



# Understanding Autism

## Training Descriptions

*As part of our mission, Pathfinders for Autism offers training programs throughout Maryland to various groups. We can provide general “Autism 101” type training, or tailor a presentation to meet the needs of your particular industry or need. As parents of children with Autism – at different ages and different points on the spectrum – we weave in our own personal stories throughout the trainings to feature additional perspectives.*

Our presentations can be tailored to fit into a one to two hour program.

### Experience Autism

All of our trainings include an experiential component to help the participants better understand how it might feel to have Autism characteristics, such as:

- Communication or language processing disorders
- Sensory processing disorders

### 5 Things You Should Know About Autism

Hearing the words, “Your loved one has Autism,” is life changing in that you find yourself living with an entirely new set of expectations. We help redefine the perception of the Autism diagnosis. In addition to discussing the general characteristics of Autism, we provide an approach that addresses common myths.

- Autism is Different not Less
- Low Functioning does NOT equal Low Intelligence
- Behavior is Communication
- Stay Family Focused
- You are not Alone

### Share in the Wealth of Resources

As the largest Autism Resource Center in Maryland, we have a vast array of tools and materials that may be valuable to your staff and constituents. Along with keeping up with the current trends and latest developments, we can show you how to access the information you need most, such as:

- **Autism By Age Checklists**

In this section, we look at multiple life aspects — health, social and relationships, education, employment, housing, transportation, financial, advocacy, assistive technology, and support and respite — and we address each by what is needed for every age.

- **Searchable Database**

We will demonstrate how to search for specialists, doctors, social skills training programs, recreation and social groups, etc.

- **Parent Tips**

We will review articles on relevant topics, such as, Travel and Vacations, Siblings, Disclosure, Time to Think About Driving, Potty Training, Feeding Issues, etc.

**Pathfinders has presented to a variety of different groups and industries:**

- Parents
- Caregivers
- Foster parents
- School personnel
- Students ranging in age from kindergarten to college
- College professors
- Law enforcement
- Corrections officers
- State’s attorneys
- EMS personnel
- Restaurant staff
- Hotel staff
- Public library staff
- Recreational instructors

**Call 443.330.5370 for more information or to schedule a training session.**



**PATHFINDERS  
FOR AUTISM**