@asmonline.org](mailto:asm@asmonline.org) or call 1-800-273-5200





# April Autism Awareness Month

Autism Awareness is in the spotlight during the month of April. It is a time for families, employees and the community to participate in activities that support and educate about autism.

There is a lot that you can do to bring **Autism Awareness** to your community! You can host an event or join with others and attend an event like the **Walk for Autism**, create a bulletin board, wear an autism awareness ribbon, make a donation to ASM, join our **Facebook** group, become a member of ASM, purchase an autism awareness item in the ASM store and much more!

Teachers are also taking this opportunity to educate their students about autism and promoting understanding and inclusion for their fellow classmates. We are happy to help in any way we can, by providing autism information, books & dvd's or by offering an autism presentation.

Autism Information Specialists are trained by ASM and can give a presentation to your class about autism on all grade levels.

Autism Awareness Packets are available and can be mailed to you by ASM at no cost. Each packet will contain: Brochures, poster, flyers, and 5 multi-colored autism awareness ribbons. The contents of this packet are for posting on a bulletin board at your school, library, workplace or in your community.

**(Please send us a photo of your bulletin board!)**

To request your Autism Awareness packet call ASM at 1-800-5200 or email: [library@asmonline.org](mailto:library@asmonline.org)

April Autism Awareness events and information will be posted on ASM's online **News** page. Please let us know if you are planning an event, and we will advertise it as well.

ASM Online News Page: <https://www.asmonline.org:4441/news.asp?article=5812>

Here is what will be posted on ASM's online April Awareness page:

- April Awareness events and happenings in the community
- PDF's of resources that are in the April Awareness Packet
- ASM's April Autism Awareness Month Press Release
- Book titles suggested for educators, family and students of all levels about autism
- Toolkits regarding autism issues in the home, community and school
- Class activities/crafts for the classroom

## World Autism Awareness Day April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

The United Nations General Assembly declared April 2<sup>nd</sup> World Autism Day. It was first observed in 2007. Across the globe, autism organizations celebrate the day with fundraising, autism awareness-raising events, or showing support by wearing an autism awareness symbol such as the autism ribbon.

As part of a global initiative to help raise awareness for autism, iconic landmarks around the world will "Light It Up Blue" as part of World Autism Awareness Day.

## 2015 Penobscot Music Festival

May 24, 2015 - 4:00pm to 12:00 Midnight

Jeff's Catering & Events Center  
15 Littlefield Way,  
Brewer, Maine

Eight Great Bands to Play in One Night!  
Proceeds to benefit the Autism Society of Maine

Food and cash bar will be available!

50/50 Raffle!

Only \$2.00 Admission!

**Band Lineup**  
DAKOTA  
SHY BOY  
MIDNIGHT ROSE  
OVERDRIVE  
SIDEWAYS  
THE ALLISON AMES  
BAND  
LIVEWIRE



## FREE Summer Camp—Camp Summit Applications Available April 1



It's that time of year again; Camp Summit registration is now open. Please call ASM for an application to our free summer camp offered in the Farmington area. This unique day summer camp is 4 weeks long, 2 weeks with kids 5 – 10 year olds and 2 weeks for 10 – 15 year olds. There is availability for 12 kids each session. Each individual will have a one on one from the University of Maine Farmington. The college students sign up for this as a class and earn credit toward their degree.



## 2015 Family Retreat Weekend - Applications Available April 1

Please join us for this annual event. Families from all over the state come together to learn, laugh, and meet other families. The location will be St. Joseph's College in Standish. This facility has everything we need. If you can't join us for the weekend, there is a Saturday only option.

Families will have the opportunity to learn something new or just hang out with other families while their children are being cared for by respite providers. The children will swim, rock climb, create a craft, and make new friends.

Each family will have a dorm room for 4 people. Two beds are provided, but there is room for blow up mattresses. All meals are provided with the weekend.

Entertainment will be Juggling Show by Jason Tardy.

**This year's theme:  
Camping!**



## Legislative Update

The fun question of the day: What has 372 ears and needs to hear from you?

If you guessed the Maine Legislature you are correct. There are 151 Representatives and 35 Senators and they are elected to represent every Maine resident. And, an important part of their responsibility is to listen to their constituents. In Maine, we are very fortunate to have a citizen legislature and that access to our Representatives and Senators is easy and welcomed. The state capitol really is the “people’s house.” The First Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature was convened in December and is expected to end in June 2015.

