



HOWARD COUNTY AUTISM SOCIETY

Providing Support
Promoting Awareness
Advocating for Change

Perspectives

HCAS Newsletter

April 2017

Are You Autism Aware?

The Howard County Autism Society is promoting autism awareness and celebrating our loved ones on the autism spectrum every day in April.

We will be posting photos of groups and businesses in the community, holding a Howard County is Autism Aware sign. If you have a group who is autism aware, send your photo to info@howard-autism.org and we will feature it on the [HCAS Facebook page](#).



Send us your Howard County is Autism Aware photo and we'll post it to the [HCAS Facebook](#) page during the month of April.

We have a [calendar](#) full of activities for all ages and interests from shopping experiences and fitness classes to a preschool music and movement class and a parent-child group hike -- culminating with our [12th Annual Pieces of the Puzzle Western Gala](#).

4th Annual Transition Symposium a Success

The 2017 Transition Symposium, Stop Waiting, and Start Planning, included 105 attendees, 25 sponsors/exhibitors, 22 different workshops, and two plenary sessions on March 18 at Cedar Lane School.

The full-day conference was designed to increase knowledge

EVENTS

APR 8

["The Baby Boss" Sensory Friendly Movie](#)

APR 8

[Yoga for Children and Teens with Autism](#)

APR 13

[Asperger's Support Group Meeting](#)

APR 19

[Music and Movement for Ages 3-8](#)

APR 20

[HCAS General Support Group Meeting](#)

APR 22

["Smurfs" Sensory Friendly Movie](#)

APR 22

[Yoga for Children and Teens with Autism](#)

APR 23

[Fitness Class with Spirit Club](#)

APR 27

[Sensory Friendly Grocery Night at Giant](#)

APR 27

[Dad's Night Out at Pub Dog](#)

APR 29

[Parent and Child Group Hike](#)

APR 29

[12th Annual Pieces of the Puzzle Western Gala](#)

APR 30

[Fitness Class with Spirit Club](#)

designed to increase knowledge, skills, and resources needed for a successful transition to post-high school employment, education, and independent living for youth ages 14 plus with disabilities. County Executive Allan Kittleman opened the symposium and Maryland Secretary of Disabilities Carol Beatty provided an update on state initiatives. Several of the speaker presentations are available on the [HCAS website](#).

The event is a collaborative effort of the Transition Outreach Partnership - the Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services, Howard County Recreation and Parks, Howard County Public School System, Accessible Resources for Independence, and the HCAS. We thank event [sponsors](#) and the Cedar Lane School staff for its support of the event.



Maryland Secretary of Disabilities Carol Beatty speaks to attendees.



Tracy Wright and Ken Cappone of [People on the Go](#) lead a session on self-advocacy.



Young adults take a cooking class with the staff of [Accessible Resources for Independence](#).

The HCAS Resource Center is Moving

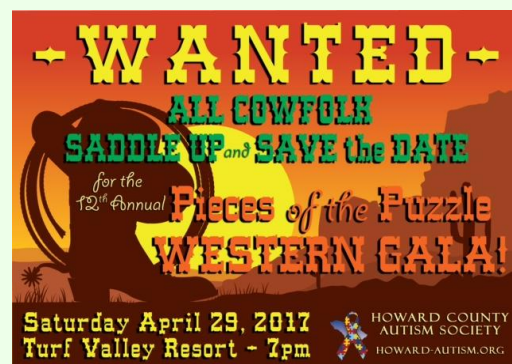
Beginning May 15, the HCAS Resource Center will be located at 9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046.

The move will make better use of office space and resources. HCAS will be sharing space with 12 other nonprofits and the Howard County Housing Commission, part of the [Association of Community Services](#) program.

Meetings and events will be at the Old Columbia Rd. location through the end of May and will move to the new location beginning in June.

Pieces of the Puzzle Western Gala

Saturday, April 29 at 7 p.m.
Turf Valley Resort



[Register Today!](#)

News and Resources from the SPECIAL EDUCATION NEWS CENTER

[HCPSS Department of Special Education
Spring Update](#)

Nancy FitzGerald and her team shared information on HCPSS data, assessments, new and ongoing initiatives, and more. See her presentation.

[Extended School Year \(ESY\) 2017](#)

HCPSS offers a continuum of ESY services. Find out the locations, target populations, and services provided for summer 2017.

[Reach Independence Through Self
Employment \(RISE\)](#)

Self-employment is a vocational option for individuals with severe disabilities. Learn how the RISE Program facilitates and encourages the successful launch and operation of consumer-owned ventures.

**Do you have questions about special
education services and rights?**

We are here to help. Call 410-290-3466 or email AskusSpEdquestions@howard-autism.org.

Howard County Autism Society

10280 Old Columbia Rd.
Columbia, MD 21046
410-290-3466

info@howard-autism.org

4th Annual Transition Symposium

Sponsors

Symposium Level

[Shared Horizons, Inc., Managing Pooled Special Needs Trusts for the National Capital Region](#)

Partner Level

[Howard County Commission on Disability Issues](#)

[Pathfinders for Autism](#)

[The Curran Knittle Group at Harbor Investment Advisory, LLC](#)

Exhibitor Level

[Abilities Network](#)

[Autism Society Baltimore-Chesapeake](#)

[First Maryland Disability Trust, Inc.](#)

[Howard Community College, Division of Continuing Education and Workforce Development](#)

[Hussman Center for Adults with Autism](#)

[Linwood Center](#)

[Maryland Center for Development Disabilities at Kennedy Krieger](#)


[Obyrne Law, LLC](#)

[Service Coordination, Inc.](#)

[The Arc of Howard County](#)

[The Shafer Center](#)

[Total Care Centers for Support Services](#)

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