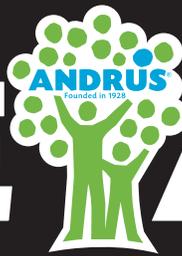


WE ARE ANDRUS



MAY 2018



ANDRUS/JDAM www.andrus1928.org



Mark your calendars!

Golf Fore Kids is June 18. See the last page of the newsletter for more information and a link to register.

MISSION & VISION

ANDRUS nurtures social and emotional well-being in children, families, and communities by delivering a broad range of vital services and by providing research, training, and innovative program models that promote the standard of excellence for professional performance in and beyond our service community.

Communities where all children and families can thrive.

Dear Friends of ANDRUS,

The cherry blossoms are starting to bloom and Spring has arrived! Whenever we transition to a new season, I am reminded of the sense of hope and optimism in our children and staff that makes ANDRUS a truly special place. This time of year can be hard for many of us, with difficult transitions and feelings surfacing. In these times especially, ANDRUS continues to amaze me as it offers a safe place with open communication, discussion, and support for all of our children, families, and staff.

In the past few months, we completed phase 1 of our classroom expansion project - adding modular classrooms for our youngest learners much closer to their peers at our Orchard School. The girls in our Residential program are especially thrilled about using their brand-new art space, a project made possible by your generous donations at last year's Golf Fore Kids outing. We also look forward to beginning work on a fully integrated Sensory playground in the coming months. With these projects underway we are poised to expand and better serve our children, families, and communities in the coming years.

2018 promises to bring growth and change while recognizing our incredible history. Some of you are already aware that this year is ANDRUS' 90th anniversary, an ambitious year in which we look to continue progress on our strategic plan and enhance and expand our dynamic programming. I hope you will join us on June 18 at Ardsley Country Club for our first event in celebration of this milestone, our Golf Fore Kids outing. This year we look to raise critically important funds for resurfacing our courts to provide outdoor basketball, tennis, and volleyball, all key components in our children's safety plans.

Thank you all for choosing to devote yourself to the important mission we share. As I reflect on ANDRUS serving our community for 90 years, I am awed by the tireless dedication you all show to our children and families, and look forward to the great work that is to come.

Gratefully,


Bryan

We Are Volunteers

The volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise to ANDRUS are invaluable members of our community.

This quarter we are highlighting some outstanding groups of volunteers who have gone above and beyond, bonding with our children in a meaningful and lasting way.

In April, the Pajama Program brought books and volunteers to read to our youngest kids in Griffith and Andrus Halls. Not only does this help with literacy and socialization, it also helps to make life at ANDRUS a little more comfortable and like home. Many of our children did not want the “reading party” to end



The Pajama Program helps students with literacy and socializing.

and can't wait for the next event! In the near future ANDRUS will look to restore the Pajama Program as a recurring program.

We also had a return visit from Riverdale Country Day, who took on a big project in cleaning up our playground and dog run. RCD students paired up with younger ANDRUS students as mentors, and formed strong bonds through working and playing together. We look forward to welcoming RCD students back to our campus next month.

ANDRUS students were also thrilled to volunteer their time and effort in honor of Earth Day for the 3rd annual Yonkers Aqueduct Trail Cleanup.

The children involved had a wonderful time giving back to the local community and learning about social responsibility. They had the honor of meeting Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, who even helped one of our children open his juice box in the middle of the Mayor's remarks!

If you are interested in volunteering at ANDRUS, please send an email to Volunteers@jdam.org.

We welcome individual and corporate volunteers, and are always happy to tailor a volunteer experience to you or your organization.



Riverdale Country Day students bonded with ANDRUS children while cleaning up the playground and dog run.

We Are Growth & Change

ANDRUS Completes Girls' Art Room Renovation



We are pleased to share that the renovation of our Andrus Hall art space is complete! Andrus Hall is where our female residents live, so having an art space readily available to them at all times is a great way to stay busy and relieve stress. Dedicated exclusively for use by our

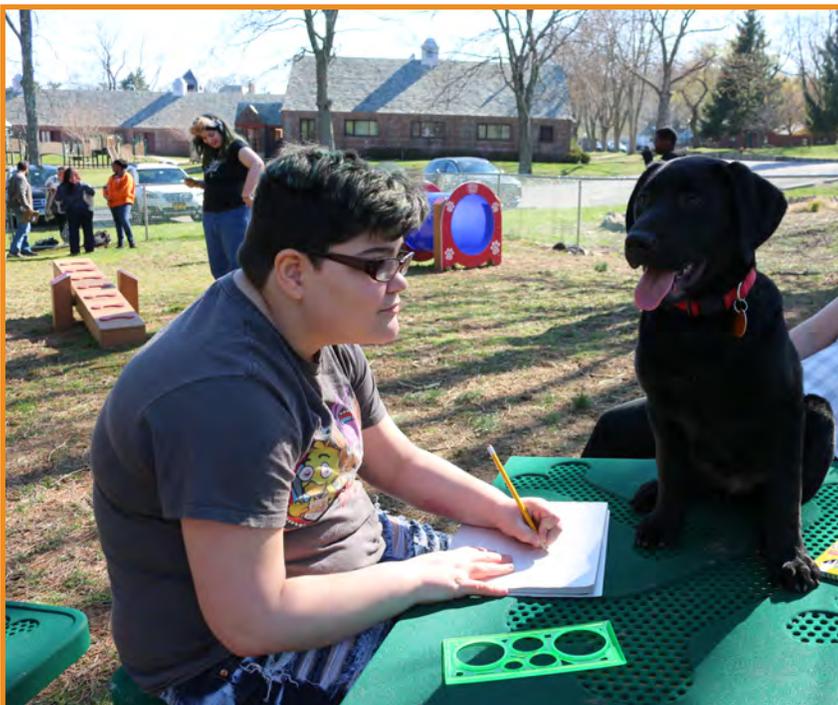
girls, this brand new space provides a quiet and nurturing environment for them to express their creativity and create some wonderful art.

