

15th Annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference

Sponsorship Prospectus | 2026



THE SPACE BETWEEN:

*Where Systems End, Community Begins, and
Connection Creates Possibility*

October 30, 2026 | Great Wolf Lodge | Grand Mound, Washington

Presented by the Lewis County Autism Coalition

Welcome

For fifteen years, the Southwest Washington Autism Conference has brought together families, self-advocates, educators, healthcare professionals, service providers, community leaders, and policymakers committed to improving outcomes for autistic and neurodiverse individuals.

As our communities continue to evolve, so do the challenges facing individuals and families. Too often, people find themselves navigating the spaces between systems, between diagnosis and services, between healthcare and education, between eligibility and access, between need and support.

This year's conference explores those spaces. Together, we will examine how collaboration, innovation, lived experience, and community partnerships can bridge gaps and create pathways toward belonging, opportunity, and meaningful support.

We invite you to join us as a sponsor of the 15th Annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference and help create a future where no one must navigate those spaces alone.

Michelle Whitlow, M.S.

Executive Director, Lewis County Autism Coalition

About the Conference

Conference Details Date: October 30, 2026 Location: Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, WA Expected Attendance: 200+ participants Regional Reach: Lewis, Thurston, Mason, Cowlitz counties and beyond - past attendees have traveled from Nevada, Michigan, California, and more 15-Year Legacy: Attendance scholarships awarded annually to families, self-advocates, and educators, because finances should never be a barrier to support	Attendees Include: • Parents and caregivers • Autistic self-advocates • Educators & school administrators • Special education professionals • Healthcare providers • Behavioral health professionals • Therapists • Community Health Workers • Service coordinators • State agency representatives • Nonprofit leaders • Disability advocates • Community partners
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This Year's Theme

The Space Between: *Where Systems End, Community Begins, and Connection Creates Possibility*

Families often find themselves navigating fragmented systems that were never designed to work together.

A child receives a diagnosis, but then what?

A family receives a list of resources, but no roadmap.

For non-English speaking families, these challenges are compounded by language barriers, cultural stigma, and limited access to culturally responsive information, making navigation not just difficult, but isolating.

An individual qualifies for services but struggles to access them.

The greatest challenges often exist not within individual systems, but in the spaces between them. This conference explores how healthcare, education, disability services, behavioral health, employment support, community organizations, and lived experience can come together to create stronger pathways of support and belonging.



Our 2024–2025 Impact

When you sponsor this conference, you align your organization with a proven, community-rooted effort. Here is what LCAC accomplished in the past year alone:

81

Community programs, events & resource fairs held or participated in

98%

of participants reported feeling welcomed & supported

163

Families supported with care coordination, resources, bilingual access, or referrals

97%

of event participants reported a positive experience

65,920

Minutes of structured social connection for autistic teens & adults

96%

said they would recommend LCAC programs to another family

1,037

Volunteer hours contributed to the community

87%

growth in organizational assets since 2023, funding deeper investment in family programs

Why Sponsor?

Sponsoring the Southwest Washington Autism Conference is more than a charitable contribution, it is a targeted investment in one of the region's most engaged, cross-sector audiences.

Reach a High-Value, Motivated Audience

Your organization will be seen by hundreds of decision-makers, practitioners, and community leaders who actively seek resources, vendors, and partners. These are not passive observers, they are professionals making purchasing and referral decisions, and families with direct influence in their networks.

Build Meaningful Community Visibility

Attendees travel from Lewis, Thurston, Mason, and Cowlitz counties, and in past years, as far as Nevada and Michigan. Sponsorship puts your name in front of a regional and growing audience that is deeply invested in disability services, healthcare, education, and community support.

Demonstrate Your Commitment to Belonging

Community partners, employees, and clients notice where organizations show up. Visible sponsorship of an event centered on autistic and neurodiverse individuals demonstrates a commitment to building communities where people are welcomed, valued, and able to participate meaningfully.

Support Access Through Scholarships

Each year, LCAC awards 25-40 attendance scholarships to families, self-advocates, and educators who could not otherwise attend. Your sponsorship directly funds that access, and your name is associated with that generosity.

