

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

THE AUTISM SOCIETY
OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA



**Autism
Society**
Southern
Arizona

ANNUAL OVERVIEW
PROGRAMS & SUPPORT
FINANCIAL POSITION



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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To our Amazing Supporters & Community,

What a year 2023 has been! I have been encouraged by our growth in so many important ways. We started three new programs in response to community needs, hosted new community connection events, and nearly doubled the number of people we served. But the most exciting thing was watching connections being made in the community: seeing the teacher tear up in our *Autism Friendly Training* because she finally understood the challenges her students face, witnessing a parent connect with the police officer outside Be Safe to make sure their child's information is up to date in the police database, and engaging with new people at the Autistic PRIDE Mixer. Maxx was excited to see *Parent Peer Support Group* participants introducing their children to each other at *Community Connection* events and watching the parent who, a few months ago was new and lost, speak up, and share with a new parent how they overcame a challenge. Jade loved watching the Adult Social Club work together to encourage one another in new skills and talking to parents surprised to see their adult son excitedly engaging with others. I loved receiving selfies from our participants hanging out in their daily lives, and watching new people come and find someone with a common interest. These moments of connection are examples of how the work WE ALL DO has a powerful ripple effect across the community.

Our mission is to create connections, empowering everyone in the Autism community with the resources they need to live fully. Even if we can provide the contact information to all the agencies and answer all your questions, the greatest resource we have is each other. The connections we make with one another while sharing resources, information, and stories are how we carry our impact into the larger community.

Autism activism started with Awareness, where we let the world know what Autism was, to Acceptance, where we taught everyone to accept Autistic people for who they are. In 2023, we started our call to Allyship, calling everyone in southern Arizona to join us in being allies to the Autistic community. Let's continue advocating, accommodating, and working to make our community the best place to be Autistic.

Thank you for all your support in helping us grow and taking on new challenges. We are excited to take on 2024 as we call on everyone to become allies for the Autistic community. Thank you for being part of our community and joining us in creating a community of Allies where Autistic individuals can not only survive but thrive. Thank you for supporting our work and making such a huge difference in the lives of many today and even more to come.

The Connection is YOU!

Thank you!



Kate Elliott, MSW

Executive Director
Autism Society of Southern Arizona



We are here for you! We can't wait to engage with you and help you on your Allyship journey!
Jade, Maxx, & Kate



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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OUR 2023 TEAM



Kate Elliott, MSW

Executive Director

Kate joined the ASSA team in early 2022 after being a group participant and volunteering with the agency for years. She earned her Master's in Social Work from the University of Chicago with a specialization in Family Support and worked managing a Family Support program and working with families and a Domestic Violence Alternative Center at the juvenile courts. She has two Autistic children, a son diagnosed at 9 and a daughter diagnosed at 3, and is excited to bring her experience and love for the Autistic community to support the families and individuals in our programs and raise awareness while strengthening our Autistic community.



Maxine (Maxx) Mathews

Information & Referral Specialist

Maxx is an expert at finding resources across Pima County in the mental and behavioral health community. She began working in mental health in 2007 and has worked for nonprofits since 2010. She is the mother of a teenager diagnosed with Autism at age 4 and of a 14-year-old diagnosed with Autism at age 10. She loves helping people navigate through the behavioral health systems from an initial diagnosis of Autism to transitioning to adulthood, including working with State agencies and therapeutic agencies.



Jade Munsey

Program & Marketing Specialist

Jade is an Autistic self-advocate and mom to three very smart, funny, and hardworking boys. She found her passion for Autism after her first son was diagnosed at 3 years old. She started learning and researching everything she could possibly know about Autism. She has worked as a registered behavior technician and earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology in Applied Behavior Analysis. She has the privilege of advocating and educating in the community while working and is constantly improving her already amazing understanding of social media and marketing materials.

OUR PROGRAMS

"Very thankful for Maxine's quick thorough information, so that I was able to pass on info to my health care insurance referral person on the same day!"



"Maxine is amazing! She's so helpful thank you!"

NAVIGATING AUTISM PROGRAM

The Autism Society is often the first call for families after they receive a diagnosis or those who are looking for help in getting diagnosed at various ages. We strive to meet each caller where they are with an understanding ear to help connect them to the resources they need to live fully. Support, resources, referrals, and guidance on navigating the Autism world for individuals and their families have always been a highly needed service and we have been here to answer the call. Incoming calls to this program have continually risen each year and rose again by 8% in 2023. We continue to engage with any new organizations that are coming to southern Arizona while we expand our comprehensive and unbiased list of referrals and recommendations to help guide everyone who calls or walks through our door.



"I received all the information requested plus more quickly."

"It was the first place we went to after diagnosis to know where to start with navigating this journey. It helped us gain a perspective about our newly recognized situation and what we can, should, or will be doing to increase education, engagement, and opportunity."

