

BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM

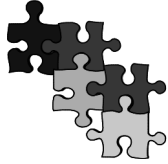
Raising funds and awareness in support of individuals living with autism spectrum disorders and their families, with a focus on programming, education, and research.

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

SPRING 2022 Newsletter – Prepared by Sammi Robertson

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the **twenty-seventh 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.



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BAILEY'S TEAM FUNDS 14 PROJECTS AND RETURNS TO A FULL YEAR OF PROGRAMMING IN 2022!

REFLECTIONS ON THE PANDEMIC...

During the last two years, our lives changed. We took shelter in our homes, social distanced, transitioned to remote work and schooling, cancelled celebrations and travel plans. We didn't see our loved ones for months for fear of contracting or spreading this new virus. Effectively, we became isolated from our communities, our family, and friends. By March of 2020, our world as we knew it had become much smaller.

Now, two years later, we are just beginning to have some relief that we might be returning to normal... visiting with friends, seeing our loved ones, and even offering an embrace.

Think of how we were forced to adjust to this drastic change from what we knew.

...ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

Now think of what that might have been like for someone with autism... someone who can't adjust or simply does not understand change. In many ways, it might have been far more difficult for people with autism to make sense of it all.



**THE ROBERTSON
FAMILY &
BAILEY'S TEAM
MOURN THE
LOSS OF
BAILEY'S BELOVED
GRANDMOTHER,
MARCIA SHUMAN**

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Bailey's Run & Family Walk for Autism

Payson Road Recreation Area, Foxboro

Registration begins at 8:30 am and our 5k Run will begin promptly at 10:00 with our walkers to begin their 1-mile journey following the race start.

We hope you will join us for the awards presentation, raffle and rockin' after-party at Conrad's Restaurant immediately following the race!



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR 18th ANNUAL

BAILEY'S PAR for AUTISM

**CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT
at**

Crystal Lake Golf Club

Burrillville, RI

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

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

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

A Message from the President

FAMILY UPDATE

Dear Friends,

As I continue to write our own family story, I do hope that you are still finding our newsletter to be informative, whether on your own journey with autism, supporting a friend who has a loved one with a developmental disability, or as a caring supporter of Bailey's Team and the greater autism community. We began this newsletter as a way to keep people informed about what we are doing as an organization, as a family and as a community. As Bailey is now an adult, the details of our stories continue to change as our obstacles shift with each passing year. If you have any questions about stories printed, or are in search of support, please feel free to contact us via email or by phone. It is our desire to help one family at a time, while also contributing to organizations whose mission it is to support those living with autism spectrum disorders.

* * *

Bailey has officially transitioned to adult programming and is now in two different placements, both in Mansfield, MA, less than 15 minutes from our home. Upon turning 22 in most states, the individual with a disability "ages out" of his/her school program the day before their birthday and is eligible to begin a new program *on* their 22nd birthday. Had it not been for the pandemic, his new placement(s) would have been like his former program consisting of community outings as well as time in the program working on a variety of social and vocational skills. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the community outing component of both programs has been suspended.

On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays he is at a day habilitation program, similar to a community-based program, which will soon include community outings. For now, his days include a bit of exercise, social skills training, a variety of individual activities including drawing and music, as well as screen time. It is our hope that he will soon spend more time and be included in the community.

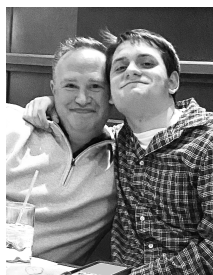
On Wednesdays and Fridays Bailey is at a state-sponsored redemption center where he works sorting cans and bottles. He works two half days. Recently he has become more independent mastering his assigned tasks.

Beyond his programming, Bailey also spends time with his caregiver, Erin, or "Sweetie" as he calls her. She has certainly earned her nickname as we feel so blessed to have found her. She is sweet and thoughtful and really "gets" him.

