

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 2012 Newsletter – Prepared by Sammi Robertson

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the eighth 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!

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200 RUNNERS CAME OUT TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

BAILEY'S TEAM HOSTS FIRST *Bailey's Run 4 Autism* & FAMILY WALK EVENT LEGACY place

Runners from all over New England came out on a brisk morning on March 25th to Run 4 Autism... and it was a wonderful inaugural event for Bailey's Team! Our major sponsors included Whole Foods, City Sports and Honorary Board Members Irwin and Roberta Chafetz.

Our goal was to reach out to the general public in an effort to raise funds and awareness in support of individuals living with autism spectrum disorders and their families... and we did just that!

With over 250 people in attendance, including special guest host Joe Cortese of 103.3 WODS, music by JD's Music Express and a live performance by The Rhythm Room, it was a perfect morning!

We thank our patrons, our sponsors and all those who contributed to make the day special ...including the many retailers at Legacy Place; and we look forward to our second annual event to be held on April 7th, 2013 (date to be approved by the town of Dedham).



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 4TH ANNUAL
WINE & BEER TASTING
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2012**
(See website for more information)

**BAILEY'S TEAM WELCOMES TWO NEW
BOARD MEMBERS...**
**TODD LEVINE, M.D. &
JULIE O'BRIEN, M.Ed., LMHC**
(See page 3 for introductions...)

**BAILEY'S TEAM RAISES \$30,000 at
EIGHTH ANNUAL BAILEY'S PAR for
AUTISM CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT!**
On June 10th, a full field of golfers gathered once again for our annual charity golf tournament in support of individuals living with autism and their families.

With a change of scenery, our patrons enjoyed our eighth annual event at Crystal Lake Golf Club in Burrillville, RI while helping to support a very special cause.

**BAILEY'S TEAM RECEIVES GRANT
FROM THE MOSI TATUPU
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

(See page 5 for details)

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

A Message from the President
FAMILY UPDATE...

Dear Friends,

As we approach the end of 2012, there are so many stories to tell... but we are most excited to share that we introduced our first Bailey's Run 4 Autism at Legacy Place in Dedham welcoming runners from all over New England to support individuals living with autism and their families. It was an exciting event reaching out to a new audience while providing them with information about autism and about Bailey's Team. This event will kick off our season in early spring and we hope that it will continue to grow as we continue to work hard to raise awareness about those living with autism and the need to support them!

* * *

Our family has also continued to evolve as has Bailey's Team! Bailey started his second year of Middle School. He continues to be in a substantially separate classroom with 3 boys with similar challenges and spends only a few short minutes each day in homeroom with typical peers in the morning. He occasionally participates in a gym class with typical students but most of his day is spent apart from the general population.

He turned 13 year's old on October 2nd and as I reported last year at this time... it is a bittersweet event. He is maturing physically which is rather frightening as he is quickly approaching puberty. He is only inches away from being taller than his mom and still thinks he is little. At times he pounces affectionately still craving hugs and plenty of butterfly kisses. I smile when I think he will someday tower over me and ask for butterfly kisses when we are out in the community! ☺

His perseverations have shifted a bit... although we are off of Sesame Street (for now)... we are forever excited about Mario, Bowser & Luigi! He is obsessed with the Wii and will often line up numerous electronic devices to over-stimulate his brain as he watches videos of Mario on his Samsung tablet, his IPAD, our iPhones and perhaps Doug's laptop! He will even record these videos on one device while playing a game on another. Our biggest struggle with technology is if our internet service goes down intermittently and he cannot access the web... not only must we troubleshoot the problem immediately, but if we are unable to reconnect to the internet, we must quickly re-direct his attention – even if it means immediately jumping in the car to go somewhere... most likely to a store where we will buy more games... and more technology... UGH!!

In March of this year, Bailey decided to stop using his voice above a whisper. It has been most discouraging as it brought us back to a time when he didn't speak at all. Although he does whisper and is somewhat able to communicate, hearing his voice is something we terribly miss. It makes us sad as hearing him talk was something of a miracle...and now we hope that his speaking voice will return as quickly as it disappeared... as always with no answers.