The Autism Society of Maine (ASM) believes that people affected by autism are full citizens and full participants in an open democratic society. All people with autism and their families have the right to advocate for themselves at all levels of government. The Autism Society of Maine is actively engaged with the Maine Legislature through the advocacy work of volunteers who serve on the Board of Directors and community members like you. Please visit the ASM website, click on Legislation in the left column and you will find important information categorized by topics such as State and Federal Legislation, The Legislative Process and Tips on How to Make Your Voice Heard. We invite you to participate in legislative activities by clicking on the link that will take you to the sign-up box to receive legislative e-mail alerts by entering your e-mail address into the sign-up box, and include “Legislative” in your interest profile. Please also click on the link which will give you access to the Legislative Advocacy Sign-Up Form, fill it out and return to ASM. We hope you will be willing to participate in these ASM legislative advocacy activities:

- Receive legislative alerts
- E-mail or phone legislators
- Provide written testimony for public hearing
- Testify or attend public hearing
- Write letter to editor of local newspaper about legislative issue

ASM monitors legislation in the Maine Legislature and disseminates e-mail information alerts on pending priority state legislation that might impact those with autism. Working with the national Autism Society, we also maintain a strong voice on Capitol Hill to shape federal policy that provides benefits,

*By Dennise Whitley, ASM’s Legislative Liaison*

supports, and services across the lifespan for all affected by autism.

In this First Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature there are over 1,500 bills that will be voted upon before adjournment. ASM has developed an effective process for determining when bills have relevance to ASD. The Legislative Liaison reviews every bill when it is printed to determine if the intent of the bill would impact children and adults and their families on the Autism Spectrum. The Legislative Leadership Group (LLG) which is comprised of the Co-Chairs of the Legislative Committee of the Board, Lynda Mazzola and Chris Osgood, Cathy Dionne, the Director of Programs and Administration and Dennise Whitley, Legislative Liaison, then reviews the selected bills and determines which bills are priority, which bills need additional information and which bills will be tracked and monitored. The LLG then brings the information to the full Legislative Committee who discusses the bills and then recommends final action for Board approval. This bill review system is working well and allows for full discussion and input from all of the Board members. We invite anyone particularly interested in participating in the Legislative process to join the Legislative Committee. All bills that have been reviewed and their status as they progress through the legislative process are available on the ASM website at ASM Legislative Tracking Sheet under Legislation.



So far only 565 bills have been printed. To date, Board members and staff have actively supported 5 pieces of Legislation by submitting testimony on 5 bills. Information about these bills and copies of the testimony can be found on the ASM website under Legislation. If you need more information, or just want to discuss a piece of legislation, please feel free to email or call Cathy Dionne and Dennise Whitley at any time.

Become an advocate today! The voices of people on the autism spectrum and their families are the strongest voices and command the attention and interest of Legislators, because no one else can tell the ASD story as well!

Email [dennise@asmonline.org](mailto:dennise@asmonline.org) with any questions regarding legislation.

## Restraint and Seclusion

The Maine Developmental Disabilities Council is collecting stories from families and professionals in an attempt to understand if and how restraint and seclusion are being used on individuals with developmental disabilities in Maine’s hospitals and residential settings. If you would like to confidentially share your experience or your child’s experience.

Nancy Cronin, Executive Director  
Maine Developmental Disabilities Council  
207-287-4214.

[Nancy.E.Cronin@maine.gov](mailto:Nancy.E.Cronin@maine.gov)

## Softball Tournament for Autism - Save the Date!

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Softball Tournament for Autism

**June 20, 2015**

Union Street Athletic Complex, Bangor, ME

Entry Fee is \$250



This is a Co-Ed Softball Tournament. Each team needs a minimum of 10 players with a maximum of 13 players. Teams need to have a captain with contact information for the captain and each member. One team will be awarded the Tournament Champion and one team will be Highest Fundraiser! Wouldn't you want to be the team to get both.....

If you are interested in participating/volunteering in this tournament, please contact Cathy at ASM. See contact information below. Applications are available upon request.

