

## *Support Groups*

In addition to our monthly meetings and programs, we also provide Support Groups that meet informally to address the specific needs of our parents and caregivers.

### **Parents of Young Children Within the Autism Spectrum**

The "Autism Breakfast Club" (ABC) consists of parents, caregivers, and professionals of newly diagnosed and/or preschool and elementary age children with autism.

### **Parents of Older Children and Adults Within the Autism Spectrum**

The "Autism Lunch Club" (ALC) consists of parents, caregivers, and professionals of middle school age children to adults.

### **Parents of Higher Functioning Autism Spectrum/Asperger Syndrome Children and Adults**

This group consists of parents, caregivers, and professionals of higher functioning individuals with autism (HFA) and Asperger Syndrome.

For information regarding these support group meetings call (910) 826-3004/3005.

*Any parent, caregiver, or professional of an individual with autism, no matter what age or level of functioning, is welcomed at any of the support groups*

## *Activities*

Monthly Meetings & Parent Education Programs  
Support Groups • Resource Directory  
Monthly Newsletter • Support Parents  
Holiday Classroom Donations  
Summer Camp • Conference Scholarships  
Teacher Grants

The Autism Society of Cumberland County is funded in part by grants from



and



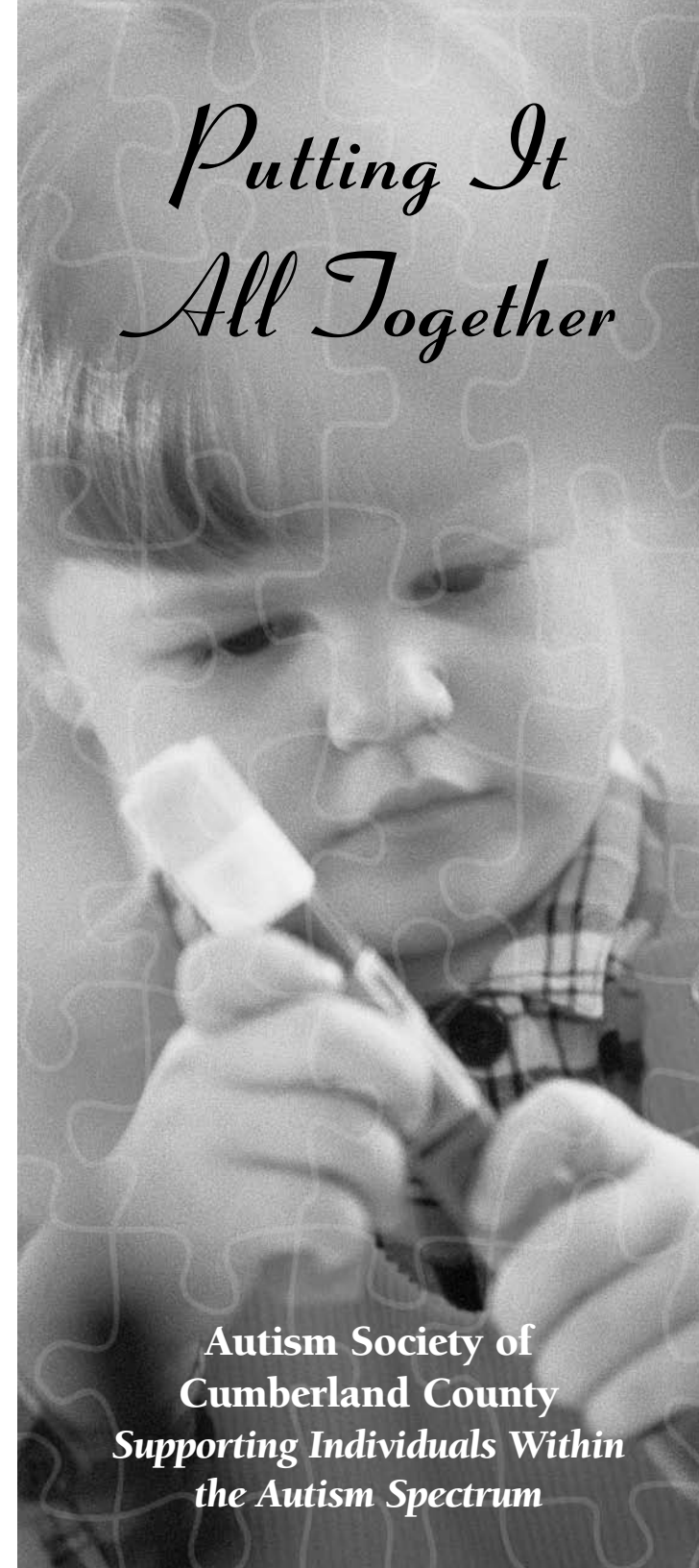
Additional support provided by:  
Cumberland Community Foundation  
Fort Bragg Area Officers' & Civilians' Spouses' Club  
Hogs and Rags  
Knights of Columbus  
Ladies Philoptochos Society  
Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church



