



Welcome to Walk Now for Autism!



7th Annual Carolinas Walk Now for Autism

Saturday, October 10, 2009
Lowe's Motor Speedway
www.walknowforautism.org/carolinas

Walk Now for Autism is a 5K family walk and an autism community resource fair heightening public awareness and raising money to fund autism research.

Over 8,000 walkers anticipated!

GOAL = \$575,000

Step One

Register for the Carolinas Walk at www.walknowforautism.org/carolinas/

Once registered, you can build your web page, send emails to your friends and family, run reports and more in your Event Headquarters

Step Two

Start Fundraising!

Letter writing & email campaigns are the easiest and most effective way to raise money!

Host a Wrap Around Event!

Utilize corporate matching gift programs!

Step Three

Turn in Your Donations!

Once received, send your donations with your donation form to:
 Autism Speaks/ Walk Donations Dept
 5455 Wilshire Blvd, #2250
 Los Angeles, CA 90036

CAROLINA TEAM FUNDRAISERS

Hiking the Appalachian Trail for Autism Speaks



Jay & Jack's 25 Hour Podcast for Autism Speaks

Listen to the Podcast online at www.jayandjack.com
Raised over \$12,000!



Valley High School's Jerri Elliott Autism Walk

Raised over \$4,000 for their team!



CellaBrations!

Ten year old artist, Ally, selling her note cards for her team's fundraiser!

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Make a GRAND difference!

Become a member of the Grand Club!

What is the Grand Club?

The Grand Club members are fundraisers for Carolinas Walk Now for Autism who raise at least \$1000 for Autism Speaks and receive special membership benefits for their efforts.

How do I become a member?

Begin your fundraising now and raise at least \$1000 for the 7th Annual Carolinas Walk Now for Autism online by Sunday, September 27, 2009. The earlier you become a member, the more chances you have to enjoy free dinners, tickets and other Membership Benefits only available to Grand Club members.

Membership Benefits:

- Monthly drawings for Grand Club Members
- Names listed on Carolinas Walk website
- Special Recognition at Walk Kick Offs
- VIP status at the Carolinas Walk Now for Autism including: Grand Club tent access including special seating and snacks, Grand Club member only parking, quick and easy registration, goodie bags, special photos and additional "blue" carpet treatment
- Special recognition on stage during Walk Now for Autism on Saturday, October 10, 2009
- Induction ceremony with Grand Club Pin at Awards Reception in January 2010

Check out the Carolinas Walk website at www.walknowforautism.org/carolinas for the most recent updates and drawings!

April = Spa Gift Certificate
 May = Richard Petty Ride A Long Experience



Family Services - Resources

Autism Response Team (ART)

ART coordinators respond to family inquiries and requests by phone and email.

Phone:
888-AUTISM2 (288-4762)
888-288-4926 *para español*

Email:
familyservices@autismspeaks.org.

100 Day Kit

A tool kit to assist families in getting the critical information they need in the first 100 days after an autism diagnosis.

www.autismspeaks.org/community/family_services/100_day_kit.php

(Available in English & Spanish)

Autism Video Glossary

An innovative web-based tool designed to help parents and professionals learn more about the early signs and diagnostic features of autism spectrum disorders.
www.autismspeaks.org/video/glossary.php

Family Services Resource Guide

Provides individuals and families with national and local resources that services a variety of needs from early intervention through adult care.
www.autismspeaks.org/community/resources/index.php

Aging with Autism: Defining the Future

DVD Series available at no charge to the community.

Resource Library

A library for those who want to learn more about autism, including the latest books, magazine articles, educational manuals, DVDs/CDs, software, educational toys, catalogs, and much more.
www.autismspeaks.org/community/resources/index.php

School Community Toolkit

A tool kit to assist members of the school community in understanding and supporting students with autism.
www.autismspeaks.org/school

Coming Soon on the Web

Safety/ First Responder Toolkit
Autism in the Workplace

Family Services - Community Outreach

AutismCares, a consortium of organizations including Autism Speaks, has come together to support individuals with autism and their families during natural disasters and other catastrophic life events. Learn how families get help.
www.autismcares.org

Community Grants

Service grants are awarded to providers and agencies to increase their capacity to service individuals with autism and their families.
www.autismspeaks.org/community/family_services/grants.php

Autism Speaks Social Network

A forum where members of our community can quickly and safely share information, resources and support on a wide range of topics.
<http://autismspeaksnetworking.com>

2008 Carolinas Community Grant Recipients

**Autism Foundation
of the Carolinas**
Charlotte, NC

\$25,000

*After School Program for Children
with Autism*



TEACCH
Chapel Hill, NC

\$23,250

Employment Transition Training

**Spring Application Deadline:
June 25, 2009**

NC Family Services Volunteer Liaison Needed!

Purpose: To serve as a liaison between the local community and the Autism Speaks' Family Services Department in order to provide feedback from community stakeholders and help ensure that local community needs are addressed.

