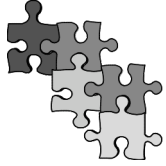


BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM

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!

SPRING 2016 Newsletter – Prepared by Sammi Robertson



Dear Friend,

Welcome to the fifteenth edition of our BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM newsletter! We have included updates on our fundraising success, our life with Bailey... his achievements 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
President

Douglas Robertson
Vice President

Visual Creations, Inc.

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Treasurer

Bright Horizons
Family Solutions

Amy Tonkonogy
Clerk/ Funding Coordinator

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Consultant

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Hockomock Area YMCA

Danielle Desrosiers
Licensed Massage Therapist

Amy Laurent
University of Rhode Island

Beth Jerskey
May Center for
Evaluation & Treatment

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

Honorary Board Members

Irwin & Roberta Chafetz

Stephen Shore

2015 WAS OUR BEST YEAR EVER...RAISING \$100,000 IN SUPPORT OF INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH AUTISM AND THEIR FAMILIES AND COMMITTING \$90,000 (90%) TO RESEARCH, EDUCATION & PROGRAMMING!

**WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US FOR OUR
5th ANNUAL**

Bailey's Run for Autism

...On **Sunday, April 3, 2016** at Schneider Electric in Foxboro, MA

Since 2012, we have hosted over 400 runners supporting individuals living with autism and their families! We are excited to welcome you to this very special event AND *rockin'* after party at Waxy O'Connor's Irish Pub & Restaurant!



Family Walk for Autism

For those who don't run, we invite you and your family & friends to support people with autism by walking with us from the starting line at Schneider Electric to Waxy's (1 mile) to join in the fun!

For more information or to register to run, please visit www.baileysteam.org.

OUR 8th ANNUAL

WINE, SPIRITS & BEER TASTING

**WILL MOVE TO
SHOWCASE LIVE IN FOXBORO**

NOVEMBER 18, 2016

(See page 6 for more information)

**BAILEY'S TEAM WILL HOLD OUR
12th ANNUAL**

BAILEY'S PAR for AUTISM CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

...On Sunday, **June 12, 2016** at Crystal Lake Golf Club in Burrillville, RI.

This is our signature fundraising event where we provide a day on the links, a barbecue lunch, surf & turf dinner, an auction, raffle, very special prizes, free giveaways...and much, much more!

For more information and to register for this year's golf tournament, please visit www.baileysteam.org and download this year's brochure.

**DON'T MISS OUR 7th ANNUAL
EDUCATION SERIES**

**APRIL 13 – FILM PRESENTATION –
BLUEBIRDS FLY... A STORY ABOUT LOVE
AND HOPE ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM**

*Presented by Big Orange Films
Directed by Cherry Arnold*

**MAY 18 – 67 MILLION HITS ON GOOGLE,
WHERE DO I BEGIN?**

**WHAT GOOD RESEARCH SAYS ABOUT
TREATMENTS & PROGRAMS**

Presented by Jane Carlson, Ph.D., BCBA

Both presentations held Wednesday evenings
at the Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro

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

A Message from the President

FAMILY UPDATE

Dear Friends,

Here we are again reporting on the past 6 months since our last newsletter and reflecting on the past year (2015). Bailey's Team continues to have much success fundraising, raising awareness and supporting people with autism and their families. We have become a solid resource in southern New England and continue to have many opportunities throughout the year to guide and support families receiving new diagnoses as they begin their journey in search of answers, support... and hope for their loved one's future. This is why we do what we do – to try to help one family at a time, while also supporting organizations whose mission it is to also support those living with autism spectrum disorders.

