

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 aged 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 aged children to adults.

Parents of Higher Functioning Autism Spectrum/Asperger's Syndrome Children and Adults

This group consists of parents, caregivers, and professionals of higher functioning individuals with autism (HFA) and Asperger's 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 • Resource & Referral
Individualized Family Assistance

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



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



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. **(910) 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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the Autism Spectrum**