For more information please contact: [asm@asmonline.org](mailto:asm@asmonline.org) or [softballforautism@gmail.com](mailto:softballforautism@gmail.com) or call ASM at 1-800-273-5200

## Ride for Autism - Save the Date!



The 9th Annual Ride for Autism will take place on

**October 3, 2015**

Kennebunkport Conservation Trust  
Gravelly Brook Road  
Kennebunkport, ME

## Autism Information Specialist Program

*By Tena Hinds, Autism Information Specialist Coordinator*

Autism Information Specialists (AIS) contract with the Autism Society of Maine and have varying degrees of expertise.

- Some prefer to concentrate on attending educational planning meetings such as Early Childhood Team meetings (ECT's), Person Centered Planning meetings (PCP's) or Individualized Educational Program meetings (IEP's).
- Some opt to work with law enforcement and corrections professionals who interact with individuals who have Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).
- Others enjoy public speaking and give presentations on various topics related to autism for agencies and organizations around the state.

Autism Information Specialists also provide resource information to families, schools, the work place, and the community. We are committed to increasing the understanding, empathy, and compassion for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

We are currently in the process of training 8 new Information Specialists. They will be added to our present team of 20, and reside in Windham, Oakland, Washburn, Bridgton, Newport, Portland and Hollis.

If you feel you would benefit from meeting with an Autism Information Specialist or would like to learn more about the program, please call the Autism Society of Maine at 1-800-273-5200 or e mail: [infospec@asmonline.org](mailto:infospec@asmonline.org)

## ASM on Social Media!

The Autism Society of Maine has a wonderful Facebook Community including parents, professionals, individuals and anyone interested in autism. If you are not already a friend of our Facebook page, we welcome you to join us!



by "liking" ASM's Facebook page you can help us spread the word to hundreds of new supporters!  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Autism-Society-Of-Maine/107781499258293>



We have a great collection of videos and will be adding more throughout the year!  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/AutismSocietyofME>



Follow us on Twitter as we 'tweet' about autism!  
<https://twitter.com/>



My Autism Team logo A reputable and friendly place to connect with other parents in Maine.  
<http://www.myautismteam.com/>

## Center of Autism and Developmental Disorders (CADD) Open House

School-based providers and clinicians are invited join us:  
**Wednesday, March 18, 3:00 – 5:00 pm**

Parent and other family members are invited join us:  
**Wednesday, March 25, 3:00 – 5:00 pm**

Take a tour of our new facility and join us for a 45 min. presentation:

### *“Is It Sensory Or Behavior?”*

Behaviors can be very complex and a result of many different factors. These actions become concerning when they interfere with everyday functioning and/or possibly become harmful. Behaviors can also impact learning, others in the classroom, family dynamics, and can limit social interaction.

This presentation looks to identify the functionality of the behavior, how actions can inadvertently be reinforced, and will offer a multifaceted approach to managing behavior. There will also be a short introduction to sensory processing/integration in order to explain how sensory affects behavior.

Bruce E. Chemelski, Ph.D. is the Senior Psychologist for the Developmental Disorders program at Spring Harbor Hospital and Clinical Director of Spring Harbor Academy.

Mary Anderson OTD, OTR/L has been a practicing occupational therapist for 25 years with extensive experience working with children with autism and developmental disorders. She is nationally board certified with a specialty in pediatrics

  
Maine Behavioral Healthcare

MaineHealth

CADD

123 Gannet Drive  
South Portland, ME 04106

Call to Register: 207-661-3600  
There is no charge for this Open House

## 46th Annual Autism Society National Conference

Since 1965, the Autism Society has embraced its mission to make a better world for all with autism. Shortly after its founding, the Autism Society held an inaugural national conference to discuss the state of children with ASD in America. This meeting brought together parents of children with ASD to share resources, experiences and develop strategies to be effective advocates for their children

Today, the Autism Society’s annual conference represents one of the largest gathering of autism families, service providers, educators, policymakers and key allies in the disability community. Each year, the Autism Society’s annual conference and exposition features a keynote presentation, multiple breakout sessions, a conference exhibit hall with autism resources and networking opportunities with conference attendees from around the nation. Here you will find a comprehensive guide to the Autism Society National Conference.

