

# 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 programming, education, and research.

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

FALL 2021 Newsletter – Prepared by Sammi Robertson

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the twenty-sixth 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

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## HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Irwin & Roberta Chafetz

Elaine Hall

Stephen Shore

## BAILEY'S TEAM BRINGS BACK EVENTS ONE AT A TIME IN AN EFFORT TO RAISE MONEY WHILE TAKING NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO KEEP OUR PATRONS SAFE!

### 2021...TRYING TO GET BACK TO NORMAL

Who would have thought that we would still be talking about COVID-19 at the end of 2021? It continues to be a scary time; however, life forges ahead and we must all do our best to stay safe.

As Bailey's Team returns to hosting events, we will continue to follow the guidelines set forth by the applicable state (MA or RI). With that said, we would like to offer our sincere gratitude to those who continue to support us and offer our respect and understanding to those patrons who are not comfortable attending events at this time.

\*\*\*\*\*

OUR RUN IS BACK!!

SUNDAY, MARCH 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*Bailey's Run for Autism*



\*\*\*\*\*



BAILEY'S TEAM IS DELIGHTED TO WELCOME ESTEEMED AUTHOR, DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER OF THE MIRACLE PROJECT, ELAINE HALL, TO BAILEY'S TEAM AS AN HONORARY BOARD MEMBER!

### PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR SECOND ANNUAL ART SHOW...

[See page 4 for more information]



All artwork will be displayed at the Churchwood Gallery in North Attleboro from October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 16<sup>th</sup>

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Visit [www.baileysteam.org](http://www.baileysteam.org) for more information or:

<https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/2022-celebrating-art-and-autism-26480>

### SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WINE TASTING

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2021

[See page 3 for more information]

WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBER, TRISH MARTINS FROM LIFESPAN & THE BRADLEY SCHOOLS!

[See page 5 for more information]



For more information about BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM, please visit [www.baileysteam.org](http://www.baileysteam.org)

## **A Message from the President**

### **FAMILY UPDATE**

Dear Friends,

This year has been a time of transition, adjustment, milestones, and celebrations! With all that has gone on, Bailey has been a joy throughout the year, thriving during the pandemic, remaining somewhat isolated. He has learned to be safe by wearing a mask and social distancing to go out into the community.

Earlier this year, Bailey had asked to go to Las Vegas – probably because we told him that we would not be traveling to Disney this year... something we have done every few years. Although we did not know exactly what he wanted to do in Vegas, we made a schedule of events that we thought might be a good fit for him, including a comedy show, a Michael Jackson tribute show, a gondola ride, and a day at the pool. Some of you might remember the collection of pictures from the Madame Tussaud Wax Museum that were posted online. Bailey had a great time! The morning we were scheduled to leave, he woke up and shouted “Mom, Dad, we did it!” He was telling us that we went to Las Vegas and now our vacation was over. He seemed so pleased. As we approached the gate at the airport, he said: “Mom, Dad, New York City?” So as of now, we are planning our next adventure to the Big Apple!



Bailey attended his summer program in person Monday through Thursday, and we spent most weekends on Cape Cod. He returned in the Fall to have only 5 weeks remaining before “aging out” of the North Attleboro “12+” program. On October 2<sup>nd</sup> Bailey will be 22, the age that individuals with disabilities transition to adult programming. For years we were warned that this is when families “fall off the cliff” going from an abundance of support throughout school years to having to struggle and fight to find an adequate adult service program. Thankfully our experience has been quite the opposite. We have been so happy and fortunate to have worked with some very good people to create a seamless transition for Bailey.

Beginning Monday, October 4, Bailey will go to a day habilitation program with a community-based service component, meaning that there are several activities that can happen outside the program’s location. Due to the pandemic, programs are not able to venture into the community due to social distancing and other safety precautions. We are very happy, however, that we have been able to place him among his peers and as the world continues to open, Bailey will be in a good place for further opportunity. He will also participate in a bottle redemption program enabling him to earn minimum wage two mornings per week. He will work alongside others with diverse abilities and be supported by staff.

As we prepare for the coming weeks, Bailey’s transition to a new program, saying goodbye to North Attleboro High School, his friends, and teachers, and celebrating his 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday, it is not without trepidation. Although Bailey has developed very strong and effective coping skills, when he feels anxious or disrupted facing so much change, it is hard to know what each day will bring.

