Open House Overview

- Introductions
- TACA Founders: Lisa & Glen Ackerman
- AYA Founders: Ralph Ma & Manoj Kanagaraj
- Tools you can use
- Administrative
- Q&A
In this section we will chat about:

- What is Autism?
- Who is TACA?
- Why TACA?
- 2012 TACA Events & efforts
What is Autism?

- Autism is a devastating neurological and biological disorder that typically affects children between the ages of 18 months to five years of age.

- 1 in every 91 children in the U.S. is diagnosed with Autism

- It is estimated that there are almost 2 million people in the United States alone living with an autism spectrum disorder.

- Autism rates are rising worldwide.
The Autism Spectrum

Autism is a spectrum disorder affecting each individual uniquely

Some are severely affected, cannot speak, require constant one-on-one care, and will never be able to live alone. Others have less severe symptoms, can communicate, and will eventually acquire the necessary skills to live independently.

Autism     PDD-NOS       Aspergers
(low functioning to high functioning)
Autism affects individuals abilities in five key areas:

1) Communication (verbal & non verbal)

2) Social skills

3) Behaviors

4) Learning

5) Medical issues
1 in 91 is TOO MANY

Autism U.S. Prevalence Rates
(incidence of autism in U.S. children)

1 in every 91
1 in every 150
1 in every 166
1 in every 250
1 in every 500
1 in every 1,000
1 in every 10,000

About TACA
The TACA Mission
A 501(c)3 non profit foundation

TACA is Real Help Now for children with autism and their families.

- Education
- Empowerment
- Support
TACA History

- Started in 2000 with 10 families
- Now providing services to more almost 28,000 members across the country.
- TACA is adding on average 500 new families a month.
- TACA is one of the only foundations providing day to day support to families living with autism.

REAL HELP NOW..
TACA Mission

Talk About Curing Autism (TACA) is a national organization dedicated to educating, empowering, and supporting families affected by autism.

For families who have just received the autism diagnosis:

- TACA aims to speed up the cycle time from the autism diagnosis to effective treatments.
- TACA also helps strengthen the autism community by connecting families to the professionals who can help them, thereby providing children the best future possible.
TACA Outreach & Programs

95% of TACA’s programs and services are provided at no cost to families.
TACA Programs

■ Support for families who have just received the autism diagnosis
  ● Autism Journey Guide & DVD (request one today)
  ● New Parent Orientation Seminars
  ● Content Rich Web Site
  ● Newsletters and Blogs (sign up on-line, get connected)

■ Online support via Live Chat

■ Monthly educational meetings in 28 locations around the country

■ Support and visibility for professionals delivering services to the TACA Community
TACA Programs

- Parent Mentors
- Loaner Libraries
- Social events for families
- Parent Education Seminar Series
- Financial Support for Families
  - Families in Crisis funding via Autism Cares
  - Medical Treatment Scholarships
  - Independent Assessment Scholarships
- Support available for Spanish speaking families
- Advocacy training, content, and individual consulting
Education and Support Meetings

TACA conducts monthly meetings at 27 locations across the country. These meetings feature educational speakers on important topics and allow family members to connect with one another while they stay on top of the latest information in the autism world.
Why TACA

- Autism is ubiquitous
- Organizational Purpose
- TACA:
  - Families Helping Families
  - Facilitating connections in the community
  - REAL HELP NOW
  - Resources we bring to you
  - Get creative / Have Fun
  - What can we do for you?
- Deciding what team to play for
2012 Efforts
Volunteer....
at these
TACA Special Events
April Autism Awareness

APRIL  2012

TACA will be hosting several efforts for your participation during autism awareness month

Including: Autism Youth Ambassador Jamboree at Oakley’s Headquarters
TACA Family Picnic

June 2012

TACA depends upon volunteers for help with our work. The TACA family picnic is a great way to get involved and at the same time show your support for families affected by autism.

Help in one of the following ways:

Set up
Registration
Food distribution
Staff a kid activity
Clean up
“Taking Down Autism One Step At a Time”

10 k & 5 k Run/ Walk

Tentative date: October
In planning: Gladiator Rock n Runs!

- 2012 Events planned for LA, OC and SD
- More info on this effort soon
Autism Youth Ambassadors Founders: Ralph Ma & Manoj Kanagaraj
AYA Founders Ralph & Manoj

In this section:

- How did AYA start?
- AYA Goals
- A short video
- Fundraising and autism awareness ideas
- Volunteering
GOALS:

- Be a friend to a child with autism
- Autism Awareness
  - Be present in the community
  - Recovery is possible
  - TACA is here!
- Fundraising
  - Help raise funds at your school activities
  - Participate in a TACA activity
Shout out to Natalie Cernius!

- Creator of Friday Night Clubs in honor of brother Andrew
- Happening 2x’s a month in Newport Beach and South Orange Co. Irvine
- How to sign up and get info: Natalie Cernius - email: opusnumber4@gmail.com
Tools you can use: Trang Nguyen

- In this section:
  - Printed materials
  - TACA Autism Youth Ambassador Club Awareness Web Page
  - Who to contact at TACA for help
TROY HIGH AUTISM AWARENESS CLUB

Our goal is to raise the awareness of autism while fundraising and volunteering to help established organizations. We hope to inspire and help other high school students to join our cause.

HOW OUR CLUB STARTED
When we first came to Troy, we realized that our school had a large population of Special Education students and students with autism were often the most prevalent in that population. At that time, we had limited knowledge of the causes and symptoms of autism. After researching the disorder and meeting with a campus teacher who has an autistic child, we realized not only the significance of the disorder but also the general lack of awareness within the student body.

2010-2011 CLUB OFFICERS

President
Robin Ma
Vice-President
Nancy Kanapary
Secretary
Jasmine Ding
Vice-President
Publicity
Larissa Fumelli
Evelyn Escobedo
Treasurer
Charity Du

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 12
Best Fundraiser at Troy High School

November 13
Act Up For Autism

November 22
Grocery Store Fundraiser

December 13-15
Bake Sale At Troy High School
Administrative: Trang Nguyen

- How to get support for your group
- How to sign up for which activities
- How volunteer hours sign off works
- Your web page – how to send TACA updates (and what to send!)
Words cannot express our gratitude
Q&A? Bright ideas? Comments?

Open Discussion