One of our recent but not new struggles with Bailey is his continued search for outdated and often *unavailable* toys. He peruses YouTube videos and finds toys that he wants. Not understanding that YouTube is not a "purchasing" website, when he sees toys that he would like in a video, he often decides that he wants them. Our next steps always include searching eBay. However, this year, 3 of his 14 items of choice were not available in time for the holiday season. After having disappointed him on Christmas morning, we did our best to reassure him that we would still work on finding him the remaining three items of choice. After numerous Facebook posts begging my social network to help us, I learned about a new eBay-type site called "Mercari" (thank you Joanne Quinn!), where I found 2 of the 3 items we had been searching for! And then days later, I found Tinky Winky Actimates, the remaining Microsoft Teletubby that we were unable to locate prior to Christmas! While I felt like a hero, it was only days later that he asked for another antiquated selection, a Barney VCR tape... it never ends! [Notice all the exclamation points (!) in the previous sentences. I'm simply trying to show you how intense and important this becomes in our home!!!!]

In the months ahead, I will return to the task of obtaining guardianship. I've written about this in years past. This is something many of us must do for our adult children as they reach the age of 18. They go from being our child, to becoming a legal adult in the eyes of the state and we must convince a judge that we are best suited to care for our own grown children as we have for their first 18-20 years! Hopefully, I will finally complete this task before the production of our next newsletter at the beginning of October later this year.

Bailey continues to bring us joy every single day. He always wakes up with a smile. He is kind and can be quite funny. And, at times, he can be very intense. For the most part, he is happy and counts on us to always support him... and we wouldn't have it any other way!



"Mr. T." & Bailey
Mr. T was Bailey's
Long-time aide at school



Bailey's "Koopaling"
masterpiece



Bailey's collection of Hallmark Snowmen
displayed from November 1st to March 1st



Bailey proudly
sharing his new
Barney's Peek-a-boo
Playhouse &
Tinky Winky Actimates



Bailey sitting
patiently at CVS
waiting for his
Covid booster

FAMILY UPDATE

[Continued from page 2]

As for the rest of us...Rachel and Jeff moved to a larger apartment – still in Mansfield - Jeff got a new job and is back working in downtown Boston. They are enjoying married life and planning to travel to Key West for a belated honeymoon.

Spencer continues his studies at American University and plans to spend the summer in D.C. taking classes and working part time. We look forward to our visits with him when he comes home for break, *and* in late March when we will be travelling with Bailey (and “Sweetie”) to visit him. We are excited to show Bailey our nation’s capital, walking a different kind of “mall,” showing him a few of D.C.’s magnificent national monuments.

Lindsay, Georgie, and Bernadette are happy in their new home and the girls are growing fast! While we haven’t travelled there as a family, Doug, Spencer, and Rachel have had the opportunity to visit them in recent months.



Georgie & Bernadette Lindsay & Rachel Spencer Jeff & Rachel

Doug and I are doing well. While I’ve continued to spend more time with extended family, we have also begun to get back to dividing our time between North Attleboro and Chatham!

- Sammi Robertson

BAILEY’S TEAM for AUTISM 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED NET OF EVENT EXPENSES:	\$65,900
Bailey’s PAR / Golf Tournament	\$31,200
Wine Tasting Event	\$10,300
Major Gifts	\$10,000
Annual Campaign (incl. \$856 from “ <u>22 campaign</u> ”)	\$ 8,400
Bailey’s Team Art Show / Auction	\$ 5,000
Tribute Card Program	\$ 700
Third Party Fundraising*	\$ 300

Bailey’s Run was not held during 2021 due to the pandemic.

