

June 26, 2018

Dear Friends,

One in 59 children. One in 42 boys. According to the CDC, that's the number of children diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a group of developmental disabilities that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges. There is no known cause and no known cure for autism, but there is hope.

The mission of the Autism Society of Berks County is to provide information and support for individuals within the autism spectrum, their families, and professionals through community awareness, education and resources related to autism. Each year we hold our annual "Help Solve the Puzzle: Walk for Autism Awareness". With the generous support of local businesses and our members, we have been able to raise substantial funds to support our mission. These funds have enabled us to provide music therapy groups, social skills groups, and yoga groups to more than 300 children in the past year free of charge. More than 3000 people have attended, benefitted, or received information about Autism at family and awareness events in the past year.

Our 16th annual "**Help Solve the Puzzle: Walk for Autism Awareness**" will be held on **Sunday September 16, 2018** at the Reading Fightin Phils FirstEnergy Stadium. We ask that you support the walk, our major fundraiser of the year. **All funds raised remain in our community helping local families impacted by autism.** Some of the ways businesses and individuals can support the Walk include:

- Becoming a business sponsor
- Making a monetary, tax deductible donation
- Donating products or services the day of the walk
- Donating gift certificates or products for raffle prizes
- Donating small items such as pens, key chains, or discount coupons to be included in participant goody bags.

Enclosed you will find a sponsorship form detailing the different levels of giving. Any level of support is greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your consideration as we "Help Solve the Puzzle: Walk for Autism Awareness". If you have any questions, please contact us by email (walk@autismsocietyofberkscounty.org) or leave a message on our phone line at 610-736-3739.

With best regards,

Maureen Klahr

President Board of Directors