



Community Connection

Autism Connections: a Pathlight program

Newsletter

November Autism Collaborative meeting

State Representative Tricia Farley-Bouvier and Massachusetts Families Organizing for Change to be special guests at Autism Collaborative monthly meeting in Pittsfield



The Autism Collaborative of Berkshire County is excited to announce state representative [Tricia Farley-Bouvier](#) and [MFOFC](#) will be spotlight speakers at our November meeting in Pittsfield!



MFOFC will talk about ways to empower yourselves and your families to advocate for change.

Representative Farley-Bouvier will share her experiences in the world of

disabilities and what's on the legislative horizon at the State House.

Family members, educators, and all professionals are welcome to attend this community meeting on November 17, 10am-12pm at the Berkshire County ARC Training Room at 2 South Street, Suite 370, third floor, Pittsfield. Please RSVP to Erica.Donovan@pathlightgroup.org to reserve a spot.

The Collaborative is sponsored by Autism Connections, AdLib, Hillcrest Educational Centers, College Internship Program and Berkshire County Arc.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Easthampton Office
¡Hola! Hablamos español
116 Pleasant Street, Suite 366
Easthampton, MA 01027
413.529.2428

Berkshire Office
100 North Street, Suite 322
Pittsfield, MA
413.443.4780

Our Mission: To help families, schools, professionals, agencies, and communities understand autism, promote the well-being of individuals with autism, and foster their inclusion in the community.

Looking Ahead

Please save the date for our family friendly Holiday Party on Thursday, December 14th, from 5:30pm 7:30pm. We will be celebrating at the East-works building in Easthampton (our office building).

Each year we share the holiday spirit with our diverse community of families while enjoying a delicious variety of potluck holiday dishes. To make it easy, If your last name begins with

A-L, please bring a side dish to share, families with last names M-Z, please bring a dessert.

Look for more details about this event as the date approaches. We love this opportunity to share some of the holiday season with you. If you have questions or would like to RSVP, please contact Joyce Paige at 413-529-2428 x 110 or joyce.paige@pathlightgroup.org.



STAFF DIRECTORY

Karen Serra (x123)
Director

Ben Breton (x121)
Autism Specialist

Lora Cortis (x124)
Autism Specialist

Ari Damasco (x115)
Autism Center Coordinator

Erica Donovan (413.443.4780 x19)
Berkshire Program Manager

Carla Doyle-Florence (x119)
Autism Support Broker

Katie Drumm (x111)
Easthampton Program Manager

Nancy Farnsworth (x113)
Educational Advocate

Elizabeth Flaherty (413.443.4780)
Autism Specialist

Leeanne Hadsel (x122)
Autism Support Broker

Kimberly LaMothe (x118)
Behavioral Specialist

Joanne Lucey (x116)
Development & Communications Coordinator

Joyce Paige (x110)
Office Coordinator

Gaby Santiago (x125)
Bilingual Autism Specialist
Habla español

Rhonda Setkewich (x117)
Autism Specialist / IFFS Coordinator

Andrea Thompson (x127)
Autism Support Broker

Tanya White (413.585.8010 x127)
Autism Specialist

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Betsy Benton	Jeanne Zobel-Lachusia
Lisa Crouser	Paula Fredericks
Carrie Lemelin	Bill Loomis
Pamela Sandler	Michael Wilcox

Recent activities

Berkshire Autism Collaborative Monthly Meeting October 20



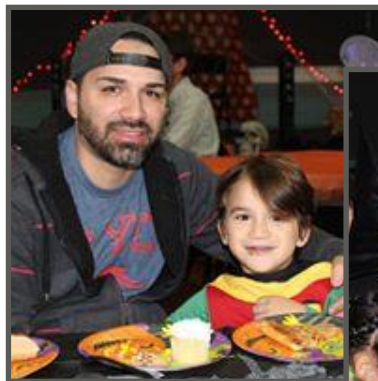
The Autism Collaborative of Berkshire County's monthly meeting was jam-packed this October! We were happy to welcome a few members of the Disabilities Response Team (DRT) of Berkshire County as our Spotlight Speakers this month. They talked about how our community is coming together to discuss ways in which the emergency services agencies can have more successful interactions with people with a wide range of disabilities in a crisis situation.