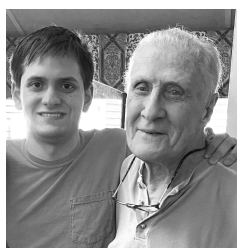
Nonetheless, Bailey continues to make incredible progress and amazes us every day. His smile and loving manner are what make him so endearing. His newest connection is with his new caregiver, Erin. They have a very special bond, and he understands that she is his friend. He is also beginning to understand (and verbalize) the difference between his love for her and her relationship with her boyfriend. He has become interested in identifying people who are part of a couple and will make a heart with his hands to show he gets it. Watching him mature and show his feelings toward people he cares about is what makes him so special.



Erin & Bailey



Bailey excited to be At Red Robin - yum!



Bailey with Bobby Byrne, Cape Cod Restaurant Owner, & father of a man with autism



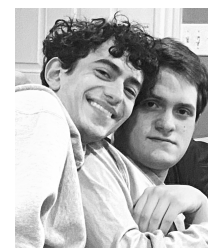
Bailey on recent seal tour “sans” sharks!



Bailey with “Mrs. Spongebarnes” His teacher at North Attleboro High School



Bailey & Mom



Spencer & Bailey

## FAMILY UPDATE

[Continued from page 2]

And now for the rest of the family...

Rachel & Jeff got married! Their nuptials took place on September 5<sup>th</sup> at Saphire Estates in Sharon, MA. It was a beautiful evening and a wonderful celebration! We are delighted to welcome the Hangens and Conners to our family!

Spencer decided to remain at American University in DC and is enjoying his community! When school got out in June, he had the opportunity to travel to both California and Puerto Rico, and then he spent 5 weeks this summer in Georgia working on a set where several TV shows were filming!

Lindsay had made several trips to visit as Rachel's Maid of Honor, but it wasn't until the wedding that we got to see the girls. They are all doing great, and it was wonderful to be together! They will be moving to a new home in the months ahead, and we look forward to visiting with them soon.

Be well and stay healthy.

*With love from Sammi & Doug Robertson*



Bride & Groom



Father Daughter Dance



Doug & Sammi



Bailey & Spencer



Georgie, Lindsay & Bernadette



Hangens & Conners



Rachel with Georgie  
Charlee (Hangen) &  
Bernadette



The Hangens!



Please join us for the twelfth annual

## WINE TASTING

To benefit

**BAILEY'S TEAM FOR AUTISM**



FRIDAY  
NOVEMBER 5, 2021  
7:30 pm

\$75.00 per person  
Includes Valet Parking

*Skyline*  
AT WATERPLACE  
1 Finance Way  
Providence, RI  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor

Sponsorships are available.

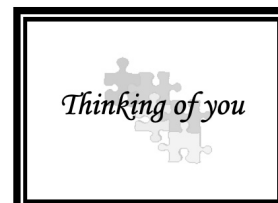
*Event includes a Light Savory Menu, Cash Bar,  
Raffle, Silent Auction, and much, much more!*

All proceeds from this event will support Bailey's Team for Autism, raising funds, awareness, and acceptance in support of individuals living with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

## TRIBUTE CARDS

Our Tribute Card Program provides 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 **\$14,950** for Bailey's Team.

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



# Second Annual Celebrating Art & Autism



We are excited to announce our second annual art show event, *Celebrating Art & Autism*, beginning October 1, 2021, and ending Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

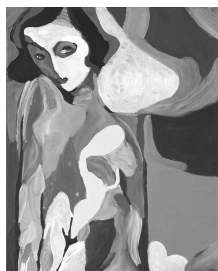
We will host our first **ART OPENING** on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Churchwood Gallery in North Attleboro adjacent to the Preservation Framer (31 N. Washington Street) where the art will be on display for two weeks. All auction bidding will take place online only and the auction will close at 12:00 noon on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Our show will feature 15 artists with autism and other diverse abilities. We are honored to support the arts and individual artists by highlighting the work of so many talented and creative individuals in our community. All artwork will be available for auction, with proceeds supporting both the individual artists and Bailey's Team.

