Maine Medical Center, with Dr. Matthew Siegel as Primary Investigator, was recently chosen as one of the 25 clinical site partners for SPARK (Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research for Knowledge), a national scientific study and community of individuals with autism and their families. SPARK Northern New England will cover Maine, and our neighbors in New Hampshire and Vermont.

SPARK is a free online study with a simple mission: to speed up research and advance the understanding of autism. By building a community of 50,000 research participants, made up of individuals with autism and their parents and siblings, SPARK aims to make new research possible that was not in the past and to provide participants with access to new tools and information.

Autism has a strong genetic component. To date, approximately 50 genes have been identified that almost certainly play a role in autism, and researchers estimate that many more are involved. But, to identify these genes, many more genetic samples (DNA from saliva) from individuals with autism and their immediate families are needed. That is where SPARK comes in. The collection of genetic information (DNA) will be analyzed to improve our understanding about the role genes play in the development of autism. The Simons Foundation is building a genetic database that researchers can use to learn more about autism. The study may potentially help identify subgroups of individuals with autism to develop more targeted treatments.

Any individual with a professional diagnosis of autism and their family is invited to participate in this study. Participation can be done entirely online and through the mail. Each individual with autism and their biological parents will be asked to complete a brief on-line questionnaire and provide a saliva sample collected with a kit they receive in the mail. The kit includes a tube for collecting saliva, as well as an absorbent swab that can be used for any person who is not able to spit into the tube. It is especially important that we collect DNA not just from the individual but also both biological parents (this creates a “trio”). Trios allow scientists to identify whether an autism gene was passed down from a parent or “sprung up” in a different way. However, all individuals with a diagnosis of autism, even without family participation, are invited to enroll in SPARK to help us build a robust research community!

The Research Coordinator can help you through the process, answer any questions, and if you prefer can schedule an in-person visit to collect the saliva sample.

Why participate in SPARK Northern New England?
Autism Society of Maine often receives calls from families and providers struggling with the provision of medical services to individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). In a recent review of Autism Society of America’s information on related medical conditions (https://www.autism-society.org/what-is/diagnosis/related-conditions/) there were a number of medical issues highlighted for our population. These included seizures, GI difficulties, sensory issues, sleep difficulties, as well as others. There are reported health disparities impacting the health and well-being of adults with neurodevelopmental disorders (which includes ASD). Given this information, our loved ones will need regular medical care, likely across many specialty areas, so it is critical that patients, families and providers are as prepared as they can be when an acute medical situation arises.

There are many challenges on both sides of the issue---for some medical practitioners and individuals and families. Medical practices may have limited contact with individuals (i.e. annual physicals) so less time to build a relationship, office visits may have time constraints, and many have reported limited experience with the ASD population. The reimbursement structure does not allow for the required case coordination.

Individuals may struggle to communicate needs and issues clearly. The ability of people with ASD to report their symptoms, tune into their bodies and then articulate the information to providers may be limited, even with spoken language. I am always amazed at how much physical discomfort my son can tolerate before he says anything. The complex developmental disorder impacts a person’s ability to communicate and to interact with others. Both are skills used in a medical office assessment. When medical concerns emerge, an individual’s sensory and related sensitivities may impact the ability to complete traditional medical diagnostics. ASM has received many calls from families where the medical issues were missed, not actively treated, or individuals were in emergency rooms for long periods of time, for medical and psychiatric reasons.

The good news is that we have some amazing resources in Maine to help individuals, families and practitioners that will benefit the health of individuals living with ASD. There are a number of Developmental Pediatricians and providers with a high level of competence in treating individuals with ASD. Maine has a rich network of social service providers, talented physicians, psychiatrists and nurse specialists to tap into. Case Managers are a wealth of information about providers/options in your specific geographic area and clinical area. Talk to other parents---they often have ideas and experiences to share and organizations such as ASM, Maine Coalition for Quality Housing and Supports (www.maineparentcoalition.org), GEAR, Maine Parent Federation---are available to all of us.