Strengthen Cross-Sector Partnerships

This conference uniquely draws together healthcare, education, behavioral health, government, and community nonprofit sectors under one roof. Sponsorship positions you at the table where collaborations begin, contracts develop, and referral relationships are built.

15 Years of Proven Community Trust

This is not a new venture. The Southwest Washington Autism Conference has been a regional institution for fifteen years. Associating your brand with a conference that has earned sustained community trust carries lasting reputational value.

By sponsoring this conference, you also help:

- ✓ Expand access to training and professional education across Southwest Washington
- ✓ Increase awareness of community resources for autistic individuals and their families
- ✓ Advance belonging, opportunity, and self-determination for neurodiverse individuals
- ✓ Invest in a more connected and responsive regional community

"Sponsoring the Southwest Washington Autism Conference was such a meaningful community investment we've made because it gave us the opportunity to not only meet the people in our community but see the impact of our support!"

- **Past Conference Sponsor & Community Partner, Lewis County Developmental Disabilities**

"We saw real connections made at our exhibitor table, connections that turned into referrals and relationships that lasted well beyond the event."

- **Past Exhibitor & Sponsor, Cornerstone Center for Development**

Sponsorship Opportunities

All tiers include recognition in conference materials. Benefits are cumulative, each tier includes all benefits from the previous level.

Community Connector \$500

Organizations helping individuals and families connect to resources and opportunities.

- Vendor table at the conference
- Logo on conference webpage
- Logo in printed conference program
- Social media recognition post



Connection Catalyst \$1,000

Organizations creating connections between people, services, and supports.

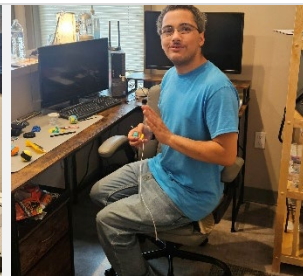
- All Community Connector benefits
- Enhanced (larger) logo placement in program and on signage

- Recognition during conference announcements
- Dedicated social media spotlight post

Pathway Partner \$2,500

Organizations helping create pathways toward access, independence, and belonging.

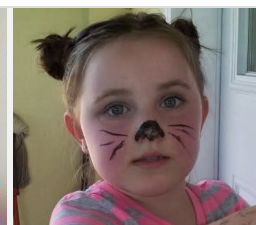
- All Connection Catalyst benefits
- Premium exhibitor table location
- Quarter-page advertisement in printed program
- Featured sponsor recognition slide displayed during sessions
- Dedicated sponsor spotlight (social media + website)



Systems Champion \$5,000

Organizations investing in long-term collaboration and systems improvement.

- All Pathway Partner benefits
- Half-page advertisement in printed conference program
- Named scholarship sponsorship recognition
- Logo displayed on all conference signage
- Opportunity to include promotional materials in attendee bags (LCAC will handle ordering if needed!)



LEGACY PARTNER \$7,500

Organizations ready to anchor this conference as a defining partner.

- All Systems Champion benefits
- Two-thirds/large-format logo placement (bigger than Systems Champion, still visibly below Presenting Sponsor)
- Named recognition in the printed program's welcome letter alongside Michelle's signature
- Up to 4 complimentary attendee registrations
- Recognition in a dedicated email to the full LCAC mailing list
- First right of refusal to upgrade to Presenting Sponsor the following year, if the current Presenting Sponsor doesn't renew

★ ONE PRESENTING SPONSOR AVAILABLE ★

PRESENTING SPONSOR \$10,000

Exclusive top-level partnership. Only one Presenting Sponsor will be named for the 15th Annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference. Your organization's name becomes permanently part of this conference's 15-year legacy.