This team was formed through the work of the Pathways to Justice Program and BCARC. The members of the DRT are working on a series of community conversations about these topics along with discussions about how to gather helpful information. We hope to have them return in the Spring to follow up on the important work they are doing. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Cybele Kilby at Berkshire County Arc at ckilby@bcarc.org.

Easthampton Halloween Party

Be they pirate or princess, Viking or Jedi knight, all were welcome at our Halloween party on October 27th! Super-heroes, fairies, astronauts and monsters all enjoyed a walk on the wild side when they dared to dip their hands in our sensory pumpkins!

Everyone showed off their inner artist at the craft table and had the chance to sing their hearts out at karaoke. Thank you to all families who made the evening truly fang-tastic! We hope to see you again at our Holiday party in December.



Upcoming events

Sensory-friendly performance of *A Christmas Carol* December 13

Would you like to join us when we get together to experience the Berkshire Theater's sensory friendly performance of *A Christmas Carol*? Tickets for this special performance only are discounted at \$5.00! Please contact Erica Donovan at 413.443.4780 x19 with questions.

Wednesday December 13, 2017, 7:00 p.m.
Colonial Theater, 111 South Street, Pittsfield, MA
Questions: Erica.donovan@pathlightgroup.org
Tickets: 413-997-4444 or berkshiretheatergroup.org



Saturday, November 4, 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Eastworks Building, 116 Pleasant Street, Suite 366, Easthampton

Eastworks Open Studios takes place on November 4-5. More than 45 artists, entrepreneurs, businesses and organizations are opening their doors to the public, offering studio visits, shopping, workshops, demonstrations, crafting, children's activities and more.

Autism Connections' office will be open on Saturday November 4 to greet you while you attend this amazing event. Families are welcome to stop by the office and connect with some of our team members and participate in family activities. We look forward to the opportunity to meet you in a fun, festive setting.



Stepping Out for Autism returns in 2018 with *A Night at the Museum*, and an interesting new location at the Museum of Springfield History on **January 27, 2018** at 6:00 p.m., brought to you by presenting Sponsor Dowd Insurance Agency.

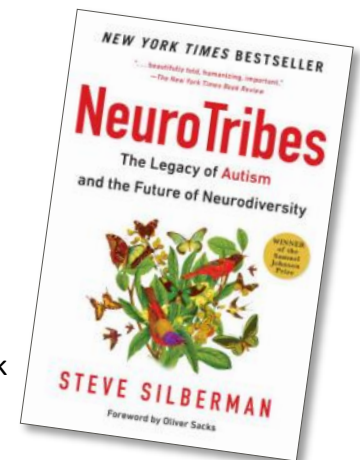
Join us for an evening of food, cocktails, music and dancing, live and silent auctions, and an exploration of all of the museum's exhibits, which will be open to all attendees! Visit the Springfield Museum website to sneak a peek at the venue and exhibits.

If you would like to donate an auction item or sponsor the event, please contact us at 413-529-2428.

28th Annual Autism Conference

Our Annual Autism Conference returns for the 18th year on **April 27, 2018** at the Log Cabin in Holyoke. Join us and the keynote speaker **Steve Silberman**, the author of *NeuroTribes*.

We will be offering a school lottery again this year to provide a winning school with 5 free admissions to the conference. More info to come, and good luck to all schools!



How is the new school year going?

Back to school time is challenging for everyone, but can be exceptionally difficult for children with Autism. We have traded in our long nights and flexible summer schedules for the daily grind of bed times and morning routines. With the many possible stresses associated with starting a new school year, such as new teachers, new classrooms and new peers, children with autism are likely to have some anxiety. How has it gone for you so far? Here are some tips to reflect upon as you review how this new school year is progressing.

