

About AAOP

Armenian Autism Outreach Project, Inc., is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization of professionals and parents formed in 2006.

AAOP's goal is to raise awareness about autism in the Armenian-American community in Greater Los Angeles by informing parents, teachers and administrators about what autism is and how it is diagnosed, best practices in autism education and treatment, and resources.

The founding members of AAOP are:

Taline Ashekian, B.S.
Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

Nora Chitilian-Keleshian, M.S., LMFT
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Sonia Konialian-Aller, Ph.D., CCC
Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist

Houry Sosikian, M.A.
Special Education Teacher

Mariam Tsaturyan, Psy. D.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist

AAOP 's outreach activities include:

- Teacher seminars
- Parent informational meetings
- Television: Monthly Horizon TV
- Newspaper articles
- Parent support group & family social events
- Warm line: 818-542-AAOP (2267)



What is Autism?

Autism is a lifelong complex neurodevelopmental disorder with biological roots thought to be present at birth.

Autism affects development in the areas of social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication, and behavior, including restricted interests.

Symptoms can range from mild to severe, and vary greatly from person to person—hence the name Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs). Symptoms may also include abnormal reactions to changes in routines, intense preoccupations and interests, over- or under-responsiveness to noise, light, textures and tastes.

For more information, visit:
www.armenianautismoutreach.org
www.cdc.gov
www.autismspeaks.org
www.firstsigns.org

What is known about Autism?

Currently, 1 in 68 children, and 1 in 42 boys fall on the autistic spectrum in the US; just in 2007, the number was 1 in 166 children. Autism can affect any family and child from any race, ethnic or socioeconomic group anywhere in the world.

While the causes of autism are not yet known, there are many types of interventions including speech-language therapy, occupational therapy, behavior management, social skills training, as well as medical treatments and teaching methods that can help children with autism improve the quality of their lives.

The Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all children be screened specifically for autism spectrum disorders during well-child doctor visits at 18 and 24 months.

In California, the Regional Centers coordinate services for individuals with autism from birth on, and the public schools provide special education services from age 3-22 years.

For more information, visit:

www.dds.ca.gov
www.cde.ca.gov
www.disabilityrights.ca.gov

AAOP Sponsorship and Donation Opportunities

AAOP is a non-profit, (501) (c)(3), all-volunteer organization with no membership dues, and relies on community sponsorships and individual donations to conduct its outreach activities. AAOP invites you to consider one of the following tax-deductible support options to help continue its unique role in the Greater Los Angeles community.

Sponsor - \$2,000

- Logo and link on the AAOP website homepage for one year.
- Logo on all AAOP e-mailed and printed materials for one year.
- Organization acknowledged during AAOP monthly Horizon TV program for one year.
- Brochure displayed at AAOP fundraiser, family, and parent support events for one year.
- Informational presentation at an AAOP fundraiser.

Supporter - \$1,000

- Logo and link on the AAOP website homepage for one year.
- Logo on all AAOP e-mailed and printed materials for one year.
- Brochure displayed at AAOP fundraiser, family, and parent support events.

Friend - \$500

- Logo and link on the AAOP website homepage for one year.
- Logo on all AAOP e-mailed and printed materials for one year.

Please contact AAOP for details at info@armenianautismoutreach.org

Donations

If my organization/business is not interested in a sponsorship at this time, but would like to make a donation to the AAOP in the amount of (check one):

\$1000 \$500 \$250 \$125

\$75 Other: _____

*Please make checks payable to: Armenian Autism Outreach Project, Inc.
or by PayPal via www.armenianaustimoutreach.org*



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