

Register for the 2008-2009 HOSA Service Project

Please Return this Form by Mail or Fax to:
HOSA National Service Project—Autism Speaks
5455 Wilshire Blvd, Ste 2250
Los Angeles, CA 90036
Phone: 323.297.4760 Fax: 323.549.0547
Email: sweinheimer@autismspeaks.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Team Name: _____

Or register your team online at www.autismwalk.org/hosa

- We would like to order materials to hand out to interested participants.
_____ Flyers/Brochures _____ Video
- We would like to order Paper Puzzle Pieces!
_____ Small (100 per pack)
- We would like to learn more about different fundraisers we can hold to raise money for Autism Speaks.
- We would like to order donation collection envelopes and flyers for our school walk on _____ (Month, Day, Year). We request supplies for _____ walkers (# of walkers expected).



HOSA School Participation Guide



AUTISM SPEAKS™
It's time to listen.

Inside you will find information on:

- *Our Mission*
- *Autism Awareness Week*
- *Organizing Fundraising & Awareness Events*
- *Registration and Interest Form*



About Autism Speaks

Autism Speaks passed its three-year anniversary on February 25, 2008. We are proud of what we've been able to accomplish and look forward to continued successes in the years ahead. Autism Speaks was founded by Bob and Suzanne Wright after their grandson, Christian, was diagnosed with autism. There seemed to be nothing they could do. But that heartbreaking moment was the beginning of what has become a very public and heartfelt mission. Bob Wright is vice chairman, General Electric, and served as chief executive officer of NBC for more than twenty years. Mr. and Mrs. Wright launched Autism Speaks in February 2005 to help find a cure for autism by raising the funds that will facilitate and quicken the pace of research, to raise public awareness of autism, and to give hope to all those who suffer from this disorder....

Autism Speaks was born out of a single family's experience—the Wright family—but its goal is to give a voice to an entire community, to every family dealing with the hardships of autism. “The journey that began a year ago in a doctor's waiting room is now a march. The pace is quickening, and, God willing, we won't stop until we have conquered autism—one child, one voice at a time,” explained Bob and Suzanne Wright.

In 2006, Autism Speaks and the National Alliance for Autism Research (NAAR) merged, creating the world's largest autism advocacy organization. Autism Speaks and Cure Autism Now (CAN) completed a subsequent merger in early 2007. These mergers brought together the nation's three leading autism advocacy organizations.

Autism Speaks is dedicated to funding global biomedical research into the causes, prevention, treatments, and cure for autism; to raising public awareness about autism and its effects on individuals, families, and society; and to bringing hope to all who deal with the hardships of this disorder. We are committed to raising the funds necessary to support these goals.

Autism Speaks aims to bring the autism community together as one strong voice to urge the government and private sector to listen to our concerns and take action to address this urgent global health crisis. It is our firm belief that, working together, we will find the missing pieces of the puzzle. To get informed or get involved, visit www.AutismSpeaks.org

Autism Speaks. It's time to listen.



Organizational Timeline

Pre-Walk Planning

- Seek approval from administration and/or school board.
- Contact the Autism Speaks representative of your intent to organize a school walk.
- Set dates of Autism Awareness Week/Day
- Register your school walk on-line at www.autismwalk.org/hosa
- Plan Publicity
- Set Kick-Off Assembly date
- Determine distribution of student's fundraising and registration materials.
- Make sure you know who is on your walk planning committee. Encourage all of your walkers to register online for your school at www.autismwalk.org/hosa.
- Coordinate music, snacks, beverages and publicity for the walk.

Walk for Autism Speaks at your school

- Join your classmates, teachers, friends and family at your school for the Walk.
- Bring your completed Walk Sponsorship Form and pledges to the Walk with you. Turn them in to the Walk Coordinator or your HOSA advisor. Take pictures and have fun!

After the Walk

- Collect any outstanding donations and coordinate with your school and state HOSA advisors to submit your donations to Autism Speaks.



Organizing a School Walk when there is not local walk by Autism Speaks

Choose a Walk Coordinator

The Walk coordinator (or co-coordinators) should be the logical leader of the effort and the person who is willing to give the most time to the project. The Walk coordinator, in conjunction with HOSA members, will choose a walk date and coordinate with your HOSA advisor and your school to organize and plan the walk.

