
Reopening Updates for the Autism Community

Autism New Jersey has remained focused on our mission to be a resource for the autism community during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we will continue to do so as we begin to move through the stages of reopening.

We recognize that there are many questions and complex considerations, and we are working hard to address these substantial issues and provide our expertise and stakeholder perspectives as plans are developed. We encourage you to regularly visit our [central hub of coronavirus resources](#) for the autism community.

DOE Gives Schools Choice for ESY

On Friday, June 12th, the New Jersey Department of Education (DOE) released guidance that allows Extended School Year (ESY) services for children with disabilities to be provided in-person as of July 6. The guidance states that schools can provide ESY services in-person, remotely, or a hybrid of both. The decision to reopen is up to the individual schools and districts. [Read more>>](#)



Helping Individuals with Autism Wear Face Masks

Individuals with autism are experiencing many new challenges brought on by COVID-19, including understanding social-distancing practices and why people are wearing face masks.

Many individuals need specific types of support to adapt to this change, especially if they will have to wear face masks. Autism New Jersey offers [suggestions and resources>>](#)



Autism-Friendly Businesses Doing Their Best to Adapt

It's no secret that small businesses are struggling to survive and adapt during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following businesses represent a few of many that have shown a consistent commitment to hiring individuals with autism and are doing what they can to stay afloat and serve their customers. [Read more>>](#)



The Road to Medicaid Coverage of ABA

The state Medicaid program, NJ FamilyCare, launched the long-anticipated ABA benefit on April 1, 2020. Medicaid now covers Applied Behavior Analysis services for children with autism.



Autism New Jersey played a critical advocacy role in developing coverage that will benefit those families that need it the most. [Read more>>](#)

Making Strides Past our \$50,000 Goal!

There is still time to participate in our [Virtual Ride & Stride for Autism](#).

For as low as \$25, you can join nearly 250 others across the state and beyond who have committed to walk, run, or ride to support Autism New Jersey.

Registration will remain open through **Saturday, June 20.**



[Register Now](#)

[Donate Now](#)

38th Annual Conference

Nearly 60 outstanding presentations for only \$99!

Join us live in our virtual platform on October 15 and 16 and enjoy access to workshops and exhibits for months afterwards.

38th Annual
AUTISM CONFERENCE
virtual

[Registration Opens Soon](#)

Autism New Jersey Education and Training Coordinator Stephanie Flamini earned her Master's degree in psychology (ABA focus) this May from Purdue University.

As a behavior analyst who provides trainings



for parents and professionals throughout the state, Stephanie embodies the agency's commitment to disseminating evidence-based practices in compassionate and practical ways. Autism New Jersey Executive Director Suzanne Buchanan praised her accomplishment, "Stephanie's passion, work ethic, and high standards are exceptional and appreciated!"

Autism New Jersey's Statement on Racial Disparities

Earlier this month and in response to the national conversation, Autism New Jersey released a statement addressing racial disparities. We would like to take the opportunity in closing to reiterate this statement:

As Autism New Jersey's mission states, we are committed to ensuring safe and fulfilling lives for individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals who support them. The diagnosis of autism knows no racial, ethnic, or cultural boundaries. Yet, the events of recent weeks underscore the fact that racial disparities and barriers persist everywhere, including the autism community. [Read our full statement >>](#)

As always, if you require support or information, please contact us at 800.4.AUTISM, 609.588.8200 or visit www.autismnj.org.

Your Friends at Autism New Jersey



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