* * *

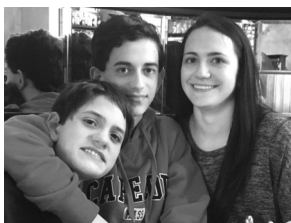
2015 was filled with both good and challenging times. Before sharing our recent struggles, I wanted to remind our readers that Bailey is often happy and still has his routines that help us to maintain balance and what we consider "normalcy" relative to his life at home. His diet continues to be very limited insisting on only McDonalds and Papa Ginos. An occasional order of chicken tenders with fries is tolerated from other restaurants, but his willingness to eat leftovers has basically ceased altogether! He has also learned several life skills and chores thanks to our at home service provider, Lisa, who has also earned herself several of Bailey's beloved character nicknames, including "Buster," "Enren" & "Paratrooper" to name only a few. She has taught him to tie his shoes, make his bed, vacuum, clean his own play space and even do a load of laundry!

Bailey is now 16 years old and a very handsome young man. He continues to transition through adolescence, as he's grown taller, his voice has deepened, he requires a shave once each week ... and his temperament has changed. He is louder, he is stronger, and he has even more trouble controlling his frustration as he becomes angry. Although still very lovable and "delicious"... his tantrums have become more aggressive and unmanageable, something we have feared for some time. The good news? Although these occur more frequently, they are still few and far between and result primarily from his time playing video games... and, of course, only when he loses!

He has mastered the art of gaming online, and when he begins a new game, he searches YouTube for a "how to" video to ensure a quick victory. When he is unable to conquer every level of a new game, his frustration becomes bigger than he is. He screams angry "bad words" and often throws his phone, or any nearby toy that will soar across the room. He has broken computer screens, toys, equipment, etc. He does become sad and remorseful, however, his remorse often causes his anger and frustration to continue and he subsequently becomes inconsolable. We have had to restrain him and his strength has made this nearly impossible, yet Doug seems to be able to manage him. It is truly heartbreaking to hold him down so that he cannot hurt himself or one of us. It can take hours before he returns to a calm state; however, we continue to try to teach him new coping strategies to "self-soothe" with the help of an at-home service provider – something that we have worked on time and again over the years.

Bailey is still well behaved, especially when out in the community. His behavior at school has remained manageable, although like at home, he will sometimes demonstrate more conviction relative to his wants and needs. Our family outings have become a bit more of a challenge, not as they were when he was younger due to unpredictability, but more because of his unwillingness to remain somewhere or at an activity that is not his choice. He has learned the phrase "I want to go home now" and will often repeat it until his needs are met. We can delay this while he maintains patience; however, not for long.

Over the years, we have continued to share the positive side of Bailey, but we felt it was important to reflect on some of the more difficult issues as our lives and responsibilities have shifted. Although his siblings have matured and are able to care for him at times, his recent behaviors have caused us to reevaluate when we can leave him in their care. It is certainly their responsibility to also keep him safe, but our responsibility as parents to keep all of our children safe and if we feel that Bailey's current state might cause more anxiety for us all, then we do not risk the consequences of leaving him in their care.



Bailey, Spencer & Rachel
Providence - November '15



Bailey on dad's lap
He still thinks he's small!



Bailey with his
favorite balloon
character, Mario!



Spencer & Bailey
both going to the
High School dance



Spencer, Bailey & Rachel
Christmas Morning, 2015

FAMILY UPDATE

[Continued from page 2]

As for the rest of us, Rachel did survive her first semester in college and is on her way to completing her freshman year – and she loves her Forensic Psychology Class!

Spencer joined the winter track team this year and has begun to consider joining other programs at the High School while continuing to excel in all of his classes. He has grown two more inches in height and although he resembles my family, it seems that he has inherited his father's height, as he will soon reach six feet!

Lindsay, Brent, Georgie & Bernadette are all doing well and recently celebrated Georgie's 4th birthday in February. Bernadette will turn two in April and we recently had the pleasure of their visit over New Year's. The distance between us makes it rather difficult to be together, however, the pictures and videos do help! ☺



Doug and I continue to manage our work and kids and play... life is very busy but we work hard to share good times with family and friends. It has been a good year, not without its challenges, but "...that which doesn't break us will make us stronger!" At least that is what we tell ourselves! ☺

We thank you for your ongoing support!

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 \$10,500 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.



BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED NET OF EVENT EXPENSES: \$100,000

Bailey's PAR / Golf Tournament	\$37,200
3 rd Party Fundraising	\$24,800
Annual Campaign	\$11,800
Wine & Beer Tasting Event	\$11,700
Tribute Program	\$ 5,800
Bailey's Run for Autism	\$ 5,400
General Donations	\$ 3,200
Jewelry Events (Awareness & Silpada Designs)	\$ 100

TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING AWARDED TO DATE: \$84,775

Autism Project – Peer Mentoring Program	\$21,900
Arc of Bristol County – Education Advocacy Program	\$20,000
Boston Medical Center – Inner City Peer Mentoring	\$10,000
Unique Steps Dance Studio/ Dance Therapy	\$ 7,600
Bailey's Animal Adventure – Family Event	\$ 6,000
Easter Seals – Youth Leadership Network	\$ 6,000
J. Arthur Trudeau Memorial Center – School Store	\$ 5,775
Bailey's Team Education Series	\$ 4,000
The May Center – iPad Initiative	\$ 3,500

FUNDS SET ASIDE FOR SPONSORSHIPS: \$ 3,500

Autism Project - Imagine Walk	\$ 1,000
Surfer's Healing	\$ 1,000
Other	\$ 1,500

FUNDS SET ASIDE FOR FUTURE PROGRAMMING: \$ 1,725

TOTAL FUNDS AWARDED / SET ASIDE: \$90,000

PERCENT (%) OF GIVING: 90%

REMAINING FUNDS FOR 2016 OPER. BUDGET: (10%) \$10,000

BAILEY'S TEAM WILL HOLD OUR 6th ANNUAL

BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE

On Saturday, **May 14, 2016!** This is a very special family event funded by Bailey's Team at Roger Williams Park Zoo for individuals of all abilities to participate in a welcoming and safe environment with their peers – with and without similar challenges.

We encourage folks to participate and ask for a small fee to ensure their attendance as we sell out fast! The event includes a full day at the zoo, a private party and hot barbecue lunch. We have live animals present in the tent for viewing and distribute goody bags to each family with all kinds of snacks and surprises! We also hold a free raffle and offer several gift baskets to be won at no cost!

This is not a fundraiser; it is simply an opportunity for families to be together and to have a good time... without judgment!

BAILEY'S TEAM OFFERS A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF ITS SUPPORTERS

Since our inception, it has been very important that we thank and recognize those who have supported us each year by way of thank you letters, representation in our marketing materials, tribute cards and tax letters. During this past year, due to our success and overscheduling, I have been negligent in getting these letters out in a timely fashion. This has NEVER been our intention. We value every single donation and more importantly, every single person and organization that contributes to helping people with autism and their families. In the event that you require paperwork or an acknowledgement of some kind and have not yet received one, please contact me personally and I will get the appropriate paperwork to you right away. Our goal at Bailey's Team is to rectify this issue and focus on improving our internal processes.

On behalf of all of Bailey's Team, I thank you for your contributions... your patience... and your kindness!

Best wishes...



BAILEY'S TEAM BOARD MEMBER JULIE O'BRIEN RECEIVES SPECIAL AWARD



On November 13, 2015, Julie O'Brien, LMHC received the first Arleen Tousignant Memorial Award for Family Support at the Current Trends in Autism (CTIA) Conference. Arleen's daughter and CTIA Volunteer, Theresa presented the award.

The Margaret L. Bauman, MD Awards for Excellence in Serving the Autism Community were established by Friends of LADDERS (Learning and Developmental Disabilities Evaluation and Rehabilitation Services) in the 1990s to honor a most distinguished and respected doctor, Margaret L. Bauman. Dr. Bauman is a pioneer in the study and treatment of autism and is highly respected by her fellow clinicians and patients for the level of clinical care she provides and the advances that she has contributed to in the field. *

Recipients of these awards are nominated by patients, families and colleagues who wish to recognize the outstanding achievement of one who has had a strong, positive influence in their lives by demonstrating outstanding professionalism, ability, dedication, and passion for improving the lives of people with autism.