* Gather your classmates, families and friends at your school to Walk for Autism Research! Get creative—play music, make signs and banners, and ask local businesses to donate snacks and beverages. Make the walk a fun event for all!

* Autism Speaks will provide your HOSA chapter with donation collection envelopes and informational flyers about autism and Autism Speaks. Please return the enclosed registration form to order supplies.

* Coordinate with your school and state HOSA advisors to submit your donations to Autism Speaks and receive HOSA points.



Table of Contents

Fundraising and Awareness Overview	4
Autism Awareness Week	5
Organizing a School Walk	6
Organizational Timeline	7
Registration Form	8

Facts About Autism Spectrum Disorders

- 1 in 150 children is diagnosed with autism
- 1 in 94 boys is on the autism spectrum
- 67 children are diagnosed per day
- A new case is diagnosed almost every 20 minutes
- More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes & cancer combined
- Autism is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the U.S.
- Autism costs the nation over \$90 billion per year, a figure expected to double in the next decade
- Autism receives less than 5% of the research funding of many less prevalent childhood diseases
- Boys are four times more likely than girls to have autism
- There is no medical detection or cure for autism





Fundraising & Awareness Opportunities

Fundraising Opportunities

Opportunities for HOSA Chapters to be engaged with Autism Speaks to raise funds for Autism Speaks:

HOSA chapters can conduct fundraising events and/or “a-thon” events to raise money for Autism Speaks. Events might include: Walk-a-Thons, Jump A-Thons, Swim A-Thons, Kick A-Thons, or Dance A-Thons, or bake sales, car washes, dress down (or for success) days, raffles or pot-luck dinners/lunches

Awareness Opportunities

Opportunities for HOSA Chapters to partner with Autism Speaks throughout the year for awareness building and development

These activities are in keeping with the Chapter Activities and Opportunities of HOSA.

- Include articles about HOSA and Autism Speaks for school and local newspapers
- Include articles about autism-related issues and/or Autism Speaks in HOSA chapter newsletter.
- Hold a “dress up day” sponsored by HOSA with proceeds raised for Autism Speaks (charge each participant \$5 to “dress up”)
- Conduct a field trip to a health care facility which provides services to those with developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders
- Prepare an extemporaneous talk about autism spectrum disorders utilizing talking points provided by Autism Speaks.
- Prepare a talk for a community group about autism spectrum disorders and Autism Speaks utilizing talking points provided by Autism Speaks.
- Conduct a community awareness project taking a more intensive look at Autism, a critical health care issue.
- Work with a local school or autism center to host an activity or party for children with autism and other developmental disorders.



Autism Awareness Week At Your School

Pick a “Site Coordinator”

A Site Coordinator should be picked for each school within your district (one for high school, middle school and each elementary school). The Site Coordinator:

- Plans and coordinates all aspects for Autism Awareness Week
- Works with their local Autism Speaks representative to turn in money
- Motivates co-workers to donate for Autism Awareness Week

Establish a Puzzle Piece Campaign

Schools have a special opportunity to build excitement for Autism Awareness Day/Week and help raise money for NAAR and Autism Speaks research efforts. The Puzzle Piece campaign usually takes place in April (Autism Awareness

Month) or whenever is convenient for the school. Faculty, staff and students are asked to purchase a paper Puzzle Piece for \$1.00 or \$5.00 to help support Autism Speaks. Each person who purchases a Puzzle Piece signs his/her name and the school displays the Puzzle Pieces in a prominent area in the school. This promotion is very easy for schools to implement.



Autism Speaks will provide the Puzzle

Pieces and support needed. The promotion can be used to build support for a school walk and promotes autism awareness throughout the school.

Autism Awareness Buttons

Choose a day or week in April as Autism Awareness Day/Week. Students, teachers and employees pay \$1/day to wear their button on the designated day or week to help support in the search for a cure.

Denim Days

During Autism Awareness Day/Week, students, teachers and employees have the option to pay \$1/day to wear denim to school.