*Funds raised by individuals or agencies on behalf of Bailey’s Team

RESERVE FOR 2022 OPERATING BUDGET (10%): **(\$ 6,600)**

PERCENT (%) OF GIVING: 90%

CARRY FORWARD FUNDS FROM PRIOR YEAR(S): **\$ 2,100**

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION: **\$61,400**

PROGRAMS FUNDED

Arc of Bristol County – Educational Advocacy	\$ 6,000
Arc of Massachusetts – Operation Housecall	\$ 6,000
Boston Medical Center – Pediatric Inpatient Support	\$ 5,000
Unique Steps – Therapeutic Dance Program	\$ 4,800
Trudeau / Pathways – Indoor Sensory Equipment	\$ 4,700
MGH / Lurie Center– Education/Consult. Services	\$ 4,000
Manchester Music School – Expressive Arts Prog.	\$ 4,000
The Autism Project – Imagine Walk Sponsorship	\$ 4,000
The League School – Assistive Technology Equip.	\$ 3,200
Autism Families of CT - Recreational Programming	\$ 3,200
The Miracle Project SNE – Expressive Arts Prog.	\$ 3,000
Autism Society of America RI – Voc. Food Pantry	\$ 3,000
HMEA – Teen & Young Adult Cooking School	\$ 3,000
Bailey’s Animal Adventure – RWP Zoo Event (RI)	\$ 2,500
Arc of South Shore – Transition Planning Program	\$ 2,000
Bailey’s Education Series	\$ 2,000
Bailey’s Team – Franklin Park Zoo Event (MA)	\$ 1,000

TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING AWARDED – FEB 2022: **\$61,400**

TRIBUTE CARDS

In 2008, we introduced our Tribute Card Program, providing individuals with the opportunity to donate 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 \$23,320 for Bailey’s Team! (*\$8,200 of this total has been contributed in the last 2 months in honor of Marcia Shuman.*)

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

The Robertson, Shuman, Salkovitz, Glaser, & Hoshino families would like to offer our sincere thanks for the outpouring of support in honor of our Marcia.

We hope you will join us at one or both of our zoo events this year...



Saturday, April 30th 10 – 2
Autism Family Day at
Franklin Park Zoo



Saturday, May 14th 10 – 2
Bailey’s Animal Adventure at
Roger Williams Park Zoo

HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM BAILEY’S TEAM

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

Funding decisions will be made by February 10th.

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

IN MEMORY OF MARCIA SHUMAN... BETTER KNOWN TO MANY AS "NANA MARCIA"



On Tuesday, January 11th, Nana Marcia passed away unexpectedly at Brigham & Women's Hospital. Marcia had many ailments but was always in good spirits despite the pain she lived with day after day. Nana to her three grandchildren (Rachel, Bailey, and Spencer), and to all the young children in the family, she was our matriarch.

Due to the pandemic, a private funeral service was held followed by a carefully planned visitation schedule.

It was devastating news to share with family and friends; however, I was able to write a eulogy that shared what my mother was about and the impact she had on so many of us. I've included some of my thoughts below... please read on to catch a glimpse of Nana Marcia.

My mom was special and important to many people. She befriended people for life, people of all ages and bestowed tremendous kindness to them. Her siblings, her children, her grandchildren, and her friends were who mattered most... and maybe Michael Buble, Barack Obama and of course, Sammy Davis, Jr.

Marcia could be a stubborn force and enjoyed oversharing her opinion... about politics, about right and wrong... about cell phones, thank you notes, social media and the coronavirus. She obsessed over the news and in recent years, she liked to share her opinions with those who would listen and some who would not.

There is a saying that if you smile when you are on the phone, people can hear it in your voice. When I think of my mother, I always pictured her smiling, no matter the day. Her friends adored her, and I know that they all felt that Marcia was pleasant and thoughtful. She never talked about herself and was a supportive listener. It wasn't until these last couple of years – when her health deteriorated - that she became more fixated on the pain she lived with. Even in her last days, very few knew her truth and fear of her condition.

While we all cared for and worried about Marcia, and while we know she is at peace and with no pain, the pain that we all feel having lost her is unbearable. I know I will begin to dial her number for days and months ahead both out of habit and desperation, and it will not be easy to break that habit expecting her to be on the other end of the phone. The conversations, the laughter, the reports, the banter, the bickering, debating, and sharing will be so greatly missed, and as a result, not hearing her voice will leave a gaping hole. I called her daily to make sure she was there and now she is not.

