



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 1, 2015

**In Recognition of Autism Awareness Month, Eden Autism Services Staff, Students, and Adult Participants Will Kick off a Month of Giving Back on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Autism Awareness Day**

PRINCETON, NJ (April 1, 2015) – 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.

As part of a year-long celebration of Eden’s four decades of improving the lives of children and adults with autism and in recognition of the greater Princeton community’s generous support, Eden staff, students and adult participants plan to Give Back throughout April, known world-wide as Autism Awareness Month. *“No matter how we choose to recognize autism during April, the important thing to remember is that we hope for, and work for, a world that understands what autism is, what can be done to make living with autism easier, and how important it is for individuals with autism to live life with dignity, purpose and respect,”* said Peter H. Bell, President & CEO of Eden Autism Services.

Media outlets are welcome to cover our first two events of the month and to recognize **World Autism Awareness Day** on April 2<sup>nd</sup>:

**Event #1**

Eden Autism Adult Participants will provide complimentary grocery bagging.

**Location:** **ShopRite of East Windsor**  
319 Route 130, East Windsor 08520  
**Date/Time:** **April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 10 am – 2 pm**

**Event #2**

Eden Adult Participants will thank the individuals in their communities for their support by delivering flowers to neighbors of Eden residences and employment centers.

**Location:** **Eden Crossroads Employment Center**  
4 Crossroads Drive, Suite 100  
Hamilton, NJ 08691  
**Date/Time:** **April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3:30 pm**

## 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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