



## ***Autism Spectrum Disorder prevalence updated ...***

"PASSAGES" IS A PUBLICATION OF  
PIKE AUTISM SUPPORT SERVICES

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### ***Pike Autism Support Services***

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#### **OUR MISSION**

PIKE AUTISM SUPPORT SERVICES (PASS) IS A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT WITH A MISSION TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM AND RELATED INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (IDD) WITH SOCIAL, RECREATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL, HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

#### **OUR VISION**

WE ENVISION A DAY WHEN INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM AND IDD ENJOY FULFILLING AND INDEPENDENT LIVES, EMBRACING EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING, INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS, SOCIAL INCLUSION, PERSONAL GROWTH, SELF-DETERMINATION, AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.

### ***Opening Doors***



***to Independence***



On May 16, 2024, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its statistics concerning children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) indicating approximately one (1) in thirty-six (36) children have been identified with ASD. This is an increase from 2018 (1 in 44), and a substantial increase from twenty (20) years ago when the number was one (1) in one hundred twenty five (125) children in 2004.

The numbers are staggering to those intimately familiar with ASD, and should be to you too. What it means for our community is ASD is not going anywhere, and everyone should be comfortable recognizing that, and doing their part to make everyone feel like he/she is a valued part of our community.

There are certain local businesses and organizations who have done just that. Key Foods in Milford, PA, the local Walmart located on Route 6 & 209, and the County of Pike are three local entities I have frequented over the past few years and noticed adults with disabilities employed. It is something that we should all hope to see more of as everyone deserves the chance to contribute to their community.

While it is important to credit these businesses and organizations, the individuals themselves deserve to be recognized. The next time you are shopping in Walmart or Key Foods, or in the Pike County Administration building, you should say "hello," and ask, "how are you today?" and strike up a small conversation. Say "thank you" for keeping the aisles clean and organized, or the produce section supplied with fresh fruit and vegetables. You might just make their day, and a new friend.

ASD is a lifetime diagnosis for the individual, as well as their family. It is something that can often leave the person and family feeling isolated or alone. Be a leader, lend a hand or a kind smile, and when you out in the community this month take the onus upon yourself to help make an individual with ASD feel welcome here in our community.

Nicholas J. McIntyre, Esquire  
Vice President of PASS.



## What's happening at PASS ?

### Social Groups

- **Lauren's Board Game Group** Monday at 5pm, The Milford Community House  
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/756038fa-c6d7-4f9a-9e6e-47089908074f>
- **Space Adventure** – Teens & Adults - meets virtually every Wednesday  
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/eebcfd02-5737-4648-975a-aa657372265e>

### Social Events

- **PASS Halloween Parties** - St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 5:00pm to 7:00pm - Ages Birth to 12, 7:00pm to 9:00pm - Ages 13 and Up (Families with mixed ages can choose either slot) \$5 for up to a family of 4, \$2 for each additional person, 3 and under Free - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/251ed0bc-b5ca-4c9a-8fce-8ae173754f39>

### Art Classes

- **Disney Master Class** - This class has 5 sessions. It will be held on the following Monday's: 10/7, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4 and 11/18 from 5:00 to 6:30 at the Community House.  
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/22fc5155-d681-4f06-b6c2-43a9fab984c9>

### Fundraisers

- **Designer Handbag Bingo** Friday, November 15th St. Patrick's Hall – Milford  
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/058c2200-ade3-458d-964d-26f6909ea618>
- **Santa Crawl** Sunday, Dec. 8th – starting at Log Tavern Brewery

### Support Groups

- **Adults on the Spectrum** Meets Thursday, Sept. 26th at the Milford Community House
- **Parent Support** 4th Wednesday of every month. Sept.25th

### Independence Village

- Please support our Community Center and Housing project
  - <https://www.pasnepa.org/independence-village/>
  - Donate: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/b4dbc83e-0bdd-41a8-829e-c06e5712e996>

### Trainings & Workshops

- **October 16th - "Behavior, Discipline, and Bullying"**
  - All the "ins and outs" of these hot button topics. (1hr), Presented by the ARC of NEPA
- **November 21 – "ABA Through the Lifespan"**
  - This workshop will examine how ABA can teach new skills and reduce problem behaviors in early childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. There will be time for Q&A Come prepared!
  - Presented by: Kelly Adams BCBA

*Jeannemarie Passaro*  
Executive Director