Julie has been in the field of supporting people with autism and their families for nearly twenty years and has demonstrated all of the qualities listed above earning her this special honor. Currently, her primary role is to support and provide information, resources and education to families of adolescents who are transitioning to adulthood, and adults with autism spectrum disorders and their families. She is a constant and avid advocate in this field, and the step mom of three children, two teenagers who have ASD.

* Dr. Bauman is the founding director of the LURIE CENTER, formally called LADDERS and also established The Autism Research Foundation (TARF), The Autism Research Consortium (TARC), and The Autism Treatment Network (ATN).



Congratulations Julie!



BAILEY'S TEAM PARTNERS WITH AUTISM ALLIANCE OF METROWEST

We are happy to announce the partnership established with the Autism Alliance of MetroWest in Framingham, MA through a grant awarded in early 2015 from funds raised in 2014 for the development of a new sensory room. The funds contributed by Bailey's Team were to furnish this much-needed room for children with autism. Materials and equipment purchased include a swing for the Sunday Open Gym program, along with two mini iPads, cases, applications, a "hugibo" and other developmental toys best suited for children with autism.



2015 FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

AUTISM PROJECT – PEER MENTORING PROGRAM: \$21,900 to support the cost of adding a peer-mentoring component to the already established social skills programming. It has been proven that through the participation in a peer mentoring program, students with ASD exhibited much improvement in the areas of social anxiety, self-esteem and overall quality of life.

ARC OF BRISTOL COUNTY – EDUCATION ADVOCACY PROGRAM: \$20,000 to fund a new program to teach and empower families in advocating for their children with autism spectrum disorders to obtain services and supports necessary to ensure their educational success.

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER – INNER CITY PEER MENTORING PROGRAM: \$10,000 to be allocated to a new program designed to educate inner city teens in the Boston area about children with disabilities – specifically autism spectrum disorders. This program will enhance the lives of all participants, as it will encourage respect and appreciation in an educational environment for students of all abilities.

UNIQUE STEPS DANCE STUDIO DANCE THERAPY / SOUND EQUIPMENT: \$7,600 to support the cost of therapeutic dance classes to provide individuals with ASD the opportunity to enjoy the art of dance, as well as the therapeutic benefits of movement.

BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE: \$6,000 to fund a family event at Roger Williams Park Zoo for individuals of all abilities to participate in a welcoming and safe environment with their peers – with and without similar challenges.

EASTER SEALS OF MASSACHUSETTS – YOUTH LEADERSHIP NETWORK: \$6,000 to fund the attendance and participation for young adults on the autism spectrum to participate in a 3-day Leadership Forum at Bridgewater State University. The program has been developed to foster increased independence for individuals with ASD as they participate in a University setting.

J. ARTHUR TRUDEAU MEMORIAL CENTER – SCHOOL STORE: \$5,775 to fund the development of a school store that will provide the opportunity for vocational and social skills training while also helping to increase independence

BAILEY'S TEAM EDUCATION SERIES: \$4,000 to fund two (2) individual programs featuring a film, *Bluebirds Fly, a Story about Love and Hope on the Autism Spectrum*, and a lecture by *Jane Carlson, Ph.D., BCBA* on what good research says about treatments & programs.

THE MAY CENTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: \$3,500 to purchase ten (10) iPad Minis and durable cases to be used throughout The May Center School program in support of individuals with autism (please see box below).

AUTISM PROJECT – IMAGINE WALK & FAMILY FUN DAY: \$1,000 sponsorship to be allocated to various programs and training for individuals living with autism and their families.

SURFER'S HEALING: \$1,000 sponsorship to be allocated to the Rhode Island day of surfing for kids with autism and other similar intellectual and developmental disabilities.