### *“I See What You Mean”*

We’d like to introduce you to “I See What You Mean,” also known as the big blue bear peeking into the Denver Colorado Convention Center’s lobby. The sculpture, created by local artist Lawrence Argent, was installed in 2005 and stands forty feet tall. Although the artwork brings an element of whimsy to the convention center, it respects the important events that take place inside. Mr. Argent focused on what it is like to be a resident in Denver when a convention is taking place. “I’m always interested in what might be going on in there, the exchange of information, ideas, and ideologies but there’s never really any indication from the outside what’s going on inside.”



We look forward to seeing you at the Autism Society’s 46th Annual National Conference & Exposition where you can gain practical strategies from leading speakers and experience this can’t miss photo opportunity in the Mile High City. Conference attendees are provided with an extraordinary program and the opportunity to connect with the entire autism community and learn from differing experiences and perspectives. Let’s show that bear that there is nothing more powerful than when this community comes together to support one another, celebrate, and share ideas, stories and hope.

For more information or to register: [https://asaweb.expoplanner.com/index.cfm?do=reg.flow&event\\_id=](https://asaweb.expoplanner.com/index.cfm?do=reg.flow&event_id=)



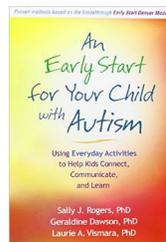
**O**ur Lending Library is a valuable and free resource for parents, caregivers, educators, children and professionals working with children and adults on the autism spectrum. The Lending Library is a FREE resource for Maine residents. The collection can be viewed on the ASM website or you may request a printed list to be mailed to you. Stop by the office, or have material sent to you (will include return shipping) by calling or emailing: 1-800-273-5200 email: [library@asmonline.org](mailto:library@asmonline.org)

The library has its own room with a TV to watch DVD's. Children are always welcome to play with toys or read.

ASM Library Page: [www.asmonline.org/library.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/library.asp)

**An Early Start for Your Child with Autism: Using Everyday Activities to Help Kids Connect, Communicate, and Learn** by Sally J. Rogers, Geraldine Dawson, Laurie A. Vismara

Proven methods based on the “Early Start Denver Model” Cutting-edge research reveals that parents can play a huge role in helping toddlers and preschoolers with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) connect with others and live up to their potential. This encouraging guide from the developers of a groundbreaking early intervention program provides doable, practical strategies you can use every day. Nearly all young kids—including those with ASD—have an amazing capacity to learn. Vivid examples illustrate proven techniques for promoting play, language, and engagement.



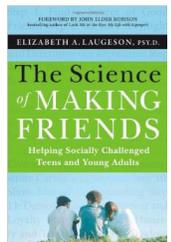
**Helping Adults with Asperger's Syndrome Get & Stay Hired: Career Coaching Strategies for Professionals and Parents of Adults on the Autism Spectrum** by Barbara Bissonnette

Readers will gain insight into how people with Asperger's Syndrome think and the common employment challenges they face. It explains how to build rapport and trust, facilitate better job matches, improve interpersonal communication and executive function skills, and encourage flexible-thinking and problem-solving. With tried-and-tested advice, assessment tools, and in-depth profiles of actual coaching clients and innovative companies that are utilizing the specialized skills of people with Asperger's.



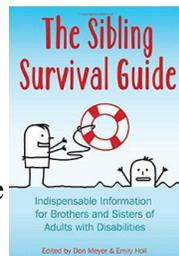
**The Science of Making Friends, (w/DVD): Helping Socially Challenged Teens and Young Adults** by Elizabeth Laugeson and John Elder Robison

This book offers parents a step-by-step guide to making and keeping friends for teens and young adults with social challenges—such as those diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, bipolar, or other conditions. With the book's concrete rules and steps of social etiquette, parents will be able to assist in improving conversational skills, expanding social opportunities, and developing strategies for handling peer rejection. The bonus DVD shows role-plays of skills covered, demonstrating the right and wrong way to enter conversations, schedule get-togethers, deal with conflict, and much more.



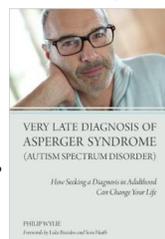
**The Sibling Survival Guide: Indispensable Information for Brothers and Sisters of Adults with Disabilities** by Don Meyer and Emily Holl

If you're a teen or adult sister or brother of someone with a disability, then this book is for you. It offers a sense that you're not alone, tips on how to talk to your parents about plans for your sibling, and a crash course in guardianship, medical & legal issues, and government benefits if you're already caring for your sib. Edited by experts in the field of disabilities and sibling relationships, this guide focuses on the topmost concerns identified by siblings from across the country.



