



# SST8 Family Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 1

September 2016

## SST8 Partners with Autism Society of Greater Akron

Last spring, the State Support Team and Autism Society of Greater Akron collaborated to present a professional development series regarding Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). The workshop was a 3-part series for parents and families that provided strategies for addressing challenging behaviors in the home. The series provided time for families to create behavioral expectations for their home. In addition, families were taught how to provide effective feedback to children when they are adhering home expectations. Families were also taught strategies for error correction techniques. These

strategies are used when children are not exhibiting the proper home behaviors.

*The series is planned to repeat this winter. If you would like more information regarding this workshop, you can contact the Autism Society of Greater Akron at 330-940-1441. You can also contact SST 8 Consultants Stephanie Denham at [stephanied@sst8.org](mailto:stephanied@sst8.org) or Heidi Kerchenski at [heidik@sst8.org](mailto:heidik@sst8.org).*

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# 2016-2017

## SST8/PAC Meetings

All meetings (\*except the October 12, 2016 Field Trip) will be held at the Summit County Educational Service Center. A flyer will be sent out with more information prior to each meeting. All meetings require an RSVP. All meetings at the ESC will have lunch provided to those who RSVP. Any questions, please contact Susan Foley ([susanfoley1@att.net](mailto:susanfoley1@att.net)) or Tami Vandygriff ([tamivandygriff@yahoo.com](mailto:tamivandygriff@yahoo.com)). To register, please call Alice Doyle at 330 929-6634 ext. 511232 or email [aliced@sst8.org](mailto:aliced@sst8.org)

**Dates, times, and topics are subject to change.**

**September 21, 2016 9:30 am -1:30 pm with an individual question and answer from 1:30 - 2:30 pm. Special Education Updates/Maximizing Your Role in the ETR/IEP Process. Members of the SST8 Staff will share the latest information from ODE. Please share your ETR-IEP related questions and concerns on this very brief online survey to help inform the session: <http://tinyurl.com/SST8PAC9-21-16>.**

**October 12, 2016 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Hattie's Hub Field Trip. Hattie's Hub, 395 Douglas St., Akron, OH 44307. A division of Hattie Larlham that provides fresh local produce and Ohio products through a work training program for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.**

**November 16, 2016 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Those Teenage Years. Topics to be discussed include sexuality and puberty, social media, apps to be aware of, cyberbullying and more. Speakers from Child Guidance and Family Solutions along with the Blick Clinic.**

**February 15, 2017 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Mental & Behavioral Health Agency Fair with Keynote Speaker on "Alphabet Soup" Mental Health Diagnosis: What is Does and Doesn't Mean. Keynote Speaker: Jim Still-Pepper, MA, LSW. Representatives from Mental Health Agencies that serve Summit, Medina, and Portage Counties.**

**April 19, 2017 9:30 am - 1:30 pm What's New in Ohio? In this open forum you will learn about legislative issues, waivers, changes and updates in DD and Medicaid services, and anything else you wanted to know or ask. Speaker Gary Tonks, Executive Director of Arc of Ohio.**



## Agency Spotlight

### Who they are:

The Autism Society is the nation's oldest and largest grassroots autism organization committed to improving the lives of those affected by autism. The Greater Akron affiliate was established in the 1990's and serves Summit, Medina, Portage, Wayne and Stark Counties. In 2011, the organization changed from an all-volunteer organization to hiring one full-time Director, in 2012, a Program/Volunteer Coordinator was hired and an office was opened in Fairlawn with a library and computer for family use.

### Quality of Life Indicators:

Their programs and services focus on improving the quality of life for people on the autism spectrum and will reflect the following desired outcomes:

- School inclusion
- Friendship/social connection

- Health and wellbeing
- Academic success
- Autonomy
- Independent living with the maximum extent possible
- Independent employment to the maximum extent possible.
- Subjective wellbeing
- Recreation/leisure

**Their programs include:** Autism Awareness Day, Autism Summit, Caring Easter Bunny, iCan Bike Camp, Parent Exchange, and Sensory Story Time.

For more information, contact them at:

**Autism Society of Greater Akron**

**701 South Main Street**

**Akron, OH 44311**

**330 940-1441**

**[www.autismakron.org](http://www.autismakron.org)**

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