1. **Prep!** Continue those conversations you had over the summer about what to expect throughout the year. Talk about bed times, wake up times, what the day will look like and any other things that will change during holiday breaks or days off.
2. **Countdown!** Minimize schedule surprises by using your kitchen calendar to mark all activities and important dates. Make an effort to check in daily with your child about any upcoming important school dates. Have them be an active participant in talking about preparation leading up to the activity or event.
3. **Routines!** How is the new school routine going? Do you need to review the schedule, how it is tracked or what the expectations are?
4. **Review!** Were there any transitions that were very difficult at the beginning of the year? It may be time to check in with the teachers again and see how all the changes are going. Is it time for your child, or you, to take a tour and see some things that are still a little unfamiliar at the school?
5. **Visit!** If you haven't done it yet, consider setting up a time to meet the staff that your child sees daily. This should include as many people as possible, kitchen staff, janitors, specialists, teachers and administrators!
6. **Sensory Ready!** If your child has sensory concerns, put together a sensory kit that can help them along the way. Things like noise



cancelling headphones, a special toy, silly putty, a special piece of clothing, or anything else that would be appropriate to help your child's would-be considerations. By this time in the year it may be easier to figure out which items will help the most.

7. **Check in!** Remember that you can call or email your child's teachers at any time to check in on their progress. The anxiety of a new school year can affect you as much as it can affect your children. Curb that anxiety by realizing all schools have an open door policy!
8. **Volunteer!** In regards to that open door policy, remember that in most schools, parents are encouraged to volunteer whenever they can. Look into that possibility and find out if you can become an active participant in your child's classroom.
9. **Ask for Help!** If you get to a point where you are feeling overwhelmed by the new school year, remember to reach out to your extended social network to ask for help.
10. **Relax!** As important as it is to be prepared, it's just as important to take care of yourself. Enjoy a nice cup of tea, or a movie for yourself after your kids start school. It's ok to take a moment and reflect on all of the hard work you have done to get here today.

Center News

NEW EMPLOYEES

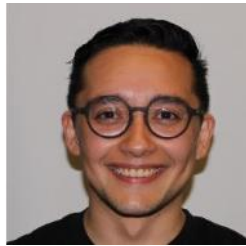
A welcome to Andrea and Ari!

We are thrilled to announce that we have two new additions to our team at Autism Connections, Andrea Thompson and Ari Damasco!



Andrea is our newest Autism Waiver Broker in the Autism Waiver program. She has a background in supporting people with autism to expand their independent living and employment skills.

Ari is assisting with coordinating our Autism Center activities, events and development. He has previously worked at Pathlight's Inclusive Community Center and is now sharing his expertise with us.



Events

Pathlight Job Fair, November 15

Learn about a career path as a Direct Support Professional in a residential group home for adults with developmental disabilities. Positions are available in Hampshire, Hampden, and Franklin County for full time, part-time or per diem work. Morning, afternoon, evening and overnight shifts are available, with on the spot interviews! No experience is necessary as training will be provided. Requirements include minimum age of 18, valid driver's license, reliable transportation and High School diploma or equivalent.

Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 12:00pm—6:00 pm
Whole Children (Inclusive Community Center)
41 Russell Street, Hadley (Route 9)
For more information visit: www.pathlightgroup.org

Let's Dance, November 18



Let's Dance is a night of dancing and celebration to support enrichment programs for people with intellectual disabilities. Think ***Dancing with the Stars***, only in this case the stars are people who receive services from Pathlight programs. Texas Two Step, Foxtrot or Tango, Disco fever or breakdancing—the evening

will get your toes tapping, put a song in your heart and a smile on your face, as you watch these rising stars shine! For more information view the event on Pathlight's [facebook page](#) or www.pathlightgroup.org to see videos of practices and learn more about the dancers and their community partners.

