



Helping autistic children and their families



Dear Community Supporter,

March 30, 2015

Children at Risk is a local charity that has served the Ottawa Community for over 36 years, supporting children diagnosed within the Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. On **Sunday, April 26**, I am participating in the **1st Annual “Walkin’ & Rockin’ for Risk” Fundraising Walk** and hope you can consider a Tax Receiptable Pledge or Prize Donation for the Event Auction & Raffle.

Children at Risk continues to assist close to 400 families in Ottawa and the surrounding region. Through our community-based programs, workshops and seminars, we offer support not only for the child with Autism, but the entire family! Children at Risk makes an effort to identify what is missing in publicly-funded services and fill in the gaps. The Summer of 2014 (once again) included our all-day Summer Camp for children with Autism – **Camp Kaleidoscope!** We (again!) increased our camp spots from 89 in 2011, 146 in 2012, 230 in 2013 – to 284 in 2014!!! This is an **incredible 320% in 4 years**....Many of the children who attended would be unable to attend other day camps or were attending camp for the first time!

We also continued with our Saturday Respite Program called “**Saturday Fun Club**” to help families throughout the Fall and Winter with some services modeled on our summer camp. We recently added another NEW support – “**Family Fun Night**” (or Date/Me Night) where we take all children for the evening – Siblings and Autistic! As all our services are financed solely by fundraising and donations, it is critically important that our fundraising activities be successful – like the Walk! We **MUST** be able to offer these essential supports in 2015 – and are hoping that you can be part of this awesome activity!!

We would be delighted if YOU could offer Children at Risk sponsorship! With this devastating diagnosis of Autism, a life-long disability, now being estimated as high (or higher) than **1 in every 68 children**, Children at Risk’s programs are needed more than ever. Please also note that we do NOT request support from a business more than once per annum, recognizing the numerous requests you probably receive! Community supports for families raising a child with Autism are of utmost importance! Furthermore – what is **RAISED HERE – STAYS HERE!** We are there for these families – we hope you can be there for us! I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience!

Yours truly,