OUR PROGRAMS



"Parent support group has been my favorite, it's awesome to relate and share stories with other parents who are on this journey only we understand. Sharing therapies and other services is super beneficial as well."



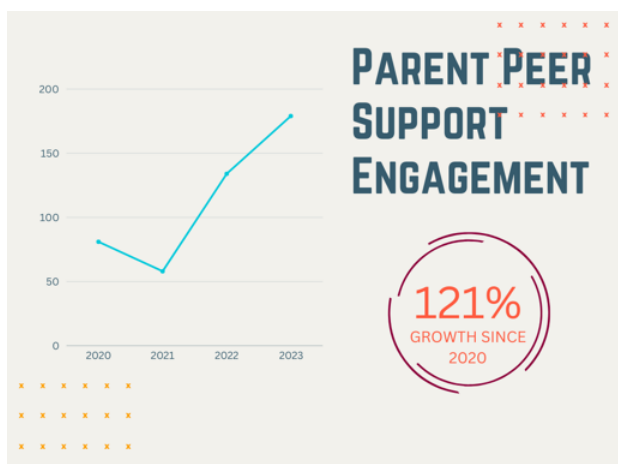
"Not feeling so alone which means the world. connecting with other parents is the best!"

PARENT PEER SUPPORT GROUP

The Parent Peer Support Group grew by 20% in 2023. This group has become a steady space for parents, grandparents, and caregivers of Autistic individuals of all ages to come together and support one another. Every month there are new faces that join us and bring wonderful new perspectives. Maxx strives to encourage these caregivers to make sure they are taking care of themselves as well. She encourages them to engage in Autism education, listen to the voices of Autistic adults, and become advocates for their children.

As we strived to engage all of southern Arizona, we recognized the need to offer an additional group option that would allow participants outside of Tucson or Tucsonians who can not come in person to engage in the Parent Peer Support Group. From this need, the Virtual Parent Peer Support Group was started in October and has been steadily growing. We are so excited to be able to provide this supportive outlet and host more caregivers across all of Southern Arizona.

"It's become a huge part of my life, a part I didn't even know I needed."



OUR PROGRAMS

"We get to participate in family exercises together, and our Autistic child gets to make friends."



PLAYFORMANCE TEEN MEETUPS

Our Teen Meet-Ups are held in partnership with Playformance, a local gym designed to provide high-quality play experiences for all children. Trained coaches at Playformance facilitate games and social activities to increase the cognitive, physical, emotional, and social development of participants. This popular group regularly sells out all its spots far in advance and grew by 21%, even though we took the summer off this year.

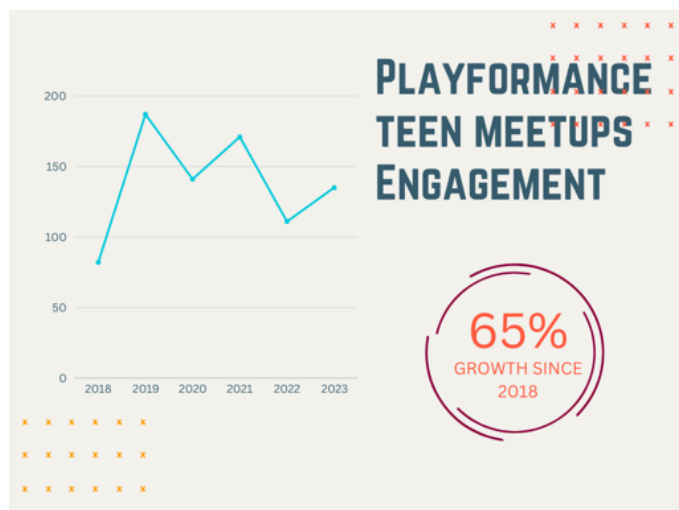
Many participants have expressed how important this space has been to be yourself and move freely all while engaging with others who understand. You can hear some of their experiences at the link to the right.

This program is made possible by generous grants from the Hussman Foundation and the Sundt Foundation.

WATCH
THIS
VIDEO!



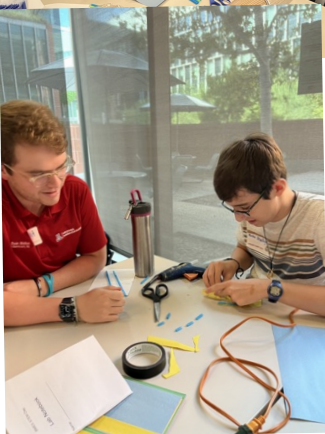
PLAYFORMANCE



OUR PROGRAMS

***NEW GROUP!** **LITTLES' MEET UP**

A group where younger kids can engage with each other was one of our most requested groups and this year, thanks to the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona and the CORE grant, we were able to make it a reality. This group provides an accepting and inclusive space for Autistic kids 9 years old and under, their siblings, and caregivers to come connect. We provide space, activities, and connection so everyone can come and make a new friend, have some fun, parallel play, stim around, or what they want as they are embraced with open arms. This group is having a slow start after we lost our first space and finding a time that works best for everyone, but we will continue to adjust to the community's needs so that we can be accessible to as many people as possible.



