

The SNAPS Connection

Show the Love—heArt Gala February 5th, 2010

Once again, SNAPS is hosting a Gala to display and sell the talented art of family members and Friends of SNAPS.

The Gala will be held in Nanton at the Cozy Corner this year.

Auctioneer Bernie Lalonde and his wife have become annual volunteers during this exciting event.

The place is the Cozy Corner in Nanton, the time is 7:00 to 10:30 pm. The tickets are available by calling

403-603-3232 or email contact@foothillsnaps.com.

There will be refreshments as well as plenty of time to view the art and make your decision as to which piece you would like to take home with you.

If you have a piece of art you would like to donate please contact the office immediately at 403-603-3232.

Thank you from
Sandy Rhodes Board Representative.

Matthew a volunteer and artist displays a piece of art auctioned off at last year's Gala.



Winter 2010

Inside this issue:

<i>Coffee Chatters</i>	2
<i>Child Disability Credit</i>	
<i>Family Managed Supports Resource Centre</i>	
<i>Sibshops</i>	3
<i>Adult Life with Autism</i>	
<i>Spectrum Disorder Resources</i>	
<i>5th Annual Family Summit</i>	4
<i>Feature Book—"The Horse Boy"</i>	
<i>Transition Planning RDSP</i>	5
<i>No Child Without Respite Care Upcoming Events</i>	6
<i>Heaven's Very Special Child Continuing Ed New Donation Slips</i>	7
<i>Contact Information Donation Slip</i>	8

Executive Director Bits: Orvella Small

Happy New Year to all of you out there who are connected to SNAPS.

We need your Art! If you are a family or friend of SNAPS and have a piece of art you would like to donate to the Show the Love _ heArt Gala Please call now! We need your art! See above for more details.

SNAPS was very busy in the fall providing workshops, training and connecting families to resources.

From January to December

SNAPS had 80 new families register for support. The support provided to families involved connecting families to FSCD, Respite, Transition Planning, and to other supports they require to provide for their family member.

As a result of funding cutbacks, SNAPS for the first time sent out an Ask letter to support the programs provided to families. We want to thank you for your generous donations to SNAPS. We will be including a form in our newsletters for you should

you wish to support SNAPS and were unable to participate prior to Christmas.

I would like to take this time to thank all of the volunteers who have worked tirelessly to support SNAPS in our events in 2009.

We thank you and look forward to working with you in 2010.

SNAPS Coffee Chatters

Once a Month

Nanton: 2nd Tuesday of the month
10:00-11:30 am. (Nanton Quality of Life Foundation)

Okotoks: 3rd Tuesday of the month
7:00-8:30 pm (Okotoks Healthy Family Resource Centre)

Claresholm: 3rd Monday of the month
6:30-8:30 pm (Multi-purpose Room in the Hospital)

Turner Valley: 2nd Thursday of the month
7:00 pm (209 Raymond Close, Turner Valley)

High River: TBA



Come out to socialize, develop support networks and meet other families who have a family member with special needs.

Child Disability Credit (CDB)

The CDB is a tax free benefit of up to \$2,455 per year (\$204.58/month) for families who care for a child under age 18 with severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions.

The CDB is paid monthly to individuals who are eligible for the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB). A qualified practitioner

must certify on Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate, that the child's impairment meets certain conditions.

www.cra.gc.ca/benefits or call 1-800-387-1193 for more information



Family Managed Supports Resource Centre (FMS-RC) —Calgary Region

Trevor Liskowich—Coordinator
trevorl@aacl.org
403-880-8444

The FMS—RC mandate is to assist families, who are using or interested in using Family Managed Supports (FMS) funding, by providing

information, material, instrumental assistance and family to family mentorship. FMS is funding provided directly to families which enables them to directly hire staff to support their adult family member with developmental disabilities or directly con-

tract with a willing service agency to have supports provided.



Sibshops—Sibkids and SibNet

SibKids is the internet's first listserv for young brothers and sisters of people with special health, developmental and emotional needs. A great place to meet other young siblings from around the world. SibKids members say they enjoy talking about the good parts and not-so-good parts of having a sib with special needs with other kids who "get it". After all, no

one knows what it is like to be a sib of a kid with special needs better than another sib!

