

ASFV Newsletter



January 2022

Autism Society of the Fox Valley



Message from the President

Happy New Year!!!

2022 is going to be a very special year!! As an affiliate operating under the Autism Society of America, ASFV has changed our logo to meet the new branding campaign. The new information, and rationale for the change, are included on page 2. Our mission and vision continue to support our families within our 5 county region. We will continue to provide outreach, social outings and referral information.

The ASGW Annual Conference is back at the Kalihari Resort this April. The conference has been revamped but will still provide the high quality speakers and content you have gotten in the past. ASFV still has a few scholarships available to cover the registration cost. Please email foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org with your personal request for that scholarship—deadline March 15th. The early registration deadline is approaching January 7th.



We want to sincerely thank all of our donors. We are able to continue our efforts with the help of their generosity.

Inside you will find information about the virtual events that ASFV is supporting. The monthly virtual trivia has been very popular and a great way to meet people across the state.

ASFV is looking for volunteers who are willing to dedicate about 3 hours of time one Saturday per month. We would love to plan more social events, but our all volunteer board needs your support. Email Diane to learn more: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org.

I sincerely hope you have a healthy and safe New Year!!

Diane Nackers, ASFV President

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Autism Society
Greater Wisconsin- Fox Valley

Autism Society of America Changes Branding

The WHY:

Autism with a capital A. Whether you ascribe to person first or identity first, Autism is a culture, a community, and a lived experience. It will now be addressed as such. Autistic individuals participate in every level of our governance to ensure we represent a diverse and inclusive group across many intersectionalities.

The brand embodies this by embracing an inclusive color system, "threads" that visually tie in our story of connection, as well as portrait photography that authentically captures people within the Autism community.

Brand Thesis

Shifting the focus to connection as the purpose of our actions and experience as the outcome of those actions, the Autism Society can create resonating difference with its brand and build consistent, powerful messaging across its affiliate network.

New Logo



Our Mission

We create connections empowering everyone in the Autism community with resources needed to live fully.

Our Vision

Creating a world where everyone in the Autism community is connected to the support they need, when they need it.

Our Values

Dignity: Where the dignity 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 exceptions 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

Autism Society of Greater WI Conference

2022 Wisconsin Autism Conference

April 29 - 30, 2022
Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells



Please visit the conference website to register and learn more about the conference.

<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/annualconference/>

Connect. Learn. Engage.

The Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin's Annual Conference is the biggest autism-related conference in Wisconsin. It's a place to gather, connect, belong. It's a place where autistic adults, parents and family members, and professionals come to share experiences and learn together. Conference participants leave the conference feeling connected and empowered.



AUTISM LEVEL UP!

Amy Laurent and Jacquelyn Fede

Friday Keynote Speakers



Amy Laurent, PhD, OTR/L is a developmental psychologist and a registered pediatric occupational therapist. She is a co-author of the SCERTS model, a comprehensive, evidence-based model for supporting autistic individuals across the lifespan. She frequently lectures and provides training throughout the United States and internationally on topics related to neurodiversity and helping others to understand and honor the implications of "different ways of being" in relation to navigating the physical and social world. Her research interests include emotional / energy regulation and active engagement in natural contexts. Dr. Laurent strives to practice what she preaches and uses her love of play and movement to meet her own regulatory needs.

Jacquelyn Fede, PhD is a super fun, Autistic Self-Advocate, developmental psychologist and program evaluator. Her research interests include immigration policy, autism, and community engagement. She uses her experience to help educate others about autism through lecturing, blogging and consulting on evaluation projects. A full scholarship Division I athlete in college, Dr. Fede continues to meet her sensory needs by seeking extreme physical activity. She also enjoys the use of creativity and art for expression.

ASFV Outings and Events

Hangin' Out Social Group

The Hangin' Out Social Group is for children 7-12 who want to meet other kids and socialize. The kids have so much fun at these outings. If your child would like to participate in our monthly outings, email foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org. A confirmation email will be sent to let you know you are on the list.

Details to come via event specific email:

January 15th - ATW Karate 12:30-2:30 siblings welcome

February 12th— Badger Sports Park—I-3

March 12th — Altitude Trampoline Park, Appleton—I I-I

Teen Group Outings

Teen Group begins its 11th year. This social group is designed for kids 13-20 who want to hang out, socialize and share their interests. All group outings are supervised by an ASFV board member. If you have a teen who would like to meet new people on the spectrum please email: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org

Details to come via event specific email...