ASM maintains a list of providers. Autism Society of Maine provides Autism Information Specialist trainings on autism and strategies, a lending library, newsletters and regular presentations and workshops. At the national level, Autism Society of America(http://www.autism-society.org/) is a wealth of information

Continued on page 3
By joining SPARK you are helping to accelerate research to find causes and treatments for autism and receive benefits yourself as well. The on-line portal provides the latest updates on research, and access to experts who will provide information to manage daily situations. You will also have access to webinars such as, Career Paths of People with Autism and Their Parents, Challenging Behaviors in Autism-Self-Injury and Personal Space and Autism. This library will continue to expand.

Participating families can receive a gift card of up to $50.00 once registration is completed and saliva samples are mailed in. You may receive results from the analysis of your or your family’s DNA if you opt to receive your results, and a genetic cause for autism or another relevant genetic issue is identified. In this situation, access to genetic counseling will also be facilitated.

The Maine Autism Community has a unique opportunity to help speed up Autism Research by joining SPARK Northern New England today.

If you have any questions, or want to learn more, please contact Laurie.

Laurie A. Raymond, LCSW & Research Coordinator
SPARK Northern New England (NNE), Maine Medical Center
Phone: 207 661-7620
SPARK EMAIL: sparknne@mmc.org
SPARK Northern New England Site: https://sparkforautism.org/mainemedicalcenter

with their “Living With Autism” series and many other topics for families and providers to take advantage of. Other national resources include: www.aucd.org, www.thenadd.org. They often have toolkits, webinars and resources to support healthcare providers.

In Maine, we have just seen the first cohort of graduates from the Maine Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disorders (LEND), whose vision is to serve individuals and families with expertise, and family-centered care. (http://www.une.edu/LEND). The University of New England is collaborating with Maine Behavioral Healthcare’s Center for Autism and Developmental Disorders and Maine Medical Center’s Department of Pediatric Neurology and Division of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics in this effort. One of these graduates, Lori Ann, RN, BSN created a brochure for providers titled, “Quick Tips for Providers: Folks On The Spectrum”. While the pragmatic tips can be utilized for all individuals with ASD, particular attention is paid to adults as health is one of the significant transitions for our loved ones. We go from the same pediatrician, often into young adulthood, and the move to another provider as an adult is not easy. The office location, staff, process and physician is all different. Aging out of children’s services impacts healthcare and according to a report in 2013 by Maine Developmental Disability Council, the 21-26 year olds with ASD is the fastest growing group in our state (http://www.maineddc.org/), so it is important to insure providers are prepared.

Some of the tips in Ms. Ann’s brochure include:

- Provide longer appointment times to help with data gathering from individual and family
- Use visual aids and drawings where applicable—i.e. pain scales, body drawings
- Pay attention to sensory issues/needs during your assessment

There are resources to help families and providers, so please reach out to the Autism Society of Maine.

All my best….Laurie
April 30th was the “Big Day” for five “Walk for Autism” events located at: Belfast Area High School, Farmington Fairgrounds, University of Maine in Bangor, University of New England in Biddeford and our newest Walk location at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds. We had a cool crisp day that was a bit overcast with intermitting sunshine. Everyone was in good spirits and ready to walk together for their loved ones with autism and in support of one another.

“Thank You So Much!” for your part in making this a wonderful day to celebrate individuals with autism. Step-by-Step, this event helps to create autism awareness & acceptance and raises important funds for ASM to provide programs in the autism community. Many teams were formed and they worked very hard at reaching their fundraising goals. Some teams made awesome t-shirts to unify their team or even wore tutus! We appreciate everyone who came out and made a donation to support this great cause! Thank you!

A Special Walk for Autism T-Shirt was designed to commemorate it being ASM’s 15th Walk for Autism. A giraffe is displayed on the front of the t-shirt and is filled in with colorful puzzle pieces. This was In Memory of Lynda J. Mazzola, Speech Language Pathologist and one of the founders of ASM. Her love of giraffes was well known to all that knew her. We still have a few t-shirts left in the ASM Online Store or you can request one by calling ASM: 1-800-273-5200, http://www.asmonline.org/asm-storefront.aspx#!/Walk-for-Autism-T-Shirt-2017/p/84021640/category=15467442

A Special “Thank You” goes to all of our Corporate Sponsors and In-Kind donations who helped to make this event possible; their support is the foundation of this event.

