Our Mission
Improving the lives of all affected by autism.

Our Vision
The Autism Society envisions 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.
### 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Executive Committee**
- Howard Miller, President
- Mark Cyganiak, Vice President
- Chris Scherer, Vice President
- Ryan Michalski, Treasurer
- Julie Arens, Secretary

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- Elizabeth Drame
- Dr. John Dyer
- Rosemary Gardner
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- Mark Haqlin
- Erin Miller
- Mike Nauman
- Andrea Nelson
- Dawn Schwartz
- Sami Sobhani
- Nicole Sova
- Amy Van Hecke
- Patti Meerschaert

**Community Volunteer**
- Community Volunteer

### 2016 STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company/Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Emily Levine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Director</td>
<td>Rechelle Chaffee</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Coordinator</td>
<td>Liz Gebhardt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Associate</td>
<td>Sue LeBuhn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Manager</td>
<td>Julie Quigley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper</td>
<td>Ardis Burke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter Editor</td>
<td>Susan Contardi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and Referral Specialist</td>
<td>Susan Hoepfner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Development</td>
<td>Renee Logee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STATISTICS OF HOPE - THROUGH THE HELPLINE

**Direct Support**
- Walk-ins: 28
- Facebook: 416
- Email: 182
- Phone: 608
- Voicemail: 156

**1,300+ Calls and Contacts to the Helpline**

Our Information & Referral Team had over 1,300 calls and contacts where we provided support for parents, educators and caregivers in 2016. Our focus was on connecting them to resources, listening when they needed to talk and helping them adjust to life with autism.

*"The wealth of resources offered by the Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin is incredibly helpful and their staff members go out of their way to assist members. I always know where to go with my questions." - Christina Noel*

*"I don’t know what I would’ve done without your support over the years. Quite frankly, I feel like the weight of the world is lifted off of my shoulders when you all help me! From the bottom of my heart thank you!" - Mari & Marie*
**FAMILY PROGRAMS**
Our 7 family programs including 13 events provided a sense of community and support. They offered a chance to connect and interact with other families that understand and are with you so you never feel alone.

**CAREGIVER/EDUCATOR PROGRAMS**
Our goal is to provide helpful information and education that leads to better understanding, hope and support for all affected by autism. We serve as a resource in the community to caregivers, educators and any touched by autism personally or professionally through a variety of 14 programs and workshops and 70 events. Program highlights included New To Autism, Insights For Educators and Spectrum Of Support.

**SPECTRUM ADULT PROGRAMS**
Adults on the Spectrum need support, friendship and camaraderie just like everyone else. Our Program goals included providing support through 5 programs and 27 event activities and a group that will welcome adults on the spectrum, just the way they are.

**TEEN PROGRAMS**
Helping autistic teens learn about the many changes that they have going on, how to meet their ever-changing needs and become more socially aware of others was a mission in 2016. By providing a forum to help make friends and form long-term relationships through 3 programs and 24 events, we helped take some of the tough out of being a teen in these transition years.

“I love the social outlet that Concordia Teen Night offers my teen. He absolutely loves going to them. He gets to be at a social event where he doesn’t have to worry about being picked on or being the “weird one”. He can be with his peers in a fun safe, supportive environment. He gets to be himself relax and have fun. I just wish it was monthly!! – Carrie Dallner”

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS**
Providing a supported environment through various events and activities all structured with the goal of providing our children a chance to comfortably learn how to interact with their peers and enjoy these activities is what we are about. Everything from learning to ride a bike to water comfort and safety was covered in our 5 programs through our Keeping Kids Moving 15 events so that they can learn to enjoy these experiences more fully.

Because of our iCan Shine Bike Camp 55 children were able to experience learning how to ride a bike in 2016!

“Second time around & thrilled that he is riding. Seriously did not think it would happen. Yeah!!!”
~ Laurie Kovacic, Greendale, WI

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**EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**600+ Officers, EMT’s and Firefighters trained** through the 20 First Responder Safe & Sound Trainings in Milwaukee & Ozaukee County.

**73+ Parents attended one or more of 5 special Transition Series (TRAILS) classes** designed to assist parents of transition age youth (ages 14-21) to prepare to the transition from school to community.