Saturday, November 18, 2017, 6:30pm-10:00pm
[Gateway City Arts](#), 92 Race Street
Holyoke MA

National Family Caregivers Month



National Family Caregivers Month—celebrated each November -- is a time to recognize and honor family caregivers across the country.

Please join us in celebrating those individuals who lovingly care for our family members. THANK YOU!

This is the statement the former President Obama released when creating the day in 2012

"Family members, friends, and neighbors devote countless hours to providing care to their relatives or loved ones. During National Family Caregivers Month, we recognize and thank the humble heroes who do so much to keep our families and communities strong."

President Barack Obama, NFC Month Proclamation
 2012

SUN

MON

TUES

WEDS

NOVEMBER 2017



7
 Social Skills Gym Class
 4:00pm-5:00pm
 Pittsfield, MA

8
 DDS Self-Determination
 Workshop
 140 High Street, Springfield

 Western MA Parent
 Support Group
 5:30pm-7:30pm, Holyoke



14
 Social Skills Gym Class
 4:00pm-5:00pm
 Pittsfield, MA

15
 IEP Assessments
 Workshop
 6:00pm-8:00pm
 Family Empowerment, Hadley

 Pathlight Job Fair
 12:00pm—6pm
 Whole Children, Hadley

19

26

20

27

21
 Social Skills Gym Class
 4:00pm-5:00pm
 Pittsfield, MA

28 Social Skills Gym Class
 4:00pm-5:00pm
 Pittsfield, MA

22

29

THURS

FRI

SAT

AUTISM CONNECTIONS

CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2017

Open Swim
6:00pm-7:00pm
Gladys Allen Brigham
Community Center
165 East Street, Pittsfield

2

3

OPEN HOUSE
Autism Connections
10:00am-2:00pm
116 Pleasant Street, Ste 366
Easthampton
*Part of Eastworks Open
Studios weekend*

4

Open Swim
6:00pm-7:00pm
Gladys Allen Brigham
Community Center
165 East Street, Pittsfield

9



10

Honoring those who served

*Autism Connections offices
are closed.*

Teen Group, Pittsfield

11

Open Swim
6:00pm-7:00pm
Gladys Allen Brigham
Community Center
165 East Street, Pittsfield

16

Berkshire Collaborative
Monthly Meeting
10am-12pm
BCARC Training Room
2 South Street, Suite 370
Pittsfield

17

Milestones Potluck Social
6:30pm-8:30pm
41 Russell Street, Hadley

Let's Dance
6:30pm-10:00pm
Gateway Arts Center
Holyoke

18

 **Happy
Thanksgiving!** 23

23

24

25

Thankful 5K Run/Walk 8-9:30am
Berkshire Running Ctr., Pittsfield

30

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

COMMUNITY/FAMILY EVENTS



Easthampton Holiday Party

Thursday, December 14 • 5:30pm-7:30pm
Eastworks Event Space, first floor
116 Pleasant Street, Easthampton, MA

RSVP: Joyce Paige, joyce.paige@pathlightgroup.org



Celebrate with us at our family potluck Holiday Party! We will have music, activities, and a few surprises. More info to come!



Pittsfield Open Swim

Thursdays • 6:00pm-7:00pm
Gladys Allen Brigham Community Ctr.
165 East Street, Pittsfield, MA

RSVP: 442-5174 ext. 25

Open and free swim to all individuals and families. Registration is required and please note there will be no staffing for this swim. All children must be accompanied by an adult and any adults needing personal care or supervision must come with a caregiver.



Free Thankful 5k Run / Walk to benefit Autism Connections

Thursday November 23, Thanksgiving Day • 8:00am-9:30am

Berkshire Running Center, 34 Depot Street, Pittsfield

Autism Connections is thrilled to be this year's beneficiary of the [Thankful 5k Free Run/Walk](#). Long sleeve Thankful shirts this year are available for purchase on the Facebook [event](#) on the Berkshire Running Center page and 100% of the proceeds will go directly to Autism Connections. Make room for that turkey with a lovely walk!

