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ASK E-Newsletter | August 2020

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Contact Us

About Special Kids (ASK)

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Member of the Parent to Parent USA Alliance,
Committed to Parent to Parent USA-Endorsed Practices



School will look very different to your student this fall no matter if it is a virtual or in-classroom option.

Please Join About Special Kids for Walking for Dreams

Sunday, August 16th at 2:00 PM

Buggs Temple - North End of the Canal

337 West 11th Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46202



Would you like to join ASK and our mission fulfillment at Walking for Dreams? For the safety of our walkers, families, staff, and sponsors, we will be offering additional safety protocols such as staggered start times. Masks are encouraged, and pets are still welcome! We will also be offering a "Virtual Walk" option for those who prefer to participate virtually.

You can learn more about supporting ASK by contacting our Director of Community Relations, Kathy Berman, at kathy@abouthspecialkids.org or by visiting our Walking for Dreams page on our website [HERE](#).

Many families are having a difficult time keeping track of all of the changes. ASK support is available. We are collaborating with community partners and ensuring we are staying updated on the latest resources and information available.

FREE Upcoming ASK Trainings Via Zoom -

Sponsored by Gordon Homes of MassMutual.

[My Child is Transitioning to Adulthood: What Now?](#)

8/13/2020 6-8 PM

[My Child Has Special Needs: Now What?](#)

9/15/2020 6-8 PM

[Life with Stress, Balance and a Plan](#)

10/20/2020 6-8 PM

Visit our website for more information and registration at [www. aboutspecialkids.org](http://www.aboutspecialkids.org) ASK Events or call 800-964-4746.



The CDC has launched a tool to help parents weigh risks and benefits associated with options for returning to school [HERE](#).

About Special Kids offers back to school

Supporting our walkers is as easy as texting DONATE2ASK to 44-321 on your mobile device or visiting our donations link [HERE](#).

Visit our Facebook Page About Special kids (ASK) for posts about our "virtual walkers" on Sunday, August 16th. Post any photos using hashtags **#WFD2020** or **#WFDindy**.

Thank you to our generous

Walking for
Dreams EVENT Sponsors!



An ASK Family Story

Mom, Amber, received information about ASK from her child's First Steps provider as her son was preparing to make the transition into preschool. Initially, Amber hesitated to call About Special Kids because she was unsure if her child's needs would meet the qualifications for our programs and services.



When asked how her family had benefited from working with About Special Kids, Amber explained the most significant benefit/realization was that "no matter what your struggle - or your child's struggle, your child's needs matter and come first. You can't wait to reach out to get assistance because you think your family's challenges are small in comparison to others. It is **your child and your family**".

Amber additionally expressed gratitude for the encouragement that left her feeling empowered to advocate for her son's needs. Contact with ASK prepared Amber for the meeting required with the Intake Specialist to determine the level of care and eligibility for the Family Support Waiver. As a result, the questions did not take Amber by surprise, and her son is now targeted for the waiver. ASK parent-to-parent support reassured Amber that her concerns and struggles were

resources for Families



Check out our Pinterest Boards with back to school topics [HERE](#)



About Special Kids is on **Instagram!** Follow us to learn more about ASK.

Click [HERE](#) to get connected.

valid and important. When communicating with a new provider, Amber felt she was able to express her son's legitimate needs and work with the pediatrician to achieve appropriate goals - as opposed to getting emotional and overwhelmed (as mothers understandably tend to do). Amber credits her confident approach with the direction and support she received from her parent liaison at ASK.

ASK defines "special needs" as a very broad term and our parent liaisons can assist with various resources and supports. ASK parent liaisons are available to provide support and resources for YOUR family - never to judge how someone else should be feeling!

ASK breaks down the barriers to service for families of children with special needs and provides for the overall well-being of the family. ASK may focus on the child with special needs, but we ensure the entire family is on a successful path forward. Request contact with an ASK Parent Liaison at (800) 964-4746 or email familynetw@aboutspeciallykids.org.

ASK Introduces a New Resource - Welcome to Jamie McCabe and the Special Needs Living Magazine



Special Needs Living Magazine is a new publication developed to bring the special needs community together! Jaime knew she had to turn her pain into purpose following her son's diagnosis about two years ago. She envisioned a community where individuals could inspire each other to find their own paths, and connect with those who have had similar experiences while raising their children with special needs.

The publication's Launch Party will be at Carter's Play Place on November 15th. To RSVP click [HERE](#). You can register for this free event and meet other families with children with special needs.

Special needs living is designed for families who have a child with any type of special need. Stories will largely be written by their readers. If you would like to be involved,

share a story, support or sponsor in any way please email Jamie - Jamie.McCabe@n2pub.com.

Jamie looks forward to providing this exciting new magazine and resource to the families and professionals served by About Special Kids.

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