

twenty years **20** FACES
of **AANE**

May 8, 2003, our
First Gala honoring
Dr. Daniel Rosenn.
Net revenue \$24,000.



2003

Nokia 5110 is introduced
in March 1998.



1999

First logo designed
by Allysa Rosenn.



1998



Before AANE
there was a
conference.

In
1995 the Family
Support Programs of
Newton Wellesley Weston
Committee for Community Living
staffed by Dana Sekel and
the Autism Support Center,
a program of Northeast Arc
staffed by Gail Kastorf,
sponsored a conference on
a brand new diagnosis,
**Asperger
Syndrome.**

1996

As
a result of the
overwhelming
response of the
attendees and their
request for a program
dedicated to AS,
**AANE was
formed.**



First sign made by
Teresa Goetzl.



Mars Exploration Rover
mission launches.



The world awaits
the impact of the
Y2K bug.



Critically acclaimed
Jerry Maguire one of
the top-grossing films.

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

The
**Asperger/
Autism Network**

is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1996. **AANE** works with individuals, families, and professionals to help people with Asperger Syndrome and similar autism spectrum profiles build **meaningful, connected lives.** We do this by providing **information, education, community, support,** and **advocacy,** all in an atmosphere of **validation** and **respect.**

A Letter from Dania



Dear Friends,

Twenty years ago, a small group of trailblazing community members came together to change lives. The organization they built has since evolved into a nationally recognized institution, offering sought-after programming across the globe to individuals and families who previously had no place to turn. In our 20th year, **AANE** offers deep gratitude to all of those who have nurtured our growth as an organization and have helped to breathe life into our unwavering mission.

With your help, Asperger/autism voices are now heard, and their challenges and strengths are understood in unprecedented ways. **AANE** has:

- Developed new platforms for those with Asperger profiles to express their individuality
- Cultivated invaluable partnerships with individuals, families, and agencies
- Established new forums for professional education
- Created avenues to elevate awareness and discussion within our communities

As always, we plan to work tirelessly in the spirit of compassion, respect, creativity, and excellence. Thank you to everyone who has joined us in this work.

With sincere gratitude,

Dania Fehel

Dania
Executive Director



Highlights 2016

The year 2016 brought many accomplishments to **AANE**.

Program Highlights

- Initiated coaching programs for Parents of Children and Teens, Parents of Adults, and Partners and Couples
- Expanded grandparent services
- Started a father's initiative
- Expanded LifeMAP coaching and coach training
- Increased webinar offerings
- Offered training to over 950 professionals
- Added unique cohort groups to include yoga, employment, over 50, women, online dating, gender identity, robotics, and more

Organization Highlights

- Hired a Director of Development and expanded development efforts
- Completed the year with a surplus
- Developed a new website to be launched in FY 2017
- Celebrated 20 years of growth with a gala that raised over \$300,000. We educated guests about the growth, development and work **AANE** has accomplished in its 20 years.



AANE Helps Parents

I remember how confused I was when the doctor first told us. But he's so smart...The pediatrician said he was unusually bright. And now the doctor is telling us he's on the autism spectrum...there was nothing the doctor could do but refer us to the school system...

I can't describe how comforted I felt after my first conversation with Dania Jekel...

*Today, my son is 22 and a junior at BU. We are proud of the challenges he has overcome...as hard as this has been I know harder days are still ahead. School will be done and no one is obligated to provide services for him anymore. This is where many of our kids fail. The workplace is the next frontier for support. **AANE** will be there.*



AANE has always been a pioneer. Through all the calls for help, the dedicated staff always knows where the needs are. They try to respond with **programs, workshops, webinars and legislation**. This is why I volunteer and support **AANE**. I am deeply grateful for the information I've received over the years. I want to help other parents and individuals with Asperger's, and I want **AANE** to be there as my son continues through his life.



AANE Across the World



AANE services are sought from all over the world.

Using AANE Services since 1996

2,201
parents of children

3,884
parents of teens

7,111
parents of adults

4,096
adults



AANE Adults

AANE offers support and provides referrals for adults with AS. Most importantly, **AANE** is a place of belonging where adults can be themselves.



