

AUTISM ALLIANCE
OF MICHIGAN

Michigan *Shines* for Autism Gala

Learn more at
AAoMGala.com!

A Brighter Tomorrow

Presented by
DTE Foundation

April 20th, 2024
MotorCity Casino Hotel

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The 2024 Michigan Shines for Autism Gala will take place on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at MotorCity Casino Hotel in Detroit. We are honored to serve together as Chairpersons of this year's event and cordially invite you to join us as a sponsor.

This event has grown to become one of Michigan's most impactful and influential evenings where business leaders, community leaders, legislators, families, and advocates gather from across the state to demonstrate their support for Michigan's autism community and celebrate the work of Autism Alliance of Michigan (AAoM).

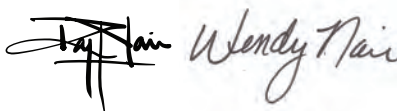
This year, the Center for Disease Control updated the autism prevalence statistic from 1 in 44 to 1 in 36. One thing we know for sure: Where there are people, there is autism; and where there is autism, there is Autism Alliance of Michigan. Since our founding in 2009, AAoM has worked tirelessly to shed light on the challenges of living with autism while building bridges to critical resources and supports that have the ability to change the trajectory of someone's life.

Join us in April as we collectively work to build bridges that navigate Michigan families touched by autism out of crisis, isolation and fear and into a brighter, more hopeful tomorrow. Thank you for your consideration.

With gratitude,

 Peggy Meador

Dave & Peggy Meador

 Wendy Nair

Raj & Wendy Nair

 Colette Rizik

Colette & Chris Rizik

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Michigan *Shines* for Autism Gala

A Brighter Tomorrow

April 20th,
2024

MotorCity
Casino Hotel,
Detroit, MI

Presented By
DTE Foundation

Register Today



Register online at
AAoMGala.org

or

Complete the enclosed Registration Form and submit via:



Email

Lauren Todaro,
Manager of Development Operations
Lauren.Todaro@aaomi.org



Mail

Attn: Lauren Todaro
Autism Alliance of Michigan
26913 Northwestern Hwy. Ste. 520
Southfield, MI 48033

Dave & Peggy Meador, Raj & Wendy Nair, and Chris & Colette Rizik
invite you to the 15th Annual
Michigan *Shines* for Autism Gala



With Emcee Rochelle Riley

Date:

Saturday,
April 20, 2024

Time:

6:00pm-12:00am

Location:

MotorCity Casino Hotel
Detroit, MI

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Schedule of the Evening

6:00pm: Registration & Cocktail Hour

7:00pm: Dinner and Live Program

9:00pm: Your Generation in Concert
in Sound Board

12:00am: Event concludes



Cocktail hour followed by a gourmet dinner, inspiring on-stage program, silent & live auctions and a paddle raise.

The night continues into Sound Board with dancing, drinks and late-night snacks alongside live music.

2024 Gala Chairs



DAVE & PEGGY MEADOR



CHRIS & COLETTE RIZIK



RAJ AND WENDY NAIR



**Gala
Chair
Emeriti**

2023: Dave & Peggy Meador | DTE Energy,
Matt and Heather Paul | DTE Energy, Margaret Trimer | Delta Dental

2021/2022: Dave & Peggy Meador | DTE Energy, Mark & Amy Miller,
Carla Walker-Miller | Walker-Miller Energy Services, Chris & Carrie Yatooma

2020: Dave Meador | DTE Energy, Carla Walker-Miller | Walker-Miller Energy
Services, & Mark LaNeve | Ford Motor Company

2019: Raj Nair | Multimatic & Mark LaNeve | Ford Motor Company

2018: Ron Fournier | Truscott Rossman

2017: Cynthia Pasky | Strategic Staffing Solutions

2016: Jim Nicholson | PVS Chemicals, Inc.

2015: Brian Calley | Lieutenant Governor

Host Committee*

Co Chairs

Dave & Peggy Meador

Raj & Wendy Nair

Chris & Colette Rizik

Tim & Sweta Alberta
Brian & Julie Calley
Stephen & Deborah D'Arcy
Bruce & Carolyn Dall
April Donaldson
Bill & Wendy Ernzen
Amy & Chris Fangboner

Ron & Lori Fournier
Alec Hagen
Dr. Tisa Johnson-Hooper &
Bernard Hooper
Mark Lezotte
Patti Little
Mark & Amy Miller

Rami Paulus
Steve & Paula Patterson
Matt & Heather Paul
Rochelle Riley
Margaret Trimer
Carla Walker-Miller
Chris & Carrie Yatooma

AAoM Board of Directors

Brian Calley - Chairman
Colleen Allen, Ph.D. - CEO
Sweta Alberta
Julie Bullock
Bruce Dall
Stephen D'Arcy

William Ernzen
Amy Fangboner
Ron Fournier
Jeff Gebhart
Michael Griffie
Alec Hagen

Kris Harrison, Ph.D
Nicole Hamp, MD.
Melissa Howell
Tisa Johnson-Hooper, MD
Kim Kerwin
David Meador

Mark Miller
Raj Nair
Paula Patterson
Matt Paul
Colette Rizik
Carla Walker-Miller

*At the time of design

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This year, the Center for Disease Control updated the autism prevalence statistic from 1 in 44 to 1 in 36. The nature of autism is ubiquitous.

You likely cross paths with an autistic person every single day, often without even realizing it.

Autism influences every facet of life- your neighborhood, your children's school, your workplace and so much more.

As we raise awareness and acceptance of those living with autism, we need to recognize it is a true "spectrum" disorder, which ranges from those who are profoundly affected and require the highest level of care to those who are able to advocate for themselves and live independently.