IPAD INITIATIVE

In November of 2012, we first introduced our iPad Initiative at our Wine & Beer Tasting event asking our attendees to help raise funds to support the purchase of iPads to be used in programs supporting individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

Since that first "ask," we have distributed 33 iPads to the Arc of Bristol County, The Groden Center, The Bradley School(s) and this year, as a result of the generosity of our patrons, Bailey's Team will donate 10 iPad Minis and durable protective cases to The May Center where they will be put to excellent use in their programs supporting individuals with autism.

The May Institute is one of the largest providers of private schools specifically serving children with autism. The May Center Schools for Autism and Developmental Disabilities offer full-day, year-round educational services to children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities. Students receive highly individualized behavioral, academic and vocational programming. Activities emphasize all areas of a student's development, including communication, language, social, school-readiness, self-care and play skills.

HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM BAILEY'S TEAM

All applications are welcome and are accepted between August 1 and October 15. Please visit our website and click on "Forms" to download our Funding Application.

Funding decisions will be made at our January Board Meeting.

All awards will be reported in our spring newsletter following our funding cycle.

Please see www.baileysteam.org for more information.

PLEASE NOTE ...

Ocean State Job Lot will be supporting Autism Awareness Month and Bailey's Team for Autism at the end of March and into April. Please remember to visit your local store and help them support people with autism and their families!



Please visit our website for more information
www.baileysteam.org

This year, there will be an opportunity to contribute to Bailey's Team at our Annual Education Series on April 13 by purchasing SCENTSY products from our favorite Scentsy Representative, Heather Marshall.

Heather will display products and take orders to be available for pick up at our May lecture and all net proceeds will be donated to Bailey's Team for Autism! You may also visit www.missheatherlynn.scentsy.us and click on the open party, "Bailey's Team Fundraiser" to place an order and your items will be shipped directly to you!

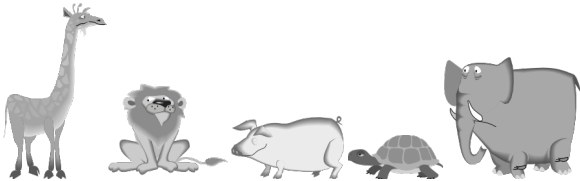


BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE

Will be held on

Saturday, May 14th

[The weekend after Mother's Day]



**Roger Williams Park Zoo
Providence, RI**

The 2016 WINE, SPIRITS & BEER TASTING

Will be held on

Friday, November 18th

And has moved to a new venue...



**Patriot Place
Foxboro, MA**

2016 UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2 WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

APRIL 3 5th Annual BAILEY'S RUN FOR AUTISM & FAMILY WALK FOR AUTISM with Rockin' After - Party at Waxy O'Connor's Irish Pub
10:00 am
Schneider Electric - Foxboro, MA

APRIL 11/12 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS for INDIVIDUALS with ASD & THOSE WHO SUPPORT THEM IN THE COMMUNITY
12:00 noon/
9:00 am
Crown Plaza - Warwick, RI

APRIL 11 AUTISM & COMMUNITY SAFETY Families & First Responders Working Together
7:00 pm
Crown Plaza - Warwick, RI

APRIL 13 7th Annual EDUCATION SERIES – PART 1 BLUEBIRDS FLY – a Film about Love and Hope on the Autism Spectrum
7:00 pm
*Presented by Cherry Arnold, Director
Big Orange Films*
Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro
31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

MAY 14 6th Annual BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE
10:00 am
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Providence, RI

MAY 18 7th Annual EDUCATION SERIES – PART 2 67 MILLION HITS ON GOOGLE, WHERE DO I BEGIN? What Good Research Says About Treatments And Programs
7:00 pm
Presented by Jane Carlson, Ph.D., BCBA
Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro
31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

JUNE 12 12th Annual BAILEY'S PAR FOR AUTISM Charity Golf Tournament
1:00 pm
Tee Time
Crystal Lake Golf Club
Burrillville, RI

AUGUST 1 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS

NOV 18 8th Annual WINE, SPIRITS & BEER TASTING SHOWCASE LIVE - Patriot Place, Foxboro
7:30 pm



Watch for our next BAILEY'S TEAM NEWSLETTER to be distributed in October, 2016

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