Please enjoy some of the artwork featured below:



Hood Milk Bottle  
created by  
Patrick Linehan



Ruby  
created by  
Rachel Rasnick



Carousel  
created by  
Emily Kirstein



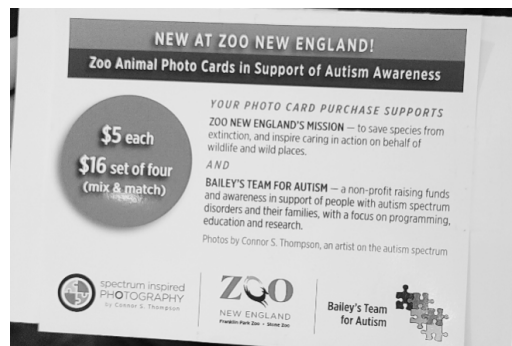
Prudential  
created by  
Dominic Killiany



Jeggoh & Jenny Trick or Treating  
created by  
Liam Januszewski

Earlier this year, Bailey's Team entered into an agreement with Zoo New England, and one of our favorite artists with autism, Connor Thompson of Spectrum Inspired Photography. Connor has participated in our Celebrating Art & Autism Art Show, and he has also worked with Zoo New England taking pictures of animals both at Franklin Park and Stoneham zoos. This project is a wonderful fundraising and marketing opportunity for all parties involved. Connor's beautiful pictures are for sale at the zoos' gift shops with proceeds benefitting both Zoo New England and Bailey's Team for Autism.

Coincidentally, Bailey was on a field trip with his school program at Franklin Park and during a visit to the gift shop, he and his classmates were all so excited to see Baileys Team represented so far from home. The store clerk was also very excited to meet Bailey – the namesake of the organization.



## BAILEY'S TEAM CONTINUES THE "22" CAMPAIGN

Earlier this year, we asked our patrons, sponsors, and the entire Bailey's Team community to contribute to a special "22" campaign. As previously mentioned, Bailey will have turned 22 on October 2<sup>nd</sup> which represents a significant milestone as he transitions to adult services. To celebrate Bailey's transition, we invited Bailey's Team to contribute a small donation in the amount of \$22.00 to help us continue to raise funds during this difficult time. Thank you to those who have already contributed, to date this campaign has raised close to \$1,000!

As the year comes to a close and you consider making your year-end contributions, we ask that you think of Bailey's Team and people with autism.

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## BAILEY'S TEAM TO HONOR VANTEL PEARLS PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER, JOAN HARTEL

In the fall of 2017, Vantel Pearls, a national direct sales jewelry company located in Mansfield, Massachusetts contacted Bailey's Team wanting to support people with autism and their families. They introduced autism awareness jewelry items to their national community and earmarked a portion of the proceeds from the sale of these items to Bailey's Team. Earlier this year, they generously presented us with yet another check in the amount of \$10,000!

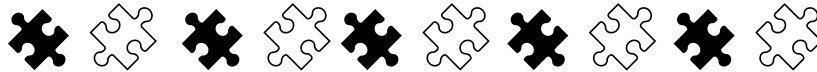


Since 2017, Vantel Pearls – led by Joan Hartel – has donated \$44,200 to Bailey's Team in support of individuals living with autism. For this reason, in addition to her extraordinary kindness and generosity, we will honor Joan at our upcoming Wine Tasting event.



### KINDNESS COMES IN ALL AGES...

Earlier this year, Sophie and Riley Feener (ages 8 and 6), Bailey's cousins, had just visited with our family on Cape Cod and were inspired to help Bailey's Team. The pictures say it all!



## WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER, PATRICIA "TRISH" MARTINS



Trish Martins, M.Ed., is the Education Director of Lifespan School Solutions/The Bradley Schools. She oversees all educational services for Bradley's Nonpublic Special Education Schools including six school sites (Cumberland, Wakefield, Portsmouth, and Providence, Rhode Island; Uncasville and Windham County, Connecticut), as well as classrooms embedded within the public-school districts of Johnston, Middletown, North Providence and North Smithfield, Rhode Island. Her 34-year career includes serving as the Special Education Director for the Middletown, Tiverton, Little Compton and Portsmouth, Rhode Island school districts. She also worked for Newport Public Schools and the Meeting Street School. She is certified in Education and Administration in Rhode Island and Connecticut.