January 15th: ATW Karate 12:30-2:30 siblings welcome

February 12th — Badger Sports Park I-3

March 12th—Altitude Trampoline Park—I I-I

A-Team Adult Social Group

A Social Networking Group for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. If you are an adult in your 20's AND want to get out and get social.....this group may be for you. All outings are planned based on feedback from the attendees.

If you have any questions, please contact Diane at foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org

Upcoming events will be emailed to those registered via email.

ASFV is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization run by an all volunteer board.

ASFV Information and Other Events

Keep Your Contact Information Up to Date



As always, please keep your email contact current.

Check out our website: <https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/fox-valley>

General information questions: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org

All social outings: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org

Hispanic support group: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org

Monkey Joe's Playdates

Monkey Joe's and ASFV offer a once a month play time open exclusively for families with a child on the spectrum. This event is free for all members. All non-members pay only \$5.00 per family. It's a chance for the kids to play while parents network.

An ASFV board member is on site to answer questions about our affiliate or offer support. The new owners are making GREAT changes! Come check it out!!

1800 N. Casaloma Appleton, WI 54913 Phone: (920) 954-5437

Come and join the fun! These are the remaining dates for this school year.

January 8th February 5th March 5th April 2nd
May 7th June 4th



Sensory Superstars at the Building for Kids

JOIN US ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH!

Sensory Superstars is a FREE program for families with children on the autism spectrum that occurs the third Sunday of each month. During Sensory Superstars, we provide a lower sensory experience, including dimmed lights and no music.

Starting in January, 2022, we'll be launching a new Sensory Superstars model to accommodate the different needs of families. The new agenda for Sensory Superstars will be:

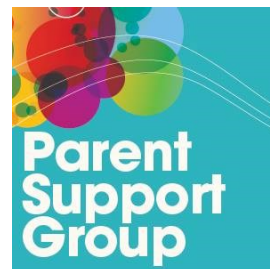
- 9 – 10am: pre-registered session for one family on the first floor of the museum
- 10 – 11am: pre-registered session for one family on the second floor of the museum
- 11am: museum opens to families attending Sensory Superstars who are able to mask
- 12pm: museum opens to the general public

If you have any questions or to register, give us a call at 920-734-3226.

Parent Support Group

Do you need to talk, or just need a break? Please join us the first Sunday of each month, from 6:00-8:00 pm for ASFV's monthly Parent Support Group meeting.

Where: 211 E Franklin St. in downtown Appleton (just two blocks west of City Park) in the building that houses Soar Fox Cites Inc. The doors will be locked, but there is a doorbell and someone will let you in.



Parents and other caregivers have the opportunity to get together in a relaxed, informal atmosphere to talk about everything from your personal experiences to available resources and general education about autism. We hope to see many of you there! For more information: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org

Safety Scholarships Available

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley offers three (3) safety scholarships annually—up to \$250 each. Families who need assistance purchasing locks, alarms, fence gates, or anything to help ensure safety measures can be taken for your child, can apply.

Just send a short letter explaining what your needs are and the expense you expect to incur. The ASFV board will vote on your request at the next board meeting. You will then be notified via email. If your scholarship is approved, provide a receipt and you will be reimbursed for up to \$250. You must be a member of the Autism Society of the Fox Valley to be considered.

Send the email to: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org and in the subject line write

"ASFV Safety Scholarship".

ASFV Hispanic Parent Support Group

Grupo de Reunión de Apoyo para Familias de Autismo

Necesita platicar, o tan solo necesitas un descanso? ¡Únete a nosotros! Padres y otros proveedores de cuidados tienen la oportunidad de relajarse, informarse y hablar acerca de su experiencia personal y obtener recursos disponibles también obtener educación en general acerca del autismo.

Cuando: Sábado enero 22 a las 5:00pm

Dónde: Restaurante Jexi's en 2303 S. Oneida St. Appleton.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor contacte a Vivian al 920-205-3456 o mande un email a genl216@gmail.com.

Do you need to talk, or just need a break? Please join us! Parents and other caregivers have the opportunity to get together in a relaxed, informal atmosphere to talk about everything from your personal experiences to available resources and general education about autism.

When: Saturday January 22 at 5:00pm.

Where: Jexi's Restaurant, 2303 S. Oneida St., Appleton.