GOLD Sponsors:

Thank You to First Responders that came out to “Meet and Greet” with parents and let children check out, and even sit in their vehicles. Although this is great fun for the children, it’s also a great opportunity for them to learn to associate first responders as friendly and someone to trust when needed.

Thank You to our Team Leaders: Cathy Dionne & Tara Perry (Bangor), Karen Gorris-Hicock (Belfast), Susan Vincent (Biddeford), Jean Mason & Tena Hinds (Farmington), Kendra Campbell (Fryeburg)

ASM Board Members Present: Melody Altschuler, Richard Farnsworth, Sherry Pike, Nancy Ponzetti-Dyer, Laurie Raymond, Tiffiny Rooney, Terry Valcourt and Jon Youde.

Many volunteers from the community are needed to help make this event successful. We give a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you; we couldn’t have done it without you!

Group volunteers: UNE Pre-OT Club, Kohl’s Associates in Action from the Bangor and Biddeford stores, TD Bank, Stillwater Academy and Louise Magoon’s Group of volunteers.

Media and Legislative Representatives were invited to attend and we want to thank Tracy Sabol of Channel WMTW and Bonita Pothier, Regional Representative for Senator King for doing the honor of cutting the start ribbon in Biddeford. Channel WABI 5 and WCSH 6 were in Bangor and did very informative videos that included interviews with families.

Thank you to all of you who donated and participated in this important event! It is wonderful to know that we have a vibrant autism community that strives for autism awareness and acceptance where we learn, live and play!

Please visit the ASM online gallery to see the Walk for Autism photos http://www.asmonline.org/gallery/item/21811

Quick Facts!
Individuals Registered: 711
Teams Registered: 104
Funds Raised: $69,689.35
(this amount may increase as more donations come in)
Quilt Raffle Winner: Teresa Paul, Yarmouth
Top Fundraising Team: Team Tommy, Biddeford location raised $5,120! (photo below)
15th Annual Walk for Autism

BELOW: photo taken by Parker Osgood in Bangor.
Upcoming Events

ASM’s Annual Board Meeting
Augusta Country Club

October 6th at 6 PM

Please join us for the ASM Annual Board Meeting and Banquet Dinner. We will welcome new board members and honor members finishing their term. A report regarding the programs ASM has managed throughout the year, as well as fundraising activities that support them will be highlighted. Awards will be presented from various categories. There is no cost to attend this meeting, but membership is recommended.

Seating is limited; please call ASM to make your reservations: 1-800-273-5200

Fall Conference on Autism
Managing Behavioral and Social Challenges
Keynote by: Dr. Jed Baker

November 4, 2017

On November 4, 2017, at the Black Bear Inn and Conference Center in Orono, ASM is holding a “Fall Conference for Autism”, with a focus on Managing Behavioral and Social Challenges.

This conference is designed for parents and family members of children, or adults on the autism spectrum, as well as educators and other service providers. In addition to our keynote speaker, Jed Baker, there will be break-out sessions in the afternoon related to topics that assist in supporting the valued lives of individuals on the Autism Spectrum.

There is no cost for attendees and hopefully everyone will leave with practical tools and strategies that can be implemented immediately in the home, school and/or community.

Jed Baker, founder of the Social Skills Training Program, comes to us from New Jersey and has authored many resource books related to the behavioral and social challenges individuals with ASD often encounter. He will leave us with a better understanding of how to respond to and support these deficits.

Doors will open at 7:30 am for registration with the Conference beginning at 8:30 am.

Online registrations will be available by July. There will also be availability for vendors and sponsorship. Visit our website for more information or call 1-800-273-5200.

ASM Summer Camps

NEW SUMMER CAMP

Finding the Pieces Summer Camp

This year ASM collaborated with City of Biddeford and University of New England to open a new summer camp as a pilot program in Biddeford. That camp will be called “Finding the Pieces” and will be located along with the Safari Camp. Camp will be for kindergarten through 5th grade. Hours will by Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 12:30. This camp will run for two weeks in August 7 – August 18. There is a link on our website to learn more about the new camp. This is also a free summer camp for children with autism.