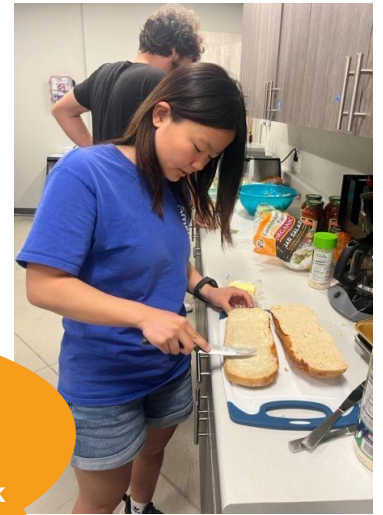
U OF A PARTNERS FOR SWIM & STEAM PROGRAMS

Each year Dr Jennifer Casteix and Dr Terry Matsunaga work with student organizations to put on STEAM Camp for kids 11 and up to engage hands-on with science activities alongside students to explore the world in a whole new way and make careers in science and higher education seem more accessible. This year we had 11 kids join the students from Biochemical and Mechanical Engineering to explore everything from DNA extraction to making their own cars. For the first time this year, we partnered with Sonoran UCED and the University of Arizona Recreation Department to offer a class of accessible swim lessons and socialization for four kids.

OUR PROGRAMS



"Thank you ASSA for making the adult social club. It has helped me grow as a person and has made me make a few friends along the years. Thank you so much! "

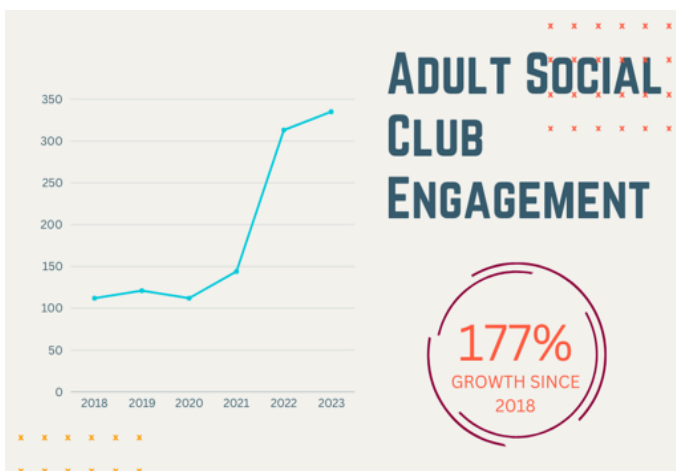


ADULT SOCIAL CLUB

The Adult Social Club continues to be our strongest and fastest growing group. We continue to hold Virtual Group on the first Friday of every month and this year we had 177 (180% increase!) people join, including people from three different states outside of Arizona! Our In-Person group meets on the 3rd Friday of every month. This year we were joined by 335 Autistic adults (34% growth). This group ranges in age from 18 to 70 and everyone from across the entire Autism spectrum.

The magic of this group is the fun activities planned by our Program and Marketing Specialist, Jade Munsey. As an Autistic adult herself, Jade used to be a participant in the social club and now plans wonderful exciting opportunities for everyone to enjoy. She makes sure everyone feels welcomed and accepted.

In this group, everyone gets to participate however it works best for them, all forms of communication are accepted, stimming is encouraged and everyone is welcome just as they are. Jade plans the activities based on the desires of the group. One month someone mentioned their birthday was the next month, so June was a birthday party for everyone with wrapped presents, party games, and cake! This group is proof that when you support, accept, and gather Autistic people... magic happens.



"Adult Social Club is amazing. I get to play games and be socialized. It gives me an opportunity to be able to be me. Also, learn new things. I wish there were more places that adults with Autism could go and do stuff."

"It benefits me in immersion in a social setting. As I break my comfort to talk to others. This will help me do better for my mom."



OUR PROGRAMS



***NEW GROUP!**

ADULT DIAGNOSED GROUP

As awareness and education grow, so does the number of adults realizing they have been Autistic all along. Adult diagnosis of Autism is on the rise and we saw the need to create a space for these adults to come together and discuss their experiences. At our first meeting, a participant said that they had been watching our emails hoping we would start a group like this for over a year. We are so excited to watch this group grow and to provide an outlet for these individuals to find connection, support, and community.



"More than anything the ASSA has given me a clearly visible path to confidently keep putting one foot in front of the other. It has fostered a much healthier psychological perspective and personal growth experience. Validation, inclusion and influential information are essential and beneficial beyond what the general public experiences, and the ASSA has been an important and central part of my forward movement and sphere of influence."