If you have any questions, please contact Vivian at 920-257-3456 or email genl216@gmail.com.

ASFV Family Event

February 20th

Family Bowling Outing

Rolling Thunder Lanes—Neenah

Time: 1-3 pm

Cost: FREE—unlimited bowling, and shoes

RSPV: foxvalley@autismgreaterwi.org



ASGW Virtual Events

<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/programs/virtual-programs/>

Stop Motion Movie Club

Friday, January 7th | 7:00 pm

The purpose of the club is to discuss stop motion movie making, share movies that were made, or discuss ideas for new movies. This is for people new to the hobby or experienced. This group is for teens ages 13-19. Meetings are guided by Cole Kirkendall, a recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee's film production department.

Online Teen Hang Out

Sunday, January 9th | 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Teens with autism are welcome to join us online to chat and play games! Please sign up to receive Zoom information.

We're excited to restart the Teen Hang Out monthly groups with facilitator, Ella Buboltz. The teen hang out will take place once a month on the second Sunday of the month from 3:00 – 4:00 pm. The group is for teens, ages 13 – 18.

Trivia Night

Wednesday, January 12th | 6:30pm

Join the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin and the Fox Valley affiliate for a night of trivia questions! The theme for the night is Star Wars! The event will begin at 6:30pm over Zoom. Individuals and families are welcome! RSVP is required.

New to Autism Virtual Group

Thursday, January 20th | 6:30 – 7:30 PM

The New to Autism Group is a monthly virtual group for parents of children newly diagnosed with autism. Join us to connect with other parents for a casual discussion about shared experiences, community resources, and to learn more about the Autism Society. The group will be facilitated by Kelly Brodhagen, Resource Specialist and mother to three sons, two of whom are on the autism spectrum. Sign up to receive Zoom login information.

The group typically meets the third Thursday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm.



Special Needs Karate Class



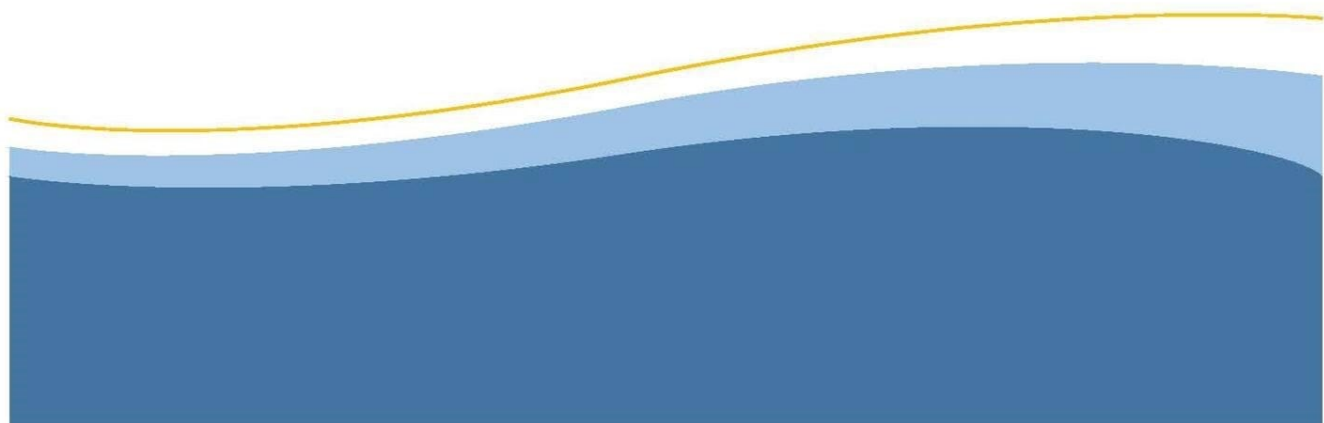
- * Students will focus on goal setting, following directions and gross and fine motor skills.

Fridays starting January 7th- 4-4:45pm

Thrive Martial Arts

2040 E Main St. Little Chute

Contact Casey Hagman at
email @thrivekarate.com with questions.



Autism Friendly Communities Program Is HERE!!!



The Autism Society envisions that individuals and families living with autism are able to maximize their quality of life, are treated with the highest level of dignity, and live in a society in which their talents and skills are appreciated and valued. Quality of life indicators, such as the opportunity for community involvement and the freedom to spend time in a meaningful way, are essential aspects of the human experience.

The Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin is implementing the Autism Friendly Communities Initiative to ensure that families affected by autism feel included and welcomed at community activities and events. The Autism Friendly Communities Initiative's overall goal is to increase the quality of life for those affected by autism by improving community understanding of autism and improving access to inclusive experiences, programs, and events.



What does it mean to be Autism Friendly?

As an Autism Friendly Communities partner, you recognize that individuals with autism experience the world differently and commit to evaluating and adapting your business or organization in several ways:

- Training staff and volunteers to understand autism and strategies to support individuals and families affected by autism.
- Assessing and making modifications to environment, programs, or procedures.
- Developing visual supports as applicable.
- Implementing inclusive hiring practices.
- Committing to quality improvement.



How are partners recognized as Autism Friendly?

As an Autism Friendly Communities partner you can expect:

- An Autism Friendly Window Decal to display
- An Autism Friendly Certificate to display
- Recognition on Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin social media accounts
- Recognition on the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin website



<https://www.autismgreaterwi.org/autism-friendly-communities/>

Contact Kirsten Cooper at kcooper@autismgreaterwi.org or 920-215-3303 to start the conversation on how you can become an Autism Friendly Communities partner.





Autism Society

Greater Wisconsin

Date of Application _____

Name _____ Email _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone () _____

The Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin (ASGW) serves **53 counties** in Wisconsin. We share membership with our **5 local Autism Society affiliates** listed below. By choosing a local affiliate below, you will join both the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin and the local affiliate. If there is no local affiliate serving your county, leave this section blank.

____ Autism Society of the Fox Valley (ASFV)

Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Fond du Lac and Waupaca Counties

____ Autism Society of Central Wisconsin (ASCW)

Clark, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Taylor and Wood Counties.

____ Autism Society of the Lakeshore (ASL)

Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Calumet, Kewaunee and Door Counties

____ Autism Society of Chippewa Valley (ASCV)

Sawyer, Polk, Barron, Rusk, St. Croix, Dunn, Chippewa, Pierce, Pepin, Eau Claire, Buffalo, Trempealeau and Jackson Counties.

____ Autism Society of Northeast Wisconsin (ASNEW)

____ Brown, Shawano, Oconto, Florence, Menominee and Marinette

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

____ Individual (\$15) ____ Family (\$20)

____ New Member ____ Renewing Member

BILLING

____ Bill my Master Card/VISA Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Authorized Signature _____ CVV (3 digit code on the back) _____

____ Check enclosed: Check # _____

____ Enclosed is a \$10 contribution towards the cost of the newsletter—thank you!

Additional contribution (tax deductible).

____ \$25 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 ____ \$ (Other)

Please send your completed membership form and payment to:

**Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin | 1477 Kenwood Drive | Menasha,
WI 54952 Fax (920) 558-4611**

If you have questions, email Kelly at kbrodhagen@autismgreaterwi.org or call 888-428-8476.

For office use only

Date Rec'd _____

Check # _____

Amount \$ _____

Autism Society of the Fox Valley
P.O. Box 266
Little Chute, WI 54140
(888) 428-8476
(920) 558-4602

Email:
info@autismfoxvalley.org

ASFV Board Members

Diane Nackers, MS CCC-SLP —
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Ann Olson—Vice President
Bob Olson—Treasurer
Heidi Dahle—Secretary

Steve Brennan
Archna Hendricks, MD
Kristin Wahl
Chad Leder
Andy Teska
John Oehler
Dale Bushman

Newsletter Submissions

Articles of interest, stories/poetry of persons with autism, book reviews and upcoming conferences or workshops are accepted. Submissions can be sent to: Diane Nackers, 8042 Sequaro Ct, Neenah WI 54956 email: bnack5@gmail.com.

Submission deadlines are November 30, February 28, May 15, and August 15. Responsibility for accuracy of information remains that of the author of the article.

Articles from this publication may be reprinted, giving credit to the author and ASFV. The ASFV Editorial Review Board reserves the right to edit or refuse submissions.



Like the Autism Society of the
Fox Valley on Facebook



Our Mission

The Autism Society of the Fox Valley, Inc. was established in 1989. We are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization serving the counties of Calumet, Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Waupaca and Winnebago. Our mission is to provide information and referral, advocacy, public awareness, education and support for individuals, families, professionals and others who support people with autism.