Trish's educational focus has centered on high expectations, rigorous curriculum, inclusive practice, social emotional learning, team collaboration and special education regulations. She serves on several education committees for the state of Rhode Island and was the past president of the Rhode Island Association of Private Special Education Schools. Trish was also a member of the Rhode Island Consortium for Autism Research and Treatment (RICART).

Trish graduated from Rhode Island College where she earned her undergraduate and master's degrees. She has been recognized by the Rhode Island Department of Education Commissioner's File of Outstanding Educators; The Autism Project of Rhode Island's Excellence in Program Development; and in 2020 was honored with the Special Education Administrator of the Year Award for the state of Rhode Island.

Trish lives in Portsmouth RI, and she loves baking, cooking and being with her family and friends.

Enjoy some of the photos from our events this year



Bailey's Team Volunteers:  
Emily & Dan Joyce, Deborah Stoloff & Jane Joyce  
Autism Family Day, Franklin Park Zoo



Sammi & Doug Robertson  
Bailey's Par for Autism - Golf Tournament Chairs  
Crystal Lake Golf Club, Burrillville



Bailey & Erin, a.k.a. "Sweetie", one of Bailey's caregivers  
17th Annual Bailey's Par for Autism Charity Golf Tournament  
Crystal Lake Golf Club, Burrillville



Handsome Robertsons... Uncle Scott, Bailey & Doug!  
Rachel & Jeff's Rehearsal Dinner at Conrads in Foxboro

## 2021 UPCOMING EVENTS

**OCT 1 – 16** CELEBRATING ART AND AUTISM  
Art displayed at the Churchwood Gallery,  
adjacent to the Preservation Framar at  
31 North Washington St., North Attleboro

**NOV 5** 12<sup>th</sup> Annual WINE TASTING  
Skyline at Waterplace – Providence, RI



## 2022 UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH 27** 10<sup>th</sup> Annual BAILEY'S RUN FOR AUTISM  
Foxboro, MA  
More info to come!

## APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

**APRIL 2** WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

**APRIL 14** 12<sup>th</sup> Annual EDUCATION SERIES  
More info to come!

**DATE TBD** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AUTISM FAMILY DAY AT  
FRANKLIN PARK ZOO  
Franklin Park Zoo  
Boston, MA  
More info to come!



**MAY 14** 12<sup>th</sup> Annual BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE  
Roger Williams Park Zoo  
Providence, RI

**JUNE 12** 18<sup>th</sup> Annual BAILEY'S PAR FOR AUTISM  
Crystal Lake Golf Club  
Burrillville, RI

**SEPT 30** CELEBRATING ART AND AUTISM  
Churchwood Gallery – North Attleboro, MA

**NOV 4  
(2022)** 13<sup>th</sup> Annual WINE TASTING  
Skyline at Waterplace – Providence, RI

Watch for our next BAILEY'S TEAM NEWSLETTER  
to be distributed in March 2022



*We hope you will join us throughout the year!*

**WE THANK OUR GOLFERS & SPONSORS FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR RAISING OVER \$25,000 FOR BAILEY'S TEAM!**



Steve Felici, Chip Speicher, Tom Jones & Bill Conroy



Jeff Morris, Rich Boynes, Michael Black & "Jay"



Mike Parent, Joe Casey, Jerry Hennessy & Jack Fitzgibbons

**BAILEY'S TEAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**



Sammi Robertson  
President



Beth Jerskey  
Vice President



Dan Joyce  
Treasurer



Betsy Roche  
Clerk

**DIRECTORS**



Tom Buckley



Sheila Burgess



Keith Duclos



Paul LaCava



Sue Linehan



Trish Martins



Doug Robertson

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT BAILEY'S TEAM...**  
**DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME 😊**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Cash  Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card (Please circle one): MasterCard / Visa / AMEX / Discover

Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form along with your payment to:

Bailey's Team for Autism \*164 Westside Avenue \* North Attleboro, MA 02760

[A receipt will be returned for all credit card payments]

*Thank you!*



Bailey's Team for Autism  
164 Westside Avenue  
North Attleboro, MA 02760

*At least **1 in 54** children will be diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder this year!  
Help us put the pieces together by joining our team!*