



AUTISM ALLIANCE
OF MICHIGAN

Michigan Shines for Autism Gala

WHERE COMPASSION TAKES ROOT

Dear Friends,

Autism continues to have a profound impact on the lives of families across the state of Michigan. With 1 in 31 children now diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, it's a reality we can't ignore and one we must all rally around.

Autism is in the national spotlight like never before. Media attention is growing. Policies are shifting. But for families, this visibility can be overwhelming. That's why we're proud to support the Autism Alliance of Michigan (AAoM)- an organization that cuts through the noise and helps families find clarity, community, and access to critical support & services.

As Honorary Chairs of the 2026 Michigan Shines for Autism Gala, we are inviting you to join us in standing behind this critical work. AAoM has served more than 50,000 individuals across Michigan.

But this year, AAoM is faced with a devastating and unexpected \$2 million cut in state funding. This will have a profound effect on the number of families they will be able to serve. At a time when families need more support and guidance than ever, we cannot afford to lose ground.

That's why this year's Gala is more important than ever. We invite you to join us on Saturday, April 18th, 2026, at MotorCity Casino Hotel in Detroit. This event raises nearly \$900,000 annually to support and sustain the work of AAoM while bringing together over 700 business leaders, community leaders, advocates, and families to shine a light on Michigan's autism community.

Please review the enclosed sponsorship details and consider standing with us at this pivotal moment. We are committed to supporting families in Michigan and hope you will be too.

With appreciation,



Steve K Hamp
Sheila Hamp

Steve Hamp & Sheila Ford Hamp
Honorary Chairs, 2026 Michigan Shines for Autism Gala



THE 15TH ANNUAL
*Michigan Shines
for Autism Gala*

WHERE COMPASSION TAKES ROOT

Benefiting



AUTISM ALLIANCE
OF MICHIGAN

Presented By

DTE Foundation

April 18, 2026

Steve Hamp & Sheila Ford Hamp invite you to join them in support of the 15th annual Michigan Shines for Autism Gala



Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: 6:00pm-12:00am

Location: MotorCity Casino Hotel, Detroit, Michigan



2026 Emcee Dan Miller

The legendary sports broadcaster who has become an iconic voice in Detroit's sports landscape as a sports anchor for FOX 2 Detroit and the official voice of the Detroit Lions.

*Schedule of
the Evening:*

6:00 PM: Registration & Cocktail Hour in Sound Board

7:00 PM: Gourmet Three Course Dinner in the Grand Ballroom

8:00 PM: On-Stage Program Including Speakers,
Live Auction and Paddle Raise

9:00 PM: Your Generation in Concert in Sound Board
with Dancing & Late-Night Snacks

12:00 AM: Event Concludes

Attire:

Black tie optional

CHAIR EMERITI

**2026 Honorary
Co-Chairs:
Steve Hamp &
Sheila Ford Hamp**

2025 Dave & Peggy Meador
Vinnie Johnson

2024 Dave & Peggy Meador
Chris & Colette Rizik
Raj & Wendy Nair | Multimatic Inc.

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

2022 Dave & Peggy Meador | DTE Energy
Mark & Amy Miller
Carla Walker-Miller | Walker-Miller Energy Services
Chris & Carrie Yatooma | OGC Companies

2021 Dave Meador | DTE Energy
Carla Walker-Miller | Walker-Miller Energy Services
Mark LaNeve | Ford Motor Company

2020 Raj Nair | Multimatic
Mark LaNeve | Ford Motor Company

2019 Ron Fournier | Truscott Rossman

2018 Cynthia Pasky | Strategic Staffing Solutions

2017 Jim Nicholson | PVS Chemicals, Inc.

2016 Brian Calley | Lieutenant Governor of MI.

HOST COMMITTEE

CO CHAIRS

Stephen & Deborah D'Arcy
Dave & Peggy Meador

Tim & Sweta Alberta
Brian & Julie Calley
Janene & Sam Cummings
Bruce & Carolyn Dall
Amy & Chris Fangboner
Ron & Lori Fournier

Alec Hagen
Dr. Tisa Johnson-Hooper &
Bernard Hooper
Vinnie Johnson
Mark & Amy Miller
Jon & Carrie Nelson

Steve & Paula Patterson
Matt & Heather Paul
Chris & Colette Rizik
Matt & Courtney Van Haaren
Jason & Kristine Vazzano
Chris & Carrie Yatooma

AAOM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THE TRUE MISSION OF THE GALA

Autism now affects 1 in 31 children- a growing reality that impacts families across every community in Michigan. Since 2009, AAoM has helped over 50,000 individuals across the state, offering critical services, resources, and support to those navigating an autism diagnosis.

But in October 2025, AAoM experienced a devastating and unexpected \$2 million cut in state funding. This loss threatens the organization's ability to reach thousands of families who rely on their help. At a time when demand for autism support is higher than ever, this year's Gala is not just important- it's essential.



TICKETS

\$3,000

Table of Ten

\$300

Individual Ticket

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

\$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

PRESENTING, PREMIER & DIAMOND SPONSORS RECEIVE:

- Tickets to the event as detailed on the previous page
- Company logo listed prominently across all event promotional materials (website, emails, social media posts, etc) and night-of signage & print materials
- Recognition in event press release
- Opportunity to participate in print, radio, digital or television media coverage
- One page advertisement in MSFA Gala program booklet
- Opportunity to co-host an “Autism 101” educational seminar presented by AAoM’s outreach team for a group of your choosing at a mutually agreed upon location and date
- All benefits listed listed below

PLATINUM, GOLD, SILVER & BRONZE SPONSORS RECEIVE:

- Tickets to the event as detailed on the previous page
- Name recognition on MSFA Gala website, emails, night-of signage & print materials and category-specific social media posts
- One page advertisement in MSFA Gala program booklet



REGISTER ONLINE
AT AAOMGALA.ORG



COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED
REGISTRATION FORM AND SUBMIT VIA:



Email

Erica Rakowicz,
Event Specialist
Erica.Rakowicz@aaomi.org



Mail

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

HOTEL RESERVATIONS



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

Guests have until March 21, 2026 to book a room using our group code via the QR code on the right.



Thank You To Our Sponsors *

PRESENTING SPONSOR

DTE Foundation

PREMIER
SPONSOR

**Barton
Malow**
 **Huntington**

DIAMOND
SPONSORS

 **CITIZENS
STATE BANK**

Motor City
CASINO-HOTEL



Steven & Sheila Hamp

Dave & Peggy Meador

Jim & Ann Nicholson

PLATINUM SPONSOR

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Raymond James

SILVER SPONSORS

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Spark Center for Autism
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GOLD SPONSORS

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BRONZE SPONSORS

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AUTISM ALLIANCE
OF MICHIGAN

Help. Hope. Answers. Today.

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

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

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)

EMAIL

PHONE

ZIP

BILLING ADDRESS (If different than above)

DATE


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Purchase Tickets and
Sponsorships Online



Need Help?

Please contact Erica Rakowicz at Erica.Rakowicz@aaomi.org
26913 Northwestern Hwy. Ste. 520, Southfield, MI 48033