**350+ Educators, therapists, providers, paras and parents attended one or more of 8 monthly free workshops** designed to help support children with autism and other special needs. These interactive sessions covered a variety of topics all geared to provide best practices, strategies and resources to help improve the lives and learning of autistic children.

**13+ People attended the first pilot Emergency Room Rehearsal Program.** Being prepared and practicing when it comes to a trip to the Hospital and/or Emergency Room can help families make the best out of a potential stressful situation. The My Health Series-Hospital Emergency Room (ER) Program was a hospital ER “rehearsal” specially designed for individuals with autism spectrum disorders or other intellectual/developmental disabilities, their families and health care professionals.

**180+ People in the Education field attended one of three Autism Insights For Educators Workshops in Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Racine County.** Workshops included a high level introduction and overview of autism, case studies, stories and solutions for students with autism and other special education needs were shared along with real world application solutions.
$122,000
Raised through the 2016 Gala
350 attendees • 15 volunteers

This event allowed us to continue hosting autism training programs like SOAR and education sessions in the community through presentations and forums to everyone from child care providers to police departments.

2016 Gala Sponsors:

$5,000 Sponsors
- Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
- Marcus
- Schaus Family Fund

$2,500 Sponsors
- Andrus
- Baird
- Chester Bandies
- The Pinky Savage Group
- West Bend

$1,500 Table Sponsors

Additional Support Provided by: Associated Bank, Learnin Rx, MillerCoors

$152,000
Raised through Dylan’s Run 2016
2000 participants • 160 volunteers • 84 teams

The success of this event allowed us to continue helping families of a newly diagnosed child to connect with autism resources in our community. Creating connections to those who need it most by providing targeted support groups for various audiences and provide unique programs for children, teens, young adults, families and adults that enrich their lives.

2016 Dylan’s Run Sponsors:

Gold Level $5,000
- Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Silver Level $2,500
- Spectrum

Bronze Level $1,500
- Caravel Autism Health, Curative Care, Erie Insurance, Johnson Controls, Metro Parent, Unisource Insurance Associates LLC

Route Sponsors: Associated Bank, FamilyPath Autism Services LLC, Learning Rx, North Shore Pediatric Therapy, The Richardson School, Stari's Bootery, Inc, Wisconsin Early Autism Project

In-Kind Sponsors: ABC A Brancoan Company, ADX Creative, Center Street Station Photography, Foresters Financial, Indian Summer Festival, Premium Waters, Inc.
2016 DONORS

$5000 and greater
ActionCOACH OF Elm Grove
Milwaukee Admirals
Birdies 4 LIFE
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin
ServiceMaster Recovery Services
Forest County Potawatomi Community
Rick and Liz Gebhardt
Charles and Jean Gorham
Grounds Maintenance Svcs.
Hive Salon
Dr. Leander and Susan Jennings
Mahone Middle School
John and Bonnie Meerschaert
Howard and Sara Miller
Milwaukee Concours d’Elegance
Northwestern Mutual Foundation
Neil and Karen Pinsky
Potawatomi Bingo & Casino
Roger and Cindy Schaus
Stackner Family Foundation
Vulcan Global Manufacturing
Craig and Rachel Wolf

$1,000 thru $2,499
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Autism Society of America
Baird Foundation Inc.
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Thomas and Rebecca Goulet
Ireland Family Foundation
Scott and Cindie Joers
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Robert W. Baird & Company
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Service Club of Milwaukee
Dan and Lynn Tarrence
James and LeighAnn Tidy
Barbara and Merrick Wells
Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare

$500 thru $999
Advancing Abilities of Wisconsin
Associated Bank
Nick and Kelly Backes
Amy and Dennis Boettge
DeLoitte Tax LLP
Cannon & Dunphy, S.C.
Centro De La Comunidad Unida
Rechelle Chaffee
Norman and Carol Christman
Crown Metal Company
Kim Diorio
Joan Eisenberg
FamilyPath Autism Services
Shirl Flack
Charles and Beverly Groeschell
Shawn Hittman
Patricia Kieckhefer
Gary Levine
Andy and Lynn Mack
Deloris Marson
Gerard and Mary McMullen
John and Kathleen Miller
James Natalizio
On The Spectrum Inc.
Optix on Downer
ORBIS Corporation
Thomas and Geraldine Otterson
Palmyra-Eagle Area School District
The Richardson School
Snips Family Hair Care
Stan’s Fit For Your Feet & New Balance - Milwaukee
Village Club
Wisconsin Athletic Club
Wisconsin Sports Collectors Association