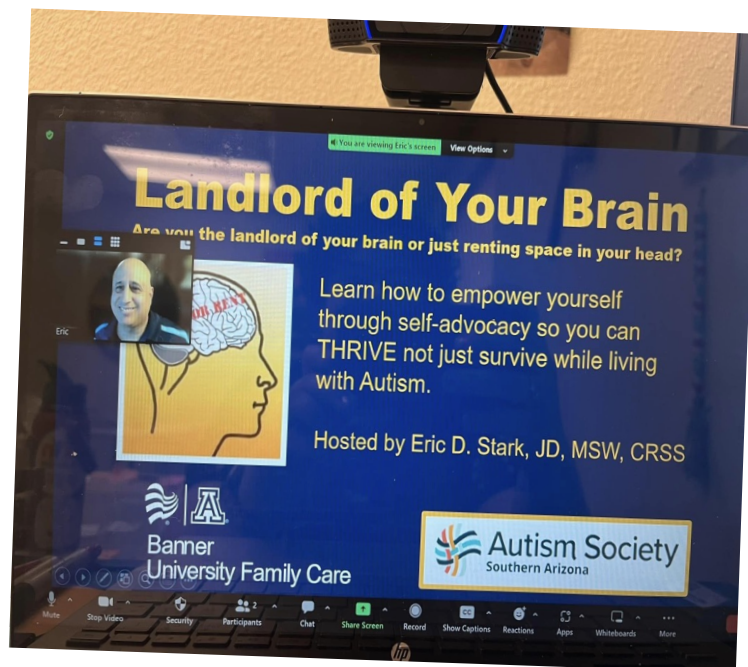
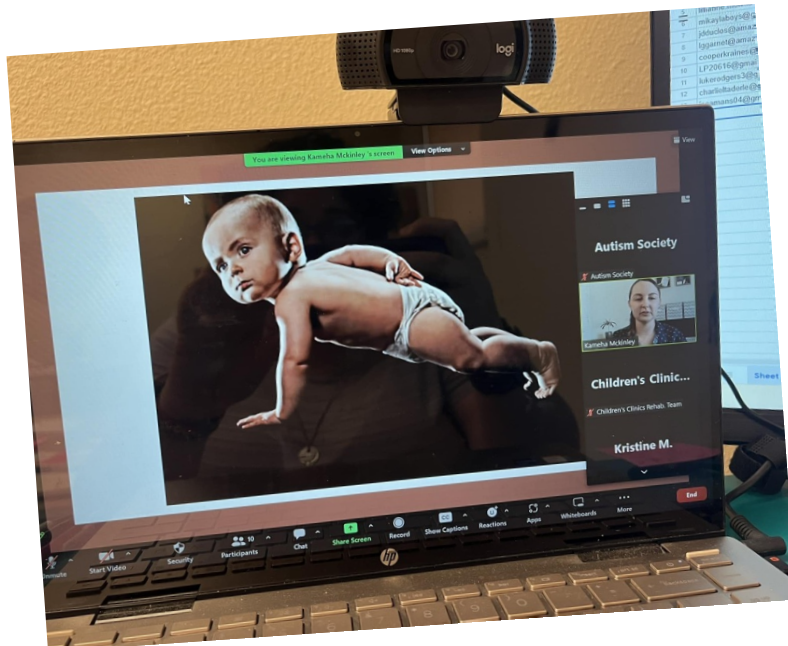
"My favorite program is late diagnosed adult group because it's such a relief to communicate with others who have experienced many of the same trials having not been diagnosed or realized they were Autistic."

OUR PROGRAMS

LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

This year we aimed to expand our Lunch & Learns so that throughout the year we were connecting our community to the answers they need about the topics that affect them. We started strong with SAARC sharing with us things about Autism and types of treatments, we heard from self-advocate Eric Stark in his talk "Landlord of Your Brain." We learned about the services DDD and *Child Find*. Dr. Troutt from Truleive shared with us how medical marijuana is being used to help ease some challenges of Autism. Dr. Josh Anbar explained to us how they count the numbers so we know that the prevalence of Autism is 1 in 36. We learned about a form of communication called Spelling and what options it has to offer. We discussed legal issues from estate planning to guardianship. All this valuable information is being recorded and shared on our website for anyone to be able to access it when they need it.

"Learning new concepts about specific niche areas - this information is hard to find independently so I appreciate being able to attend a webinar on it."



OUR PROGRAMS

AUTISM FRIENDLY

COMMUNITY TRAINING



"This was an excellent class for defining an introduction to Autism Spectrum. There were examples of sensory system overloads and different accommodations for helping."

