

 **AUTISM SOCIETY**
Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism
Greater Cincinnati

September 1, 2015

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

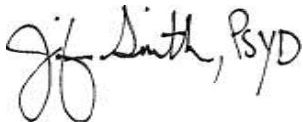
Autism has many faces. There are individuals with autism. There are family members who support those individuals. Then there is that essential larger community of support. In our region, many people are devoted to enhancing the lives of people with autism. Sometimes, in our efforts with the disorder, we can lose sight of these people. Yet, it is their commitment and daily endeavors that sustain us and keep us moving forward. Now is a good time for all of us, with or without autism, to focus on the faces of these extraordinary people, to recognize what commitment looks like in our community. These are the **FACES OF AUTISM**.

The Partners Committee of the Autism Society of Greater Cincinnati has known that much of the good work with individuals with autism is rarely recognized in a public way. We feel an awards event and celebration is a perfect way to recognize individuals and groups within our community that have significantly impacted individuals with autism and their families and to continue to bring increased community awareness about autism. Additionally, it allows our families to share their positive experiences with dedicated and caring folks that usually “fly under the radar.” As our organization continues to offer a connection point for the autism community, we encourage everyone to participate.

Join the Partners Committee in recognizing these extraordinary “**FACES OF AUTISM**” by participating in the nominating process. The Nomination Application is included and is also available on our website at www.autismcincy.org. We will be celebrating three finalists in each of the 7 categories. The winners will be announced at the “**FACES OF AUTISM**” recognition event which will take place on **Thursday, November 5, 2015 from 6:30 – 8:30pm at the Cooper Creek Event Center in Blue Ash**. Light bites will be served and a cash bar will be available. An Art Showcase, highlighting artwork created by individuals with autism and other disabilities, will be part of this year’s celebration. Following the Art Showcase, the winner in each category will be announced and celebrated during the awards ceremony.

We appreciate your time and consideration in this nomination process. We hope that you will join us for this unforgettable evening recognizing these **FACES OF AUTISM** and help support important local programs for thousands of families. If you need additional information or have any questions, please contact Jennifer Smith at jennifer.smith4@cchmc.org or Nicole Bing at nicole.bing@cchmc.org.

Cordially,



Jennifer (Bass) Smith
Co- Chair



Nicole Bing
Co- Chair



Recognizing the Faces of Autism

To nominate an individual, group or organization for an award, use the attached nomination form to provide information that clearly shows how the nominee meets the criteria for the award category and why he/she/they should be recognized as a Face of Autism in our community. The Awards include:

The Face of Autism Ambassador

This award recognizes an individual, with or without autism, whose actions have promoted a better understanding and acceptance of people with autism in our region.

The Face of Commitment

This award recognizes an individual or group who has committed their time and effort in volunteer service to improve the lives of people with autism in our region.

The Face of Community Partnership

This award recognizes a business or non-profit organization that has demonstrated a commitment to the autism community by providing resources or opportunities for employment, constructive community-based activities or meaningful leisure activities to enhance the lives of people with autism.

The Face of Community Service (Individual)

This award recognizes an individual who has provided exemplary service in support of people with autism and/or their families in the community.

The Face of Community Service (Group)

This award recognizes a team or group of people who have provided exemplary service in support of people with autism and/or their families in the community.

The Face of Leadership

This award recognizes an individual or group from any facet of the autism community who has inspired and moved us all forward with his/her/their vision and passion.

The Face of Professional Excellence

This award recognizes a professional in any autism-related field (early intervention, education, medicine, allied health, adult services, etc) who has demonstrated a commitment, above and beyond the expectations of his/her professional role, to making a difference for people with autism.

Award Considerations:

- ✓ It is recommended that you consider asking the nominee for permission prior to making a nomination.
- ✓ Each nominator may make only one nomination in each category.

How to Submit:

- ✓ Please complete and return the following FACES of AUTISM Application by October 2, 2015.
- ✓ This application may be emailed to Jennifer Smith at jennifer.smith4@cchmc.org or faxed to her at (513) 803-0072.
- ✓ All sections of the enclosed form must be completed to be considered for nomination.

Expectations of Finalists:

Use of name, image and nomination information for recognition and event promotion purposes including:

- ✓ A “head shot” photo of nominee or a representation of nominee to be used on event materials
- ✓ Signed release for the above

Attendance:

- ✓ Finalists (or Representative) attendance at Faces of Autism Awards Banquet on Thursday, November 5th at the Cooper Creek Event Center in Blue Ash
- ✓ Details of the event will be forwarded to all Nominees

FACES OF AUTISM NOMINATION FORM*

Name of Nominee:

Group or Organization (if applicable):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email:

Phone:

Please check box next to the award for which you are submitting this nomination.

The Face of...

- Autism Ambassador
- Commitment
- Community Partnership
- Community Service (Individual)
- Community Service (Group or Team)
- Leadership
- Professional Excellence

Name of Nominator (required):

Organization (if applicable):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email:

Phone:

Check here if you want this nomination to remain anonymous

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 2, 2015

*All nominees will be notified that they have been recognized and nominated as a Face of Autism in our community

In 500 words or less, explain why your nominee deserves the award for which you have nominated him/her/them. Please include specific examples of how this person, team or organization has contributed to the autism community and represents the best in our region as a Face of Autism.

Please email completed nomination form to:

Jennifer Smith at jennifer.smith4@cchmc.org or fax form to her at (513) 803-0072.