There are so many things to say, so many things to remember and so many things she could not do. I only hope she will rest easy knowing what she gave to us in life and in love.

Shortly after mom passed, we found a letter she left for us. It was about the importance of family and respect for all. The letter ended with the following: "Always try to find the good in everyone and give back to the community."

Marcia's words will continue to inspire us all.

NEW COLLABORATION WITH RED WHITE & BREW

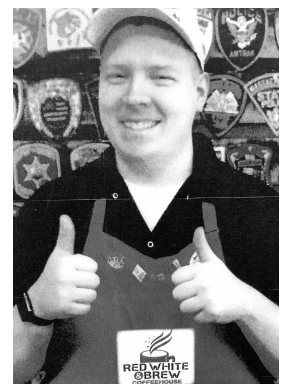
Meet Michael Coyne – or "Mike" as his patrons know him! He is 27 years old and has autism. Mike has always been interested in working in the food service industry and successfully received his "Servsafe" certificate in 2018; however, no one would hire him. In November 2019, he and his mother, Sheila, opened their own coffee shop, "Red White & Brew," named for their family's military and police service, with Mike at the helm. The coffee shop is adjacent to their other family-owned business, the Budding Violet, named for Mike's great-grandparents, Bud and Vi.

In December 2019, Rhode Island's CBS News affiliate did a feature story on the Coynes, and both Mike and his mother, spoke of what it meant to them to start this business and also what it meant to the community to see one of their own find success as a young man with a disability.

Along with being a small business owner, Mike is on a Special Olympics basketball team, the *Rhody Rangers*. He enjoys hanging out with friends, go-kart racing, biking, and hiking at various locations throughout Rhode Island. Most importantly, he loves working at the store and interacting with the community.

This year, Mike and his Red White & Brew family have asked to collaborate with Bailey's Team. Together, we will plan to host a Paint Night to support our mission later this year.

Please visit Red White & Brew located at 601 Great Road in North Smithfield – they offer more than just coffee and pastries! "Our goal is to serve up every cup with inclusion!" - Mike Coyne



FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

ARC OF BRISTOL COUNTY: \$6,000 to fund a program to teach and empower families to advocate for their children with autism and to obtain services and supports to ensure their educational success – with a focus on important school-age transition years.

ARC OF MASSACHUSETTS – OPERATION HOUSECALL: \$6,000 to fund a home-based program teaching young medical professionals essential skills to better treat people with intellectual and developmental disabilities including autism.

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER: \$5,000 to support a new training initiative to better prepare the pediatric inpatient unit to support patients on the autism spectrum along with their families.

UNIQUE STEPS DANCE ACADEMY: \$4,800 to support the cost of additional staffing for a therapeutic dance program designed to include individuals on the autism spectrum.

TRUDEAU/PATHWAYS: \$4,700 to support the cost of an indoor “Haley Joy” freestanding swing for sensory support of program participants on the autism spectrum.

MGH LURIE CENTER: \$4,000 to help families’ access autism consultation and educational advocacy services. These services are provided to families with financial need, but require assistance at IEP meetings, negotiating at-home support or simply seeking guidance about how to care for their loved one on the autism spectrum.

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL - THE MIRACLE PROJECT – NEW ENGLAND: \$4,000 to support the cost of admission in the form of scholarship assistance to a Miracle Project expressive arts camp for individuals with autism and their peers.

AUTISM PROJECT – IMAGINE WALK & FAMILY FUN DAY: \$4,000 sponsorship to be allocated to various programs and training for individuals living with autism and their families.

LEAGUE SCHOOL OF GREATER BOSTON: \$3,200 to support the purchase of four iPads and cases to provide access to learning through technology for students transitioning to the League School.