"It gave a very clear visual on how children with autism see and experience the world differently. I have family members with autism, and it just makes me understand them a lot more by putting myself in their shoes."

AUTISM FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES



We strive to make southern Arizona the best place to be Autistic and our Autism Friendly Communities program allows us to share knowledge, understanding, and know-how through training of the southern Arizona community. We train employers, community organizations, emergency responders, teachers, and anyone who wants to be more inclusive of the Autistic community in their work. The community of southern Arizona has responded resoundingly that they want to be engaged with and support the Autistic community. This year we revamped our trainings to be neuroaffirming and to help participants understand Autism on a deeper level by lifting Autistic voices and sharing how the community can become allies in their work, no matter what their work is.

We meet with each organization beforehand to discuss what has brought them to seek training, their needs, and what they hope to gain. Each training is tailored to meet the needs of each organization because teachers, courts, and employers all have different ways of interacting with the public and we want to give them the best information for their situation. We work with groups to break down biases, build an understanding of the challenges the Autism community faces, and show them how they can become supportive allies. We have been able to provide these trainings free of charge thanks to the continued support of Arizona Complete Health which makes this program possible.

Thanks to Arizona Complete Health we were able to complete 13 trainings with 740 participants in 2023!



"Clear information that I can use now in my classroom. Thank you!"



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



SPEED DATING 101

Due to the popularity of Love on the Spectrum, a hit t.v. show about Autistic people dating, we have been asked many times to create a dating program for Autistic Adults. In response to this community request we hosted a Dating 101 Class, taught by Autistic therapist Maya Asher, to make sure everyone felt confident in their dating skills for Speed Dating.

Speed Dating gave our Autistic community the ability to date and practice social skills in a safe and fun environment. We provided a cute dating room, conversation topic ideas, and fidgets to guide each participant through their six 15-minute dates. All Abilities Learning Center sponsored this event and hosted the mocktail bar for added fun.

This event was a success and a few private dates were even scheduled afterwards. We had 28 participants in total. The community has continued to ask us when we will do this again. We plan on making this a yearly occurrence around Valentine's Day.





"Our favorite is all in for autism me and my daughter love meeting new people and having fun."



ALL IN FOR AUTISM DAY

April is Autism Acceptance Month and when we host our large annual fundraiser. This year we were so grateful to all the amazing sponsors who showed they were All In For Autism by supporting all the work we do all year. This was our first ever All In For Autism Day which aimed to provide a space for the entire community to come together, have fun, connect to resources, and celebrate Autism Acceptance Month.

The event was held at the Rillito Race Track and had a Science Zone filled with trains, reptiles, science experiments, and the Brain Bus. The Art Zone featured an instrument petting zoo with the Civic Orchestra and art activities with local art organizations. All Abilities Learning Center hosted the Adult Social Zone with friend speed dating, a mocktail bar and games. We had Yoga and Zumba Classes, Theater Classes, Balloon Animal making demonstrations, and story time with the Tucson Public Library and the University of Arizona Bookstore. Jumping Castles, soccer games, and a sensory zone to calm down in. Food trucks to enjoy and a Resource Fair to connect to all the services available for Autistic individuals in Southern Arizona. It was a wonderful time that brought us all together.



"All in for Autism day, my son had a great time and truly enjoyed all the areas of sensory play and circle time it was awesome to see other families having a good time."



NIGHT AT THE CHILDRENS' MUSEUM

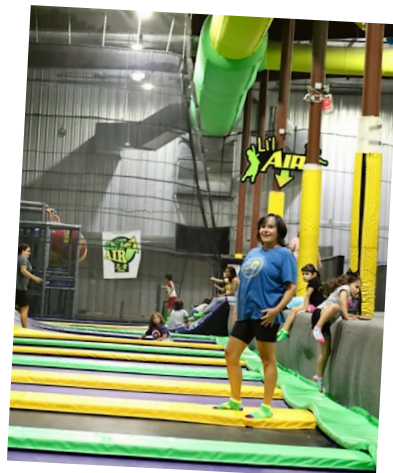
Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Roman Empire Agency we were able to host a Night at the Children's Museum for all our families to come take over Tucson's Children's Museum for a night of sensory-friendly fun. We had 61 people come out to join us in taking over the museum, connecting with the community, and have fun!! These Community Connection events offer wonderful opportunities to engage new families but also to engage everyone in a new way. At this event Parents who meet at Parent Peer Support Group were able to introduce their children to one another and foster the relationship to grow.



Doug Flutie Jr.
Foundation for Autism

GET AIR JUMP NIGHT

Thanks to the generosity of the Doug Flutie Foundation and Get Air Trampoline Park, our families got to enjoy a sensory-friendly night at the trampoline park. Get Air generously donated the space and socks for each of our 85 participants. Everyone had fun jumping, playing games, and connecting. We excitedly finished the night by being given a giant check for \$2,500 from the Doug Flutie Foundation to support our programming.