He continues to do well in school and transitions nicely to the Cape where we like to visit year round. We do try to prepare him for schedule changes or unexpected visitors by writing out a schedule so he knows what (or who) comes next. It doesn't work every time, but it has helped alleviate his anxiety.



Bailey & Spencer jammin' at the inaugural Bailey's Run 4 Autism at Legacy Place March 25, 2012



Bailey chillin' on Skaket Beach in Orleans Summer of 2012



Rachel & Spencer September, 2012

FAMILY UPDATE

[Continued from page 2]

As for the rest of the family, Rachel is a sophomore at North Attleboro High School and is working hard at school while also pursuing acting and working in the office at our synagogue on Sunday mornings.

Spencer has graduated from elementary school and is in the 6th grade at the Middle School. He and Bailey are both at the same school... the first time since pre-school. It is somehow comforting to know that Spencer – although the younger of the two – is there to watch over his big brother!

Lindsay, Brent & Baby Georgie are all doing fine... but living way too far away from all of us! On another note, Lindsay has returned to Law School for one final semester and will graduate in December of this year.

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

...And we continue to do our best to grow Bailey's Team and support individuals living with autism and their families like ours.

We thank you for your ongoing support and kindness!

Sammi & Doug 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 \$2,300 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.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO RUTH HOSHINO



A special thank you to **Ruth Hoshino** for serving on our Board of Directors from 2010 thru 2012. Ruth was the first person to join the Board after it was first established in 2008 and has become a valued volunteer at several events including our Education Series and Charity Golf Tournament.

We are truly thankful for her continued support and dedication.

MEET NEW BOARD MEMBERS, TODD LEVINE & JULIE O'BRIEN



Todd Levine, M.D. is an Instructor in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He trained in pediatrics, adult psychiatry, and child & adolescent psychiatry (Triple Board) and completed a research fellowship in child mental health at Brown University. His research, clinical work, and lectures focus on behavior difficulties in children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) with particular attention towards anxiety.

He provides clinical services at the Autism Spectrum Disorders Clinic at the Brown Center for The Study of Children at Risk where he treats children and adults with ASDs and behavior difficulties. Treatment includes medication management, family therapy, individual therapy, and school consultation.

Todd lives in Rhode Island with his wife, Lilia and his daughter, Sofia.

Julie O'Brien, M.Ed., LMHC graduated from Boston College with a B.A. in psychology and received a Masters of Education in Counseling and Psychological Services from Springfield College. She works at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children's Lurie Center (formerly LADDERS) as a Family Support Clinician.

She worked at the Arc of South Norfolk as the Assistant Director of Family Support and then became Director of the Family Autism Center where she helped to develop specialized programs for children with ASD and organized many successful fundraisers.

She was hired at LADDERS as an Autism Resource Specialist providing support, information, referral and resources to newly diagnosed patients' families, and she continues to provide assistance to countless families at the Lurie Center. Her primary role is to support families of adolescents who are transitioning to adulthood and adults with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

Julie lives in Dedham with her wife, Amy, and is the stepmom of three children, two teenagers with ASD.



A VERY SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDED BY BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM...

The Autism Law Enforcement & Education Coalition (ALEC) of Massachusetts educates First Responders across the state about Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and how to better understand a person who is on the spectrum.

First inspired by Dennis Debbaudt's *Autism Risk and Safety* program - in use by the *Department of Homeland Security and Law Enforcement* and other public safety agencies throughout the United States - the ALEC program began in 2003 as a collaborative effort of the *Arc of South Norfolk Family Autism Center* and the *Norfolk County District Attorney's Office* with startup funds provided by the *Dedham Institution for Savings*.

The concept for this program was initiated by families of individuals living with autism recognizing the intense need for First Responders to be educated about autism in order to keep their loved ones safe beyond conventional measures. As a result, the ALEC training helps foster a deeper understanding of autism spectrum disorders among public safety and law enforcement personnel.