AUTISM FAMILIES CONNECTICUT: \$3,200 to fund a weekend recreational program serving children with autism called “Playing on the Spectrum.”

THE MIRACLE PROJECT – NEW ENGLAND: \$3,000 to support the cost of a Miracle Project expressive arts camp to be held in June for individuals with autism and their peers between their school and extended school year (summer) programs. The funds will support the cost of training, materials, and *in person* program execution.

AUTISM SOCIETY OF RHODE ISLAND: \$3,000 to help support the cost of a new vocational and community Food Pantry initiative. This program will not only provide support to the autism community and staff in need, but it will also provide vocational opportunities to Groden Center students to shop, stock and distribute goods for this initiative.

HMEA: \$3,000 to support the cost of materials including cookware, utensils, etc. for a new cooking school program for teens and young adults on the autism spectrum.

BAILEY’S ANIMAL ADVENTURE: \$2,500 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.

ARC OF SOUTH SHORE: \$2,000 to support the Autism Journey Series, a program designed to help families through the transition process.

BAILEY’S TEAM EDUCATION SERIES: \$2,000 to fund this year’s program featuring Dr. Stephen Shore, who will speak as an adult on the spectrum about realizing one’s unlimited potential.

BAILEY’S TEAM FRANKLIN PARK ZOO EVENT: \$1,000 to fund an Autism Family Day providing free entrance to one caregiver/family member for every person with autism who attends this event. The Franklin Park Zoo will support the cost for each individual on the spectrum; games and other special activities will be provided. In addition, Bailey’s Team will provide a “goody bag” filled with fun items to every family who pre-registers.

**ENJOY THESE PICTURES FROM OUR 2021
CELEBRATING ART & AUTISM EVENT**



Churchwood Gallery in North Attleboro



Featuring Julia Sposato's work



A crowded room!



Our very amazing artists (left to right):

Rachel Rasnick, Elisabeth Bishop, Bailey Robertson,
Emily Kirstein, Connor Thompson, Elena Coln,
Patrick Linehan, & Liam Januszewski

2022 UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 27 9th Annual BAILEY'S RUN FOR AUTISM
10:00 am Payson Road Recreation Area
Foxboro, MA

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2 WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

APRIL 13 11th Annual EDUCATION SERIES

7:00 pm

AGENT OF AUTISM

REALIZING UNLIMITED POTENTIAL

The potential of autistic people is unlimited –
just like with everyone else. -Dr. Stephen Shore

Presented by Stephen M. Shore, PhD

enVision Hotel & Conference Center

[Formerly the Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro]

31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

APRIL 24 AUTISM PROJECT IMAGINE WALK

10:00 am

Goddard State Memorial Park

Warwick, RI

APRIL 30 3rd Annual AUTISM FAMILY DAY AT

10:00 am

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

Franklin Park Zoo

Boston, MA



MAY 14 12th Annual BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE

10:00 am

Roger Williams Park Zoo

Providence, RI



JUNE 12 18th Annual BAILEY'S PAR FOR AUTISM

1:00 pm

Crystal Lake Golf Club

Tee Time

Burrillville, RI

SEPT 1-30 CELEBRATING ART AND AUTISM

Churchwood Gallery

North Attleboro, MA

NOV 4 13th Annual WINE TASTING

7:30 pm

Skyline at Waterplace – Providence, RI



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




For more information about BAILEY'S TEAM, please visit:

www.baileysteam.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOAN HARTEL CABRAL ON RECEIVING THE 1ST TONY C. AWARD

Presented at our Annual Wine Tasting on Friday, November 5th at Skyline in Providence.


Bailey's Team for Autism presents the
Tony C. Award
DEMONSTRATING KINDNESS,
DEDICATION AND GENEROSITY,
to
Joan Hartel Cabral
For supporting individuals living with
autism and their families
2021



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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 \$ _____ 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

or visit www.baileysteam.org

Thank you!



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

*At least 1 in 44 individuals will be diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder this year!
Help us put the pieces together by joining our team!*