SENSORY-FRIENDLY EVENTS: Holiday

A Christmas Carol

Wednesday, December 13, 2017, 7:00pm
Colonial Theater, 111 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

Questions: Erica.donovan@pathlightgroup.org

Tickets: 413-997-444 or berkshiretheatergroup.org

Join us when we get together to experience the Berkshire Theater's sensory friendly performance of *A Christmas Carol!*

SENSORY-FRIENDLY EVENTS: Holiday

PVPA Nutcracker: Sensory and Family Safe Performance

Friday December 8 • 4:00pm-5:00pm
Doors open at 3:30pm

Reduced performance time, one hour with no intermission
Academy of Music, 274 Main Street, Northampton
Tickets: \$13-\$20 plus fees, PioneerValleyBallet.org



This newly created performance has lighting and sound accommodations for reduced sensory experiences. A narrator will assist the audience at the start of the performance. Tickets are general admission.

Join the Pioneer Valley Ballet in its 40th production of the classic *Nutcracker* ballet. PVB's productions are reinvented each year by Artistic Directors Maryanne Kodzis and Thomas Vacanti, to celebrate the history of the company and tradition of Clara's magical story. Guest artists include dancers from Carolina Ballet and Festival Ballet join PVB dancers and the community.

PATHLIGHT PARTNER EVENTS

Whole Children, Milestones Recreation Opportunities

41 Russell Street, Hadley, MA

Whole Children: Programs for school age children and teens (ages 3-16). Visit wholechildren.org or get [more info](#).

Milestones: Enrichment classes for older teens and adults. Visit wholechildren.org or get [more info](#).

Potluck socials, ages 18+: Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., games, music, and food! Please bring a nut-free entree, dessert or appetizer to share and register at 413-585-8010. Dates for Potlucks: **November 17; December 1, December 8**

All ages Winter Dance: Friday December 8, 6:30-8:30 Semi-formal attire (no jeans please).

Check websites for more info on all of the above events.

TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS/TALKS

DDS Self-Direction Presentation

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

6:00pm-8:00pm

140 High Street, Conference Room A, 3rd floor
Springfield, MA

RSVP: Pam Hickey (DDS) 413-205-0871 or
pamela.hickey@state.ma.us

Join DDS and family members using this service model for a presentation to learn more about how this way of receiving services may be the right fit for your family.

The Behavior Code Author Jessica Minahan presents Strategies for Kids with Anxiety

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

6:45pm: SEPAC business 7:00pm: presentation

Medway Middle School Auditorium
45 Holliston Street, Medway, MA

More Information: medwayspedpac@gmail.com

Ms. Minahan will discuss the role of anxiety in understanding and managing children’s behavior. Preventative tools, strategies, interventions for reducing anxiety, self-regulation, self-monitoring and executive functioning will be addressed.

Ms. Minahan is a board certified behavior analyst, special educator and consultant to schools nationwide.

FREE WORKSHOP: IEP and School Evaluations and Assessments: What they are, when they should be done, why they are important and how they can help

Wednesday, November 15 • 6:00pm-8:00pm

Family Empowerment
41 Russell Street, Hadley, MA

RSVP: donna.kushi@pathlightgroup.org

At this free community training, come learn about standard 3-year evaluations including transition assessments, adaptive functioning, independent living skills, and a range of skill evaluations.

**The Massachusetts Developmental Disability Council Family Empowerment Funds can provide grants for family members to attend conferences and trainings. Visit www.mddc.com for details.*

FREE ADMISSION

John Elder Robison

Thursday, November 30 • 5:00pm-7:00pm

UMASS W.E.B. Du Bois Library, Room 2601
UMass Amherst Campus, Amherst, MA
4 Russell Street, Hadley, MA

Contact: Isabel Espinal,
lespinal@library.umass.edu

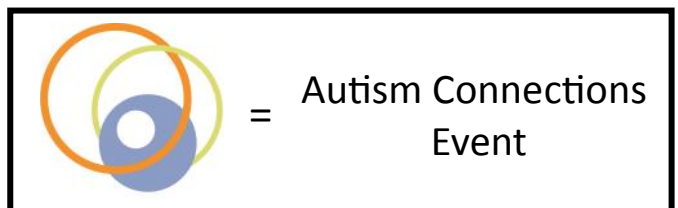


John Elder Robison’s works include *Be Different* (2011), a how-to guide for grownups with autism; *Raising Cubby*(2013), the story of raising his autistic son; and *Switched On* (2016), about his participation as a research subject in brain studies.