Training is available for police officers, firefighters, EMTs, paramedics and hospital emergency room personnel, using curriculum and videos specific to each group. District attorneys, judges and airport security personnel are now also included in ALEC training programs and EMTs and paramedics will earn credits to meet their continuing education requirements. **To date, ALEC has trained over 12,000 First Responders in Massachusetts.**

Presenters are First Responders with first-hand experience with autism – typically through a family member. Because of this personal knowledge, in addition to their specific professional background and training, they are able to answer questions on a wide range of possible situations. The goal of ALEC training is to provide additional tools for First Responders to use in assessing the level of risk when they may unexpectedly encounter a situation involving a person with autism. Recognizing the behavior symptoms and knowing contact approaches can help minimize the risk both for the person with autism and also the First Responder.

People with ASD are 7 times more likely to have 911 encounters than people in the general population; therefore, it is important that all public safety professionals gain or refresh their knowledge so that they may continue to protect and appropriately communicate with individuals in this fast growing segment of society.

The ALEC program currently receives funding through the Autism Spectrum Division of the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Disabilities (formerly DMR) in addition to private funding sources including: **The Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism** and **Bailey's Team for Autism**, both non-profit organizations funding research and programming in an effort to improve the lives of individuals living with autism and their families. And as ALEC continues to grow, more funders are stepping forward as they realize the importance of this program.

Bailey's Team is delighted to fund this very important initiative in an effort to keep individuals with autism safe, but also in an effort to increase awareness in the general population. Furthermore, we are proud that one of our very own Board members is not only an ALEC trainer for the state of Massachusetts, but Captain Tom Buckley is also the State Coordinator for ALEC Rhode Island.



Tom Buckley

Tom is a Captain with the Foxborough Fire Department and has been a firefighter for over 22 years. As the Coordinator of ALEC RI, he reaches out to fire chiefs from all over the state to schedule trainings in each municipality. He also facilitates trainings where he teaches firefighters how to interact with children and adults with autism to ensure their safety. Tom has a nephew with autism who inspired him to be among the first group of trainers to participate in this program in Massachusetts, and it was due to funding received by Bailey's Team in 2008 that Tom was subsequently asked to coordinate the efforts in **Rhode Island, where to date over 850 First Responders have received ALEC training.**

Another component of ALEC, is an event called *Community Day*, an "open house" held at a local fire station designed especially for individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities. This is an essential component of the ALEC program as it provides an opportunity for First Responders (and other community personnel) and individuals with ASD along with their families to meet and interact with one another in a non-emergency situation. In addition, families will be educated at the event about their roles in speaking to their children about their local first responders and the importance of developing safety plans.

ALEC recommends that all First Responders complete the ALEC Training *before* holding a Community Day. The information gained from the training will provide them with communication techniques and appropriate interventions necessary to enable them to better interact with individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities.

If you would like more information about ALEC, or would like to have First Responders trained in your area, please visit www.arcsouthnorfolk.org or call 781-762-4001.



2012 EDUCATION SERIES HIGHLIGHTS

In 2012, Bailey's Team hosted its third Education Series offered to parents and professionals supporting individuals living with autism spectrum disorders. Our goal is to offer guidance, support and information to families, educators, child care providers and other members of the community on the subjects of autism and advocacy.

Each year we kickoff our series in April in recognition of Autism Awareness Month. The first of our two events featured a father and daughter team speaking on the subject of having Asperger Syndrome.

APRIL 11, 2012 – "I HAVE ASPERGER SYNDROME & SO DO I!"

LIVING WITH ASPERGER SYNDROME...A FATHER'S AND DAUGHTER'S PERSPECTIVE

Presented by Michael & Elisabeth Bishop

Both Michael and Elisabeth Bishop enlightened the audience about each of their perspectives and how Michael recognized his own challenges through the process of his daughter's diagnosis.



Michael & Elisabeth
Bishop



Dot Lucci

The second of the two lectures featured Dot Lucci, the Program Director and Director of Consultation Services for Aspire (formerly YouthCare), a program of Massachusetts General Hospital servicing individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities.

MAY 16, 2012 – AUTISM & MINDFULNESS:

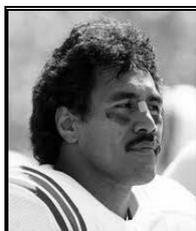
A NEW APPROACH TO ADDRESSING CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR AT HOME AND IN THE CLASSROOM

Presented by Dot Lucci, M.Ed., C.A.G.S.

