

2011 Autism Asperger ACT Donation Appeal



AUTISM
ASPERGER ACT

*“April is Autism Awareness month -
Celebrate by donating to AACT!”*

We hope you are enjoying some of the benefits of membership of our association. 2010 was a very busy year for us and we trust many of you noticed an improvement in services last year and the first part of 2011. Funding is always tight for our association and as our office overheads increase in line with the expanded services we offer, we constantly need to look to our bottom line. We continue to lobby the ACT Government to fund our basic operation, but in the meantime need to increase our donations to meet costs. We hope you can help.

We now have 5 members of staff, two of whom are not funded by any federal or ACT Govt funding. We have moved into new offices in the Chifley Community Hub featuring an expanded library and our own meeting room and kitchen facilities. Although fitted out by our landlord (DHCS) to our specifications, we are paying ‘commercial’ rates amounting to \$20,000 pa. for this facility which will service ongoing needs of our members, especially for meetings and support groups.

Membership of the association is rightly free, but some of you may wish to donate to help us improve our services.

If 100 members signed up to give us \$10 per month for instance, that would go a significant way to paying our annual rent!

2010 – A big year!

- The association ran a number of events aimed at increasing awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders, workshops to assist carers and individuals, and fundraising events. These included;
 - Bubble Day in April – participation by 15 schools running autism related events and studies to increase awareness in school communities. Some schools hosted visiting MLAs which helped to expand their understanding of the issues families face. We are currently promoting Bubble Day 2011.
 - International Autism Day awards night also in April which recognised carers and professionals. This successful evening was attended by Minister Joy Burch and MC’d by David Kilby - it resulted in some positive media attention.
 - In May we hosted the Grodens from the USA to address Stress & Anxiety in individuals with ASD. This event was attended by almost 100 delegates.

- June saw our Rain Man theatre event, again hosted by David Kilby which provided a great night out for over 115 attendees.
- In August we ran a fantastic workshop from Carol Gray with well over 200 people attending a most valuable day.
- September of course saw a very successful Gala Dinner with our fundraising team outdoing themselves with a fantastic themed event attended by many members and as well as dignitaries and corporate guests.
- The year wrapped up with Joy Burch again joining us to officially open our offices and share some seasonal cheer in December.
- We have also extended our information provision by way of regular e-bulletins to members full of the latest information and events of interest, and we have improved our website and will develop it further this year; our newsletters continue to be informative and interesting.
- Our monthly meetings continued to be well supported and we introduced Parents of School Aged Children groups towards the end of the year; many more support groups have been introduced in 2011, as well as well attended information nights.
- We continue to lobby very hard for improvement in services.

Please help us continue our work in 2011 – a donation form is attached, and of course as a DGR registered charity, all donations are tax deductible.

With many thanks and looking forward to seeing you at our meetings and events throughout the year!

Gay von Ess
President

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**Autism Asperger ACT Inc. is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient by
the ATO
Gifts of \$2 or more are tax deductible**

I would like to:

Make a donation of \$_____ via

Cash

Credit: Phone 02 6176 0514

Electronic Funds Transfer to: BSB 633-000 Account No: 140470444
ref: your surname & 'appeal'

Cheque (payable to Autism Asperger ACT Inc.)

Post to: Autism Asperger ACT, PO Box 719, Mawson ACT 2607

Make a regular monthly donation via direct debit of \$_____

- Please complete this form, including name, address & contact details below and return to AAACCT donate@autismaspergeract.com.au
- Set up a regular monthly EFT payment (bank details above) either through internet banking or in person at your bank
- Date of your monthly transaction _____ (eg. 1st of every month)
- Date of first transaction _____
- EFT reference to be used (eg: surname, 'monthly') _____

Name: _____

Address:

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please sign here _____ Date: _____

Please send a tax receipt to the above address

Receipts for monthly donors will be sent out at the end of each financial year.



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