AUTISTIC PRIDE MIXER

June 18th is Autistic PRIDE Day, a day started as a way for those who are Autistic and on the LGBTQIA+ spectrum to celebrate their multifaceted identities. There is a large overlap in both the Autistic and LGBTQIA+ communities and we wanted to give everyone a space to celebrate and meet with one another. This was a wonderful event that attracted new people to engage with us and let everyone know that they are accepted for all parts of who they are. We played games, danced, ate, and had fun meeting new people and celebrating. This is sure to become an annual event.



"The autistic mixer. I could dance or run & listen to music. It's so meaningful to be social with someone."

PURRS & PALS

Is that the sound of an engine purring or the sound of a hundred kittens waiting to be pet? We partnered with Hermitage No Kill Cat Shelter to host a "come pet some cats" day. We ran out of tickets so quickly the first time, that we knew we had to do this event again! The premise is simple: come hang out with some cats at a shelter, show them some love, and enjoy the oxytocin you receive from these fuzzy creatures.



"Be safe event- makes me feel less anxious about my son interacting with law enforcement."



BE SAFE

Be Safe: Interactive Screenings is an event meant to promote safe interactions between the police and those on the Autism spectrum. This event seeks to train officers how to recognize Autistic traits as well as teach those with ASD how to properly act around police to promote the safety of everyone involved. This event had a total of 41 participants who were able to engage and ask questions to some of the local police officers.

"The Autism and TPD Be Safe Training was so impactful for us! Not only did it give my son an opportunity to meet, relate to, and speak with police it helped me learn about things that will apply to him in the future. Such as when he's a teen and he becomes a driver."



SPELLERS MOVIE SCREENING & DISCUSSION

With the rise in prevalence and education around Autism, many Spellers have been able to finally share their voice. Here at Autism Society of Southern Arizona, we strive to find ways to reach different parts of our community. Hosting a Spellers Movie Screening and discussion was one small gesture of support to this marginalized, unheard, and disempowered group. Spellers Movie is a documentary depicting different people with ASD who have learned to successfully communicate through spelling their thoughts and feelings. The movie attempts to challenge professionals who continue to think that nonspeaking individuals are simply cognitively disabled. After the showing, a panel of nonspeaking Autistics and their communication facilitators were available to answer and discuss questions from the audience. In total, 81 attendees arrived to watch, learn, and question the Spellers. It was an amazing time that allowed this very unique part of our community a chance to engage and feel welcomed.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
BookStores



FAMILY PICNIC

Each year we host a family picnic at a park as a time for families to come together and play. This year we took advantage of our warm Arizona October and played at the Splash Pad at Brandi Fenton Park and ate eeggees. We love it when we can offer casual opportunities for people to connect with each another. Meeting in a different setting and outside a formal group allows participants to connect in different ways and find new connections to one another.





AUTISTIC ARTISTRY

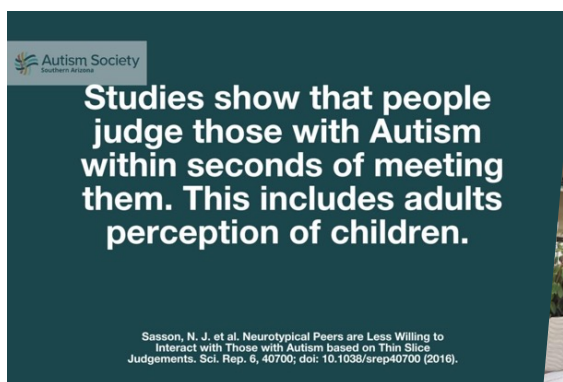
Many people with Autism are said to think visually in pictures. Because of this, art can be a helpful way to process memories, emotions, information, and ideas. We wanted to allow for a space for the amazing artists in our community to share their creations. We had many participants share their personal, unique art with over 160 viewers. The pieces shared ranged from pencil sketches, and handcrafted jewelry, to AI art. The Tucson Jewish Community Center generously donated its beautiful sculpture garden as the location for the event. The ambiance was amplified with the alluring live music from the trio and quartets from the Tucson Symphony Orchestra. We offered food, drinks, art activities, and an accessible space for everyone to enjoy the art and community. This event was made possible thanks to the CORE Grant from the Southern Arizona Community Foundation.





SENSORY FRIENDLY SANTA

The holidays can be a very overwhelming and sensory loaded time of the year. This is especially true for those living with Autism. It can be difficult for families to enjoy all the little things that others might take for granted. Meeting Santa can be exciting, but certain accommodations can make the experience even better for those with Autism and their families. That is why we host a Sensory Friendly Santa meet and greet. Families can reserve a specific time for a private meeting with Santa. The families are able to engage in holiday activities, take photos, receive a gift, and relax knowing that this event was made for them! Even with limited space and time available, we had 65 participants for this event.