Camp Summit

Camp Summit is offered FREE to children with autism, ages 5 through 15.

Located in Farmington, Camp Summit offers 2- two week camp sessions that run Monday through Thursday from 10:00-2PM. Each camper has a one on one camp counselor who is a student from the University. This program fosters social communication with fun peer activities along with field trip experiences.

Applications will be available on April 1st. Space is limited! Call ASM to have your child’s application sent to you.
2017 ASM Family Retreat Weekend

July 14th, 15th and 16th

Please join us! This is an annual event that brings families from all over the state together to connect with other families and have fun.

While the children are in the care of respite providers, caregivers have the opportunity to attend informational workshops, hang out with other families, or enjoy some alone time. The children will swim, rock climb, create a craft, play games and make new friends in small groups with respite support.

Each family has a dorm room with two twin beds. There is room for blow up mattresses. All meals are provided for the weekend.

There is family entertainment on Saturday night. A leisurely check out on Sunday gives families time to enjoy breakfast and explore the beautiful campus of St. Josephs College in Standish.

This year’s theme will be “Trouble on the High Seas”- kids will enjoy a visit and sword fight with Cap’n Jim and the Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers will be back to entertain the whole family.

If you can’t join us for the weekend, there is a Saturday only option.

Registration started on April 1st through June 30th.

If you know of anyone who would like to be a respite provider for the weekend please have them call us for a respite application.

Space is limited! Call ASM 1-800-273-5200 to have your application sent to you.

Softball Tournament for Autism

5th Annual Softball Tournament for Autism
June 24, 2017
Union Street Athletic Fields, Bangor, ME

Dust off your cleats and get your bats ready! This is a Co-Ed Softball Tournament. Each team needs a team captain, and a minimum of 10 players with a maximum of 13. There is an entry fee of $250, but teams are also encouraged to obtain corporate sponsors. Each corporate sponsor, depending on the level they sponsor, will be offered advertisement and the team will get the credit. Two prizes will be awarded: One for the team that wins the tournament, and the other for the team that raises the most money.

This is a fun family activity with plenty of room for the kids to run around. Come watch a couple of innings and enjoy a great BBQ by Texas Back Yard BBQ. We will have great raffle prizes to win.

Current raffle items include: Signed Football by Jimmy Garoppolo New England Patriots, Signed photograph of Rick Porcello Boston Red Sox, Signed Boston Bruins Hockey Puck by Kevin Miller, Old Town Kayak, Yeti Coolers, Emera Maine gift card $75, Penobscot Country Club 18 hole passes, Hidden Meadows Golf Course 18 hole passes with golf cart, 2 tickets to REO Speedwagon and Styx Concert at Waterfront Pavilion, Spot Light Cinema passes, Road House Restaurant gift card, Geaghan Restaurant gift card, and much more to come!

For more information please contact: ASM at 1-800-273-5200 or email: asm@asmonline.org
The First Session of the 128th Legislature began in December 2016 and it has been a busy Legislative Session so far. As of May 10, the Legislative Committee of the Autism Society has been actively monitoring 45 Bills that could have an impact on the lives of adults and children who are on the Autism spectrum and their families. At this writing, bills are still being entered. If you want to follow the Bills discussed below go to our website, click on “Get Involved” and then “Legislation” on the drop down list. There are links that will lead to information about “The Legislative Process” and “Tips on How to Make Your Voice Heard” and “7 Easy Steps To Accessing and Following The Maine Legislature.”

