

DID YOU KNOW . . .

Autism, the Fastest Growing Developmental Disability Today
1 in 68 children in the U.S. are identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Autism is five times as common in boys as girls
Autism is a lifelong disability

The Autism Project, Inc. of North Beach and Owings is a local Calvert County 501c3 non-profit organization offering Therapeutic Integration and Support Services to families and their children on the Autism spectrum. The Autism Project (aka –TAPI) began here in Calvert County in 1998. **TAPI** also offers services to four surrounding counties throughout Southern Maryland.

Autism has no boundaries; any child can be diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum. While there is no cure for Autism, there are treatments and educational approaches that may reduce some of the challenges associated with this disability. Education can teach self-help skills that will allow individuals greater independence. Autism is treatable and studies now show that early diagnosis and intervention leads to significantly improved outcomes. **TAPI** is committed to helping meet those challenges associated with this serious neurological disorder.

Some of the services and programs available through The Autism Project can help our students with:

- generalized academic subjects such as math, reading, and writing for everyday use
- social skills needed for life - communication, sharing, taking turns, waiting, being; flexible and following directions
- daily living skills, grooming, personal hygiene, and age appropriate chores
- recreational/ leisure skills encourages them to participate in community service projects
- prevocational skills in preparations for adult life
- summer camps, providing year round services
- pre-school program equipping children early for school

Through a variety of fundraisers and donations The Autism Project has purchased:

- Our 2 acre learning center campus with over 8600 square feet of classrooms/activity center
- Autism center playground and veranda shade areas
- Education equipment
- Two Vans for our group social field trips
- 20' by 42' Outdoor Therapeutic Swimming Pool with 2200 sq/ft concrete decking, verandas & perimeter safety fencing
- Built a 2000 square foot 4 bedroom house to offer affordable housing to adults with autism
- Purchased a second house to offer affordable housing to adults with autism

TAPI has made many upgrades to the learning center campus including restoration to our historic barn, sidewalks, bike riding paths, pergolas, playgroup area, and safety upgrades including additional site lighting. Our greatest desire is to do our part to help the large population of children on the Autism spectrum lead productive lives. We are grateful you view our partnership as an opportunity to serve those with this serious developmental disability. We promise your gifts will be used to make an impact on every child **TAPI** has the privilege to serve now and into the future! Your open hands with your generous gifts and continuous support make it possible for **TAPI** to reach our goals. We dream BIG at **TAPI** and your help can make these dreams come true for many children.

Sincerely,

Chip Gaither, President, The Autism Project

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Our mission:

To educate, advocate for and empower individuals on the autism spectrum, their families and communities, and to build mutually beneficial relationships among them.