Robison is active in the autism civil rights movement and is a strong supporter of neurodiversity – the idea that autism and ADHD are a natural part of humanity, essential for our success, and should be honored and accepted even as we work to relieve any disability they may cause.


Copies of his books will be for sale at the event. The **Author Talk Series** is made possible through the support of the Friends of the Library.

More information: UMass.edu/events



SUPPORT GROUPS

GROUP NAME	GROUP DESCRIPTION	MEETING DETAILS	CONTACT/MORE INFO
AMHERST			
Clinical & Support Options (CSO) Parent Support Group	For parents of children/youth with high functioning autism (Asperger's). Come share your experience, learn about resources, and hear from experts in the field. Childcare available. This is a parent led support group.	Saturdays 10:00am-11:30am Bridge Family Resource Center 101 University Dr, Suite A3 Amherst, MA	Group meets on Saturdays. Childcare available, refreshments served. Please call 413.549.0297 with questions.
CHICOPEE			
HOPE Autism Support Group	This group is designed for parents and caregivers of family members on the autism spectrum to meet and talk with others that are on the same journey in a positive and confidential environment.	If interested in joining, please contact Cathy.	Group will meet on the 2nd Friday of each month. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Cathy at camorgado@verizon.net .
EASTHAMPTON			
Asperger's Social Night for Adults	Autism Connections is happy to provide this social night twice a month for folks 18+ who identify as having Asperger's.	Autism Connections 116 Pleasant Street, Suite 366 Easthampton, MA	This group will resume in the near future. Please contact Kimberly LaMothe at 413.529.2428 x118 with any questions.
GREAT BARRINGTON			
Adult Discussion Group	This group is being offered by the Asperger/Autism Network (AANE). There is an attendance fee of \$5.	Mason Library 231 Main Street, Great Barrington	For more information or to join this group, please contact Stephanie Birkdale at stephanie.birkdale@aane.org .
HOLYOKE			
Autism Connections Western MA Support Group (previously Holyoke support group)	This support group is open to all family members of children and young adults with autism. The group is designed for parents and other caregivers to come together for support and to share information.	2nd Wednesday of the month 5:30pm-7:30pm MCS 260 Westfield Road Holyoke, MA	For more information and to RSVP, please email Linda Wynne at wynne92@aol.com . Group will meet 2nd Wednesday of each month. Child care is available—you must call our office at least one week in advance at 413.529.2428 if you need child care.
Mom's Night Out	Moms of people with different abilities are invited to bring their problems, triumphs and their need to laugh to Mom's Night Out. Jericho will supply drinks and refreshments. Participants are welcome to bring something to share.	Call Linda LaPointe for meeting times. Jericho 537 Northampton Street Holyoke, MA	Must RSVP to Linda LaPointe at lindal@jerichobeca.org or calling 413.538.7450
Parent/Professional Advocacy League	Moving Forward: Our Journey. A group for empowering families through transition planning.	Meets at Jericho in Holyoke as well as one other location, different each month. Please contact PPAL for locations and times.	For more information visit www.ppal.net or email eszela@ppal.net .
Rainbow Support Group of Western Massachusetts	This group provides support and info to individuals with intellectual challenges who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or those who are questioning.	Western Mass Training Consortium 187 High Street, Suite 202 Holyoke, MA	For questions or to find out meeting times contact Tammy Nothe-Hebert at 413.536.2401 x3036