The ASM Legislative Committee and Board of Directors approved active support of 6 bills. Cathy Dionne presented testimony to the Health and Human Services Committee and letters have been entered as testimony from President Laurie Raymond and Vice-President Nancy Ponzetti-Dyer. Synopsis of the ASM testimony follows:

**LD 106:** An Act To Provide MaineCare Coverage for Dental Services to Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autistic Disorder. MaineCare currently does not provide dental coverage to adults. In June of 2014, “Accessing healthcare: The experience of individuals with autism spectrum disorders in Maine”, a study by University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies was released. Contained within the report is the following: “Other medical issues. Parents and guardians reported a number of health issues that were not addressed directly in the interview questions. The most common issue reported for both adults and children was a lack of dental care. Those interviewed reported that they had difficulty both finding dentists and paying for their services. Dental disease affects people of all ages; yet to a great extent, it is highly preventable.” In many cases, with regular dental care through Maine Care coverage, more costly procedures could be prevented. Many individuals and families are unable to privately purchase dental coverage.

The HHS Committee voted a Divided Report which will be brought to the House and the Senate for floor votes.

**LD 323:** An Act To Fully Fund the Waiting List for the Home and Community Benefits for Members with Intellectual Disabilities or Autistic Disorder Waiver

Currently, DHHS reports that we have 1399 individuals on the waiting list for Section 29. For some families, parents have to leave or decrease necessary employment in order to care for members with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Our most vulnerable population is often in situations of risk due to limited supports to individuals and families. We are told that some of those on this waiting list are already receiving Section 29 services. However, if you have limited or no communication or moderate to severe deficits in adaptive skills, 20 hours of support per week (provided under the Section 29 Waiver) are not adequate to insure safety and quality of life. Over the next decade, we have thousands of individuals who will be aging out of special education services. We support the full funding of the current waiting list now.

The Bill has been TABLED in Committee with no final report out yet.

**LD 763:** An Act To Support Individuals with Disabilities by Exempting Certain Wages from Consideration for MaineCare

This bill looks to exclude earnings made while in vocational rehabilitation or community based work supports from MaineCare considerations. We strongly support this. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities will earn, and be able to save, less than other members of our communities. They often exist on Supplemental Security Income, Food Stamps and a small state supplement. For most individuals, this means living on just over $700 per month for all expenses and less than $150 per month in food stamps.

The Bill has been TABLED in Committee with no final report out yet.

**LD 967:** An Act To Ensure Access to Community Services for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism

To attain each person’s unique goals, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities rely on their Direct Support Professionals on a daily basis. Many families go without services because there are vacant positions. Reimbursement rates to these organizations have been stagnant since 2007 with them now hovering just over $21 per hour. This is to cover all costs, wages, benefits, training, administrative support, after hours on call, quality assurance and related mandated practices. Direct Support Professionals are the foundation of our loved ones’ support and should be paid a living wage that reflects the critical role they play in the lives of our state’s most vulnerable
citizens. Failure to provide a reasonable reimbursement will create unsafe circumstances for our loved ones.

The Work Session for the Bill is May 11, 2017.

**LD 665: An Act To Give the Courts Sentencing Discretion When a Person with a Developmental Disability Has Been Convicted of a Crime**

We receive calls regularly from families and individuals across the state when loved one are charged with crimes where the understanding of Autism and/or intellectual disabilities is absent. The court being allowed to use its’ discretion to impose a sentence in these situations, is warranted and would be welcomed.

The HHS Committee voted a Divided Report which will be brought to the House and the Senate for floor votes.

**LD 902: Resolve, To Increase Access to Evidence-based Psychosocial Treatment for Children in the MaineCare Program**

We support this bill because best practice standards should inform interventions for Maine children and families. These may include Trauma Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, but should also include other beneficial treatments such as Applied Behavioral Analysis Treatment, Multi-Systemic Therapy Model and Dialectical Behavior Therapy. Evidenced-based practices are necessary combined with a clinician’s experience and ethics as well as the client’s preference and culture to guide and inform treatment. The Bill has been Tabled in Committee.

### April Awareness Month

A Joint Resolution by the House of Representatives, recognizing April as Autism Awareness Month in Maine, was adopted on April 2, 2017.

Representative Richard Farnsworth, presented a motion to the House of Representatives; a Joint Resolution to recognize April 2017 as Autism Awareness Month. The motion highlighted the many struggles and needs of families and individuals with autism, that can be helped with a support system.

Governor Lepage, also proclaimed April Autism Awareness Month.

