

BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM

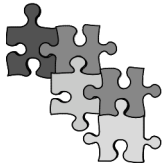
Raising funds and awareness in support of individuals living with autism spectrum disorders and their families, with a focus on research, education and programming.

Bailey's Team is helping to put the pieces together!

FALL 2013 Newsletter – Prepared by Sammi Robertson

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the tenth edition of our BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM newsletter! We have included updates on our fundraising success, our life with Bailey... his successes and challenges, our upcoming event schedule, as well as other plans for the future. We thank you for your continued interest and support and hope you enjoy our newsletter.



Officers

Sammi Robertson
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Vice President
Visual Creations, Inc.

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Treasurer

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Family Solutions

Amy Tonkonogy
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Danielle Desrosiers
Millbury Federal Credit Union

Amy Laurent
University of Rhode Island

Todd Levine
Brown Center for the
Study of Children &
Women & Infants Hospital

Julie O'Brien
MGH for Children
The Lurie Center for Autism

Thomas Pereira
Boston Capital Corporation

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Irwin & Roberta Chafetz

Stephen Shore

BAILEY'S TEAM RAISES \$30,000 AT 9TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT!

BAILEY'S TEAM HELD IT'S 9th ANNUAL BAILEY'S PAR for AUTISM CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

On June 9th, we welcomed a full field of golfers to Crystal Lake Golf Club for our 9th annual charity golf tournament in support of individuals living with autism and their families.

It was a perfect day – the weather was beautiful as our volunteers started to arrive at 9:00 am. After a full round of golf, contests and many other highlights throughout the day, our patrons enjoyed a delicious surf & turf dinner. We went on to enjoy a heartfelt video introducing our guests to Bailey's Team as well as a competitive auction resulting in an evening of fun and excitement yielding – in the end – over \$30,000 in support of our mission.

We would like to extend a special thank you to those in attendance who have come year after year to spend a very special day with us! We have already begun to plan our tenth annual event to be held next June 22, 2014... it will be quite a celebration!!

BAILEY'S TEAM WELCOMES TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS...

**DANIELLE DESROSIERS &
AMY LAURENT, EdM, OTR/L**

(See page 3 for introductions)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 5TH ANNUAL WINE, SPIRITS & BEER TASTING

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2013
AT CBS SCENE – PATRIOT PLACE
FOXBORO, MA**

(See website for more information)

Bailey's Run for Autism

**NOW A 5K, OUR THIRD ANNUAL
RUN FOR AUTISM IS MOVING TO
FOXBORO, MA!**

On **Sunday, March 30, 2014**, we will host our 3rd Annual Run for Autism. Since 2012, we have hosted nearly 300 runners – all running in support of individuals living with autism and their families! We are excited to make these changes in an effort to improve our event for our patrons.

Information about this event will be posted on our website by November 1, 2013.



**BAILEY'S TEAM CELEBRATES
ITS 5TH YEAR AS A
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

(See page 4 for more information)

For more information about BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM, please visit www.baileysteam.org

A Message from the President **FAMILY UPDATE**

Dear Friends,

As 2013 comes to a close, we are excited to announce that we are celebrating our 5th year as an incorporated non-profit organization, although we have been raising funds in support of individuals with autism and their families since 2001. Our Board was established in the summer of 2008 and held its first meeting on October 28th of that year. We have gone on to do a lot of good work for autism and are happy to celebrate our successes with you – please see page 4 for more about our accomplishments.

* * *

As with each year that passes, it is hard to believe that we have come so far – living with and learning from Bailey and his autism. Bailey will be fourteen by the time you read this and he is in the 8th grade. Looking ahead to next year when he transitions to High School is unimaginable. This year his class seems to be providing a more “typical” environment in that it includes both boys and girls. Since autism is most often diagnosed among boys, Bailey has not had many girls in his program along the way. He already seems to be maturing and succeeding in this environment – more quickly than in past years. He remains in a substantially separate classroom and spends a small amount of time each day included with typical peers – sometimes at lunch, gym or art.

His birthday is a bittersweet time for us as he is not always aware of when it approaches like most children. We remind him of his birthday as it draws near and make sure to celebrate or it might go unnoticed. We rehearse his age for weeks so that he understands that this number changes, however, when asked how old he is, he still often begins by saying “ten year’s old” until we correct him and then he will do his best to correct himself reciting the correct number.

Bailey is truly a young man reaching nearly five feet, quickly approaching mom’s height! The best part of my day is to walk him out to the bus in the morning...he puts his arm over my shoulder as if to escort me to the bus. He kisses me on the cheek and hops happily onto the bus grinning from ear to ear. It is a wonderful way to start the day... embracing your teenager and knowing he is happy.