We could not have completed this renovation without the generous donors from Golf Fore Kids 2017. In that Fund

A Need paddle raise we were able to fully fund the art space, including new furniture and supplies.

The girls of Andrus Hall are already using the space, and we look forward to seeing their work!

Meet Rocky: ANDRUS' New Therapy Dog in Training



The Pets At Work for Sanctuary (PAWS) program has a new member: Rocky! Rocky will work with our children to help regulate emotion and provide support when needed. He is currently undergoing training and socialization at ANDRUS and when ready will integrate into our regular programming. Thank you to Mary Graf for funding Rocky's transition to ANDRUS and giving him such a great name! He is already a big hit with the children and staff and is getting settled in very nicely!

For regular Rocky updates be sure to follow ANDRUS on Instagram @AndrusChildren, where we'll be continuing to post our #RockyRecollections series.

We Are Accepting

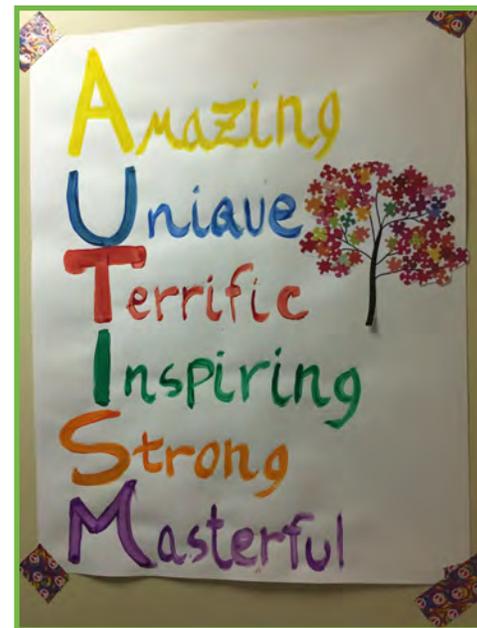
What Is Autism?

Autism is a pervasive neurological developmental condition that impacts how an individual perceives, processes, responds to, and engages with the world. It is “pervasive” because it affects every part of the person, “neurological” because it affects the structure and functioning of the brain, and “developmental” because it begins early in life and manifests in different ways at various stages of an individual’s development.

Autism is characterized by deficits in social interaction and communication. Restricted interests and repetitive behaviors are also common, as are difficulties with sensory processing and integration. Autistic people may struggle with verbal and non-verbal communication, reading social cues, reciprocal conversation, making eye contact, engaging in cooperative and imaginative play/activities, and making friends. They may adhere inflexibly to rituals and routines, insist on sameness and become very distressed over the slightest change, have a limited range of interests, use unusual intonation patterns, and engage in repetitive motor movements such as flapping, finger flicking, spinning, or rocking. They may also have extraordinary gifts, abilities and talents, superior intelligence, a unique outlook and creativity.

Autism is NOT a disease or an illness. It’s not something that “happens,” something that one can catch or transmit. It is a lifelong condition that affects how people receive, process, express internal and external information. Because their brains work differently, people with autism think differently, see and relate to the world differently. This can be made challenging by impairments in executive functioning and sensory integration that typically accompany autism – turning a normal flow of information from our daily environment into a flood of unpredictable, chaotic data and a painful assault on all the senses.

Autism is a SPECTRUM condition: all autistic people share certain core characteristics that will affect them in different ways, and level of functioning can vary tremendously – from mild to severe. The spectrum spans a broad range of intellectual ability. Autistic children have just as much capacity for growth, development, and learning as non autistic children do. An autistic child may speak early, late, or never, but this does not mean he will not develop, learn, or meet other milestones. With the right kind of support from parents, educators, and the community, all can be helped to live a fulfilling life of their own choosing.



FACTS about Autism

- In the US, autism affects 1 in 68 children and is approximately 4.5 times more common in boys than girls.
- Autistic people feel very deeply their own emotions and those of others.
- Every experience of autism is distinct and unique.
- Gastrointestinal (GI) disorders, seizures, sleep disturbances, ADHD, anxiety and phobias frequently accompany autism.
- Vaccines do not cause autism. In most instances ASD appears to be the result of a combination of gene mutations and environmental factors.

Author Francesca Di Mauro, LCSW, is ANDRUS’ Senior Residential Clinician in Foster Hall, which caters to children with autism.

We Are Fun!

We're excited to share these upcoming ANDRUS events!

For the 14th annual Golf Fore Kids event we are moving to the beautifully redesigned Ardsley Country Club!

Featuring a brand new club house, restaurant, and delicious menu, June 18 is going to be a very special day for our donors.

Most importantly, we come together to celebrate and raise funds in support of the ANDRUS vision: communities where all children and families can thrive.

With great raffle prizes, sponsorship opportunities, golf, dinner, and auctions, there will be something for everybody to enjoy. Join us for part or all of the day, share with your friends, and help us to make this the most successful Golf Fore Kids yet!

Join Us
For a great day
of Golf
and more....

**2018
GOLF
FORE
KIDS**

Monday, June 18
Ardsley Country Club
Ardsley, NY

ANDRUS
Founded in 1925

[CLICK HERE](#) for registration and sponsorship information!

LOOKING AHEAD

- May 16: Wellness Day at ANDRUS
- May 24: The Orchard School Concert
- June 18: Golf Fore Kids
- June 22: The Orchard School Graduation
- November 2: The ANDRUS Gala

JOIN ANDRUS' SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNITY

Find us using:
@AndrusChildren

