

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Autism Society of Pittsburgh.

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Monday, August 15, 2016

Every cent raised is spent in our region to help improve the lives of those among us with autism and their families.

#AUT2KNOW

Increasing Community Living Costs Unsustainable?

According to the latest report produced for the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the 75% long-term funding for community-based services now far exceeds group and institutional-based services. **(See links below.)**

The report states "HCBS (Home and community-based services) continued to grow as a percentage of the Medicaid (long-term services and supports) expenditures, reflecting continuing federal and state efforts to shift the balance of expenditures from institutional services to HCBS... The shift toward HCBS continues a long-running trend with no indication that HCBS has reached a natural limit beyond which it will be difficult to expand further."

Not only is it now becoming "difficult to expand further," in Pennsylvania costs are becoming unsustainable. Waiting lists of those with developmental disabilities critically in need of such services today are growing by tens of thousands, with no sign of abating. Appropriate services for all of them simply do not exist or cannot be provided. What does appear sustainable is the statist mindset of unelected policy makers and their sycophants dedicated to using these intensive care-dependent individuals as battering rams for social change - regardless of the cost in money and human suffering.

It is now necessary, therefore, for parents and families and our elected government to do what is necessary to improve, combine and monitor the best of all existing care, treatment, habilitative and residential modalities - institutional, home and community-based, public and private - in order to ensure a continuum of appropriate services and settings that all those with special needs and their families may access at various times in their lives.

Read more by clicking the links below...

[Community Living Spending Continues To Rise](#)
[Spending On Community Living Hits Record](#)

...#AUT2KNOW

NEWS OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST

Timely news on events and issues affecting those living with autism in the Greater Pittsburgh area and Pennsylvania.

New for August:

- Quiet on the Set... ACTION!
- S.P.E.A.K Had a Visitor
- The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix - 34 Years and Counting!
- 1st Annual Martin E. Lazzaro Charity Golf



Invitational for Autism

- **Pennsylvania Implementing ABLE Act - Finally!**
- **Apartments Offer Inclusive Option For Adults On The Autism Spectrum**
...and more!

[Click here to view our recent articles](#)

EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

We offer a range of services, including workshops and support groups, training and educational programs, fundraising events, and community awareness building activities. We stay up-to-date on relevant happenings throughout our local autism community.

[Click here to view our calendar.](#)



AUTISM RESOURCES

We know that those with autism can present parents, families and providers with many challenges and a solid support system is essential. Be sure to check our website for a comprehensive listing of resources involving education, family support services, vocational training, nutrition and legal.

[Click here to download our complete resource list.](#)



WAYS TO HELP

Our programs and services would not exist without the help of the caring individuals, businesses, and volunteers that support us. Contributions of any size are our lifeblood - vital to our existence and effectiveness - providing the means for us to help children with autism, their families, and professionals who work with them.

Donate

Please consider visiting [our donations page](#) today to make a contribution through PayPal or learn about other ways to donate.

Volunteer

From time to time we need caring volunteers to help with our programs and fundraising events. If interested, please complete [our contact form](#) and we will be in touch when a volunteer opportunity arises that meets your interests and availability.



Give us a call today!
412-856-7223

Visit www.autismsocietypgh.org or call us for more information and resources.