Unlike other teenagers, however, he continues to enjoy Sesame Street videos and music, and Mario games and plush dolls. He plays video games and researches how to win on YouTube. He has also begun to act out Mario scripts with his character plush dolls and enjoys “privacy” when videotaping this role-play.

Our biggest struggle continues to be the sudden loss of Internet service at home, at the Cape, in the car and in the community. If our Internet service goes down intermittently and Bailey cannot access the web, we must somehow resolve the problem immediately and do our best to connect through another source, be it our cell phones, a “mi-fi” (or “hotspot”) or public access. If we are unable to reconnect to the Internet, we are all at risk of his very loud outbursts or tantrums.

Since March of 2012, Bailey stopped using his voice above a whisper. We have not been able to determine why he whispers or how the sound of his own voice makes him feel, but we continue to work hard to encourage him to increase his volume in order to make requests. Among other things, this is a very sad and disappointing symptom of his autism – unexplainable behavior that takes him further away from us. We are still hoping that his speaking voice will someday return as quickly as it disappeared.



[Above]
Spencer, Rachel &
Bailey at the Cape

Bailey at his school
Art Show in the
Spring of 2013...

How does he know
to make that face??



Bailey & Mom
enjoying a seal
tour out of
Pleasant Bay,
Chatham



Rachel &
Bailey at
Bud's Go-
Carts in
Harwich



Bailey's making lunch!
Bailey learned to make
english muffin pizzas at school



Bailey
with his
Dad

FAMILY UPDATE

[Continued from page 2]

As for the rest of the family, Rachel is a junior in High School and hopes to get her driver's license in November! She continues to work hard in school and works in the office at our synagogue on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Spencer is in 7th grade and continues to excel in all of his classes receiving high honors. He has a lot of friends and also enjoys time with his family.

Lindsay, Brent & Baby Georgie are all doing fine and recently visited us in August at the Cape Cod House. Lindsay finished Law School last December and took the bar exam in July.

Doug and I are still taking care of kids... working hard... and running to the Cape as often as possible.

We continue to be busy with all that life brings and autism keeps it... *interesting*. ☺

As always, we thank you for your ongoing support, and we would like to offer a special thank you to our Board Members and Volunteers who have made these past five years for Bailey's Team extraordinary!

Sammi Robertson

TRIBUTE CARDS

In 2008, we introduced our Tribute Card Program, providing individuals with the opportunity to make a donation in honor of a special someone, in celebration of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one. To date, this initiative has raised over \$3,200 for Bailey's Team.

If you would like to make a donation in honor or in memory of someone special, please visit www.baileysteam.org and download our tribute form for more information.



Spencer,
Rachel &
Baby Georgie

MEET NEW BOARD MEMBERS, DANIELLE DESROSIER & AMY LAURENT



Danielle Desrosiers works for the Millbury Federal Credit Union (MCU) as the Assistant Branch Manager in the South Grafton office. She began her career with MCU after graduating from High School and later relocated to South Florida where she gained experience in interior design and construction. Upon returning to Massachusetts, she returned to the MCU family where she has worked for the last six years.

Danielle is very active with the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce helping to organize many of their events. She is nationally certified in human massage therapy, as well as equine massage therapy; and she currently lives in Webster, Massachusetts. Danielle has also been a favorite at our Bailey's Team Charity Golf Tournament where she has volunteered her massage services since 2009.

Amy Laurent, Ed.M., OTR/L is a pediatric occupational therapist who holds a Master's degree in Special Education. Currently in private practice, Amy specializes in the education of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and related developmental disabilities. The majority of Amy's work involves collaborating with and supporting school teams and families. Her consultative services focus on the creation of educational programs and environments that facilitate children's active engagement. The SCERTS Model, of which she is a co-author, along with differentiated instruction and developmental theory guide her practice. She works with educational teams in K-12 schools, pre-schools, and early intervention programs.

In addition to her role as a consultant, Amy serves as an adjunct faculty member for the Department of Communicative Disorders at the University of Rhode Island where she is also a doctoral student in psychology, and for the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Emerson College in Boston, MA. At these institutions, she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses focused on preparing graduating clinicians to meet the needs of children with ASD and the needs of their families.

Amy lives in Rhode Island with her husband, John, her son, AJ, and Chocolate Lab, Jetty.



BAILEY'S TEAM CELEBRATES 5 YEARS AS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION... and much, much more!