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Since our founding in 2009, AAoM has worked tirelessly to shed light on the challenges of living with autism while building bridges to critical resources and supports that have the ability to change the trajectory of someone's life.

Here are a few examples of the diverse cases AAoM is currently working on:



- A parent struggling to understand why her child doesn't speak, laugh or seek engagement like her other children, yet can't act on these concerns **without access to effective health and developmental screenings.** Delayed diagnosis, delayed intervention, and, ultimately, worse outcomes for school, work, and independent living

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- A job applicant, **denied the opportunity to secure a highly desirable position** because the employer lacks ADA compliant hiring and recruiting processes. Critical accommodations denied to a fully qualified candidate whose now left to bag groceries or fill the shelves of a local grocery store.
- A family **struggling to manage their son's severe and destructive behaviors** which have become too dangerous to stay in the home. Their days are spent in and out of the hospital desperately seeking resources and residential options for a better quality of life for the entire family.

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Our goal is to shine a light on every aspect of the spectrum, to make Michigan a place where children and adults living with autism feel understood, valued, and accepted. We are bridging one segment of the population to another to unify our community around the greatest struggles to the greatest rewards.

Our communities are filled with children, siblings, parents and friends with autism who have significant contributions to make and dreams to achieve. And though those dreams and contributions may vary across the spectrum, they stand equally at the forefront of our mission. We are committed to creating a world where there is equity, inclusivity, and accessibility for all autistic persons.

Join Autism Alliance of Michigan as we work to build bridges that navigate all families out of crisis, isolation and fear and into a brighter, more hopeful tomorrow.

Tickets



One table of Ten Guests at the Michigan Shines for Autism Gala at MotorCity Casino



One ticket to attend the Michigan Shines for Autism Gala at MotorCity Casino

Sponsorship Levels

\$100,000 | Presenting Sponsor:
Thirty Guests + Sponsor Benefits

\$50,000 | Premier Sponsor:
Twenty Guests + Sponsor Benefits

\$25,000 | Diamond Sponsor:
Sixteen Guests + Sponsor Benefits

\$15,000 | Platinum Sponsor:
Twelve Guests + Sponsor Benefits

\$10,000 | Gold Sponsor:
Ten Guests + Sponsor Benefits

\$5,000 | Silver Sponsor:
Six Guests + Sponsor Benefits

\$3,000 | Bronze Sponsor:
Four Guests + Sponsor Benefits

Sponsor Benefit Details



Sponsors Receive:

- All benefits listed for \$3,000-\$15,000, with inclusion of company logo
- Opportunity to participate in event-specific media coverage
- Recognition in event press release and a full page advertisement in Crain's Giving Guide
- Personalized Lunch N' Learn hosted by AAoM professional staff at your chosen location



Sponsors Receive:

- One page advertisement in program booklet distributed to all participants
- Name recognition on all event marketing & promotional materials (eblasts, website, social media, etc.) including prominent recognition during the live broadcast

Hotel Reservations

We have reserved room blocks at MotorCity Casino Hotel for this event for a special discounted rate.

Guests have until March 20, 2024, to book a room using our group code via the QR code below.



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Where does the money go?



Early Diagnosis

Goal: Reduce the average age of diagnosis to age 2 through early identification of ASD and barrier-free access to services.



Education

Goal: Ensure access to a high quality, inclusive education to match high school graduation rate and positive postsecondary outcomes for people with autism to general population rates.



Employment

Goal: Match the employment rate of the general population for people with autism seeking employment through accessible, high-quality employment, supported living, housing, and transportation.

Thank You To Our Sponsors!*

Presenting Sponsor

DTE Foundation

Diamond Sponsors



Dave & Peggy Meador



Colette & Chris Rizik



Raj & Wendy Nair



Ron & Lori Fournier



Platinum Sponsor

Walker-Miller Energy Services

Gold Sponsors

Jefferson Wells

Deborah & Stephen D'Arcy Fund

Silver Sponsor

Henry Ford Health

Bronze Sponsors

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Bob and Bernadette Lewis Enbridge Energy

The Calley Family

The Koppin Family

Slalom

*At the time of design



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Choose One:

- Presenting Sponsor \$100,000
- Diamond Sponsor \$25,000
- Gold Sponsor \$10,000
- Bronze Sponsor \$3,000
- Premier Sponsor \$50,000
- Platinum Sponsor \$15,000
- Silver Sponsor \$5,000
- Individual Ticket | QTY___ \$300
- Table of 10 \$3,000
- I am unable to attend but would like to make a donation: \$_____

Registration Information:

COMPANY/FOUNDATION/INDIVIDUAL NAME

CONTACT PERSON	EMAIL	PHONE
		STATE

ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
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SIGNATURE DATE

My signature indicates authorization to make this commitment on behalf of my company.

Important note: Once your purchase is processed, you will receive an email with a link to access your event tickets. We will send this link to the email written above. Each ticket must be assigned to a specific individual and you will be responsible for inputting and managing your guest's information.

Payment Information:

Please choose one of the following:

- Check: Enclosed (payable to Autism Alliance of Michigan) Will be mailed separately
- Credit: Visa Mastercard American Express

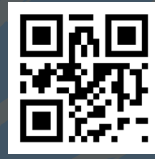
CARD NUMBER	SECURITY CODE	EXP. DATE	NAME (As it appears on the card)
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EMAIL	PHONE	ZIP
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BILLING ADDRESS (If different than above) DATE

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Purchase tickets and sponsorships here:



Need Help?

Please contact Lauren Todaro at Lauren.Todaro@aaomi.org if you have any questions.
26913 Northwestern Hwy. Ste. 520, Southfield, MI 48033