If you are interested in learning more, contact the Autism Speaks office at (704) 561-0003 or Carolinas@AutismSpeaks.org



Autism Speaks Science

2008 Carolinas Research Grant Recipients

University of North Carolina School of Medicine

\$450,000

Neuropharmacology of motivation and reinforcement in mouse models of autistic spectrum disorders



Medical University of South Carolina

\$272,482

A randomized, double blind, placebo controlled study of omega-3 fatty acid supplementation in autism

On the Road to Research

Monday, May 18, 2009

7:30 AM - 6 PM

Enjoy a bus trip from Charlotte to tour UNC's autism research facilities, meet UNC autism researchers and have lunch with Autism Speaks' Chief Science Officer, Dr. Geri Dawson on Monday, May 18 by becoming a member of the Carolinas Grand Club. Have your autism questions answered by the Chief Science Officer of Autism Speaks and local area researchers. Less than 20 seats remain for this unique opportunity!

Contact the Autism Speaks office at (704) 561-0003 to learn more and save your seat!



Top Ten Autism Research Events of 2008

- 1. Translational Research Places the Spotlight on Treatment of Neurodevelopmental Disorders:** Studies of Tuberous Sclerosis Complex highlight the potential to reverse disorders related to autism
- 2. Arrival of Clinical Trials for Neurodevelopmental Disorders:** Clinical trials of biological pharmaceuticals launched to treat core features of the disorders Fragile X and Tuberous Sclerosis Complex
- 3. Autism-Mitochondria Connection?** The Hannah Poling case calls attention to the need for more research on metabolism in autism
- 4. Groundbreaking Policy Brings Research Findings to the Public:** Autism Speaks becomes the first US disease advocacy group to require their funded research be made freely available
- 5. Mortality and Cause of Death in Autism Spectrum Disorders:** New insights into the causes and prevention of premature deaths associated with autism
- 6. Autism as a Synaptic Disorder:** Converging evidence supports a role for the synapse in the underlying biology of autism
- 7. Recurrent Chromosome 16p11 Copy Number Variants in Autism:** A newly-identified microdeletion in DNA is found by multiple research groups in one percent of the cases examined
- 8. Maternal Antibodies as a Biomarker?** Unusual findings extend the search for an immunological component to autism
- 9. Unmet Medical Needs and Financial Burden in Families Touched by Autism Spectrum Disorder:** Researchers track the unique challenges of families with children that have special health care needs and assess the impact of Autism Spectrum Disorder on these needs
- 10. Recovery from Autism Spectrum Disorder:** Researchers review evidence that individuals can lose their diagnoses



Autism Speaks - Advocacy



www.AutismVotes.org

Autism Votes is an initiative of Autism Speaks which focuses on advocacy and designed to keep the autism community abreast of a variety of governmental issues on both the state and federal level.

Please take a moment to sign up for advocacy alerts today to find out how you can help now by visiting www.autismvotes.org.

Autism Treatment Acceleration Act of 2009:

Federal Autism Insurance Reform (S. 819) - In his Presidential campaign statement on Autism Spectrum Disorders, then-Senator Barack Obama committed to bringing autism insurance reform to our entire nation. His statement put forth that Obama and Biden "will mandate insurance coverage of autism treatment and will also continue to work with parents, physicians, providers, researchers, and schools to create opportunities and effective solutions for people with ASD."

The ABLE Accounts Act of 2009: S. 493, H.R. 1205 (Achieving a Better Life Experience Act) is designed to encourage individuals with autism (and other disabilities) and their families to save for disability-related expenses. The ABLE Act is meant to supplement rather than to replace benefits provided by other sources (including Medicaid and private insurance).

Take action on the ATAA Bill & ABLE Accounts Act of 2009! Help get Senate and House co-sponsors by visiting www.autismvotes.org!

Autism Speaks - Chapter Events

Charlotte Eagles

Autism Awareness Day

Eagles vs Richmond Kickers
Saturday, April 25, 2009
2 PM

Restart Field - Charlotte, NC
www.charlotteeagles.com

UNC & Autism Speaks

On the Road to Research

Monday, May 18 2009
7:30 AM - 6 PM

(More info in Science Section)

Sonny's Bar-B-Q

Autism Awareness Night

Thursday, April 30, 2009
7820 Lyles Lane; Concord, NC
5:00 - 8:00 PM

*Percentage of sales donated to Autism Speaks!
This location only by Concord Mills.*

Charlotte Eagles for Autism Soccer Camp

June 15 - June 19, 2009
9 AM - 12 PM

Elon Park - Charlotte, NC
Free for children ages 4-18 on the autism spectrum
www.charlotteeagles.com

Visit the NC Community Calendar & SC Community Calendar to learn about additional autism-related events in your community.

In the Carolinas, we have funded over \$6 million in these areas.

- Science and Research - leading us to answers and interventions
- Family Services - providing families with information, tools and resources
- Awareness - increasing public knowledge and understanding of autism
- Advocacy - accelerating national and state autism legislation

Autism Speaks is dedicated to:

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(704) 561-0003
carolinas@autismspeaks.org
www.AutismSpeaks.org
www.walknowforautism.org/carolinas

