



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 10, 2015

## **Ribbon-cutting Ceremony to Celebrate Armstrong House**

*Ewing Township Mayor Bert Steinmann, Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes and NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities Assistant Commissioner Elizabeth Shea to attend  
Eden Autism Services  
Ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 10, 2015*

On Thursday (9/10) Eden Autism Services will join Mayor Bert Steinmann, Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes, NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities Assistant Commissioner Beth Shea and the township of Ewing in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Armstrong House group residence. The new home will offer four individuals from Eden Autism's adult program with a safe place to live and be involved in their community. *"Everyone deserves the opportunity to lead an independent and productive life; for those living with autism, being part of a community allows for the chance to live with dignity, meaning and respect,"* said Peter H. Bell, President & CEO of Eden Autism Services.

2015 marks Eden's 40<sup>th</sup> year of serving children and adults with autism, their families, educators and other professionals. The Eden School is a nationally recognized year-round program that educates 3 to 21 year-olds. Eden Adult Services provides employment training and residential programs, empowering the individuals we serve to live full and productive lives. Eden Outreach provides early intervention, professional development, and consultation for individuals, families, and professionals who are not enrolled in an on-site program.

**Who:** Peter Bell, Eden Autism Services, President & CEO  
Bert Steinmann, Mayor of Ewing Township  
Brian Hughes, Mercer County Executive  
Beth Shea, NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities Assistant Commissioner

**What:** Ribbon-cutting ceremony for Armstrong House, Eden's newest adult residence

**Where:** 18 Perry Drive, Ewing, NJ

**When:** 4:00 p.m. Press Conference and Ribbon Cutting

## About Autism

Autism is a complex, lifelong developmental disability that impacts the development of the brain in the areas of social interaction and communication skills. The result of a neurological disorder affecting the functioning of the brain, autism typically appears during a child's first three years.

### Autism Facts

- Autism affects 1 in 68 children and 1 in 42 boys
- New Jersey has the highest rates with 1 in 45 children and 1 in 28 boys
- Autism prevalence figures are growing
- More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes & cancer combined
- Autism is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the U.S.
- Autism costs the nation over \$137 billion per year
- Autism receives less than 5% of the research funding of many less prevalent childhood diseases
- Boys are five times more likely than girls to have autism
- There is no medical detection or cure for autism

### About Eden Autism Services

Eden Autism Services is a recognized leader in improving the lives of children and adults with autism. Founded in 1975, Eden was among the first service providers to expand its program to address the needs of individuals on the autism spectrum from the point of diagnosis through adulthood. Our services include early intervention therapy, a school for students aged 3 to 21, adult employment and residential programs, and curriculum and consultation for educators and other professionals. Autism is the fastest growing serious developmental disability in the U.S. with a national prevalence rate of 1 in 68 children (1 in 45 in New Jersey). For more information about Eden Autism Services visit [www.edenautism.org](http://www.edenautism.org) or call (609) 987-0099. Follow Eden on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.

### For more information contact:

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