$250 thru $499
Art and Rhonda Downey
Robert Antaramian
Associated Bank
Nick and Kelly Backes
Amy and Dennis Boettge
DeLoitte Tax LLP
Cannon & Dunphy, S.C.
Centro De La Comunidad Unida
Rechelle Chaffee
Norman and Carol Christman
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Stan’s Fit For Your Feet & New Balance - Milwaukee
Village Club
Wisconsin Athletic Club
Wisconsin Sports Collectors Association

$250 thru $499 Continued
Paul and Deanna Minnick
Christian Mroz
Robert Neimon
New Berlin Lioness
Douglass and Wendy Proebsting
Kathy Rajchel
Laura and Jeff Rauman
Mike and Margaret Reedy
Scott and Dawn Schwartz
Sean Aldrich Insurance Agency
Taylor and Becka Sellnow
Nicole Sova and Dave Garacci
Mike Sturm
John and Ellen Takerian
Carrie and Andrew Tang
Waukesha Golden K Kiwanis
Phillip and Mary Windler
Wixon

2016 DONORS

$2,500 thru $4,999
Michael and Vicki Andrew
Andrus Intellectual Property Law
Chester Bandit’s Store, Inc
Jennifer and Ben Kebbekus
DeWitt, Ross & Stevens
Spectrum Investment Advisors
Caravel Autism Health
Kohl’s Department Stores, Inc
Dr. John Dyer and Theresa Skrivseth
CHUBB
Johnson Controls
Unisource Insurance Assoc, LLC
Brian and Elizabeth Beegly
Organization For Autism Research, Inc.

$500 thru $999
Michael and Vicki Andrew
Andrus Intellectual Property Law
Chester Bandit’s Store, Inc
Jennifer and Ben Kebbekus
DeWitt, Ross & Stevens
Spectrum Investment Advisors
Caravel Autism Health
Kohl’s Department Stores, Inc
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Johnson Controls
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Organization For Autism Research, Inc.
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Membership Dues</td>
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<td>Workshops and Programs</td>
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<td>Special Events</td>
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<td>Less Direct Expenses</td>
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<td>Interest and Dividend Income</td>
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<td>Unrealized gain (loss)</td>
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<td>Realized gain (loss) on Investments</td>
<td>$(56)</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>$2,553</td>
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TOTAL $491,957

EXPENSES

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$352,353</td>
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<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td>$67,635</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$32,190</td>
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TOTAL EXPENSES $452,178

INCOME

$39,779

QUALITY OF LIFE GOALS

Quality of Life Goals

The Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin's vision is to improve the quality of life of everyone living with autism. Quality of life refers to basic human rights that allow people to interact with one another and with the world on their own terms.

Quality of life indicators such as the ability to communicate, making social connections, meaningful employment, respect and safety are all essential aspects of the human experience. The Autism Society of SE WI keeps these quality of life goals in mind with the programs and services we provide.
"I appreciate the variety of ways that the Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin supports Individuals with autism and their families. At different points our family has turned to the Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin to learn more about autism, connect with other families through a support group, or to find a resources to address our son’s needs. We have always been treated with kindness and respect. We have been supported at the moments when we needed it most.” – Nancy Benjamin Gapinski

Your generous support enables us to provide programs for parents, children, teens on the spectrum, teachers, the community and adults living with autism. We thank you for the trust you show through your continued generous contributions of time and money.

The contents of this report highlight our commitment to be good stewards with all the funds you so generously donate and to continually invest in much needed programs and services to meet this ever growing need.

We are not a government agency, nor do we receive any government funding. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and so donations given to us are tax-deductible and help make a huge difference in your communities. Giving opportunities include sponsoring/attending our fundraising events, underwriting one of our unique programs/services and giving to our annual campaign.

Donations are always accepted at https://www.assew.org/donate-now/

Make Your Donation Go Farther
Many corporations match donations made by employees to a wide range of nonprofits, to support employee charitable giving, and to extend corporate philanthropy. See if your employer participates.

Your investment helps us reach those that need our help the most. All of the money we raise stays within in our communities, serving local families so please consider donating. We serve over 5,000 individuals within our nine-county community every year and have the largest population service area in the state.