

DC Autism Parents Celebrates Autism Awareness Month

March 28, 2009

Washington Nationals, DC Public Library, and National Aquarium are Partners in April Activities

(Washington, DC) -- DC Autism Parents (DCAP), an organization created by parents of children with autism for parents of children with autism, today announced a number of activities that will take place throughout Autism Awareness Month in April.

The Washington Nationals and DC Autism Parents are teaming up to increase awareness for a disease that affects one in every 150 children. DC Autism Parents will be present at all of the Washington Nationals' Games in the month of April to disseminate information about autism.

The District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL) and DC Autism Parents have partnered to provide library users with *Autism Fact Sheets* and *Brochures for Families of Children Newly Diagnosed with Autism*. Please visit your local library to obtain this free resource.

The National Aquarium and DC Autism Parents will provide a day of under the sea fun on Sunday, April 26th! There will be special pricing for the event, as well as arts and crafts, and a quiet room.

DC Autism Parents will also hold its Monthly Support Group Meeting on Saturday, April 11, 2009 at West End Library in NW DC. This month, there will be a presentation on National Institute of Mental Health's (NIMH's) Autism Research Studies.

ABOUT AUTISM

Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the brain, impacting development in the areas of social interaction and communication skills. Children and adults with autism typically show difficulties in verbal and non-verbal communication, social interactions, and leisure or play activities.

ABOUT DC AUTISM PARENTS

DC Autism Parents' mission is to improve the lives of all affected by autism through advocacy, education, support, services, and research in order to promote community inclusion and awareness in the DC Metropolitan area.

To learn more about DC Autism Parents, and the activities above, please visit our website at www.dcautismparents.org.