**ASCC**  
Autism Society of  
Cumberland County

351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 410  
Fayetteville, NC 28303  
(910) 826-3004/3005

# *Putting It All Together*



**Autism Society of  
Cumberland County**  
*Supporting Individuals Within  
the Autism Spectrum*

## What is Autism?

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) refers to a group of developmental disabilities—including classic autism, pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS), and Asperger's Syndrome—that affect a person's ability to understand what they see, hear, and otherwise sense. It is a brain disorder that impacts communication, social interaction, and behavior. Individuals with ASD typically have difficulty understanding verbal and nonverbal communication and learning appropriate ways of relating to other people, objects, and events. No two people with ASD are the same. As its name implies, ASD is a spectrum disorder that affects individuals differently and with varying degrees of severity. Additionally, ASD is often found in combination with other disabilities. ASD is found throughout all races, nationalities, and social classes and it affects approximately one in every 150 births. Some characteristics of ASD are listed below.



Uneven grossline motor skills



Inappropriate laughing or giggling



No fear of real dangers



Difficulty interacting with others



Resists change in routine



Indicates needs by gestures



Spins objects



Inappropriate attachment to objects



Sustained Odd Play



May prefer to be alone



May avoid eye contact

Adapted from Professor Rendle-Short, University of Queensland, Brisbane Children's Hospital, Australia. This list is not intended as a diagnostic instrument.

## Who are we?

- We are the parents, families, and friends of children and adults with autism, and the professionals who provide services to them.
- Our meetings, Parent Education programs and support groups are always open to the general public. Membership applications are available.
- We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit incorporated affiliate of the Autism Society of NC, a chapter of the Autism Society of America.

## Mission Statement

The Autism Society of Cumberland County is committed to providing support and promoting opportunities which enhance the lives of individuals within the autism spectrum and their families.

## Vision Statement

The Autism Society of Cumberland County strives to create a community where people within the autism spectrum and their families receive respect, services, and support based on individual differences, needs, and preferences.

## Monthly Meetings & Programs

### When

2nd Monday of each month  
(September through May)

### Time

6:30 pm

### Where

Dorothy Spainhour School  
223 Hull Road, Fayetteville, NC

For More Information Call  
(910)826-3004/3005

Respite care is available at our meetings.  
Please call several days in advance to  
make reservations. 488-4584

## Office Location

351 Wagoner Drive, Suite 410  
Fayetteville, NC 28303

(910) 826-3004/3005

Email: autismcc@ccpfc.org

Fax: (910) 868-5881

www.autismcc.org

Office hours may vary

Message line available.

For more information regarding our organization and the services that we provide, please complete the following and return to:

**Autism Society of Cumberland County**  
PO Box 35600, Fayetteville, NC 28303

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Caregiver  Professional

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive the monthly ASCC newsletter (free subscription)

### Membership Categories

Combined State & Local Membership:  
\$40.00

(\$10.00 will be returned to the local chapter)

Make your check payable to:  
*Autism Society of North Carolina*

Local Membership:  
\$10.00

Make your check payable to:  
*Autism Society of Cumberland County*



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