“ We’ve developed a comfort level with one another that lets us relax, enjoy each other’s company, and appreciate each other’s unique senses of humor. That kind of camaraderie can be hard to find even for neurotypicals. But for Aspies finding a group where you feel comfortable talking about your self and laughing together is next to impossible. ”

89
years

Age of AANE adult member

49
years

Average age of adult AANE member

10,142
professionals

have used **AANE** since 1996



AANE Trains and Educates

AANE reaches out to the entire community to inform people about AS.

AANE holds yearly

5
conferences

Renowned speakers include Tony Attwood and Liane Holiday Willey.

In 2015 – 2016,
AANE trained

995
clinicians and professionals

“ Our high school faculty feel more confident...due to **AANE’s** expertise, training and consultation. ”

AANE offers over

100
webinars

Topics include:
employment, education, transition planning, benefits, family relationships, and estate planning.

AANE works closely with the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission and private companies to help adults with AS find employment.



AANE Coaching

AANE coaching provides an individualized strength-based approach to problem solving that helps clients improve their quality of life.

- **LifeMAP coaching** provides practical assistance to help improve clients' quality of life and increase independence
- **Parent coaching for parents of child and teens** provides practical problem solving for everyday challenge at home and at school. **For parents of adults**, provides support for determining appropriate balance of holding on and letting go, always encouraging independence and quality of life.
- **Couples and Partner coaching** helps clients better understand differing perspectives, develop coping strategies and build skills to grow their relationship.



“

Parent coaching fills in the gaps, answers those nagging questions, provides sanity, humor, hugs, pats on the back and the cheering section you've always wished for. I'm grateful to **AANE** — a whole team of seasoned parents, professionals and heroes that help us feel less battle-weary and a little more loved.

”



Support for all Life Stages

“ Many people get a diagnosis.
I got a **support community**
an **avocation**
a **mentor**
a **second family**
a **life purpose** and
a **friend.** ”



60
support
groups

Seminars

Social
outings and
events

Speakers
Bureau

Artist
collaborative

Phone
support

Interest
and affinity
groups

Referrals
and web
resources



Financial Statement 2016

	Revenue ¹		Expenses ¹	
Fundraising	\$917,280	47%	\$219,769	12%
Membership	\$45,510	2%	0	0
Program Services	\$861,230	44%	\$1,258,276	70%
Grants	\$130,840	7%	\$33,834	2%
Administration	0	0	\$291,297	16%
Miscellaneous	\$9,319	0	0	0
Total	\$1,964,179	100%	\$1,803,676	100%
Net Gain	\$160,503			

¹ Numbers are based on projected year-end financials.

Program Services Detail

	Revenue		Expenses	
LifeMAP	\$440,476	51%	\$420,689	33%
Mass Rehab. Comm.	\$192,351	22%	\$118,160	9%
Groups	\$47,742	6%	35,503	3%
Training	94,108	11%	\$619,948	49%
Conferences	\$86,553	10%	\$63,976	5%
Total	\$861,230	100%	\$1,258,276	100%



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ASPERGER/AUTISM
NETWORK

<p>AANE volunteer Nomi Kaim is honored by the New England Patriots Charitable Foundation, as a Community Volunteer MVP.</p> 	<p>AANE expands support for Spanish-speaking constituents.</p> 	<p>First art exhibit by local Asperger adult artists.</p> 	<p>Cotsen Awards for Excellence in Teaching Students with Asperger Syndrome, established in 2005, with the help of a generous donor. First award in 2006 to educator Dr. Brenda Smith Myles.</p> 		
<p>2012</p>	<p>2010</p>	<p>2007</p>	<p>2006</p>	<p>2005</p>	<p>2004</p>
 <p>CDC estimates 1 in 88 children in United States have been identified as having an autism spectrum disorder.</p>	 <p>Apple introduces the first iPhone.</p> <p>The minimum wage increases to \$5.85, up from \$3.25—the first increase in 10 years.</p>	 <p>AANE turns 10!</p>	 <p>First of 12 Flutie Foundation Grants for stipends to families.</p>	 <p>Boston Red Sox win first World Series in 86 years.</p>	

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aane.org