

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NEWS RELEASE****1,000 Attend 14th Annual Milestones Autism Conference**

CLEVELAND - The 14th Annual Milestones Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Conference was a huge success with 1,000 attendees at Landerhaven on June 16 and 17. This inspirational, must-attend autism event brought together family members, educators, administrators, therapists, clinicians, and individuals with ASD to share evidence-based practical strategies and best practices. The conference was hosted by Milestones Autism Resources.

Attendees engaged in 75 educational workshops that focused on field-tested ideas and met more than 100 local and national speakers who presented leading-edge research, concepts, and strategies. Keynote speakers were James Ball, EdD, BCBA-D, Autism Society Executive Chair, and Jennifer McIlwee Myers, Aspie at Large, who provided practical tips and offered their personal experiences to better understand ASD.

Educational workshops included four "Straight from the Source" panel discussions with first-hand perspectives of living with autism from moms, dads, siblings, and individuals with ASD. These compelling sessions provided genuine, emotional insight on various aspects of home life.

siblings were asked how they describe their relationships and, Jacob, age 18, said, "I am closer to my brother than any other person." In addition, when asked what others should know about individuals with autism, Annie, age 11, replied, "There is a lot that they can teach us."

Participants met more than 50 exhibitors who showcased local autism products and services to help members of the autism community reach their potential and achieve the greatest level of independence.

For more information about Milestones and its services, visit [milestones.org](http://milestones.org) or call 216.464.7600.

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**About Milestones Autism Resources**

Founded in 2003, Milestones Autism Resources improves the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum throughout Northeast Ohio by educating, coaching, and connecting the autism community with evidence-based information. Milestones is the first call for help at each transition of an individual's life. Milestones envisions a community in which individuals on the autism spectrum reach their full potential as contributing members of society, recognized for their strengths and supported in their challenges. Each year, Milestones serves 2,400 parents, professionals, and individuals of all ages and abilities through a free autism helpdesk; consultations and trainings for families, individuals, and agencies; and

an educational conference. In addition, [milestones.org](http://milestones.org) connects 58,000 unique visitors each year to 1,000+ resources, a comprehensive event calendar, and helpful tool kits.