



## **MEDIA ALERT**

July 16, 2015

### **Event will bring over 1,000 people to Princeton this weekend to Raise Money for Individuals with Autism!**

*Eden Autism Services 12<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K and Fun/Run Walk sponsored by Munich RE to take place this Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> in Princeton Forrestal Village. Proceeds from this event will support Eden programs.*

This is Stephen Shueh's 5th time participating in Eden Autism's annual 5K and Fun Run/Walk. He will join over a 1000 other runners and walkers on the course, but the 3.1 miles mean something extra special to him. Stephen comes back every year for one reason, "I have family and friends that are autistic, and I wanted to do something to help. I come back every year to support Eden, an organization that has done so much to help individuals with autism and their families." Stephen is part of the team "The Roundview Running Owls" who are among the top fundraisers for the event. He is just one of the many supporters all with different stories and connections to Eden that keep them coming back each year.

**Who:** Peter Bell, Eden Autism Services, President & CEO  
Peter Cantu, Mayor of Plainsboro Township  
Over 1000 supporters of Eden

**What:** **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Eden Autism 5K and Fun/Run Walk**  
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Parent Run Raffle  
Kids Canyon Festival

**Where:** Princeton Forrestal Village – 155 Village Blvd, Princeton, NJ  
off of Route 1 South

**When:** **Sunday, July 19, 2015**

- **Fun Run:** 7:30-8:15 AM – Registration  
**8:30 AM – Start**
- **5K Race:** 7:30-8:45 AM – Registration  
**9:00 AM - Start**

**Why:** Provides runners, walkers, families, sponsors and others the opportunity to support Eden's mission and enjoy the camaraderie and friendly competition of a 5K race

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.

## 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 visit our race website at: <http://edenautism.org/5k/>

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