ASM sent out 350 Autism Awareness Packets containing autism informational flyers, brochures and other resources, to various schools, law enforcement agencies and medical professionals to promote autism awareness. In addition to the packets mailed, all of our packet information was also available for download.

Autism Awareness Displays were created in schools, libraries and workplaces. We thank everyone who made an autism awareness display and for sending in pictures! Also, if you haven’t done so already, please go to www.surveymonkey.com/r/Autismawarenesssurvey to let us know what we can do to improve our packets.

There were many celebrations, events and fundraisers that took place. We would like to give a special “THANK YOU” to ALL of you that hosted an event or participated!

### 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!

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/autismsocietyme

My Autism Team logo A reputable and friendly place to connect with other parents in Maine. http://www.myautismteam.com/
ASM’s 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 (we will include return shipping label) by calling 1-800-273-5200 or emailing: library@asmonline.org

Unwritten Rules of Social Relationships: Decoding Social Mysteries Through the Unique Perspectives of Autism by Temple Grandin Ph.D. and Sean Barron

Born with autism, both Temple Grandin and Sean Barron now live famously successful social lives. However, their paths were quite different. Temple’s logical mind controlled her social behavior. She interacted with many adults and other children, experiencing varied social situations. Logic informed her decision to obey social rules and avoid unpleasant consequences. Sean’s emotions controlled his social behavior. Baffled by social rules, isolated and friendless, he made up his own, and applied them to others. When they inevitably broke his rules, he felt worthless and unloved.

The Out-of-Sync Child Grows Up: Coping with Sensory Processing Disorder in the Adolescent and Young Adult Years by Carol Kranowitz

Children already diagnosed with Sensory Processing Disorder are entering the adolescent, tween, and teen years, as well as those who do not yet have a diagnosis and are struggling to meet the challenges of daily life. This book picks up where The Out-of-Sync Child left off, offering practical advice on living with SPD, covering everyday challenges as well as the social and emotional issues that many young people with SPD face.

The ASM Lending Library also has the first and second book in “The Out of Sync Child” series by Carol Kranowitz

The Out-of-Sync Child: Recognizing and Coping with Sensory Processing Disorder

The Out-of-Sync Child Has Fun: Activities for Kids with Sensory Processing Disorder

Donations

In Memory of:

Marlene Jacqmin
Lynda Mazzola
   Nancy Ponzetti-Dyer
   Michael & Donna Phillips
   Linda Chamberlain
   Mary Richards
   Doris & Joe Pietroski
   Daisy Dore
   Geraldine Henderson
   Guy & Joan Hutchins
   Bruce & Violet Ferland
   Ruth Allen
   Staff of Waterville Junior High School
   Susan Lahti

Norman Cormier
   Knights of Columbus Assembly 2327

Donations/Sponsorships & Employee Matches:

Bank of America
   United Way of Kennebec Valley
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   Believe in Books Literacy Foundation
   Colonial Mast Campground
   Firefly Boutique
   The Good Table Restaurant
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<td>Autism Awareness Lanyard</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$10.00</td>
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<td>Autism Ribbons Earrings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walk for Autism T-Shirt <strong>Special 15th Anniversary Design, size large or x-large</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gel Autism Awareness Bracelet</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multicolored Puzzle Piece Heart Hanging Charm <strong>1” x 1” and Sterling Silver pl</strong>ated</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Heart Autism Ribbon Key Chain <strong>1.5” x 1.5” and comes in embossed gift box</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autism Ribbon Keychain <strong>Sterling Silver plated</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini Magnet <strong>2” x 4”</strong></td>
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<td>Autism Ribbon Earrings <strong>Sterling Silver plated</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Autism Touches Us All Hanging Charm <strong>1” x 1” and Sterling Silver plated</strong></td>
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You may purchase these and more items on the ASM website at: [http://www.asmonline.org/asm-storefront.aspx](http://www.asmonline.org/asm-storefront.aspx) or call 1-800-273-5200.
Let ME spread the word on AUTISM

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
- 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
- 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
- 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.

For other ways to contribute, contact us at asm@asmoline.org. Thank you for supporting our mission!

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 or call ASM at 1-800-273-5200

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