



Helping Families...

*...and communities support
and embrace people
on the autism spectrum
throughout their lives.*

Caring for Families:

At ASEA we know the challenge of having a family member with autism. By working together and supporting one another, we have found hope, new connections and practical help.

ASEA can help your family:

- Navigate through departments, programs and community agencies
- Connect with community resources
- Take advantage of respite opportunities
- Share experiences and learn from other families
- Ensure your family member has the resources he or she needs to have a good life

How Can I Help?

- Learn more about autism
- Welcome people with autism spectrum disorders in your community
- Become an ASEA Member
- Volunteer with ASEA: family support, newsletter, fundraising events and more
- Donate goods, services or money to support the work of ASEA

Yes! I'd like to:

BECOME A MEMBER

- \$40 new family membership
- \$40 teacher / teacher's aide membership
- \$100 professional / agency / school membership
- *\$0 assisted family membership * ASEA recognizes that some families are unable to afford annual fees. ASEA will consider requests for assisted family membership on a case by case basis. All inquiries will remain confidential.

MAKE A DONATION

- Visa
- MasterCard
- AMEX
- Cheque

Amount: \$ _____

Card number _____

Expiry date _____

Signature _____

VOLUNTEER FOR ASEA. Please contact me.

Dr. / Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. _____ (First) _____ (Last)

Dr. / Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. _____ (First) _____ (Last)

Mailing Address _____ City _____ PC _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____ Occupation / Workplace: _____

I am: an individual with autism a parent a relative a teacher/teacher's aide an agency a professional

Please return your completed form and/or donation to:

AUTISM SOCIETY OF EDMONTON AREA
#101, 11720 Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5G 0X5

What is Autism?

Autism is a neurological disorder that affects the way the brain works. Symptoms of autism are usually apparent before the age of three.

Autism, which includes Asperger Syndrome, is called a spectrum disorder because it affects each person differently. Although the severity may differ, all people with autism have challenges with

- communication – verbal or non-verbal
- social understanding and relationships with others
- inflexible behaviour, limited interests or activities

Autism affects individuals and their families for a lifetime.

Despite their challenges, people with autism have many gifts. They are:

- creative
- loyal
- honest
- dedicated
- persistent
- able to think outside the box



Does My Child Have Autism?

Early intervention can make a difference for your child. ASEA strongly encourages having your child evaluated for autism if:

At 6 months your child

- does not express joy or show big smiles

At 9 months your child

- does not engage in back-and-forth sharing of sounds, smiles or other facial expressions

At 12 months your child

- does not babble or coo, or does so less than you would expect
- does not use gestures like pointing, waving, reaching or showing
- does not respond or rarely responds to his or her name

At 16 months your child

- does not use single words

At 24 months your child

- does not use two word spontaneous phrases to communicate (This does not include repeating words just used by another person, also known as echolalia.)

At any age your child

- seems to lose any language or social skill

What Does ASEA Do?

ASEA helps families find hope and inspires them to create full and rich lives for their family members with autism spectrum disorders.

ASEA offers:

- Individual And Family Support
- Programs For Children, Teens and Adults
- Summer Respite Programs for Children and Teens
- Parent Information and Discussion Groups
- Teacher Information Series
- Public Education, Awareness, Advocacy
- Quarterly Newsletter
- Research



Find Hope