Bailey's Team has raised over **\$700,000** in support of individuals living with autism and their families

We will host our **5th Annual Wine, Spirits & Beer Tasting** on November 1, 2013

We have funded **24 Projects and Organizations** with a focus on research, education and programming all in support of people with autism

Bailey's Team has been raising money for **12 Years**

We have hosted **9 Lectures** educating over **1,000 Attendees** in 4 years and will host our **5th Annual Education Series** in April & May of 2014

Bailey will turn **14 Years Old** on October 2, 2013

Our Board will celebrate its **5th year** as an incorporated 501c3 non-profit organization in October, 2013

1 in 88 individuals will be diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder this year

Bailey's Team donated **11 iPad Minis** to individuals living with autism spectrum orders through the Arc of Bristol County

15 Members have served on the Board since its inception in 2008

65 Volunteers have worked hard to support Bailey's Team at events, seeking financial support and performing administrative tasks

We raised **\$30,000** at our golf tournament in June, 2013

On June 22, 2014, we will host our **10th Annual Bailey's Par for Autism Charity Golf Tournament**

We have raised over **\$3,200** through our Tribute Card Program

Bailey's Team has funded autism training for **1,700 First Responders** including Police Officers, Fire Fighters, EMS and Airport Security Personnel in over **40 Communities** in New England

And we couldn't have done any of it without your support...THANK YOU!!!

AUTISM AWARENESS JEWELRY FOR SALE TO SUPPORT BAILEY'S TEAM

Did you know that Bailey's Team has been selling autism awareness jewelry since 2010?



Bling Bracelet...\$22.00



Spiral Bracelet...\$16.00

Handcrafted jewelry featuring Miyuki glass beads with heavy silver-plate rings [nickel free]; with sterling silver puzzle piece charm.



Cuff Bracelet...\$12.00

Handcrafted jewelry featuring high quality nickel free - silver plate tubes & Swarovski crystals with a pewter puzzle piece charm.

Our awareness jewelry contains colorful beads representing autism in red, blue, aqua and yellow and is displayed at our Education Series and at autism walk events in Rhode Island. You may also contact us at sammirobertson@comcast.net if you would like more information about how to purchase our beautiful handcrafted jewelry.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE, NICK PEREIRA & THE RED STONE GRILL OF NORTH ATTLEBORO, MA



Bailey's Team would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to a very special young man. Nick Pereira, a student at Tri-County Regional High School, was presented with an Outstanding Community Service Award earlier this year at their annual Awards Night for his volunteer work with Bailey's Team for Autism. He was asked to select an organization and project for which to volunteer, and was required to complete a written report and power point presentation to be presented to the Freshman Class discussing Bailey's Team, it's mission and accomplishments, his experiences volunteering, and the challenges non-profit organizations face. Nick has volunteered at Bailey's Team events and has assisted with several mailings, and is the son of Board Member Tom Pereira.



The Red Stone Grill, a local family restaurant in North Attleboro offering everyone's favorite comfort food, partnered with Bailey's Team in May of 2013. The restaurant supports local charities by donating 10% of their sales earned on Wednesdays to a different group each month.

It is a special collaboration as the selected charity helps to promote business by inviting guests to dine at the Grill on Wednesday evenings in support of their cause. At the end of each month, the designated earnings are presented to the selected charity. Red Stone's owner, Ara Yarian, is proud to partner with local charities in an effort to give back to the community.

Bailey's Team would like to thank the Red Stone Grill (and Ara Yarian) for their support and for their generous donation of \$1,533 in support of individuals living with autism and their families!



Enjoy pictures from our 9th Bailey's Par for Autism



Getting ready for the big day at registration



Winning Foursome



Bailey, Rachel & Spencer



Having a great time at Crystal Lake Golf Club

2013 UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1

5th Annual WINE, SPIRITS & BEER TASTING

Hosted by **BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM**

CBS Scene - Patriot Place, Foxboro, MA



2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 30 **3rd Annual BAILEY'S RUN FOR AUTISM**

Foxboro, MA

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2 **WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**

APRIL 9 **5th Annual EDUCATION SERIES – PART 1
USING POSITIVE & PRACTICAL STRATEGIES
TO DEVELOP SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
IN CHILDREN WITH ASD**

Presented by Susan Constable

Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro

31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

MAY 10 **4th Annual BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE**

Roger Williams Park Zoo

Providence, RI

MAY 14 **5th Annual EDUCATION SERIES – PART 2
AUTISM & BULLYING:**

A VULNERABLE POPULATION

Presented by Stephen M. Shore, Ph.D.

Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro

31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

JUNE 22 **10th Annual BAILEY'S PAR FOR AUTISM**

Charity Golf Tournament

Crystal Lake Golf Club

Burrillville, RI

AUGUST 1 **ANNUAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS**

NOV 7 **6th Annual WINE & BEER TASTING**

Hosted by **BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM**

CBS Scene - Patriot Place, Foxboro, MA

Watch for our next **BAILEY'S TEAM NEWSLETTER**
to be distributed in March, 2014

For more information about BAILEY'S TEAM, please visit:
www.baileysteam.org