

FY2012 YEAR-END ACCOMPLISHMENTS



PATHFINDERS

FOR AUTISM

Making a Difference in the lives of Individuals with Autism and their Families by:

- ▶ Providing personalized, accurate information and resources
- ▶ Offering training on pertinent topics to individuals, parents, and professionals
- ▶ Increasing awareness and understanding of Autism

A Year of New Safety Initiatives

Pathfinders conducted its first Autism awareness training sessions for Maryland State Police (MSP) candidates. Shortly after our presentations, Autism Training became required by the Maryland Police & Corrections Training Commission (MPCTC). Pathfinders also began a partnership with MSP and AJR Insurance to offer Child Safety ID Nights, providing families with free CDs that contain their children's digital fingerprints, video and voice recordings, and other critical identifying information that can be shared with police if their children go missing.



"It is so important that police officers be reminded we deal with real people every day who struggle with real-life issues, who need us to sometimes just be real, humane and caring. You helped us to do that today. Thank you for using your own personal experiences and challenges to make a valuable contribution and impact on the citizens of Maryland and, more specifically, on Maryland law enforcement. I hope to use your insight, experience and professionalism again and often in the future." - Sgt. Michael Allred

▶ 1,065 clients

were personally served through telephone or e-mail inquiries through the Pathfinders for Autism Resource Center.

▶ 5,050 individuals

were reached directly through awareness events such as resource fairs and presentations.

▶ 693 parents and professionals

attended **26** trainings/workshops hosted by Pathfinders. Each workshop featured experts in the field presenting on a variety of relevant topics such as: behavioral issues, social skills, sensory integration, the sexuality and social boundaries, special education, special diets, and potty training.

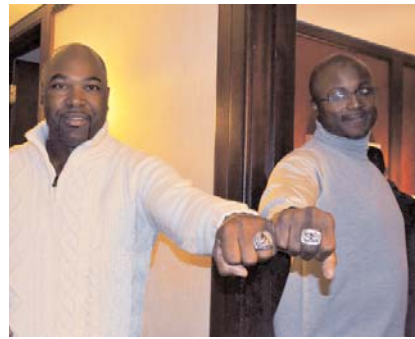


Over 800 family members

attended Free Family Fun events across the state including visits to The National Aquarium in Baltimore, IronBird and Bay Sox games, the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, the Downtown Sailing Center, Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park, and a day of horseback riding at Tempatation Farms.



"My husband, son and I attended last night's event at the aquarium. We have never been so impressed as last night. The aquarium staff was great, and the Pathfinders staff were so friendly and helpful! The biggest delight was watching the faces of kids and adults alike light up because they were experiencing the aquarium for the first time, in the best environment possible. It was truly amazing. Thanks a million times for making my son's night, and I'm sure the nights of many others!" - Heather



An Evening of Celebrity Fashion and Fun was billed as one of the best events in Baltimore. (*Models Arthur Rhodes and Qadry Ismail were among the celebrities*)

Over **800 participants** attended our 2nd Annual Run Wild for Autism 5K and FREE Family Fun event at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore.

"Thanks again for your words of help and encouragement this morning. I'm grateful to have been connected with you, and will not hesitate calling with additional questions...or frankly, just a pick-me-up :)."



Surf's Up!
Pathfinders sponsored 50 of the almost 200 children and young adults with Autism that took to the waves in Ocean City with Surfers Healing in what can only be described as magic on the water.

FY2012



Unwrap the Magic starring **Tom Wopat** (pictured here with Pathfinders' President **B.J. Surhoff**) was a delightful ensemble of music and dance.

Grassroots fundraisers such as Band Together for Autism, Basket Bingo, 40 Miles for Autism, along with events organized by The Main Street Tower Restaurant, Ravens Roosts #115 and #118, the Aberdeen Ironbirds, and others, helped raise over **\$52,000**.



PATHFINDERS
FOR AUTISM