ALLYSHIP VIDEO

As we engage the southern Arizona community in becoming Allies we were asked time and time again to hear what allyship means to Autistic people, how does it look and how can they support it. So we went to the people and asked them to share their experiences, thoughts, and hopes for the future. The result was our Allyship Video calling everyone to take action and work within their spheres to be allies to the Autistic community.

You can view the video here:

<https://youtu.be/vihuHUaLIAY?si=8PoVxfazfHFefhDs>





STARFISH AWARD

The Starfish Award was started to recognize those who are working to support the Autism community of Southern Arizona. There is a story often told of a young man walking down the beach throwing starfish stranded on the sand back into the ocean as he walks. Another man approaches him and says, "Why are you bothering? You will never save them all!" The young man throws another starfish back into the sea and responds, "But it matters to that one." Every day we have the opportunity to improve the lives of those around us. We at the Autism Society of Southern Arizona strive to make Southern Arizona an amazing place to be Autistic through community building, advocacy, and training throughout the community. We want to honor those who are working towards this mission with us in big and small ways. When we work together to make a difference our actions build on each other and create stronger communities. We will be awarding Starfish Awards throughout the year and once a year a Superstar Award to someone making an extra impact.





crazy AARONS

Lakeshore®

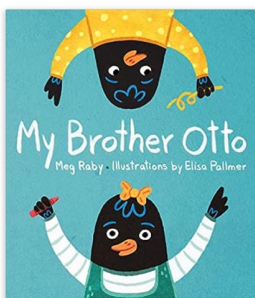
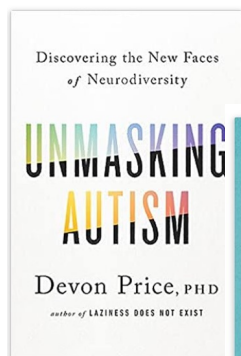
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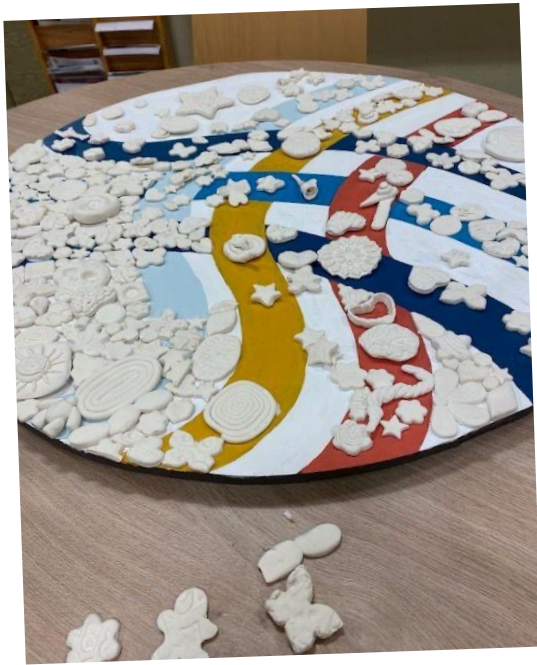
SENSORY LIBRARY

Nervous system regulation is so important to Autistic individuals and helping them manage in a world not built for them. The world of sensory tools and toys has grown so greatly and there are options of all kinds. We wanted to create the opportunity to let people engage with all the different types of fidgets, weighted items, different textures, and options for sensory input so we created our mobile Sensory Library. Thanks to generous donations from Harkla, Lakeshore Learning Center, and Crazy Aarons we have so many options to explore during our regular meetings. Discovering what sensory input works best for you can be a key to helping regulate and learning to use these tools every day is vital to success, and it all begins with access. We are excited to watch our library grow and help many people find what works best for them. If you have any sensory items you would like to donate please let us know.

BOOK GIVEAWAY

Thanks to a generous donation from the Friends of Kirk Bear Canyon Library we were able to give books away to 26 Autistic adults, teens, children and their families. The donated books have even become a sharing library for some groups as they bring the books back when they are done and trade for other books when others have finished. The sharing of this information and the conversations that it has sparked has been amazing to witness.





COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

In 2023, we were focused on our community; we wanted to engage everyone and bring us all together in a symbolic way. At the All In For Autism Day, participants started to make little tiles and we continued to make tiles at our groups and events throughout the year. Then we took each of those tiles and brought them together to make our logo. In 2022 the Autism Society rebranded with a new logo designed to show our dedication to the community with each color representing our values of Dignity, Equity, Inclusion, Diversity and Integrity. We brought all the tiles representing our community together to create a mosaic that represents our dedication to that community. We were excited to reveal the final product at Autistic Artistry and it now hangs in the ASSA office.

