

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions about the 19th Annual Walk for Autism

What is the Walk for Autism?

The Walk for Autism is a fundraiser for the Autism Society Northwestern Pennsylvania. Our goal is to provide support for individuals and families living with an autism diagnosis in Erie, Crawford, Venango, and Mercer counties through advocacy, education, service, support, and research.

When is the Walk?

The Annual Walk for Autism is typically the fourth Saturday of the month of April. The 19th Annual Walk for Autism will be on April 25, 2020. Registration opens at 9:30am and the Walk begins promptly at 11.

Where is the Walk held?

The 2020 Walk will be at Lake Erie Speedway, 10700 Delmas Dr, North East, PA 16428

Why did the Walk move from Presque Isle?

Ever-increasing attendance at the Walk meant we needed a new home to accommodate more people, more activities, and provide better access to parking. We are very excited about the opportunities offered by this new location...including indoor restrooms!

What should I expect on Walk day?

- A 2-mile walk
- Free parking; accessible parking available
- Sensory Friendly activities for children
- 15-minute opening ceremony
- Credit cards accepted
- Two different theme basket auctions
 - Regular: \$5 for 25 tickets
 - Deluxe (basket value \$150+): \$5 for 5 tickets, \$20 for 25 tickets
- Autism-themed merchandise available to purchase
- Autism Society NWPA resource table
- Refreshment area serving a hot dog lunch
- Food Trucks
- Entertainment and special guests

What happens if it rains?

The Walk for Autism is rain or shine event unless a natural weather emergency occurs.

REGISTRATION

How do I register?

Please register by April 1, 2020 to ensure you meet the pre-registration deadline to reserve your t-shirt(s). Registration will continue to be open until Tuesday, April 21 at midnight, but shirts are only guaranteed for registrations made by the April 1 deadline.

- Online: autismnwpa.org
- By mail: Complete a registration form and mail it to address listed
- Contact the office: email info@autismnwpa.org or call 814-455-3540
- At the Walk: On-site Registration will open at 9:30am. Walk t-shirts are not guaranteed for on-site registrations. Youth t-shirts are not available at on-site registration.

How much is registration?

Adult Walker (ages 15 and up) registration is \$20 per walker

Tween Walker (ages 10-14) registration is \$10 per walker

Youth Walker (ages 0-9) registration is FREE

- Youth size t-shirts are available to purchase for \$8.00 per shirt and must be ordered with your registration no later than April 1, 2020. No youth Walk shirts will be available to purchase at the Walk.
- Anyone age 0-9 who would like an ADULT SIZE shirt must register as a Tween Walker.

When will I get my Walk shirt?

- All pre-registered participants age 10 and older will receive a free t-shirt the day of the Walk, if registered by **April 1, 2020**, and present before 11:30 am the day of the Walk.
- Walk t-shirts for children age 0 - 9 are available for \$8 each and must also be pre-purchased before **April 1, 2020**. No youth Walk shirts will be available to purchase at the Walk.
- For those who register with a team, Team Captains will receive all members' shirts to distribute prior to or at the Walk. Contact your Team Captain with any questions about receiving your shirt.

DONATIONS

Where do the funds from the Walk go?

Money raised goes towards support services and programs for individuals and families living with an autism diagnosis. Autism Society NWPA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. Please see our website for more details about the services provided by Autism Society NWPA.

How do I donate?

- Online:
 - Click the MAKING A WALK DONATION button on the Walk webpage
 - Donate to a Team by clicking the DONATE button on that Team's webpage
- Donate on Walk day: Cash, check and credit card donations are accepted
- Call the office to make a credit card or electronic check donation by phone, 814-455-3540.
- Donate via mail
 - Make checks payable to Autism Society NWPA and mail to:
P.O. Box 3923, Erie PA 16508

TEAMS

What is a Walk team?

Teams are made up of family, friends and coworkers all fundraising and walking together under a team name.

How do I start my own team?

Starting a team is easy. Register your team today by setting up a team page at autismnwpa.org. Once you register, set a goal and encourage team members to help meet the team goal! Please register your team by April 17, 2020. More information is available in our Team Captain information guide.

1. How many people do we need to form a team?

All you need is a Team Captain and at least 5 team members by April 15, 2020.

How do I join a team?

There are several ways:

- Visit your team's webpage to register for the Walk. Click the "REGISTER TO WALK WITH XXXXXX" and register online. You will automatically be added to that team.
- If you don't have a link, register at autismnwpa.org and select the name of your team from the drop-down list under the words "Credit this event registration to a fundraiser:"
 - If you don't see your team name, check for your Team Captain's name.
- Register by filling out a paper registration form and be sure to enter the team name on the line provided.
- If you need additional assistance, call Autism Society NWPA at 814-455-3540 to register by phone using a credit card or electronic check.

FUNDRAISING

What if I want to raise funds but I can't participate in the actual Walk? Will I still have access to fundraising tools?

You can still donate by mail, email, online, or phone. All the fundraising tools are available online.

OTHER QUESTIONS

Can I bring my dog to the Walk?

Yes. By completing a registration, you are accepting the terms and agreements at the bottom of the form.

"In consideration of my entry being accepted, I hereby for myself, animal(s) to which I have custody and have brought to the Walk, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive any release of rights and claims for any damages I may have against the Autism Society NWPA, Lake Erie Speedway, the sponsors of this event, named or unnamed, traveling to, participating in, and returning from this event. I hereby represent that the animal(s) to which I have custody and have brought to the Walk is in good health and has current rabies vaccinations. I expressly assume any and all risks associated with contact with participants at the Walk, injuries or damages sustained by, through and/ or to other participating animals, the condition of Lake Erie Speedway, and it is understood and agreed that all such risks are appreciated by me."

Questions? Contact us: email info@autismnwpa.org or phone: 814-455-3540