SibNet is for adult brothers and sisters of people with special needs. SibNet now comes in two formats: the traditional listserv format and on Facebook. SibNet is also a remarkably warm, thoughtful and informative community where young adults from around the world

share information and discuss issues of common interest.

For more information contact:

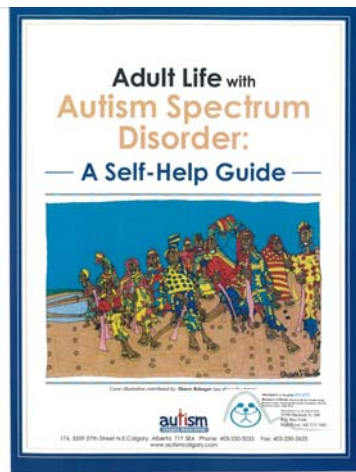
www.siblingsupport.org

**Upcoming Sibshops: TBA.
Watch for dates and times**



Adult Life with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Self Help Guide

The purpose of this Guide is to assist Alberta families and adults living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) as they pursue or plan for a meaningful adult life. This Guide addresses key issues and provides useful information in the areas of adult diagnosis and treatment, legal and financial matters, post secondary educational options, employment opportunities and alternatives, community living and personal relationships.



This guide is available through our resource library. Sign it out today!

Resources

We are in the process of purchasing resources for the SNAPS Resource Library. Is there a book or DVD that was helpful to you and you think it would benefit other families? Please email us with the Title,

Author and ISBN # and we will look into ordering it for others to use.

Also, if you wish to donate your resources or DVD's to SNAPS to share with other families, we would be happy to put them in

our library for others to use.



5th Annual Family Summit—Another Summit Success



Above: Jodi Reid. The following family members also presented: Meisner, Smith, Small, Millar, Spencer, Norton, Asserson, Cook, Oakleaf and Bartell and apologize if anyone was missed from this list.

On the evening of Friday, October 16th, family members were given the opportunity to mix and mingle with local allies. Over 60 family members, professionals and other community members had the pleasure of hearing an original remake of Petula Clark's "A Sign of the Times", with lyrics adapted to the matters that families in our area are facing. Everyone also enjoyed a wonderful presentation by Jodi Reid about her experiences as a young woman with a disability, living on her own, going to University, and having a job.

On Saturday, October 17th, family members from Calgary and the surrounding areas gathered for a full day to learn about the 'Signs of the Times'. Again, our rendition of Petula

Clark's "A Sign of the Times" was performed, following which everyone joined in for a sing-along of the heartfelt lyrics.

The Family Summit was happy to have guest speaker, Bruce Uditsky, CEO AACL, to present on this topic in relation to the 'signs' that families are facing these days. Short skits using a Big Bad Wolf and Little Red Riding Hood as metaphors for some of the challenges families are faced with, were used to further elaborate Bruce's presentation.

As well, everyone had a great opportunity to hear stories from local families about how they are staying true to their commitment to ensure their sons or daughters with disabilities are staying safe &

secure in their communities through full inclusion, finding and maintaining natural relationships and truly belonging through full citizenship.

Planning for next year's 6th Annual Family Summit will be ongoing and we are always looking for feedback, ideas and support throughout the process.

If you are interested in becoming involved in next year's Family Summit, or to learn more about Family Voices, Calgary, please call 403.717.0361 or email familyvoicescalgary@aacl.org

Feature Book—"The Horse Boy" - A Father's Quest to Heal His Son

"Rupert Isaacson has conjured a profound power, further nonfiction journey that reads amazements. *The Horse Boy* like an epic novel. It is a book can change the way you see of endless amazements. The your life, and it's a terrifically world of Mongolian shamans, good read at the same time. It the details of adventuresome feels like a classic." (Luis Al-travel, the mysterious world of *bertos Urrea*, author of *The autism*—all are amazing. Soon *Hummingbird's Daughter* and you realize that the world of *The Devil's Highway*) horses is mysterious, too—and yes, amazing. By the time you are in the grip of this book, you'll see love, marriage, and parenthood as realms of magic,

The Horse Boy is available through the SNAPS Resource Library.