Our colors represent our values:

Dignity: where the value and self-determination of every individual is upheld

Equity: where everyone with Autism achieves the highest possible quality of life

Inclusion: where every person is integrated into society without barriers or expectations in a collaborative environment

Diversity: where everyone is respected for their unique and individual differences

Integrity: where we conduct ourselves with honor, truth and respect in our thoughts, words and actions



LOOK WHO WAS ALL IN FOR AUTISM IN 2023!



Banner Health Plans	\$15,000
Mercy Care	\$15,000
Premiere Wealth Advisors	\$10,000
Neurowave Brain Center	\$10,000
Helping Hands Behavior Therapy	\$7,000
Absolute HCBS	\$7,000
SARRC	\$3,000
AZ Autism Charter	\$3,000
Arizona for Better Medicaid	\$3,000
TEP	\$2,000
Autism Therapies AST	\$1,000
Truly Nolen	\$1,000
Snell & Wilmer	\$1,000
Pioneer Title Agency	\$1,000
Hopebridge	\$1,000
Children's Clinics	\$1,000
Ascend Behavior Partners	\$1,000
Intermountain	\$1,000
AXIS	\$1,000
UCP/Workability	\$1,000
Arion	\$500
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority	\$500
Tucson Federal Credit Union	Ad Campaign
All Abilities Learning Centers	In-Kind
Arizona Lotus Corp	Media
Pima County Superintendent's Office	Community
Total	\$87,000

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING PARTNERSHIPS

Bashas - April Charity of the Month
Campaign

Raised \$19,014.22

Trulieve - April Roll Up
Program Recipient

Raised \$10,000

20/30 Club - Golf Tournament

Raised \$5,113.07

GRANT FUNDERS

Arizona Complete Health
for Autism Friendly Communities

\$27,000

CORE Grant- Unrestricted Funds
Community Foundation for Southern
Arizona & Hillman Family Foundation

\$25,000

Friends of Kirk Bear Canyon Library
Grants for books

\$2,500

Hussman Foundation
Teen Meet-Ups

\$2,000

Sundt Foundation
Teen and Littles' Meet-Ups

\$2,500

The connection is you.™

Thank you to all of our supporters who believe in our mission to create connections, empowering everyone in the autism community with the resources needed to live fully.

OUR FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

OPERATING REVENUE

Contributions <i>Annual Giving</i>	\$36,501.67	(16%)
Grants <i>Grants awarded in 2023</i>	\$62,000	(28%)
Fundraising Partnerships <i>Funds raised by community campaigns</i>	\$34,127.29	(15%)
Special Events <i>All In For Autism Day</i>	\$87,000.00	(40%)
Other Revenue <i>Fees for Trainings</i>	\$2,000.00	(<1%)
Total	\$221,629.66	100%

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$26,462.38	(12%)
Administration Expenses <i>Salaries & Wages (includes running of programs)</i>	\$105,538.17	(50%)
Fundraising Expenses <i>All in for Autism Day & Grant writing</i>	\$43,273.39	(21%)
Operational Expenses <i>Rent, tech, insurance, etc.</i>	\$34,982.40	(17%)
Total	\$210,256.34	100%

NET INCOME **\$11,373.32**



PROGRAMS

For Parents

162 parents and caregivers joined us in person to support each other at Parent Peer Support Group.

17 parents from across Southern AZ connected at Virtual Parent Peer Support Group *New group!*

For Kids & Teens

135 Teens had fun and connected with others at Playformance Teen Meet Up.

15 kids under nine played together at Littles' Meet Up. *New group!*

15 kids engaged in the STEAM Camp and Swim program at the U of A.

For Adults

335 Adults found community at Adult Social Club.

Virtual Adult Social Club connected **177** adults in a way accessible to them.

At Adult Diagnosed Group - **36** people found others who understood their journey. *New group!*

For Everyone

Navigating Autism answered **851** calls to support those navigating Autism services.

152 participants engaged in 13 Lunch & Learns *Expanded Program!*

Connected with **3,740** people across **21** community events.

In 2023, we grew our programs, our advocacy and our community!

Total: 7751

Nearly doubled the amount of people we served in 2022

(2022: 4069)

Autism Friendly Communities

740 trained across **12** agencies



GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**



CANYON VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Numbers served through our COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Dating 101 - **37**

Speed Dating - **28**

All In For Autism Day - **738**

Night at the Childrens' Museum - **61**

Autistic PRIDE Mixer - **30**

Get Air Jump Night - **85**

Purrs & Pals - **28**

Be Safe - **41**

Spellers Movie Screening & Discussion - **81**

Family Picnic - **15**

Autistic Artistry - **167**

Sensory Friendly Santa - **65**

82%

of participants said the programs helped them engage with others

84%

of participants said they would recommend programs to others

86%

of participants said that they gained helpful information from programming

84%

of participants were happy to report that programming met their expectations



THANK YOU!