Dot shared her knowledge on the subject of Autism and Mindfulness and how to address challenging behavior at home and in the classroom.

Nearly 200 attendees participated in each evening lecture and IPADS were raffled off and presented to two lucky winners.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE MOSI TATUPU MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND!



Mosi Tatupu

Earlier this year, Bailey's Team received a generous donation from the Mosi Tatupu Memorial Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$5,700.00!

Long time New England Patriots great, Mosi Tatupu, died in February of 2010 at age 54. Shortly following his death, a Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in his name providing tuition assistance to young athletes with learning challenges who exemplify the outstanding qualities that characterize the heart and soul of Tatupu.

"There is no better way to honor Mosi than to help these students pursue higher education through these scholarships," said Patriots Hall of Fame linebacker and Patriots Alumni Club member Steve Nelson.

"Mosi was second to none and was passionate about giving back through initiatives like these. One thing about him was that whenever you needed something on or off the field, Mosi delivered."

The first Mosi Tatupu Memorial Scholarship Comedy Benefit was held in June of 2010 to support the fund and Steve Nelson, Roland James and other Patriots alumni continued to honor their teammate at scholarship presentations in 2011 and 2012.

In 2012, it was decided that the fund would disperse money to other viable charities also in the spirit of Mosi's character. As a result, Bailey's Team was among those selected to receive an award.

After attending the annual Wine & Beer Tasting hosted by Bailey's Team, Roland James was inspired to better understand and support individuals living with autism. He said, "I've worked with kids pretty much my whole life. The reason I chose Bailey's Team for our donation was partly because my wife has cared for a couple of boys in her day care who were autistic. I witnessed the struggles those families went through with caring for their child and even looking for services. When I came across Bailey's Team, I said to myself, if I ever have a chance to support this cause, I would do it in a heartbeat. I believe every child should have a chance and I want to be part of helping kids with autism."

Tatupu played thirteen seasons with the Patriots and one last season with the Los Angeles Rams.

Bailey's Team would like to offer a heartfelt thanks to both the Mosi Tatupu Memorial Scholarship Fund and the New England Patriots Alumni Club for their support of individuals living with autism and their families!

Enjoy pictures from our first **Bailey's Run 4 Autism**



Pre-race yoga stretch



Bailey's run participants enjoying the 4 mile course



(Left to Right) Runners Kristen Sherman, Lyndsey Benharris, Meredith Blum & Lee Burgess came out to support Bailey's Team from North Attleboro, MA & Portland, OR



After party featuring music and percussion for kids by The Rhythm Room

2012 UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2

Fourth Annual WINE & BEER TASTING
Hosted by BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM
CBS Scene - Patriot Place, Foxboro, MA



2013 UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2 **WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**

APRIL 7 **Second Annual BAILEY'S RUN 4 AUTISM**
Legacy Place, Route 1
Dedham, MA

Date pending town approval

APRIL 10 **EDUCATION SERIES – PART 1**
AUTISM & ANXIETY

Presented by Todd Levine, M.D.
Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro
31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

MAY 11 **Third Annual BAILEY'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE**
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Providence, RI

MAY 22 **EDUCATION SERIES – PART 2**
AUTISM & TECHNOLOGY
Developing Innovative Technologies to Enhance Research and Practice in ASD
Presented by Matthew S. Goodwin, Ph.D.
Holiday Inn Mansfield-Foxboro
31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA

JUNE 9 **Ninth Annual BAILEY'S PAR FOR AUTISM**
Charity Golf Tournament
Crystal Lake Golf Club
Burrillville, RI

AUGUST 1 **ANNUAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS**

NOV 1 **Fifth Annual WINE & BEER TASTING**
Hosted by BAILEY'S TEAM for AUTISM
CBS Scene - Patriot Place, Foxboro, MA

NOV 21 **SILPADA DESIGNS JEWELRY FUNDRAISER**
164 Westside Avenue, North Attleboro, MA

Watch for our next **BAILEY'S TEAM NEWSLETTER** to be distributed in March, 2013

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