**Very Late Diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome (Autism Spectrum Disorder): How Seeking a Diagnosis in Adulthood Can Change Your Life** by Phillip Wylie

As awareness and understanding of Asperger Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorder increases, more adults are identifying themselves as being on the spectrum and seeking formal diagnosis. This book discusses the process, the pros and cons, and the after-effects of receiving an autism diagnosis in adulthood. Combining practical guidance with advice from personal experience, the book discusses if and when to disclose to family, friends and employers, how to seek appropriate support services, and how to use the self-knowledge gained through diagnosis to live well in the future.



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for your generosity!

# ASM Store

You may purchase these and more items on the ASM website at:

<https://www.asmonline.org:4441/productcart/pc/home.asp>

or call 1-800-273-5200.



**\*NEW ITEM\***

Puzzle Piece Car Magnet  
4" x 8"  
\$6.00



**\*NEW ITEM\***

Autism Touches Us All  
Hanging Charm  
1" x 1" and sterling silver plated  
\$3.00



**\*NEW ITEM\***

Multicolored Puzzle Piece  
Heart Hanging Charm  
1" x 1" and sterling silver plated  
\$3.00



**\*NEW ITEM\***

Big Heart Autism Ribbon  
Key Chain  
1.5" x 1.5" and comes in a gift box.  
Sterling Silver Plated  
\$6.00



Hand crafted Dichroic  
Glass Pendant  
with sterling silver plated bail  
(includes black silk cord)  
5/8" x 7/8" random design and  
color  
\$8.00



**Baseball Cap**  
Black/Red Wave Cap with red font  
Black/Yellow Wave Cap with yellow  
font (not shown)  
\$15.00



Autism Awareness  
Lapel Pin  
\$5.00



Autism Stretch Bracelet  
Sterling Silver Plated  
\$4.00



Autism Ribbon Earrings  
Sterling Silver Plated  
Includes Embossed Gift Box  
\$8.00



Autism Awareness  
Lanyard \$6.00



Gel Autism Awareness  
Bracelet  
\$3.00



Autism Ribbon Keychain  
Price \$5.00



Autism Awareness Mug  
\$10.00



Mini Magnet  
2" x 4"  
\$3.00



Autism Awareness  
Magnet  
8" x 3.5" \$5.00



Silver Bracelet  
\$3.00



## Support our Services: Give to the Autism Society of Maine!

The Autism Society of Maine is a statewide nonprofit organization that for over 36 years has served Maine individuals with autism and their families, professionals, and communities by providing education, advocacy, referrals, and resource development. We rely on donations and fund-raisers to help cover the cost of our programs and activities that bring awareness and community to individuals and families affected by ASD. Here's how you can help:

- General donations may also be made anytime of the year online using our secure donation forms (or you can download and print our PDF forms) at: [http://www.asmonline.org/involved\\_donations.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp)
- Memorial donations to the Society in memory of a friend or loved-one may also be made at: [http://www.asmonline.org/involved\\_donations.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations.asp)
- Donations through Network For Good may be made at: <https://www.networkforgood.org/donation/ExpressDonation.aspx?ORGID2=010407346>
- Donations through United Way can be directed to the Autism Society of Maine. For more information, visit: [http://www.asmonline.org/involved\\_donations\\_united\\_way.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_donations_united_way.asp)
- Host a fund-raiser with proceeds going to ASM. Some of the past and current fund-raisers have included: Avon, Pampered Chef parties, Mary Kay parties, bake sales at events, selling autism awareness items at conferences or craft events, selling holiday wreaths, selling T-shirts. If any of these fund-raisers interest you, please call us for more information.

### Become a Member!

The Autism Society of Maine invites you to join families and professionals in the pursuit of knowledge about autism spectrum disorders, treatments and support for Maine children and adults with autism.

You may register online at:

[www.asmonline.org/involved\\_joinasm.asp](http://www.asmonline.org/involved_joinasm.asp)

or call ASM at 1-800-273-5200

For other ways to contribute, contact us at [asm@asmonline.org](mailto:asm@asmonline.org). Thank you for supporting our mission!

**Call us at: 1-800-273-5200 or visit us online at [www.asmonline.org](http://www.asmonline.org)**