GROUP NAME	GROUP DESCRIPTION	MEETING DETAILS	CONTACT/MORE INFO
NORTHAMPTON			
Women's Group	Support group for women with Autism. This group is being offered by the Asperger/Autism Network (AANE). There is no attendance fee.	Lilly Library 19 Meadow Street Florence, MA	For more information or to join this group, contact Stephanie Birkdale at stephanie.birkdale@aane.org .
PITTSFIELD			
Asperger's Support Group of the Berkshires	This group is for individuals with Asperger's syndrome to come together and offer friendship, fellowship and support.	Wednesdays 5:00pm-6:30pm	Group will meet in various places throughout the community; please contact Elizabeth Flaherty at 443.4780 x16 or Elizabeth.flaherty@pathlightgroup.org to RSVP and find out location.
Berkshire Teen Group	This group is for teens and young adults who live in Berkshire County and are on the autism spectrum. The group meets regularly for conversation and community based activities.	Will meet regularly, every other Friday evening, throughout the community.	Please contact Ben Breton at benjamin.breton@pathlightgroup.org or 413.529.2428 x121 for monthly group schedule and outing details.
SOUTH HADLEY			
LGBTQ and the Autism Spectrum	This group is being offered by the Asperger/Autism Network (AANE). There is an attendance fee of \$5.	S. Hadley Public Library Conference Room 2 Canal Street South Hadley, MA	For more information or to join this group, please contact Stephanie Birkdale at stephanie.birkdale@aane.org .
WESTFIELD			
Westfield Support Group for Adults with Asperger's Syndrome	This group is an opportunity for support and discussion among adults on the autism spectrum. We provide a "safe space" for our community and as such are not recommended for friends and family members except in a support role.	Building Autistic Community, Inc 507 Southampton Road #1 Westfield, MA	For more information, contact the group at info@bacautism.org or call BAC at 413.359.0222.
WILLIAMSBURG			
Families of Spirited Children (It Takes a Village) 	This is a new group for parents, grandparents and caregivers of children with special needs, autism, ADHD or physical, sensory, or medical challenges. Free childcare and refreshments provided.	Tuesdays, 10:00am-11:30am, starting November 7, 2017 Anna T. Dunphy School 1 Petticoat Hill Road, Williamsburg	For more information, contact It Takes a Village at 413-650-3640 or Kat at info@hilltownvillage.org or www.facebook.com/hilltownvillage

Contact us

Not seeing what you want? We do our absolute best to deliver you all the news and events related to autism in western Massachusetts (and beyond). Contact Joyce Paige (joyce.paige@pathlightgroup.org) or 413.529.2428 and let us know how we can better serve you and your family through our monthly newsletter!

Help us go green! Contact Joyce if you are receiving a hardcopy of this newsletter and would prefer receiving an electronic edition only.



Autism Connections

A Program of Pathlight, Inc.
116 Pleasant Street, Suite 366
Easthampton, MA 01027

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2017 October Edition

Community Connection Newsletter

Autism Connections: a Pathlight program

Donation Corner

PlayStation 4

Our social groups in the Berkshire office meet monthly and everyone loves to play video games together. We really like that playing games in a group promotes teamwork and socialization with friends, instead of just playing online alone at home.

We have a very specific need for a PlayStation 4 to continue to offer this option to the groups. Do you have a used system you would like to donate? Or would you be willing to help us with a donation towards buying a new system?

If you would like to help, please contact Ben at Benjamin.Breton@pathlightgroup.org and he can direct you to the right person for donations, or let you know if we have already reached our goal.

Holiday Donations

Thanksgiving and the winter holidays are coming soon and we like to be able to help our families in need who are connected to our autism centers.

Please consider offering a holiday donation so we can provide a wonderful, festive dinner or some truly needed children's gifts.

Just mark your gift as a "holiday donation". You can donate online at autismconnectionsma.org (be sure to add a note so we know this is how you would like your donation to be used) or directly by mail to our Pittsfield or Easthampton offices.

Thank you so much for your consideration, and Happy Holidays!