

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN BAILEY'S TEAM

Supporting Research, Awareness and Services for Individuals Living with Autism Spectrum Disorders

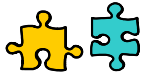
Autism is a complex neurological disorder that affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum disorder" that affects individuals differently and symptoms can range from very mild to quite severe. There is no known single cause for autism; however early detection and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes.

Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States and to date, there is no medical detection, treatment or cure. Someone is diagnosed with autism every 20 minutes and 1 in 150 births.

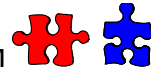


BAILEY'S TEAM was first introduced shortly after our son, Bailey, was diagnosed with autism four months before his second birthday. Although we were still numb from receiving this life-changing news about our son, we quickly informed our family and friends of Bailey's diagnosis and asked for their support and participation in an upcoming walkathon... resulting in the birth of BAILEY'S TEAM.

Our first years were filled with many hurdles as a result of Bailey's ongoing struggle with language, behavioral challenges and social deficits; and we learned very quickly that education and support were going to be what would help us to survive. Not knowing anything about autism or the life that we would lead, we sought help from educators, doctors, other families affected by autism and organizations providing resources and help to families like ours. He is now nine years old and he continues to struggle with language and controlling his emotions and anxiety. Although he is somewhat verbal and able to use limited speech, he is unable to communicate in a conventional way and often requires prompting and supports to have his needs met throughout the day both at home and at school. Bailey will not reach the same developmental milestones expected of typical children; however, we will continue to work for and with him so that he will someday reach *his* full potential.



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