- All Legacy Partner Benefits
- EXCLUSIVE: Event co-branded as "The 15th Annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference, Presented by [Your Organization]" on all materials
- Premier (largest) logo placement on ALL conference materials, signage, and digital assets
- Full-page advertisement in printed conference program with special recognition
- Homepage recognition on LCAC website for the full conference season
- Named recognition in Executive Director's opening remarks
- Recognition across all conference marketing and communications
- Up to 10 complimentary attendee registrations (valued at up to \$900)
- Option to address attendees at the conference (up to 5 minutes)
- Right of first refusal for Presenting Sponsorship of the 16th Annual Conference



✧ Featured Sponsorship Add-Ons ✧

Featured sponsorship opportunities may be added to any primary sponsorship level or selected as stand-alone sponsorships, and we want to make going further worth it. Systems Champion and Presenting Sponsors may choose one Featured Add-On included at no additional cost. Any sponsor at the Pathway Partner level or below adding a Featured Sponsorship receives 10% off.



Opportunity	Investment	Description
Lunch Sponsor Support the shared meal and community-building experience. Signage at lunch, verbal recognition, and program listing.	\$2,000	Includes: • Signage in the lunch area expressly highlighting your business or organization • Verbal recognition during lunch • Recognition in the conference program • Logo placement on the conference webpage • Social media acknowledgment
Networking Sponsor Create and brand the conference networking break. Recognition at the session, in the program, and on social media.	\$1,250	Includes: • Signage in the networking area • Recognition during the session • Recognition in the conference program • Social media acknowledgment • Logo placement on the conference webpage
Resource Guide Sponsor Support production of the attendee resource guide distributed to all participants. Logo and listing inside the guide.	\$800	Includes: • Logo placement inside the resource guide • Recognition in the conference program • Logo placement on the conference webpage • Social media acknowledgment
SMART Family Resource Sponsor Support the creation of customized SMART resource binders for families exploring or navigating an autism evaluation. Funding helps cover printing, educational materials, organizational supplies, and family resources.	\$625	Includes: • Recognition in the conference program • Social media acknowledgment • Named recognition as a SMART Family Resource Sponsor on binders • Logo placement on the conference webpage

Sponsorship Commitment Information

SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT DEADLINES

September 5, 2026

Deadline for logo inclusion in printed program & conference signage

October 5, 2026

Final deadline for all sponsorship commitments

Commitments received after September 5 will be recognized digitally but cannot be guaranteed print placement.

About the Lewis County Autism Coalition

The Lewis County Autism Coalition is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering autistic, neurodiverse, and developmentally disabled individuals through advocacy, education, self-determination, collaboration, and equitable access to opportunities.

In 2025, LCAC opened the Spectrum & Development Community Center (SDCC), our first-ever physical location, co-located with Lewis County Pediatrics & Family Medicine in Napavine, Washington. The S&D CC represents years of community investment and serves as a living hub for the programs, partnerships, and people at the heart of LCAC's mission.

Today, LCAC serves individuals and families across Southwest Washington through:

- The Spectrum & Development Community Center (SDCC)
- SMART (School Medical Autism Review Team), founded by LCAC and now active in 31 Washington counties
- Entendiendo el Autismo (Understanding Autism), a culturally responsive Spanish-language program developed to support Hispanic and Latino families navigating autism information, services, and systems
- Community Art & Tech Hub programming
- Community education and professional training
- Monthly Neurodiverse Connections Groups for Adults and Teens
- Peer support and mentorship programs
- Care coordination and family navigation in partnership with multiple providers and organizations
- A new transportation initiative supported by "BETTY" (Bringing Equitable Transportation to You), a beautiful community shuttle bus
- The Annual Southwest Washington Autism Conference
- Multiple other annual events such as our Community Storytelling Supper, our annual Car & BMX Show, Teal Pumpkin (Food Free Halloween) Event, Santa's Sensory Shop, and so much more.

Together, we are building communities where everyone belongs.

Ready to Become a Sponsor?

To secure your sponsorship, request a commitment form, or discuss a custom partnership, contact us:

Lewis County Autism Coalition

dba Spectrum & Development Community Center

✉ info@lcautism.org

☎ (360) 644-LCAC (5222)

🌐 www.lcautism.org

✉ executivedirector@lcautism.org

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