



PATHFINDERS
FOR AUTISM

Pathfinders for Autism FY2008 Accomplishments

Help Line 866-806-8400
www.pathfindersforautism.org

Priority Issue Area: To Promote Autism Awareness & Understanding

- ◆ 38,000 bookmarks, 10,000 brochures, 188 donated books (valued at \$3,500), and customized Resource Lists for each county were distributed through 187 public library branches participating in Pathfinders for Autism statewide "Autism Awareness Campaign".
- ◆ 3,400 members have signed up to receive Pathfinders for Autism e-mail News & Events, Tips for Parents, and Public Policy Alerts.
- ◆ 7,200 individuals were introduced to Pathfinders for Autism at more than 70 awareness raising events in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Montgomery, Prince Georges, St. Mary's and Queen Anne's Counties, Baltimore City, and Washington, DC.
- ◆ 627 guests attended Pathfinders for Autism Free Family Fun Events at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Port Discovery Children's Museum, and Sailing at Sandy Point State Park with Chesapeake Regional Accessible Boating (CRAB).



Priority Issue Area: To provide quality information and resources to individuals, family members, caregivers, and professionals.

- ◆ 134,407 visits to our website (www.pathfindersforautism.org), an average of more than 10,000 sessions each month, or 369 per day.



- ◆ 449 clients were personally served through telephone or e-mail inquiries, resulting in over 2,100 direct contacts since opening the Pathfinders for Autism Resource Center in 2003.
- ◆ 139 new service providers were added to our on-line, searchable database, bringing our total to over 900 listings.
- ◆ 2,600 sq. ft. – size of our new state-of-the-art office space where we now offer a Resource Library, Playroom, and Training Room.

Pathfinders for Autism extends our most sincere appreciation to all of our partners, volunteers, donors and families – who assist us in so many ways – as we continue to "Find a Path for Our Children."

Priority Issue Area: To increase the number and quality of trained professionals serving clients with autism.

- ◆ 700 staff members from Maryland's Division of Rehabilitative Services (DORS) attended a four-part training series covering "best practices" in vocational rehabilitation, intake/assessment, job coaching, and supported employment for individuals with autism.

Priority Issue Area: To serve as a catalyst ensuring the availability and accessibility of services for individuals with autism across their lifespan.

- ◆ 245 people attended the 10th Annual Respite Awareness Day Conference – Pathfinders served on the planning committee and was a sponsor of the event.
- ◆ 900 individuals are currently served by Maryland's Autism Waiver. Pathfinders' staff and Board Members serve on the Advisory Panel overseeing the implementation of this waiver.
- ◆ 1,800 children are currently on the registry waiting to be served by the Autism Waiver. Pathfinders has been a leading voice testifying for increased funding to serve more individuals.

Priority Issue Area: To improve the early detection of autism to ensure crucial intervention services are started at an earlier age.

- ◆ In partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics – Maryland Chapter, we have scheduled six Developmental Screening Trainings across the State (October - December, 2008.)



Of Special Note:

- ◆ Founding Board Members, Polly Surhoff and Rebecca Faye Smith Galli, assembled a hard-working committee to coordinate "An Evening of Celebrity Fashion and Fun". The event raised over \$119,000 and was sponsored by Bob Davidson Ford Lincoln Mercury and hosted by Geppi Entertainment Museum.



- ◆ Pathfinders hosted its 7th Annual Golf Tournament Sponsored by Bob Davidson Ford Lincoln Mercury – bringing our total raised through this event to \$949,000 over the past seven years.